

# **L9c: Advanced data structures**

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## **Sets**

# Sets: Definition

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- A set is an **unordered collection** of values.
- Values are **unique**, no repeated items.
- We cannot identify each element of the set (**no index**).
- It is a set in the mathematical sense of the term.
- The syntax for expressing literals of type set is written as a **comma-separated** list of elements, inside **braces**.

```
In [90]: conjunt = {1,2,3,4}
```

```
In [91]: print(conjunt)
{1, 2, 3, 4}
```

```
In [92]: type(conjunt)
Out[92]: set
```

```
In [93]: conjunt = {1,2,3,4,3,1,4,4,5}
```

```
In [94]: print(conjunt)
{1, 2, 3, 4, 5}
```

```
In [95]: type(conjunt)
Out[95]: set
```

# Operations

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- **Membership** (`in`)
- **Difference** (`-`) Elements are in one set but not in the other one.
- **Or** (`|`) Elements present in one set or in the other. The union in a mathematical sense.
- **And** (`&`) Elements present in one set and in the other. The intersection in the mathematical sense.
- **Xor** (`^`) Elements present in one set or the other, but not in both.

```
In [11]: c1
Out[11]: {'a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u'}
In [12]: c2
Out[12]: {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i'}
```

```
In [13]: 'a' in c1
Out[13]: True
In [14]: print(c1-c2)
{'u', 'o'}
```

```
In [18]: print(c1|c2)
{'u', 'h', 'e', 'f', 'c', 'd', 'g', 'i', 'o', 'a', 'b'}
```

```
In [17]: print(c1&c2)
{'a', 'i', 'e'}
In [19]: print(c1^c2)
{'u', 'h', 'o', 'f', 'd', 'g', 'c', 'b'}
```

# Modification of sets: Add and Remove

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- To add an element to the set, we use `add`:

```
In [34]: c2.add('j')
```

```
In [35]: c2
```

```
Out[35]: {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j'}
```

- To add a set to another set, we use `Update`:

```
In [25]: c1
```

```
Out[25]: {'a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u'}
```

```
In [26]: c2
```

```
Out[26]: {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j'}
```

```
In [27]: c2.update(c1)
```

```
In [28]: c2
```

```
Out[28]: {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j', 'o', 'u'}
```

- To remove an element from a set, we use `remove`:

But if the  
element does  
not exist, it will  
raise an error



```
In [29]: c2.remove('j')
```

```
In [30]: c2
```

```
Out[30]: {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'o', 'u'}
```

# Other operations

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- To empty a set, we use `clear`:

```
In [35]: c2
Out[35]: {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j'}

In [36]: c2.clear()

In [37]: c2
Out[37]: set()
```

- Sets are mutable. To make a copy, we use the method `copy`:

```
In [38]: c1
Out[38]: {'a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u'}

In [39]: c2=c1

In [40]: c2.remove('u')

In [41]: c1
Out[41]: {'a', 'e', 'i', 'o'}
```

```
In [44]: c1
Out[44]: {'a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u'}

In [45]: c2=c1.copy()

In [46]: c2.remove('u')

In [47]: c1
Out[47]: {'a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u'}

In [48]: c2
Out[48]: {'a', 'e', 'i', 'o'}
```

# Iteration

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- Sets are iterable. So, we can use `len` and `for`:

```
In [49]: c1
Out[49]: {'a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u'}

In [50]: len(c1)
Out[50]: 5

In [51]: for vocal in c1:
...:     print(vocal)
...:
u
e
i
o
a
```

- They are unordered objects, so they do not support sequence operations such as indexing or the cut operator `[n:m]`

## Exercise: Unique words

---

- This problem is a continuation of Problem *Lyrics2list* (converts the lyrics of a song into a list of words)
- We want to know how many unique words a text has.
- Create a function called `Uniques` that receives a list of strings as a parameter. The function must return a list in which repeated strings have been removed.
- We want to know how many different words the Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody song has

# Exercise: Unique words

---

```
def Uniques(llista):  
    aux=set()  
    for e in llista:  
        aux.add(e)
```

To create an  
empty set

```
    out = []  
    for e in aux:  
        out.append(e)  
    return (out)
```

## Equivalent code:

```
def Uniques(llista):  
    conjunt = set(llista)  
    u_llista = list(conjunt)  
    return (u_llista)
```