Saving Truth from Orthodoxy

Joseph Norman

Saving Truth from Orthodoxy Better Logic Through Algebra, Probability, and Dynamical Systems

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Diversity Is the Savior of Logical Truth

- I. There is important MATHEMATICAL DIVERSITY in what we call 'logic' 4 different classes of problems:
 - Arithmetic
 - Algebra (equations)
 - Dynamical systems
 - Probability
- II. In arithmetic every formula has an elementary value (like 0 or 1). But the other systems return more complex objects (sets, graphs, polynomials):

 $\{0,1\} \qquad \{\} \qquad \textcircled{0,1} \qquad \theta_3 + \theta_1 \theta_2 - \theta_1 \theta_3$

Certain features of these objects seem paradoxical.

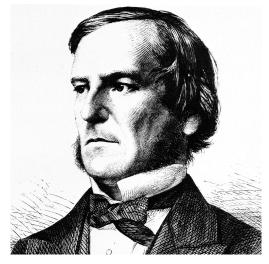
III. But when logic problems are properly classified, and unorthodox objects like these are accepted as truth values, many paradoxes disappear.* Saving Truth from Orthodoxy

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^{*}The TRUTH FAIRY replaces paradoxes with complex truth values.

Does the Truth Fairy Exist?



GEORGE BOOLE 1815-1864

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Lies, Damn Lies, and Interpretations

- My Liar sentence: x: This sentence x is false.
- ► As a definition: $x :: \neg x, x \in \{\text{TRUE}, \text{FALSE}\}$
- ▶ Two interpretations: equation or recurrence relation
 - ▶ Many senses of = (test, assignment, constraint)
 - In C program, x=1-x and x=1-x are different.
 - ► Mathematica Solve [x==1-x] different again.
- As an equation: $x = 1 x, x \in \{0, 1\}$
 - From Boole: true \mapsto 1; false \mapsto 0; $\neg x \mapsto 1 x$.
- As a recurrence: $x_{t+1} \leftarrow 1 x_t, \ x \in \{0, 1\}$
 - Assignment introduces an arrow of time.
- What kinds of truth values do we get from these two interpretations?

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Solving Equations Gives a Set of Solutions

• A logical **AXIOM** is a polynomial **EQUATION**:

- ► LOGICAL NOTATION: A judgment ⊢ ψ that asserts the truth of its content (ψ in propositional calculus)
- POLYNOMIAL NOTATION: An equation q = 0 where q is 1 - POLY (ψ) using Boole's translation of logic:

• POLY
$$(\neg p) = 1 - p$$
; POLY $(p \rightarrow q) = 1 - p + pq$; etc.

•
$$\psi = \text{true} \iff \text{Poly}(\psi) = 1 \iff 1 - \text{Poly}(\psi) = 0$$

The SOLUTION SET to polynomial equations gives the possible values of an objective formula φ subject to some axioms ⊢ ψ₁,...,⊢ ψ_m:

$$\mathbb{S}_Q(p) \equiv \{ p(\mathbf{x}) : x_i \in \{0,1\}, q_j(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \}$$

- with $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n); p, q \in \mathbb{R}[\mathbf{x}]; p = \text{Poly}(\phi);$ each $q_j = 1 - \text{Poly}(\psi_j); Q = \{q_1, \dots, q_m\}.$
- ► This solution set must be a subset of the set of elementary values: for 2-valued logic S_Q (p) ⊆ {0,1}.

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Solution Sets Are Good Truth Values

- Solution set S_Q (POLY (φ)) gives truth value of the objective φ subject to the axioms ⊢ ψ_i given as Q:
 - $\{1\} \phi \text{ is a THEOREM.}$
 - $\{0\}\ \varphi$ is the negation of a theorem.
 - $\{0,1\}\ \varphi$ is ambiguous
 - {} ϕ is **UNSATISFIABLE**: the axioms $\vdash \psi_j$ are inconsistent
- Inverse sets of polynomials are useful:
 - ▶ S_Q⁻¹({1}): the set of all theorems entailed by axioms Q
 - ▶ $S_Q^{-1}(\{0\})$: the *ideal* (algebraic geometry) Q generates
- ► This logic is **PARACONSISTENT** and **PARACOMPLETE**.
 - ► SOME INCLUDED MIDDLE: truth values come from the POWER SET {{0}, {1}, {0, 1}, {}} of the set {0, 1}.
 - Different idea from adding new elementary objects (like ¹/₂ or 2), as usual in 'multivalued' logics.
 - NO EXPLOSION FROM CONTRADICTION: inconsistent axioms give every objective the empty solution set: so *nothing* is declared a theorem, not *everything*.

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Sets of Solution Sets Give Modal Logic

$s \equiv S_Q (\text{Poly}(\phi))$	Description of ϕ given axioms $\vdash \psi_j$ in Q				
$\{0\}$ $\{1\}$ $\{0,1\}$ $\{\}$	Set	Modal	NATURAL LANGUAGE		
•	$s = \{1\}$	$\Box(\phi)$	necessarily true		
• • •	$s eq \{1\}$	$\neg \Box(\phi)$	not necessarily true		
•	$s = \{0\}$	$\Box(\neg \varphi)$	necessarily false		
• • •	$s eq \{0\}$	$\neg \Box (\neg \varphi)$	not necessarily false		
• •	$1\in s$	$\Diamond(\phi)$	possibly true		
• •	1 otin s	$\neg \Diamond(\varphi)$	not possibly true		
• •	$0 \in s$	$\Diamond(\neg \varphi)$	possibly false		
• •	0 ∉ <i>s</i>	$\neg \Diamond (\neg \varphi)$	not possibly false		
•	$s = \{\}$	$\oslash(\varphi)$	necessarily unsatisfiable		
•	s > 1	ы (ф)	necessarily ambiguous		
• •	s = 1	⊡(φ)	determinate		
• • • •	$s \subseteq \{0,1\}$	♡(φ)	$\{0,1\}$ -compatible		

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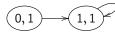
We reject ◊(φ) ≡ ¬□(¬φ): 'not necessarily false' allows inconsistent axioms, 'possibly true' does not.

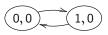
We reject □(φ) ≡ φ: □(φ) depends on axioms in Q but φ itself does not. Better: □(φ|Q), ◊(φ|Q), etc.

Curry's Dynamical System

x: If this sentence x is true then y is true.

- **0**. Definition: $x :: x \to y$ with $x, y \in \{\text{TRUE}, \text{FALSE}\}$
 - ▶ Boolean POLY $(x \rightarrow y) = 1 x + xy$ with $x, y \in \{0, 1\}$
- 1. As recurrence: $x_{t+1} \leftarrow 1 x_t + x_t y_t$ with $x, y \in \{0, 1\}$
 - ▶ Dynamical system with state (*x*, *y*), transition graph:





- There is one fixed point (x, y) = (1, 1).
- Because of the periodic cycle it seems PARADOXICAL when y = 0 (i.e. the consequent in $x \rightarrow y$ is false).
- 2. As equation: x = 1 x + xy with $x, y \in \{0, 1\}$
 - Solution sets $S_Q(x) = \{1\}$ and $S_Q(y) = \{1\}$
- ▶ Interpretation #1 adds value: shows oscillating cycle

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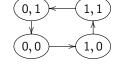
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Kripke's Watergate Dynamical System

x: That sentence y is false (J: "Most Nixon assertions false")
y: That sentence x is true (N: "Everything Jones says true")

- **0**. Definition: $x :: \neg y, y :: x$ with $x, y \in \{\text{TRUE}, \text{FALSE}\}$
 - Boolean POLY $(\neg y) = 1 y$
- 1. As recurrences: $x_{t+1} \leftarrow 1 y_t$, $y_{t+1} \leftarrow x_t$; $x, y \in \{0, 1\}$
 - ▶ Dynamical system with state (*x*, *y*), transition graph:



- There are no fixed points.
- Periodic cycle: every state seems PARADOXICAL.

2. As equations: x = 1 - y and y = x with $x, y \in \{0, 1\}$

- Solution sets $S_Q(x) = \{\}$ and $S_Q(y) = \{\}$
- Interpretation #1 adds value: pattern of infeasibility

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Gödel's Dynamical System

x: This formula x is true if and only if it is not provable.

- **0.** Definition: $x :: \neg PROVABLE(x); x \in \{TRUE, FALSE\}$
 - Solution set {1} means 'provable'; here no axioms.
 - Revised definition $x :: (S_{\{\}}(x) \neq \{1\})$ or $x :: \neg \Box(x)$.
 - ▶ But $S_{\{\}}(x)$ is just $\{x\}$. Then $(\{x\} \neq \{1\})$ is true when x = 0 and false when x = 1: its value is 1 x.
 - Re-revised definition x := 1 x (as the Liar $x := \neg x$).
- 1. As recurrence: $x_{t+1} \leftarrow 1 x_t$ with $x \in \{0, 1\}$
 - Dynamical system with state x and transition graph:



- There are no fixed points.
- ▶ Periodic cycle: Gödel called paradox UNDECIDABLE.
- 2. As equation: x = 1 x with $x \in \{0, 1\}$
 - Solution set $S_Q(x) = \{\}$

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The Logic of Parametric Probability

- My PARAMETRIC PROBABILITY ANALYSIS method solves many problems in logic, including:
 - Counterfactual conditionals
 - Probabilities of formulas in the propositional calculus
 - Aristotle's syllogisms
 - Smullyan's puzzles with liars and truth-tellers
- Solutions to probability queries are polynomials in the parameters θ₁, θ₂,... used to specify probabilities (distinct from the primary variables x₁,..., x_n whose probabilities are specified).
- These θ-polynomials can be used for secondary analysis such as linear and nonlinear optimization, search, and general algebra.
- Details are on arXiv.org. With some probability
 0 ≤ θ ≤ 1, I will present at LC2012 in Manchester.

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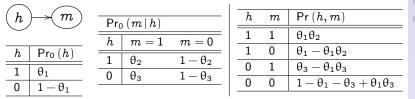
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Probability: Counterfactual Conditionals

- Goodman's counterfactual piece of butter:
 B1. If it had been heated it would have melted.
 B2. If it had been heated it would not have melted.
- Undesired: POLY ((h→m)∧(h→¬m)) = 1-h.
 B1, B2 as material implication say ¬h, not heated.
- ▶ Probability network (heat, melt; $0 \leq \theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3 \leq 1$):



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- ► Pr (m = 1 | h = 1) \Rightarrow $(\theta_1 \theta_2) / (\theta_1) \dots 0/0$ if $\theta_1 = 0$
- ► $\Pr(h = 1) \Rightarrow \theta_1$, $\Pr(m = 1) \Rightarrow \theta_3 + \theta_1 \theta_2 \theta_1 \theta_3$

► B1 is constraint $\theta_2 = 1$; B2 is incompatible $\theta_2 = 0$.

- ▶ B1 and B2 constrain output Pr(m | h), not Pr(h).
- Results are quotients of polynomials in $\mathbb{R}[\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3]$.

Post-Paradox Paradigm for Logic



DENNIS RITCHIE 1941-2011 · KEN THOMPSON 1943-

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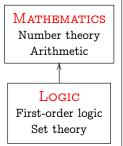
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Upgrade to Logicism 2.0

1.0: One Step | 2.0: Layered Software and Systems



HIGH-LEVEL (USER) LOGIC First-order logic, theorem proving Full set theory and number theory Combined logic and probability

INTERMEDIATE MATHEMATICS

General computer programming Algebra, polynomial equations, finite sets Dynamical systems, probability networks

LOW-LEVEL (MACHINE) LOGIC Finite-integer arithmetic, logic gates Leibniz, Pascal calculators in 1600s Programmable digital computers Saving Truth from Orthodoxy

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Conclusion: Paradox Lost, Logic Found

- What we call 'logic' includes four different classes of mathematical problems: arithmetic, algebra, dynamical systems, and probability.
- When logic problems are appropriately classified and analyzed (as if by the Truth Fairy), things that once seemed paradoxical or undecidable become routine.
- In particular, some logic problems specify dynamical systems with periodic orbits. These results are not pathological and they do not render formal reasoning incomplete in any fundamental way.
- ▶ For sound logic, celebrate mathematical diversity:
 - Say it loud: polynomial and proud!
 - Sets are solutions too
 - Probability \heartsuit Logic
 - Oscillation is not a crime

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GOTTFRIED WILHELM LEIBNIZ 1646-1716

Paradoxes Get in the Way of Applications

For MEDICAL DECISION MAKING I need formal reasoning systems that deliver a few important features:

- Reasoning under uncertainty and ambiguity
- Learning from observations and data
- Verifiable correctness
- Introspection and metalevel reasoning

But these features are exactly the subjects of several **PARADOXES** and other challenges in mathematical logic, decision theory, and probability theory.

- What seems paradoxical to logicians and why?
- Can we solve these issues?

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Philosophy: From Pythagoras to Gödel

- Gödel took as his prototype the Liar sentence of Eubulides (ca. 350 B.C., with Aristotle).
- ▶ We can also learn from Pythagoras (ca. 500 B.C.).
 - $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ gives irrational c for some integers a, b.
 - ► The Pythagoreans regarded only 'natural numbers' as acceptable; they drowned Hippasus at sea for √2!
 - It took time to accept √2, √-1, etc. as numbers; we still insult them as 'irrational' (αλόγος, not logical) and 'imaginary' (not 'real').
- ► Is Gödel's 'undecidable' like Pythagoras' 'irrational'? Is the orthodox view to accept only THEOREM or NEGATION-OF-THEOREM as answers too narrow?
 - 1. Are there some mathematical objects that make sense as truth values for self-referential formulas like Gödel's, Russell's, etc.? Yes!
 - 2. (But can we do interesting logic with them?)

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Arithmetic: Polynomial Propositions

The **PROPOSITIONAL CALCULUS** can be viewed as arithmetic where logical operators act on polynomials.

- ► Logical formula $\phi(x_1, \ldots, x_n) \mapsto p \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \ldots, x_n].$
 - Function **POLY** maps formulas to polynomials.
- Boole showed how to interpret logical operators for polynomial arguments (p, q) and polynomial values:

TRUE	\mapsto	1	$p \wedge q$	\mapsto	p imes q
THOE	. /	-	$\mathcal{D} \vee \mathcal{A}$	\mapsto	p+q-pq
FALSE	\mapsto	0			
		4	$p \rightarrow q$	\mapsto	1-p+pq
$\neg p$	\mapsto	1-p			1-p-q+2pq
			$p \leftrightarrow q$	\mapsto	1 - p - q + 2pq

▶ Each $x_i \in \{0,1\}$, so $x_i = x_i^2$: can substitute x_i for x_i^2

• For example (using $\mathbb{R}[x, y]$ as elementary set):

 $\blacktriangleright \ x \land (x \to y) \Rightarrow x \times (1 - x + xy) \Rightarrow x - x^2 + x^2y \Rightarrow xy$

- So POLY $(x \land (x \to y)) = xy$ just as POLY (2+2) = 4
- ▶ Inverse: $\operatorname{POLy}^{-1}(xy) = \{x \land y, x \land (x \to y), \ldots\}$

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Using Inverse Evaluation Functions

 Inverse arithmetical evaluation gives the LOGICAL PREIMAGE of a polynomial:

$$\operatorname{Poly}^{-1}(p) \equiv \{ \varphi : \varphi \in \mathcal{L}_a, \operatorname{Poly}(\varphi) = p \}$$

These logical formulas share the same truth table.

- ▶ E.g. $\operatorname{Poly}^{-1}(xy) = \{x \land y, x \land (x \to y), \ldots\}$
- Inverse algebraic evaluation gives the set of all polynomials with a common solution set given A:

$$\mathbb{S}_Q^{-1}(s) \hspace{.1in} \equiv \hspace{.1in} \{p: p \in K[x_1, \ldots, x_n], \hspace{.1in} \mathbb{S}_Q \hspace{.05in} (p) = s\}$$

Therefore $S_Q^{-1}(\{1\})$ is the SET OF ALL THEOREMS entailed by the axioms in Q (in polynomial form).

- ▶ Like the *ideal* S_Q⁻¹({0}) this set has a closed form.
- ▶ Using \mathbb{F}_2 , the set $S_Q^{-1}(\{1\}) \subset \mathbb{F}_2[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ is finite.
- ► The logical preimage POLY⁻¹ (p) gives logical notation for each polynomial theorem p ∈ S_Q⁻¹({1}).

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The Dynamic Topology of Truth

- ► In DYNAMICAL SYSTEMS the value of a formula is a state-transition graph. Each state is usually an elementary object or a vector or set of them.
- The topology of each graph specifies a truth value.
 - How many fixed points?
 - **0** INCONSISTENT
 - 1 CONSISTENT
 - ≥ 2 CONTINGENT
 - Any nonconvergent orbits (periodic or infinite)?
 yes UNSTEADY (These really bother logicians!)
 no STEADY
 - Thus 6 categories of dynamic truth: meta-modalities that concern stability rather than necessity.
 - In each state, every formula has a usual solution set.
- A dynamical system can be solved for its fixed points (thus interpreted as a set of simultaneous equations).

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The Logic of Parametric Probability

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Two ways to apply PARAMETRIC PROBABILITY ANALYSIS:

- **EMBEDDING**: Probability tables copy truth tables.
 - E.g. for $\phi = A \rightarrow B$ add *C* and derived $\Pr(C | A, B)$:

A	В	$A \rightarrow B$
Т	Т	Т
Т	F	F
F	Т	Т
F	F	Т

	Α	В	$\Pr\left(C=T\right)$	$\Pr\left(C = F\right)$
ſ	Т	Т	1	0
ſ	Т	F	0	1
	F	Т	1	0
	F	F	1	0

Ask $\Pr([A \rightarrow B])$, $\Pr(B \mid A)$, $\Pr(A \mid [A \rightarrow B])$, etc.

- ► **DIRECT ENCODING**: Conditional probabilities encode if/then statements (without material implication).
 - By clever factoring we can constrain Pr (B | A) without affecting Pr (A), and get the desired semantics for counterfactual conditionals.
- Solutions: polynomials in the parameters θ_i used to specify probabilities (with rational coefficients).
- Secondary analysis: optimization, search, etc.

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Embedding: A Challenge in the Cards

Embedding allows reasoning about the probabilities of statements in the propositional calculus.

- ▶ A problem from Johnson-Laird told by Bringsjord:
 - 0 If one of the following is true then so is the other:
 - 1 There is a king in the hand iff there is an ace.
 - 2 There is a king in the hand.
 - Which is more likely, if either: the king or the ace?
- ▶ Logical formula for Sentence 0: $(K \leftrightarrow A) \leftrightarrow K$
- Query: Relative values of Pr(A = T) and Pr(K = T)

Detour: easy resolution of illusion

- Johnson-Laird's 'illusory inference' problems are mostly about simplifying nested biconditionals.
- ▶ Boolean interpretation POLY $((K \leftrightarrow A) \leftrightarrow K) = A$.
- The ace is present with certainty if Sentence 0 holds; hence it is as likely or more likely than the king.

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Probability Network, Embedded Logic

We can also use parametric probability with embedded propositional calculus to solve this ace-king problem.

- ▶ Binary variables A and K; add P for $(K \leftrightarrow A) \leftrightarrow K$
- Network graph:



- Real parameters $0 \leqslant x_i \leqslant 1$ with $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 1$.
- ▶ Component probabilities: $\Pr(A, K)$ is uninformative, $\Pr(P | A, K)$ copies truth table for $(K \leftrightarrow A) \leftrightarrow K$.

Α	Κ	$Pr_{0}\left(A,K ight)$
Т	Т	x_1
Т	F	x_2
F	Т	x_3
F	F	x_4

$\Pr_0(P \mid A, K)$					
Α	Κ	P = T	P = F		
Т	Т	1	0		
Т	F	1	0		
F	Т	0	1		
F	F	0	1		

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Primary and Secondary Analysis

We compare the probabilities of A versus K, given the condition P for the problem's assertion $(K \leftrightarrow A) \leftrightarrow K$.

> Primary analysis is symbolic probability inference:

•
$$\Pr(A = \mathsf{T}) \Rightarrow x_1 + x_2$$

•
$$\Pr(K = \mathsf{T}) \Rightarrow x_1 + x_3$$

•
$$\Pr(P = \mathsf{T}) \Rightarrow x_1 + x_2$$

- ▶ Here, secondary analysis is linear optimization:
 - The difference $\Pr(A = T) \Pr(K = T)$ is $x_2 x_3$.
 - We desire minimum and maximum values of $x_2 x_3$ subject to $0 \le x_i \le 1$, $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 1$, and the constraint Pr (P = T) = 1, hence $x_1 + x_2 = 1$.
 - ▶ By linear programming: minimum 0, maximum 1.
 - ▶ These bounds $0 \leq \Pr(A = T) \Pr(K = T) \leq 1$ imply $\Pr(A = T) \geq \Pr(K = T)$: the ace is at least as likely as the king (when $(K \leftrightarrow A) \leftrightarrow K$ holds).
- Many problems about the probabilities of logical formulas are also linear optimization problems.

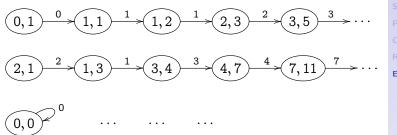
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The Familiar Fibonacci Numbers

Annotated state-transition graph using evolution function F(x, y) : (y, x + y) and objective G(x, y) : x extracted from the Fibonacci recurrence $x_{t+2} \leftarrow x_t + x_{t+1}$



- Each ORBIT gives an infinite sequence of objective values. From (0,1) the usual (0,1,1,2,3,5,8,...).
- A unique FIXED POINT at (0,0) since (0,0) = F(0,0)
- All other orbits do not converge

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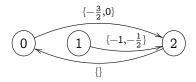
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Self-Referential Quadratic Equations

- c is the number of real solutions to $2x^2 + 3x + c = 0$.
- b is the number of real solutions to $y^2 + 6by + 11 = 0$.
 - ► As recurrences for b and c, state space $\{0, 1, 2\} \subset \mathbb{R}$: $c_{t+1} \quad \Leftarrow \quad \left| \left\{ x : x \in \mathbb{R}, \ c_t \in \mathbb{R}, \ 2x^2 + 3x + c_t = 0 \right\} \right|$ $b_{t+1} \quad \Leftarrow \quad \left| \left\{ y : y \in \mathbb{R}, \ b_t \in \mathbb{R}, \ y^2 + 6b_t y + 11 = 0 \right\} \right|$
 - Dynamical system for c (edges show solutions for x):



Dynamical system for b (edges show solutions for y):



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Outline: Diverse Systems and Solutions

- Arithmetic: $2 + 2 \Rightarrow 4$
- ALGEBRA (EQUATIONS):
 - Data: $x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 = x$
 - Query: $\left\{x: x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 = x\right\} \Rightarrow \{0, 1\}$
- DYNAMICAL SYSTEMS:
 - Data: $x \in \{0,1\}$, $x_{t+1} \leftarrow 1 x_t$
 - Query: [Phase portrait of x] \Rightarrow (0, 1)
 - Query: [Orbit of x from $x_0 = 0$] \Rightarrow (0, 1, 0, 1, ...)
- PROBABILITY:
 - ▶ Data: $P, Q, R \in \{0, 1\}; P \rightarrow Q \rightarrow R; x, y, z \in \mathbb{R};$

					Pr ₀	$(R \mid R)$	(Q)	
P	$\Pr(P)$	Pr ₀	(Q P)		Р	Q	R = 1	R = 0
1	<i>r</i>	P	Q = 1	Q = 0	1	1	1	0
-0	$\frac{x}{1-x}$	1	y	1-y	1	0	0	1
		0	z	1-z	0	1	1	0
					0	0	1	0

▶ Query: $\Pr(R = 1) - \Pr(Q = 1 | P = 1) \Rightarrow$ 1 - x - y + xy with 0 < x ≤ 1; 0 ≤ y ≤ 1 Saving Truth from Orthodoxy

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troduction

Equations

Dynamical Systems

Probability

Conclusion

References