

## Sets & Set Operations.

Discrete math is study of the discrete structures used to represent discrete objects.

✓ Many discrete structures are built using sets.

- Examples of discrete structures built using sets are;

- o Combinations.
- o Relations.
- o Graphs.

Set Definition: A set is a (unordered) collection of objects. These objects are sometimes called elements or members of the set.

Examples:

- Vowels in the English alphabet.

$$V = \{ a, e, i, o, u \}$$

- First seven prime numbers.

$$X = \{ 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17 \}$$

Representing Sets:

1). Listing (enumerating) the members of the set.

2). Using set builder notation i.e. definition by property.

$$\{ x \mid x \text{ has property } p \}$$

Example:-

$$E = \{ 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62 \}$$

$$E = \{ x \mid 50 \leq x \leq 63, x \text{ is an even integer} \}$$

If enumeration of the members is hard we often use ellipses.

Example: A set of integers b/w 1 and 100.

$$A = \{ 1, 2, 3, \dots, 100 \}$$

## Important sets in discrete math.

- Natural Numbers

$$N = \{ 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots \}$$

- Integers

$$Z = \{ \dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots \}$$

- Positive integers

$$Z^+ = \{ 1, 2, 3, \dots \}$$

- Rational Numbers.

$$Q = \{ p/q \mid p \in Z, q \in Z, q \neq 0 \}$$

- Real Numbers.

$$R$$

## Equality:

Two sets are equal if and only if they have same elements.

Example:  $\{ 1, 2, 3 \} = \{ 3, 1, 2 \} = \{ 1, 2, 1, 3, 2 \}$ .

Note: ~~Duplicates~~ don't contribute anything new to a set,  
so remove them.

- The order of the elements in a set does not contribute anything new.

Example: Are  $\{ 1, 2, 3, 4 \}$  and  $\{ 1, 2, 2, 4 \}$  equal?

Ans: No.

## Special sets:

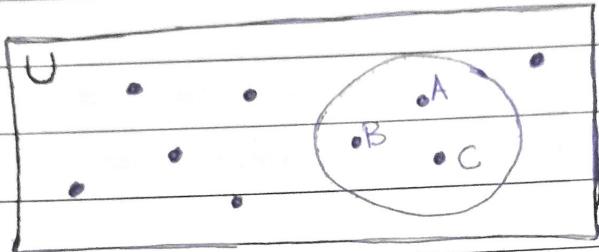
**Universal Set**: Denoted by  $U$  is set of all objects under consideration.

**Empty set**: Denoted by  $\emptyset$  or  $\{ \}$ , does not contain any element.

## Venn Diagrams:

A set can be visualized using Venn Diagrams.

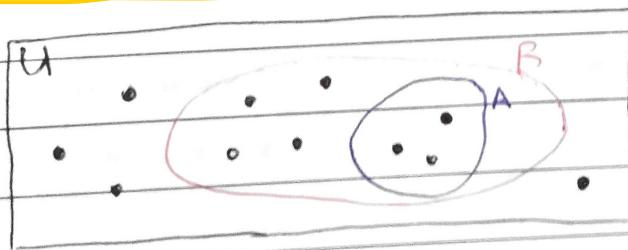
$$V = \{A, B, C\}$$



### A ⊂ B

**Definition:** A set A is said to be subset of B if and only if every element of A is also an element of B.

"A is subset of B" is indicated as:  $A \subseteq B$ .  
 $\forall x (x \in A) \rightarrow (x \in B)$



### Subset Properties [Empty set]

**Theorem:** An empty set is subset of any set.  $\emptyset \subseteq S$

**Proof:** By subset definition, all elements of set A must be elements of set B:  $\forall x (x \in A \rightarrow x \in B)$

- We must show that following implication holds for any  $S$ :  $\forall x (x \in \emptyset \rightarrow x \in B)$ .

- Since the empty set does not contain any element, therefore  $x \in \emptyset$  is always false.

- Then the implication is always true.

End of proof.

## Subset Properties

**Theorem:** Any set  $S$  is a subset of itself  $S \subseteq S$ .

**Proof:** Definition of subset says; all the elements of set A must be also elements of set B:  $\forall x(x \in A \rightarrow x \in B)$ .

\* Applying this we get:

$\forall x(x \in S \rightarrow x \in S)$ . which is trivially True.

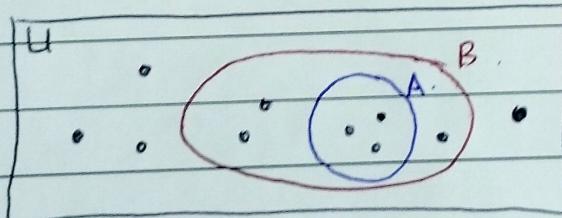
End of proof.

**Note:** Two sets are equal if each is subset of the other set.

A proper subset:

**Definition:** A set A is said to be proper subset of B. if and only if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $A \neq B$ .

\* "A is proper subset of B" is denoted as:  $A \subset B$ .



Example:  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

$B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ .

Is  $A \subset B$ ?

Ans: Yes!

## " CARDINALITY "

Definition: Let  $S$  be a set. If there are exactly  $n$  distinct elements in  $S$ , where  $n$  is a non-negative integer, we say that  $S$  is a finite set and that  $n$  is the cardinality of  $S$ . The cardinality of  $S$  is denoted by  $|S|$ .

Examples:

$$V = \{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \} \quad |V| = 5.$$

$$A = \{ 1, 2, 3, \dots, 20 \} \quad |A| = 20.$$

$$\checkmark |\emptyset| = 0.$$

## INFINITE SET.

Definition: A set is infinite if it is not finite.  
i.e. members are not countable.

Examples: [ Set of natural numbers.  $N = \{ 1, 2, 3, \dots \}$ .  
Set of real numbers. ]

## POWER SET.

Definition: Given a set  $S$ , the power set of  $S$  is the set of all subsets of  $S$ . It is denoted by  $P(S)$ .

Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \{1, 2, 3\}. \\ P(S) &= \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}. \\ |S| &= 3. & |P(S)| &= 8. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \{1\}. \\ P(A) &= \{\emptyset, \{1\}\}. \\ |A| &= 1 & |P(A)| &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} B &= \emptyset \\ P(B) &= \{\emptyset\}. \\ |B| &= 0 & |P(B)| &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

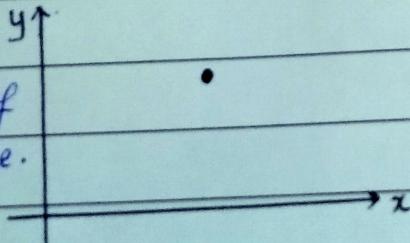
If  $S$  is a set with  $|S| = n$ . then  
 $|P(S)| = 2^n$

## N-TUPLE.

Sets are used to represent unordered collections.  
 n-tuples are used to represent ordered collections.

Definitions: An ordered n-tuple  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$  is the ordered collection that has  $x_1$  as its first element,  $x_2$  as its second element ..., and  $x_N$  its  $n^{\text{th}}$  element,

$N \geq 2$ .  
Example: coordinates of a point in 2D plane.  
 $(12, 18)$ .



## CARTECIAN PRODUCT

Definition: Let  $S$  and  $T$  be sets. The cartesian product of  $S$  and  $T$ , denoted by  $\underline{S \times T}$ , is the set of all of all ordered pairs  $(s, t)$ , where  $s \in S$  and  $t \in T$ .

$$\checkmark S \times T = \{(s, t) \mid s \in S \wedge t \in T\}$$

Examples:

$$S = \{1, 2\} \quad T = \{a, b, c\}$$

$$S \times T = \{(1, a), (1, b), (1, c), (2, a), (2, b), (2, c)\}$$

$$T \times S = \{(a, 1), (a, 2), (b, 1), (b, 2), (c, 1), (c, 2)\}$$

NOTE:  $\underline{S \times T \neq T \times S}$ .

Cardinality of the Cartesian Product.

$$|S \times T| = |S| * |T|$$

Example:

$$A = \{\text{Blue, Red, Green}\}$$

$$B = \{\text{Circle, Triangle, Square}\}$$

$$A \times B = \{\text{(Blue, Circle), (Blue, Triangle), (Blue, Square), (Red, Circle),}\\ \text{(Red, Triangle), (Red, Square), (Green, Circle), (Green, Triangle), (Green, Square)}\}$$

$$|A| = 3$$

$$|B| = 3$$

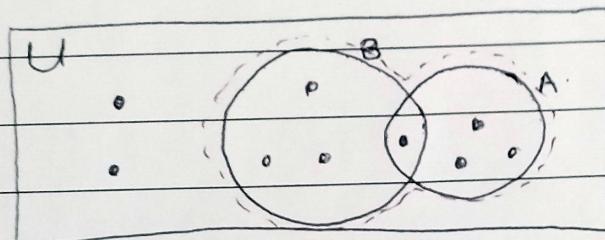
$$|A \times B| = 9 = |A| * |B|$$

NOTE: A subset of cartesian product  $A \times B$  is called a relation from the set  $A$  to the set  $B$ .

## SET OPERATIONS.

Union: Let A and B be sets. The union of A and B, denoted by  $A \cup B$ , is the set that contains those elements that are either in A or in B, or in both.

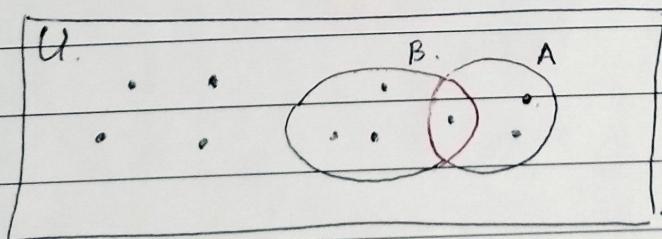
$$A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \vee x \in B\}$$



Example:  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 6\}$        $B = \{2, 4, 6, 9\}$ .  
 $A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9\}$ .

Intersection: Let A and B be sets. The intersection of A and B, denoted by  $A \cap B$ , is the set that contains those elements that are in both A and B.

$$A \cap B = \{x \mid x \in A \wedge x \in B\}.$$

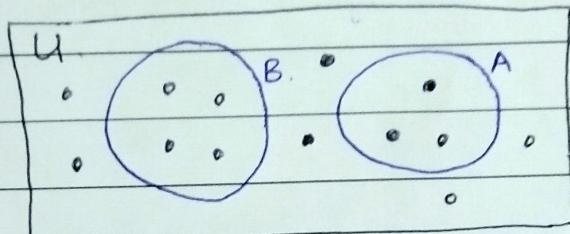


Example:  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 6\}$        $B = \{2, 4, 6, 9\}$ .  
 $A \cap B = \{2, 6\}$ .

## DISJOINT SETS.

Definition: Two sets are called disjoint if their intersection is empty.

A and B are disjoint if and only if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .



Example:  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 6\}$        $B = \{4, 7, 8\}$

$$A \cap B = \{\} = \emptyset$$

Hence, A and B are disjoint sets.

## Cardinality of the set Union.

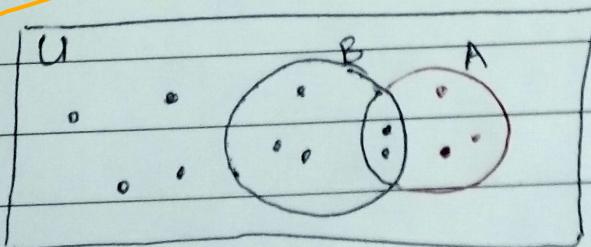
$$\checkmark |A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|.$$

## SET DIFFERENCE

Definition: Let A and B be sets. The difference of A and B, denoted by  $A - B$ , is the set containing those elements that are in A but not in B.

- The difference of A and B is also called the complement of B with respect to A.

$$\checkmark A - B = \{x \mid x \in A \wedge x \notin B\}$$



Example:  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 5, 7\}$        $B = \{1, 5, 6, 8\}$ .

$$A - B = \{2, 3, 7\}.$$

## COMPLEMENT OF A SET.

Definition: Let  $U$  be the universal set: the set of all objects under consideration.

Definition: The complement of the set  $A$ , denoted by  $\bar{A}$ , is the complement of  $A$  with respect to  $U$ .

$$\bar{A} = \{x \mid x \notin A\}$$

Example:  $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$        $A = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$

$$\bar{A} = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}.$$

## SET IDENTITIES

Set identities (analogous to logical equivalences).

## Identity

$$A \cup \emptyset = A.$$

$$A \cap U = A.$$

## Domination

$$A \cup U = U$$

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

## Idempotent.

$$A \cup A = A.$$

$$A \cap A = A.$$

## Absorption Law.

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

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

## Complement Law.

$$A \cup \bar{A} = U$$

$$A \cap \bar{A} = \emptyset.$$

## Double complement.

$$\bar{\bar{A}} = A$$

## Commutative

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

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

## Associative

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

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

## Distributive.

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

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

## DeMorgan's Laws.

$$\overline{(A \cup B)} = \bar{A} \cap \bar{B}$$

$$\overline{(A \cap B)} = \bar{A} \cup \bar{B}.$$

Set identities can be proved using membership tables.

- List each combination of sets that an element can belong to then show that for each such a combination the element either belongs or does not belong to both sets in the identity. → Its like truthtables.

Prove:  $(A \cap B) = \bar{A} \cup \bar{B}$ .

A	B	$\bar{A}$	$\bar{B}$	$A \cap B$	$\bar{A} \cup \bar{B}$
1	1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	1	1

### GENERALIZED UNIONS & INTERSECTIONS.

Definition: The union of collection of sets is the set that contains those elements that are members of atleast one set in the collection.

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i = \{ A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n \}.$$

Definition: The intersection of collection of sets is the set that contains those elements that are members of all sets in the collection.

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i = \{ A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n \}.$$

## \* Computer representation of sets.

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How to represent sets in the computer?

- One solution: Data structures like a list

- Better solution:

Assign a bit in a bit string to each element in the universal set, and set the bit to 1 if the element is present otherwise 0.

Example:

All possible elements:  $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

\* Assume  $A = \{2, 5\}$

- Computer representation:  $A = 01001$

\* Assume  $B = \{1, 5\}$ .

- Computer representation:  $B = 10001$ .

- The union is modeled with bitwise OR.

$$A \vee B = 11001.$$

- The intersection is modeled with bitwise AND.

$$A \wedge B = 00001.$$

- The complement is modeled with a bitwise negation

$$\bar{A} = 10110.$$