

# Mathematical notation, sets, and proof techniques

Arjun Chandrasekhar

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- ▶ **Note:**  $(A^c)^c = A$

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- ▶ “If we start with elements of  $S$  and apply the operation  $\Phi$ , the result is still an element of  $S$ ”

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  - ▶ If you start with two integers and subtract them, you get an integer
- ▶ The positive integers are not closed under subtraction/ $-$ 
  - ▶ If you start with two positive integers and subtract them, you might get a negative number

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Which of the following operations are the positive integers closed under?

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- B.** Reversing the digits
- C.** Multiplication
- D.** Division

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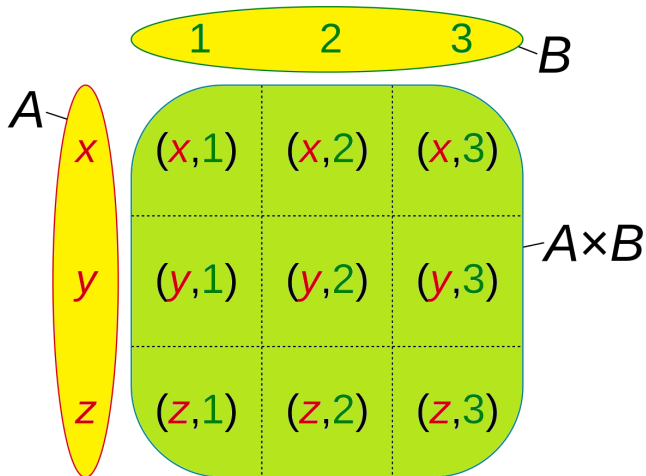
- A.** Negation
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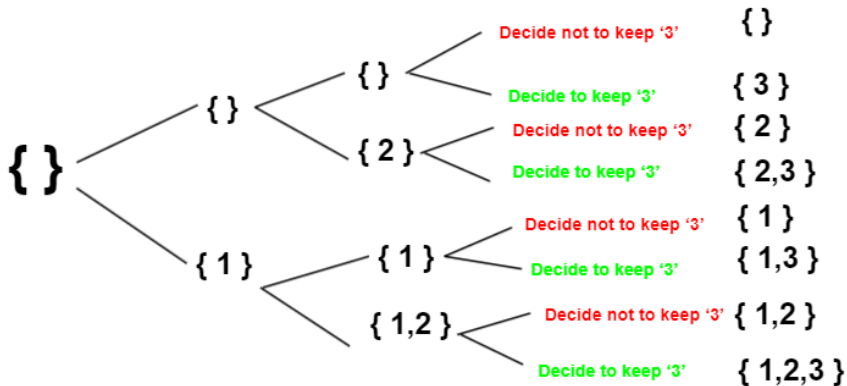
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$A = \{1,2,3\}$

Moving forward with  
the first element '3'



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  - ▶ What happens to the rest?

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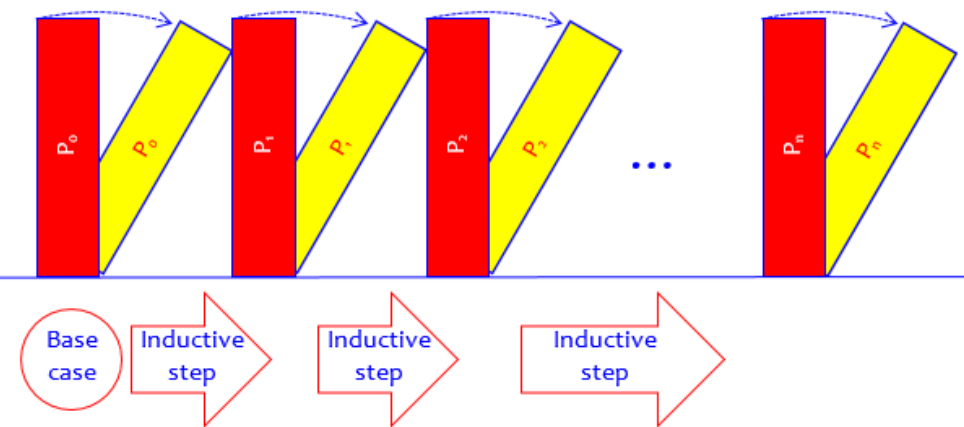
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$$\sum_{i=1}^1 i = 1 = \frac{1(1+1)}{2}$$

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$$\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} i = n+1 + \sum_{i=1}^n i = n+1 + \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$$

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$$2^4 = 16 < 24 = 4!$$

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 $2^{n+1} = 2 \times 2^n < (n + 1) \times n! = (n + 1)!$



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## **A**ssume

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(h/t Stephen Worlow)

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3. Conclude that  $\neg x$  is false, and  $x$  is true

# Proof that the market is efficient

Suppose we know

1. A
2. S
3. C

we

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- ▶ Thus, we conclude that she did not witness Lincoln's assassination.

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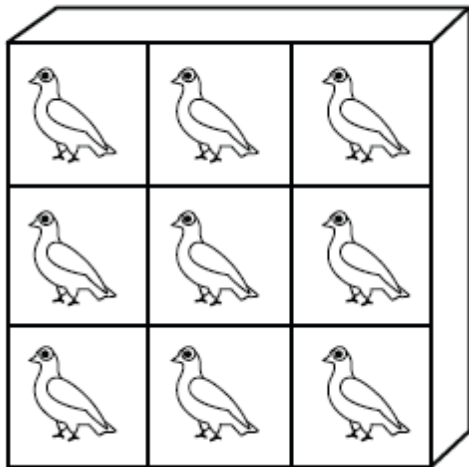
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- ▶ We conclude that our original assumption was incorrect.

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THE PIGEONHOLE PRINCIPLE



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- ▶ A room of 367 people must include a shared birthday

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- ▶ Let  $n$  be the number of vertices in  $G$ . Look at  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n+1}$
- ▶ By the pigeonhole principle, one of the first  $n + 1$  vertices must be a repeat - which gives us our cycle