

**Generalized parentheses.** Common:

( ) Parentheses. [ ] Brackets. ⟨ ⟩ Angle-brackets.  
{ } Braces. || Vertical bars (abs.value, cardinality).

Less common: ⌊ ⌋ Floor. ⌈ ⌉ Ceiling. ||| Norm-of.  
[ ] Double-bracket. ⟨ ⟩ Double-angle-bracket.

**Number Sets.** Expression  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  [read as “ $k$  is an element of  $\mathbb{N}$ ” or “ $k$  in  $\mathbb{N}$ ”] means that  $k$  is a natural number; a **natnum**. Expression  $\mathbb{N} \ni k$  [read as “ $\mathbb{N}$  owns  $k$ ”] is a synonym for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$\mathbb{N}$  = natural numbers =  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

$\mathbb{Z}$  = integers =  $\{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, \dots\}$ . For the set  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  of positive integers, the **posints**, use  $\mathbb{Z}_+$ . Use  $\mathbb{Z}_-$  for the negative integers, the **negints**.

$\mathbb{Q}$  = rational numbers =  $\{\frac{p}{q} \mid p \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } q \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}$ . Use  $\mathbb{Q}_+$  for the positive rationals and  $\mathbb{Q}_-$  for the negative rationals.

$\mathbb{R}$  = reals. The **posreals**  $\mathbb{R}_+$  and the **negreals**  $\mathbb{R}_-$ .

$\mathbb{C}$  = complex numbers, also called the **complexes**.

For  $\omega \in \mathbb{C}$ , let “ $\omega > 5$ ” mean “ $\omega$  is real and  $\omega > 5$ ”.

[Use the same convention for  $\geq, <, \leq$ , and also if 5 is replaced by any real number.]

Use  $\mathbb{R} = [-\infty, +\infty] := \{-\infty\} \cup \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ , the **extended reals**.

An “**interval of integers**”  $[b..c]$  means the intersection  $[b, c] \cap \mathbb{Z}$ ; ditto for open and closed intervals. So  $[e..2\pi] = \{3, 4, 5, 6\} = [3..6] = (2..6]$ . We allow  $b$  and  $c$  to be  $\pm\infty$ ; so  $(-\infty..-1]$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_-$ . And  $[-\infty..-1]$ , is  $\{-\infty\} \cup \mathbb{Z}_-$ .

Floor function:  $\lfloor \pi \rfloor = 3, \lfloor -\pi \rfloor = -4$ .

Ceiling fnc:  $\lceil \pi \rceil = 4$ . Absolute value:  $|-6| = 6 = |6|$  and  $|-5 + 2i| = \sqrt{29}$ .

**Mathematical objects.** Seq: ‘sequence’. poly(s): ‘polynomial(s)’. irred: ‘irreducible’. Coeff: ‘coefficient’ and var(s): ‘variable(s)’ and parm(s): ‘parameter(s)’. Expr.: ‘expression’. Fnc: ‘function’ (so ratfnc: means rational function, a ratio of polynomials). trnfn: ‘transformation’. cty: ‘continuity’. cts: ‘continuous’. diff’able: ‘differentiable’. CoV: ‘Change-of-Variable’. Col: ‘Constant of Integration’. Lol: ‘Limit(s) of Integration’. RoC: ‘Radius of Convergence’.

Soln: ‘Solution’. Thm: ‘Theorem’. Prop’n: ‘Proposition’. CEX: ‘Counterexample’. eqn: ‘equation’.

RhS: ‘RightHand side’ of an eqn or inequality. LhS: ‘lefthand side’. Sqrt or Sqroot: ‘square-root’, e.g, “the sqroot of 16 is 4”. Ptn: ‘partition’, but pt: ‘point’ as in “a fixed-pt of a map”.

Binop: ‘Binary operator’. Binrel: ‘Binary relation’. FTC: ‘Fund. Thm of Calculus’. IVT: ‘intermediate-Value Thm’. MVT: ‘Mean-Value Thm’.

The **logarithm** function, defined for  $x > 0$ , is  $\log(x) := \int_1^x \frac{dv}{v}$ . Its inverse-fnc is **exp()**.

For  $x > 0$ , then,  $\exp(\log(x)) = x = e^{\log(x)}$ . For real  $t$ , naturally,  $\log(\exp(t)) = t = \log(e^t)$ .

**PolyExp:** ‘Polynomial-times-exponential’, e.g,  $[3 + t^2] \cdot e^{4t}$ . **PolyExp-sum:** ‘Sum of polyexps’. E.g,  $f(t) := 3te^{2t} + [t^2] \cdot e^t$  is a polyexp-sum.

**Phrases.** WLOG: ‘Without loss of generality’. IFF: ‘if and only if’. TFAE: ‘The following are equivalent’. ITOf: ‘In Terms Of’. OTForm: ‘of the form’. FTSOC: ‘For the sake of contradiction’. And  $\nexists$  = “Contradiction”.

IST: ‘It Suffices To’, as in ISTShow, ISTExhibit.

Use w.r.t: ‘with respect to’ and s.t: ‘such that’.

**Latin:** e.g: *exempli gratia*, ‘for example’. i.e: *id est*, ‘that is’. N.B: *Nota bene*, ‘Note well’. *inter alia*: ‘among other things’. QED: *quod erat demonstrandum*, meaning “end of proof”.

**Bi/Multi-nomial coeffs.** For a natnum  $n$ , use “ $n!$ ” to mean “ $n$  factorial”; the product of all posints  $\leq n$ . So  $3! = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 6$  and  $5! = 120$ . Also  $0! = 1 = 1!$ .

For natnum  $B$  and arb. complex number  $\alpha$ , define

**Rising Fctril:**  $[\alpha \uparrow B] := \alpha \cdot [\alpha + 1] \cdot [\alpha + 2] \cdots [\alpha + [B-1]]$ ,

**Falling Fctril:**  $[\alpha \downarrow B] := \alpha \cdot [\alpha - 1] \cdot [\alpha - 2] \cdots [\alpha - [B-1]]$ .

E.g.,  $[\mathbb{B} \downarrow \mathbb{B}] = B! = [\mathbb{1} \uparrow \mathbb{B}]$ . Two further examples,

$$\left[ \frac{2}{7} \downarrow 4 \right] = \frac{2}{7} \cdot \frac{-5}{7} \cdot \frac{-12}{7} \cdot \frac{-19}{7} \text{ and } [\mathbb{1} \downarrow 3] = 1 \cdot 0 \cdot -1 = 0.$$

In particular, for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ : If  $B > n$  then  $[\mathbb{n} \downarrow \mathbb{B}] = 0$ . We pronounce  $[\mathbb{5} \downarrow \mathbb{B}]$  as “5 falling-factorial  $B$ ”.

**Binomial.** The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{7}{3}$ , read “7 choose 3”, means *the number of ways of choosing 3 objects from 7 distinguishable objects*. Emphasising putting 3 objects in our left pocket and the remaining 4 in our right, we may write the coeff as  $\binom{7}{3,4}$ . [Read as “7 choose 3-comma-4.”] Evidently

$$\dagger: \binom{N}{j} \xrightarrow{\text{with } k := N - j} \binom{N}{j, k} = \frac{N!}{j! \cdot k!} = \frac{[\mathbb{N} \downarrow j]}{j!}.$$

Note  $\binom{7}{0} = \binom{7}{0,7} = 1$ . Finally, the Binomial theorem says

$$\ddagger: [x + y]^N = \sum_{j+k=N} \binom{N}{j, k} \cdot x^j y^k,$$

where  $(j, k)$  ranges over all *ordered* pairs of natural numbers with sum  $N$ .

For natnum  $N$ , binomials satisfy this addition law:

$$\ast: \binom{N+1}{B+1} = \overbrace{\binom{N}{B}}^{\text{Pick last object.}} + \overbrace{\binom{N}{B+1}}^{\text{Avoid last object.}}.$$

Extending this to all  $B \in \mathbb{Z}$  forces:

$$\binom{N}{B} = 0, \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{when } B > N \\ \text{or } B \text{ negative.} \end{array}$$

Case  $B > N$  is automatic in formula  $\binom{N}{B} = \frac{[\mathbb{N} \downarrow B]}{B!}$ .

**Multinomial.** In general, for natural numbers  $\mathbf{N} = k_1 + \dots + k_P$ , the *multinomial coefficient*  $\binom{N}{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_P}$  is the number of ways of partitioning  $N$  objects, by putting  $k_1$  objects in pocket-one,  $k_2$  objects in pocket-two, … putting  $k_P$  objects in the  $P^{\text{th}}$  pocket. Easily

$$\ddagger: \binom{N}{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_P} = \frac{N!}{k_1! \cdot k_2! \cdots k_P!}.$$

Unsurprisingly,  $[x_1 + \dots + x_P]^N$  equals the sum of terms

$$\ddagger\ddagger: \binom{N}{k_1, \dots, k_P} \cdot x_1^{k_1} \cdot x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_P^{k_P},$$

taken over all natnum-tuples  $\vec{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_P)$  that sum to  $N$ . [That is multinomial analog of the Binomial Thm.]

Define the sum  $S_\ell := k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_\ell$ . Then multinomial LHS( $\ddagger$ ) equals this product of binomials:

$$\binom{N}{k_1} \cdot \binom{N - S_1}{k_2} \cdot \binom{N - S_2}{k_3} \cdots \binom{N - S_{P-1}}{k_P}.$$

[The last term is  $\binom{k_P}{k_P} \stackrel{\text{note}}{=} 1$ .]

**Operations on Sets.** Use  $\in$  for “is an element of”. E.g, letting  $\mathbb{P}$  be the set of primes, then,  $5 \in \mathbb{P}$  yet  $6 \notin \mathbb{P}$ . Changing the emphasis,  $\mathbb{P} \ni 5$  [“ $\mathbb{P}$  owns 5”] yet  $\mathbb{P} \not\ni 6$  [“ $\mathbb{P}$  does-not-own 6”]

For subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of the same space,  $\Omega$ , the *inclusion relation*  $A \subset B$  means:

$$\forall \omega \in A, \text{ necessarily } B \ni \omega.$$

And this can be written  $B \supset A$ . Use  $A \subsetneq B$  for *proper inclusion*, i.e.,  $A \subset B$  yet  $A \neq B$ .

The *difference set*  $B \setminus A$  is  $\{\omega \in B \mid \omega \notin A\}$ . Employ  $A^c$  for the *complement*  $\Omega \setminus A$ . Use  $A \Delta B$  for *symmetric difference*  $[A \setminus B] \cup [B \setminus A]$ . Furthermore

$A \boxdot B$ , Sets  $A$  &  $B$  have *at least one* point in common; they intersect.

$A \square B$ , The sets have *no* common point; disjoint.

The symbol “ $A \blacksquare B$ ” both asserts intersection *and* represents the set  $A \cap B$ . For a collection  $\mathcal{C} = \{E_j\}_j$  of sets in  $\Omega$ , let the *disjoint union*  $\bigsqcup_j E_j$  or  $\bigsqcup(\mathcal{C})$  represent the union  $\bigcup_j E_j$  and also asserts that the sets are *pairwise disjoint*.

[See next page...](#)

## Algebra [2022t] quizzes so far...

**Q1:** Fri.  
09 Sep

May lightning  $\not\downarrow$  strike this table! (I.e., please fill in.)

$n$	$r_n$	$q_n$	$s_n$	$t_n$
0	100	—	1	0
1	23		0	1
2				
3				
4				
5				

So  $\text{GCD}(100, 23) = \left[ \frac{100}{23} \right] = \left[ \frac{100}{23} \cdot 100 \right] + \left[ \frac{100}{23} \cdot 23 \right]$ .

And  $x = \left[ \frac{100}{23} \right] \in (-50..50]$  solves congr.  $23x \equiv_{100} 8$ .

**Q2:** Mon.  
12 Sep Dihedral group  $\mathbb{D}_{12}$ , the symmetries of a dodecagon, is generated by a rotation  $R$  and a  $F$ . Product

$$F R^2 F^2 R^{-3} F R^{-5} F^3 R^7 = R^J F^K,$$

where  $J = \left[ \frac{R^2 F^2 R^{-3} F R^{-5} F^3 R^7}{R} \right] \in [0..12)$  and  $K = \left[ \frac{F^2 R^2 F^2 R^{-3} F R^{-5} F^3 R^7}{F} \right] \in \{0, 1\}$ .

**Q3:** Wed.  
14 Sep Euler  $\varphi(36300) = 2^A \cdot 3^B \cdot 5^C \cdot 7^D \cdot 11^E$ , where  $A = \left[ \frac{36300}{2} \right], B = \left[ \frac{36300}{3} \right], C = \left[ \frac{36300}{5} \right], D = \left[ \frac{36300}{7} \right], E = \left[ \frac{36300}{11} \right]$  are in  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .

**Q4:** Fri.  
18 Nov Consider groups  $A \supset B \supset C$ .

If  $A \triangleright B$  and  $A \triangleright C$  then  $B \triangleright C$ :

T F

If  $A \triangleright C$  and  $B \triangleright C$  then  $A \triangleright B$ :

T F

If  $A \triangleright B$  and  $B \triangleright C$  then  $A \triangleright C$ :

T F

## Games Party: !! Wed. 07 Dec

Bring games and look photogenic, for our traditional **Games Party**, from 11:45 am to 4 pm, at Pascal's Cafe.

**Q5:** Mon.  
21 Nov Counting elements in groups,  $|\mathbb{S}_5| =$  .....

and  $|\mathbb{A}_5| =$  ......

**Q6:** Mon.  
28 Nov Three groups satisfy  $N \triangleleft G$  and  $K \triangleleft G$ .

Then...

Subgroup  $[N \cap K] \triangleleft G$ : T F

Subgroup  $\langle N, K \rangle_G \triangleleft G$ : T F

**Q7:** Mon.  
05 Dec *EoS 2022 Games Party*, from 11:45 am–4 pm, will take place at Pascal's Cafe on Wedn. 7 Dec.

Yes!  True!  I-have-a-game!