



# Lecture 3



# “Laws” of computation

## Common algebraic properties of basic operations

- operations? Think “addition” and “multiplication”
- laws: commutativity and associativity
- these laws applicable to union and intersection



# “Laws” of computation

## Common algebraic properties of basic operations

- operations? Think “addition” and “multiplication”
- when you just multiply or add multiple numbers, it does not matter how you group them
- the order does not matter either
- **Definition.** Operation  $\square$  ( $x \square y$ , e.g.  $x \cdot y$ , or  $x + y$ ) is associative if

$$x \square y \square z = (x \square y) \square z = x \square (y \square z)$$



# “Laws” of computation

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$$x \square y \square z = (x \square y) \square z = x \square (y \square z)$$

- **Definition.** Operation  $\square$  is commutative if

$$x \square y = y \square x \text{ (for all } x, y)$$



# Examples

operation which is associative but not commutative?

operation which is not commutative but is associative?

# Examples 1

- **commutative but not associative:**
  - *averaging*:  $a \diamond b := (a + b)/2$
  - **NAND!**
- **associative but not commutative:**
  - *matrix multiplication*,
  - “last argument”
  - **function composition**

$$(1 \diamond 2) \diamond 3 = \frac{3/2 + 3}{2} = \frac{9}{4}$$
$$1 \diamond (2 \diamond 3) = 1 \diamond \frac{5}{2} = \frac{1 + 5/2}{2} = \frac{7}{4}$$

# Examples 2

- **commutative but not associative:**
  - *averaging*:  $a \diamond b := (a + b)/2$
  - **NAND!**
- **associative but not commutative:**
  - *matrix multiplication*
  - “last argument” :=  $L(a, b) = b \Leftrightarrow a \ll b = b$
  - **function composition**

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 1 \ll 2 \ll 3 &= (1 \ll 2) \ll 3 = 2 \ll 3 = 3 \\ &= 1 \ll (2 \ll 3) = 1 \ll 3 = 3 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ASSOCIATIVE}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 2 \ll 3 &= 3 \\ 3 \ll 2 &= 2 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{NOT COMMUTATIVE}$$



# Question:

- Union, intersection, set difference, symmetric difference
- Associative? Commutative?

Union, intersection,

YUP



# Question:

- Union, intersection, set difference, symmetric difference
- Associative? Commutative?

## Set difference?

NOTE

$$A - B \neq B - A \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Choose} \\ B = \emptyset \end{array} \right)$$

$$A - (B - C) \neq (A - B) - C \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Choose} \\ B = C = A \end{array} \right)$$

$$\swarrow$$
$$A - \emptyset = A$$

$$\downarrow$$
$$\emptyset - C = \emptyset$$



# Question:

- Union, intersection, set difference, symmetric difference
- Associative? Commutative?

Symmetric difference

Yup.



# Distributivity

- **how two operations and groupings interact**
  - $10 \cdot (5 + 7) = 10 \cdot 13 = 130$
  - $10 \cdot (5 + 7) = 10 \cdot 5 + 10 \cdot 7 = 50 + 70 = 130$

**“Multiplication is distributive over addition”**

- **question: is addition distributive over multiplication?**



# Distributivity

- how two operations and groupings interact
  - $10 \cdot (5 + 7) = 10 \cdot 13 = 130$
  - $10 \cdot (5 + 7) = 10 \cdot 5 + 10 \cdot 7 = 50 + 70 = 130$

**“Multiplication is distributive over addition”**

- **question: is addition distributive over multiplication?**

$$10 + (5 \cdot 7) = 350$$

$$10 + (5 \cdot 7) \neq (10 + 5) \cdot (10 + 7) = 15 \cdot 17 = 255$$

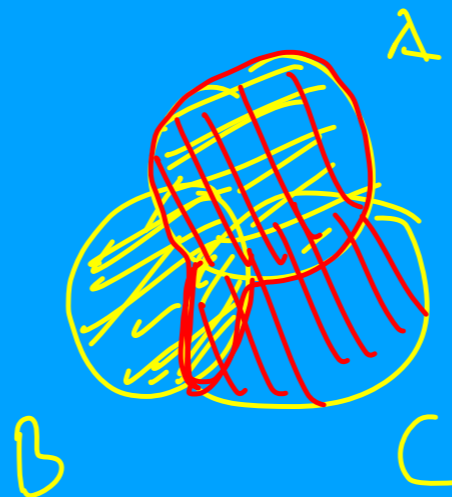
# Distributivity of set operations

**Theorem. Intersection (union) is distributive over the union (intersection), i.e,**

**for all sets  $A, B, C$  it holds that:**

- $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$
- $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$

Let's do one using Venn



$$\begin{aligned} \text{///} &= A \cup B \\ \text{|||} &= A \cup C \end{aligned}$$

## De Morgan's law (theorem)

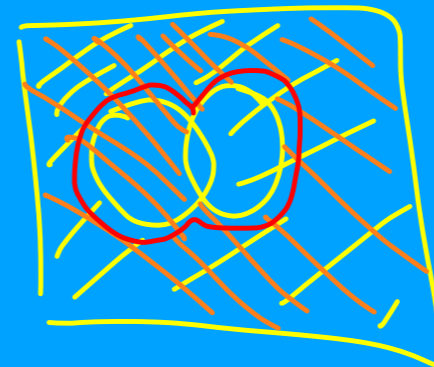
With respect to any universe  $U$ , for any two sets  $A, B$  it holds that:

- $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$

Venn...



=





**Laws laws laws**

With respect to any universe  $U$ , for any set  $A$ , it holds that

### Identity laws:

- $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$      $A \cup \emptyset = A$   
 $A \cap U = A$      $A \cup U = U$

### Idempotent laws:

- $A \cap A = A$      $A \cup A = A$

### Complement laws:

- $(A^c)^c = A$   
 $A \cap A^c = \emptyset$      $A \cup A^c = U$
- $U^c = \emptyset$      $\emptyset^c = U$





**Laws laws laws**

**With respect to any universe  $U$ , for any set  $A, B, C$ , it holds that**

## Theorem 6.5



### Commutativity:

$$A \cap B = B \cap A$$

$$A \cup B = B \cup A$$

### Associativity

$$(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$$

$$(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$$

### Distributivity:

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

### Idempotence

$$A \cap A = A$$

$$A \cup A = A$$

### De Morgan

$$(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$$

$$(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$$

### null element (identity)

$$A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$$

$$A \cup \emptyset = A$$

### identity element

$$A \cap U = A$$

$$A \cup U = U$$

### double complement (involution)

$$(A^c)^c = A$$

### complementation rules

$$A \cap A^c = \emptyset$$

$$A \cup A^c = U$$



Each “law” is a theorem given the chosen operations.  
Provably holds from definitions of the particular operations.

**BUT, we can go the other way around.**  
We can treat them as *axioms...* “*algebra of sets*”

See Schaum 1.5  
and 15.5

## Basic Identities of Boolean Algebra

Let  $X$  be a boolean variable and  $0, 1$  constants

1.  $X + 0 = X$  -- Zero Axiom
2.  $X \cdot 1 = X$  -- Unit Axiom
3.  $X + 1 = 1$  -- Unit Property
4.  $X \cdot 0 = 0$  -- Zero Property
  
5.  $X + X = X$  -- Idempotence
6.  $X \cdot X = X$  -- Idempotence
7.  $X + X' = 1$  -- Complement
8.  $X \cdot X' = 0$  -- Complement
9.  $(X')' = X$  -- Involution



## Other useful “laws” (equivalent axioms)

- **Absorption:**

$$A \cap (A \cup B) = A \ \& \ A \cup (A \cap B) = A$$

**Prove please: identity, distributivity...**

**See Schaum 15.5**



# Proofs in algebra of sets

## What constitutes a proof?

Given a set of statements (axioms), and a schemata of rewrite rules, any statement we can reach is called a theorem.

Most theorems will be actually deriving *conditional statements!*  
Mathematics establishes relations



## Proofs in algebra of sets

### Unnecessarily long proofs:

$$A \cap A = \quad (\text{null - element})$$

$$(A \cap A) \cup \emptyset = \quad (\text{complement})$$

$$(A \cap A) \cup (A \cap A^c) = \quad (\text{distributivity})$$

$$A \cap (A \cup A^c) = \quad (\text{complement})$$

$$A \cap U = \quad (\text{unit element})$$

$$A$$



# Proofs in algebra of sets

## Duality of intersection and union

**“Take any valid expression with intersections and unions.  
Switch unions with intersections, and empty sets with  $U$ . It is still true.”**





## Proofs in algebra of sets

### Duality (set algebra)

Let  $\Phi, \Psi$  be meaningful expressions involving sets, unions and intersections, then

if  $\Phi = \Psi$  then  $\Phi^* = \Psi^*$

where  $\Phi^*$  denotes the expression obtained by exchanging unions and intersections and empty sets with  $U$ .



## Proofs in algebra of sets

### Duality of intersection and union

“take any valid expression, and switch unions with intersections, and empty sets with  $U$ . It is still true.”

Why, how, what?

-the duality holds for the basic rules (axioms).