

DISCRETE MATHEMATICS AND ITS APPLICATIONS



2.1 SETS

WENJING LI

wjli@bupt.edu.cn

SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF POSTS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

INTRODUCTION TO SET THEORY

■ Introduction:

- A *set* is a new type of structure, representing an *unordered* collection (group, plurality) of zero or more *distinct* (different) objects.
- *Set theory* deals with operations between, relations among, and statements about sets.
- Sets are ubiquitous in computer software systems.
- All of mathematics can be defined in terms of some form of set theory (using predicate logic).

SETS (集合)

■ Definition:

- A **set** is a collection or group of **objects** (对象) or **elements** (元素) or **members** (成员). (Cantor 1895, Germany)
- A set is said to **contain** (包含) its elements.
- There must be an underlying **universal set** (全集) U , either specifically stated or understood.

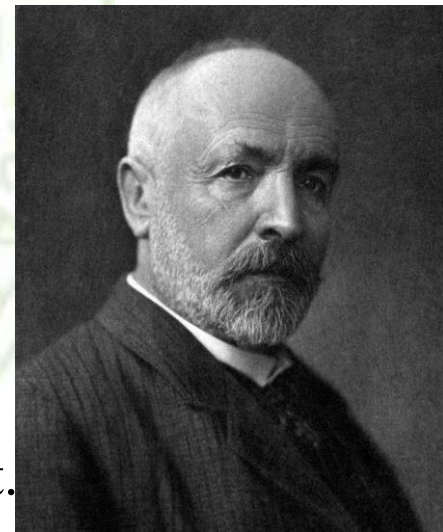
■ Notation (Roster method):

- list the elements between braces:

$$S = \{a, b, c, d\} = \{b, c, a, d, d\}$$

■ Note:

- listing object more than once doesn't change the set.
- Ordering means nothing.



Cantor 1845-1918

SETS (集合)

■ Notation: specification by predicates (谓词)

$$S = \{x \mid P(x)\}$$

- $P(x)$ denote a sentence or statement P concerning the variable object x .
- S contains all the elements from U which make the predicate P true.
- x is a member of S or x is an element of S :
 $x \in S$.
- x is not an element of S :
 $x \notin S$.

SETS (集合)

■ Examples:

- $\{x \mid x \text{ is a positive integer less than } 4\} = \{1, 2, 3\}$
 - $\{x \mid x \text{ is a letter in the word "byte"}\} = \{b, y, t, e\}$
 - If $A = \{\text{BASIC}, \text{PASCAL}, \text{ADA}\}$ and $B = \{\text{ADA}, \text{PASCAL}, \text{BASIC}\}$, then $A = B$.
- Two sets A and B are *equal* (相等) if and only if they have the same elements, we write $A = B$.

SETS (集合)

■ Common Universal Sets:

- \mathbb{R} = Reals
- \mathbb{N} = Nature numbers = $\{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$, the counting numbers
- \mathbb{Z} = All numbers = $\{\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
- \mathbb{Z}^+ = The set of positive numbers
- \mathbb{Q} = The Rational numbers

EMPTY SET (空集)

- **Definition:**

- The *void* set, the *null* set, the *empty* set, denoted $\{ \}$ or \emptyset , is the set with no members.

- **Example:**

- $\{x \mid x \text{ is a real number and } x^2 = -1\} = \emptyset$.

SUBSETS (子集)

■ Definition:

- The set A is a *subset* of the set B , or A **contained in** (包含于) B , denoted $A \subseteq B$, iff (当且仅当)

$$\forall x[x \in A \rightarrow x \in B]$$

- If A is not a subset of B , denote $A \not\subseteq B$.

■ Note:

- The assertion $x \in \emptyset$ is always false. Hence $\forall x[x \in \emptyset \rightarrow x \in B]$ is always true(vacuously). Therefore, \emptyset is a subset of every set, $\emptyset \subseteq B$.
- A set B is always a subset of itself, $B \subseteq B$.

SUBSETS (子集)

■ Examples:

- $\mathbb{Z}^+ \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$

- $\mathbb{Z}^+ \subseteq \mathbb{R}$

- Let $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$, $B = \{2, 4, 5\}$, $C = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

- Then

- $B \subseteq A$, $B \subseteq C$, $C \subseteq A$

- $A \not\subseteq B$, $A \not\subseteq C$, $C \not\subseteq B$

PROPER SUBSET (真子集)

■ Definition:

- If $A \subseteq B$ but $A \neq B$ then we say A is a *proper subset* (真子集) of B , denoted $A \subset B$ (in some texts).

■ Examples:

- $\mathbb{Z}^+ \subset \mathbb{Z}$
- $\mathbb{Z}^+ \subset \mathbb{R}$

CARDINALITY (基数)

■ Definition:

- The number of distinct elements in set A , denoted $|A|$, is called the *cardinality* of A .
- If the cardinality is a natural number (in \mathbb{N}), then the set is called *finite*, else *infinite*.

■ Example:

- $A = \{a, b\}$, $|A| = ?$
- $B = \{a, b, a, c\}$, $|B| = ?$
- $C = \emptyset$, $|C| = ?$
- $D = \mathbb{N}$, $|D| = |\mathbb{N}| = ?$

- \mathbb{N} is *infinite* since $|\mathbb{N}|$ is not a natural number.
- It is called a *transfinite cardinal number*.

THE POWER SET (幂集)

■ Definition:

- The set of all subset of a set A , denoted $P(A)$, is called the *power set* (幂集) of A .
- A is finite and so is $P(A)$.

■ Example:

- If $A = \{a, b\}$ then
 $P(A) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$

■ 幂集中的元素都是集合

THE POWER SET (幂集)

■ Note:

- Sets can be both members and subsets of other sets.

■ Example:

- $A = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}.$
- A has two elements and hence four subsets:
 - $\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, \{\{\emptyset\}\}, \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$
- Note that \emptyset is both a member of A and a subset of A!

■ Example:

- Let A be a set and let $B = \{A, \{A\}\}$, Then
- $A \in B$ and $\{A\} \in B$, $\{A\} \subseteq B$ and $\{\{A\}\} \subseteq B$. $A \not\subseteq B$
- $P(B) = ?$

CARDINALITY OF POWER SET

- $A = \{a, b\}$, $|A| = 2$
- $P(A) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$, $|P(A)| = 4$
- **Useful fact:** $|A| = n$ implies $|P(A)| = 2^n$.
- **Examples:**
 - $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $|A| = 3$
 - $P(A) = ?$, $|P(A)| = ?$

ORDERED N-TUPLES

■ Definition:

- These are like sets, except that duplications matter, and the order makes a difference.
- For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, an ordered n -tuple or a sequence or list of length n is written $(\mathbf{a_1}, \mathbf{a_2}, \dots, \mathbf{a_n})$, and it's first element is a_1 , etc.
- Empty sequence, singlet, pairs, triples, quadruples, quintuples, ..., n -tuples

■ Examples:

- $(1, 2) \neq (2, 1) \neq (2, 1, 1)$
- $\{1, 2\} = \{2, 1\} = \{2, 1, 1\}$

CARTESIAN PRODUCT (笛卡尔乘积)

■ Definition:

- The *Cartesian product* of A with B , denoted $A \times B$, is the set of ordered pairs $\{ \langle a, b \rangle \mid a \in A \wedge b \in B \}$

$$\{(a, b) \mid a \in A \wedge b \in B\}$$

- Notation:

$$\prod_{i=1}^n A_i = \{ \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle \mid a_i \in A_i \}$$

- Note: The Cartesian product of anything with \emptyset is \emptyset . (why?)

■ Example

- $A = \{a, b\}, B = \{1, 2, 3\}$

- $A \times B$

$$= \{ \langle a, 1 \rangle, \langle a, 2 \rangle, \langle a, 3 \rangle, \langle b, 1 \rangle, \langle b, 2 \rangle, \langle b, 3 \rangle \}$$

- What is $B \times A$? $A \times B \times A$?

- When $A \times B = B \times A$?

- If $|A| = m$ and $|B| = n$, what is $|A \times B|$?



1596-1650, France

CARTESIAN PRODUCT (笛卡尔乘积)

■ Properties:

- $A \times B \neq B \times A$ ($A \neq \emptyset \wedge B \neq \emptyset \wedge A \neq B$)
- $(A \times B) \times C \neq A \times (B \times C)$ ($A \neq \emptyset \wedge B \neq \emptyset \wedge A \neq B$)
- When $A_1 = A_2 = \dots = A_n$, then $A_1 \times A_2 \dots \times A_n = A^n$

- 笛卡尔乘积不满足交换律
- 笛卡尔乘积不满足结合律

USING SET NOTATION WITH QUANTIFIERS

■ Example 22

- What do the statements $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} (x^2 \geq 0)$ and $\exists x \in \mathbb{Z} (x^2 = 1)$ mean?
- For every real number x , $x^2 \geq 0$. This statement can be expressed as “The square of every real number is nonnegative.”
$$A = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x^2 \geq 0\}$$
- There exists an integer x such that $x^2 = 1$. This statement can be expressed as “There is an integer whose square is 1.” This is also a true statement because $x = 1$ is such an integer (as is -1).

$$A = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x^2 = 1\}$$

TRUTH SETS OF QUANTIFIERS

■ Definition:

- Given a predicate P , and a domain D , The *truth set* of $P(x)$ is denoted by $\{x \in D \mid P(x)\}$.

■ Example 23:

- What are the truth sets of the predicates $P(x)$, $Q(x)$, and $R(x)$, where the domain is the set of integers?
 - $P(x) : |x| = 1$
 - $Q(x) : x^2 = 2$
 - $R(x) : |x| = x$

REVIEW OF 2.1 SET

- Definition of Sets
- Special sets: \mathbb{R} , \mathbb{N} , \mathbb{Z} , \mathbb{Q}
- Set notations: $\{a, b, \dots\}$, $\{x|P(x)\}$...
- Relations: $x \in S$, $S \subseteq T$, $S \subset T$, $S = T$...
- Cardinality
- Power set
- Cartesian Product

HOMEWORK

- § 2.1
 - 8, 12, 18, 24, 48



DISCRETE MATHEMATICS AND ITS APPLICATIONS



2.2 SET OPERATIONS

WENJING LI

wjli@bupt.edu.cn

SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF POSTS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

- **Logical calculus**（逻辑演算） and **set theory**（集合论） are both instances of an algebraic system（代数系统） called a

Boolean Algebra（布尔代数）

- The **operators** in set theory are defined in terms of the corresponding operator in propositional calculus
- As always there must be a **universe U**, all sets are assumed to be **subsets of U**.

EQUAL (相等)

■ Definition:

- Two sets A and B are *equal*, denoted $A = B$, iff $\forall x[x \in A \leftrightarrow x \in B]$.

■ Note:

- By a previous logical equivalence we have

$$A = B \text{ iff } \forall x[(x \in A \rightarrow x \in B) \wedge (x \in B \rightarrow x \in A)]$$

or

$$A = B \text{ iff } A \subseteq B \text{ and } B \subseteq A$$

SET OPERATIONS

- The **union** (并集) of A and B , denoted $A \cup B$, is the set
$$\{x \mid x \in A \vee x \in B\}$$
- The **intersection** (交集) of A and B , denoted $A \cap B$, is the set
$$\{x \mid x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$$
 - Note: If the intersection is void, A and B are said to be **disjoint** (不相交)
- The **complement** (补集) of A , denoted \overline{A} , is the set
$$\{x \mid \neg(x \in A)\}$$
 - Note: Alternative notation is A^c , and $\{x \mid x \notin A\}$.

THE ADDITION PRINCIPLE (加法原理)

■ Theorem

- If A and B are finite sets, then $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$
- It also called the *inclusion-exclusion principle* (容斥原理)
- The Addition principle for Disjoint Sets: $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B|$

■ Example:

- Let $A = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$ and $B = \{c, e, f, h, k, m\}$.
- Verify inclusion-exclusion principle.

■ Solution:

- $A \cup B = \{a, b, c, d, e, f, h, k, m\}$ and $A \cap B = \{c, e\}$
- $|A| = 5$, $|B| = 6$, $|A \cup B| = 9$ and $|A \cap B| = 2$
- $|A| + |B| - |A \cap B| = 9 = |A \cup B|$

Q.E.D

THE DIFFERENCE OF SETS

■ Definitions :

- The *difference* (差) of A and B , or the *complement* of B *relative to* A , denoted $A - B$, is the set

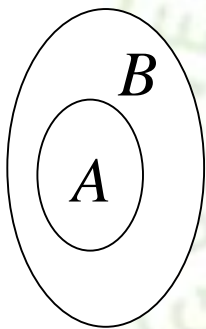
$$A \cap \overline{B}$$

- Note: The (absolute) complement of B is $U - B$ (i.e. \overline{B})
- The *symmetric difference* (对称差) of A and B , denoted $A \oplus B$, is the set

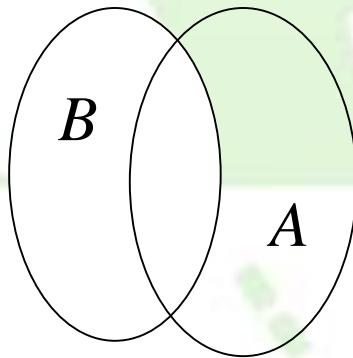
$$(A - B) \cup (B - A)$$

VENN DIAGRAMS (文氏图)

- Diagrams used to show relationships between sets after the British logician John Venn
- Example:



$A \subseteq B$



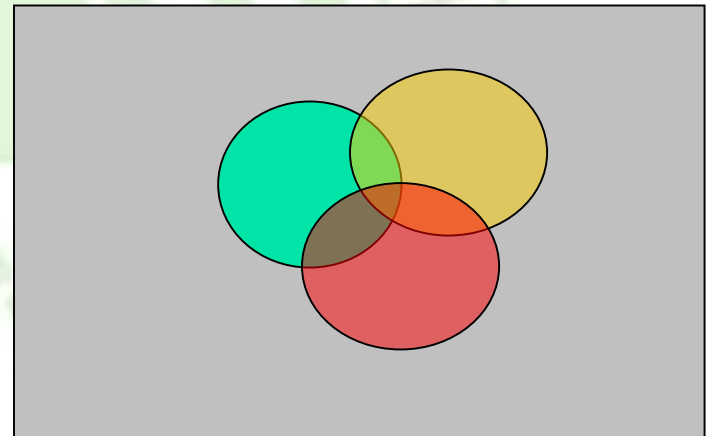
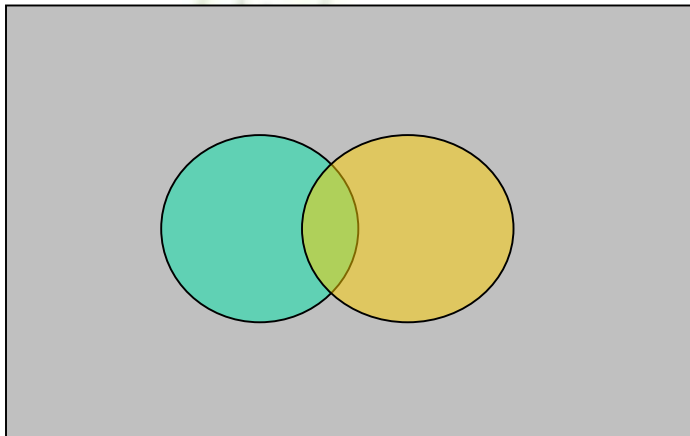
$A \not\subseteq B$



John Venn
1834-1923

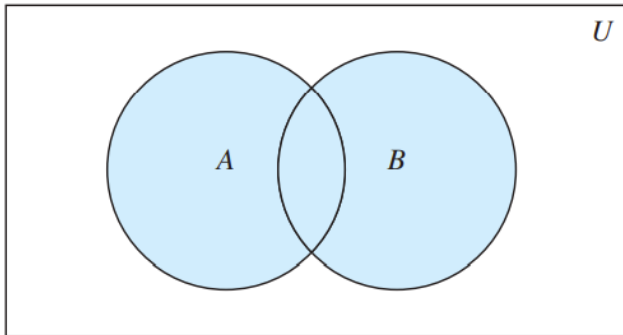
VENN DIAGRAMS

- A useful geometric visualization tool (for 3 or less sets)
 - The Universe U is the rectangular box
 - Each set is represented by a circle and its interior
 - All possible combinations of the sets must be represented

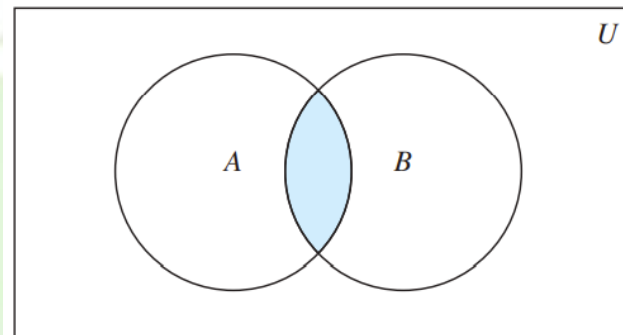


Shade the appropriate region to represent the given set operation.

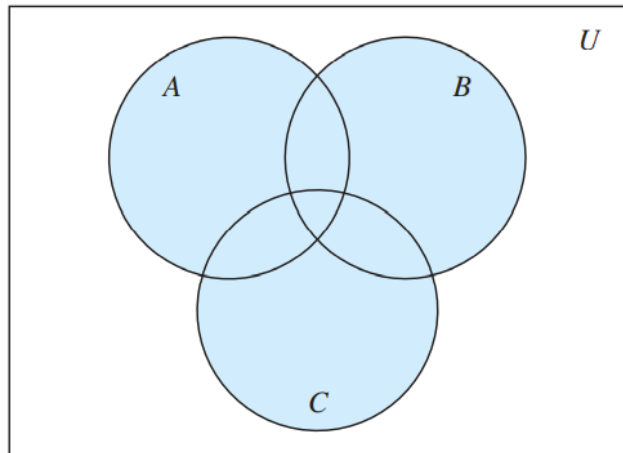
VENN DIAGRAMS



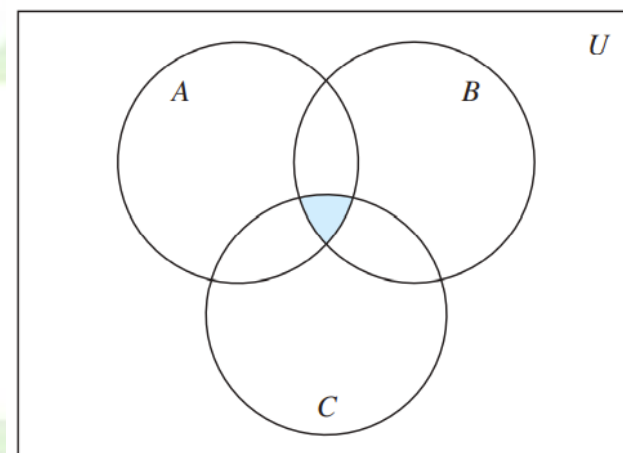
$A \cup B$ is shaded.



$A \cap B$ is shaded.

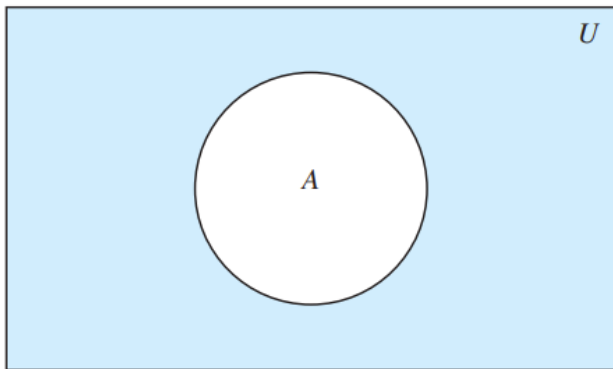


(a) $A \cup B \cup C$ is shaded.

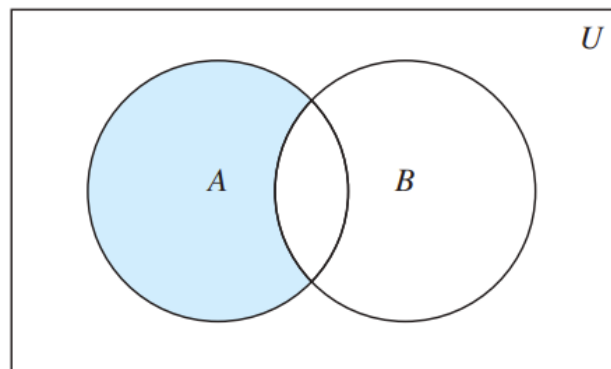


(b) $A \cap B \cap C$ is shaded.

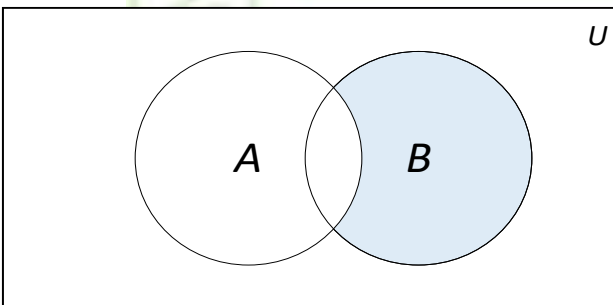
VENN DIAGRAMS



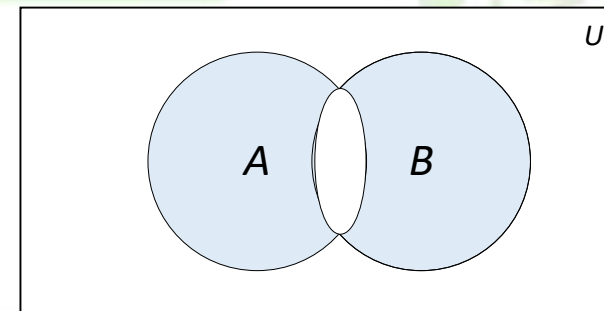
\bar{A} is shaded.



$A - B$ is shaded.



$B - A$ is shaded



$A \oplus B$ is shaded

EXAMPLES OF SET OPERATIONS

- $U = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$
- $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, B = \{4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$. Then
 - $A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$
 - $A \cap B = \{4, 5\}$
 - $\overline{A} = \{0, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$
 - $\overline{B} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 9, 10\}$
 - $A - B =$
 - $B - A =$
 - $A \oplus B =$

ALGEBRAIC PROPERTIES OF SET OPERATIONS

■ *Commutative properties (law)* (交换律)

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

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

■ *Associative properties* (结合律)

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

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

■ *Distributive properties* (分配律)

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

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

ALGEBRAIC PROPERTIES OF SET OPERATIONS

■ *Idempotent properties* (幂等律)

$$A \cup A = A$$

$$A \cap A = A$$

■ *Properties of the Complement* (补集性质)

$$\overline{\overline{A}} = A$$

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

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

$$\overline{\emptyset} = U$$

$$\overline{U} = \emptyset$$

$$\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$$

$$\overline{A \cap B} = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}$$

ALGEBRAIC PROPERTIES OF SET OPERATIONS

■ *Properties of a Universal Set*

$$A \cup U = U$$

$$A \cap U = A$$

■ *Properties of the Empty Set*

$$A \cup \emptyset = A$$

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

■ *Absorption law*

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

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

ALGEBRAIC PROPERTIES OF SET OPERATIONS

■ *Properties of Cartesian product*

- $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$
- $(B \cup C) \times A = (B \times A) \cup (C \times A)$
- $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$
- $(B \cap C) \times A = (B \times A) \cap (C \times A)$

■ 笛卡尔积对并和交运算满足分配律

■ *Example:* $A = \{1, 2\}$, $B = \{a, b\}$, $C = \{a, c\}$. Then

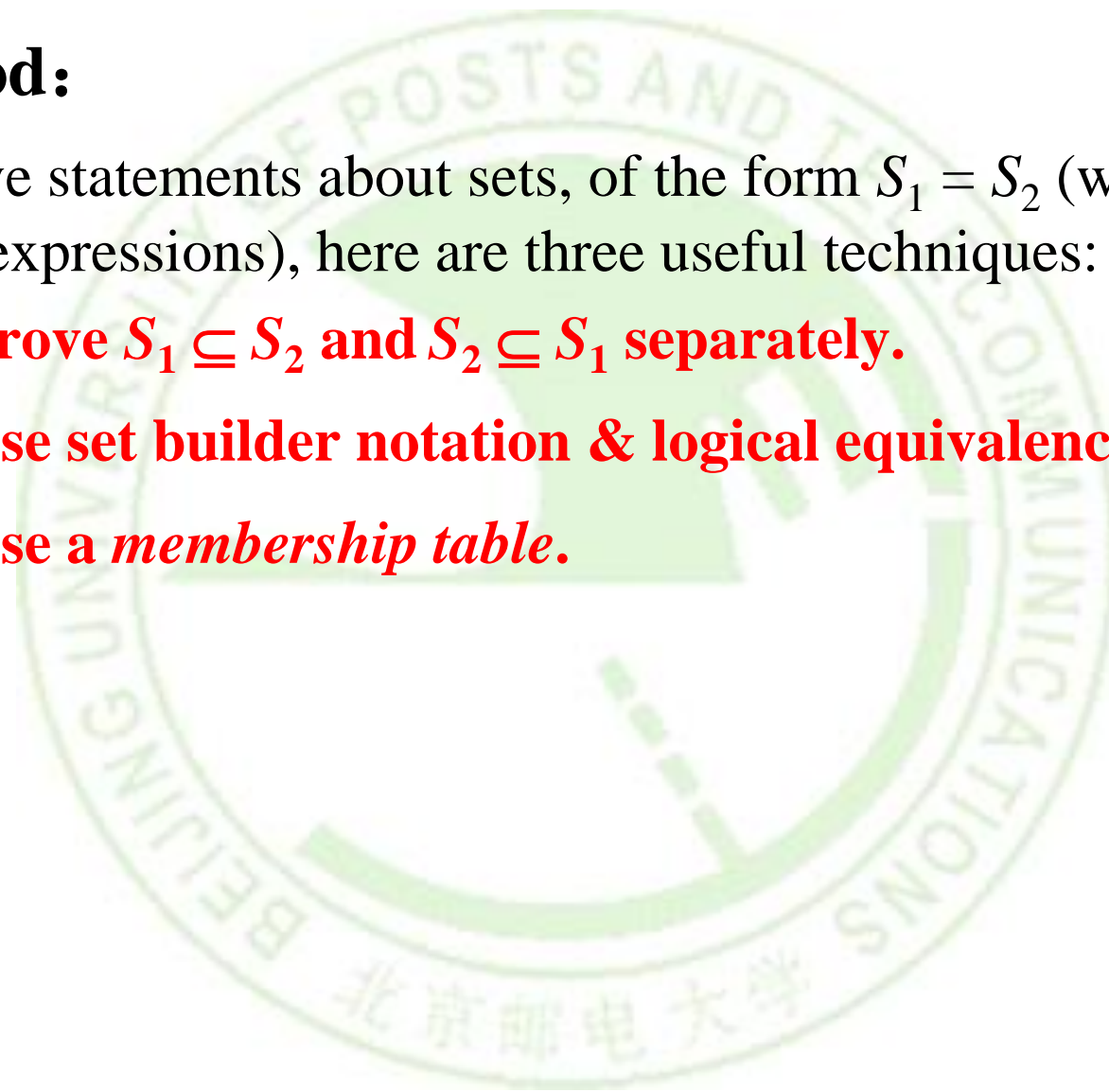
- $A \times (B \cup C) =$
- $(A \times B) \cup (A \times C) =$
- $(B \cap C) \times A =$
- $(B \times A) \cap (C \times A) =$

PROVING SET IDENTITIES

■ Method:

To prove statements about sets, of the form $S_1 = S_2$ (where the S_i are set expressions), here are three useful techniques:

- 1) Prove $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ and $S_2 \subseteq S_1$ separately.
- 2) Use set builder notation & logical equivalences.
- 3) Use a *membership table*.



METHOD 1: MUTUAL SUBSETS

■ Example:

Show $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$. (*Distributive properties*)

■ Part 1: Show $A \cap (B \cup C) \subseteq (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$.

- Assume $x \in A \cap (B \cup C)$, & show $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$.
- We know that $x \in A$, and $x \in B$ or $x \in C$.
 - Case 1: $x \in B$. Then $x \in A \cap B$, so $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$.
 - Case 2: $x \in C$. Then $x \in A \cap C$, so $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$.
- Therefore, $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$.
- Therefore, $A \cap (B \cup C) \subseteq (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$.

■ Part 2: Show $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C) \subseteq A \cap (B \cup C)$.

■ ...

METHOD 2: USE SET BUILDER NOTATION

■ Example 11: Proof that $\overline{A \cap B} = \bar{A} \cup \bar{B}$

$$\overline{A \cap B} = \{x \mid x \notin A \cap B\}$$

by definition of complement

$$= \{x \mid \neg(x \in (A \cap B))\}$$

by definition of does not belong symbol

$$= \{x \mid \neg(x \in A \wedge x \in B)\}$$

by definition of intersection

$$= \{x \mid \neg(x \in A) \vee \neg(x \in B)\}$$

by the first De Morgan law for logical equivalences

$$= \{x \mid x \notin A \vee x \notin B\}$$

by definition of does not belong symbol

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

by definition of complement

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

by definition of union

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

by meaning of set builder notation

METHOD 3: MEMBERSHIP TABLES

- Just like truth tables for propositional logic
 - Columns for different set expressions.
 - Rows for all combinations of memberships in constituent sets.
 - Use “1” to indicate membership in the derived set, “0” for non-membership.
 - Prove equivalence with identical columns.

- **Example:**

- Prove $(A \cup B) - B = A - B$

A	B	$A \cup B$	$(A \cup B) - B$	$A - B$
0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0	0

METHOD 3: MEMBERSHIP TABLES

■ Exercise:

Prove $(A \cup B) - C = (A - C) \cup (B - C)$.

A	B	C	$A \cup B$	$(A \cup B) - C$	$A - C$	$B - C$	$(A - C) \cup (B - C)$
0	0	0	0	0			0
0	0	1	0	0			0
0	1	0	1	1			1
0	1	1	1	0			0
1	0	0	1	1			1
1	0	1	1	0			0
1	1	0	1	1			1
1	1	1	1	0			0

GENERALIZED UNION

- Union & intersection are *commutative and associative*.
- Binary union operator: $A \cup B$
- n -ary union:
$$A \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n \equiv (((A_1 \cup A_2) \cup \dots) \cup A_n)$$

(grouping & order is irrelevant)
- “Big U” notation: $\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i$ or for infinite sets: $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$
- Or more generally: $\bigcup_{A \in X} A$

GENERALIZED INTERSECTION

- Union & intersection are *commutative and associative*.

- Binary intersection operator: $A \cap B$

- n -ary intersection:

$$A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n \equiv (((A_1 \cap A_2) \cap \dots) \cap A_n)$$

(grouping & order is irrelevant)

- “Big Arch” notation: $\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i$ or for infinite sets: $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$

- Or more generally: $\bigcap_{A \in X} A$

GENERALIZED UNIONS & INTERSECTIONS

■ Example 16:

closed interval, open interval

- Let $A_i = [i, \infty)$, $1 \leq i < \infty$ (For i is integer)
- Then

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i = ?$$

$$[1, \infty)$$

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i = ?$$

$$[n, \infty)$$

■ Example 17:

- Let $A_i = [1, i]$, $1 \leq i < \infty$ (For i is integer)
- Then

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = ?$$

$$[1, \infty)$$

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = ?$$

$$\{1\}$$

REPRESENTATIONS

- A frequent theme of this course will be methods of *representing* one discrete structure using another discrete structure of a different type.
- *E.g.*, one can represent natural numbers as
 - Sets: $0 \equiv \emptyset$, $1 \equiv \{0\}$, $2 \equiv \{0, 1\}$, $3 \equiv \{0, 1, 2\}$, ...
 - Bit strings: $0 \equiv 0$, $1 \equiv 1$, $2 \equiv 10$, $3 \equiv 11$, $4 \equiv 100$, ...

REPRESENTING SETS WITH BIT STRINGS

■ Method:

- For an enumerable u.d. U with ordering x_1, x_2, \dots , represent a finite set $S \subseteq U$ as the finite bit string $B = b_1 b_2 \dots b_n$ where $\forall i: x_i \in S \leftrightarrow (i < n \wedge b_i = 1)$.

■ Example:

$U = \mathbb{N}, S = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11\}, B = 001101010001$.

- In this representation, the set operators “ \cup ”, “ \cap ”, “ $\bar{}$ ” are implemented directly by bitwise OR, AND, NOT!

■ Example 18

- Let $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$, and the ordering of elements of U has the elements in increasing order; that is, $a_i = i$.
- What bit strings represent the subset of all odd integers in U , the subset of all even integers in U , and the subset of integers not exceeding 5 in U ?

1010101010, 0101010101, 1111100000

COMPUTER REPRESENTATION OF SETS

■ Example 19

- We have seen that the bit string for the set $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$ (with universal set $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$) is 10 1010 1010. What is the bit string for the complement of this set?

■ Example 20

- The bit strings for the sets $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ and $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$ are 11 1110 0000 and 10 1010 1010, respectively. Use bit strings to find the union and intersection of these sets.

1111100000

1010101010

1111101010

1111100000

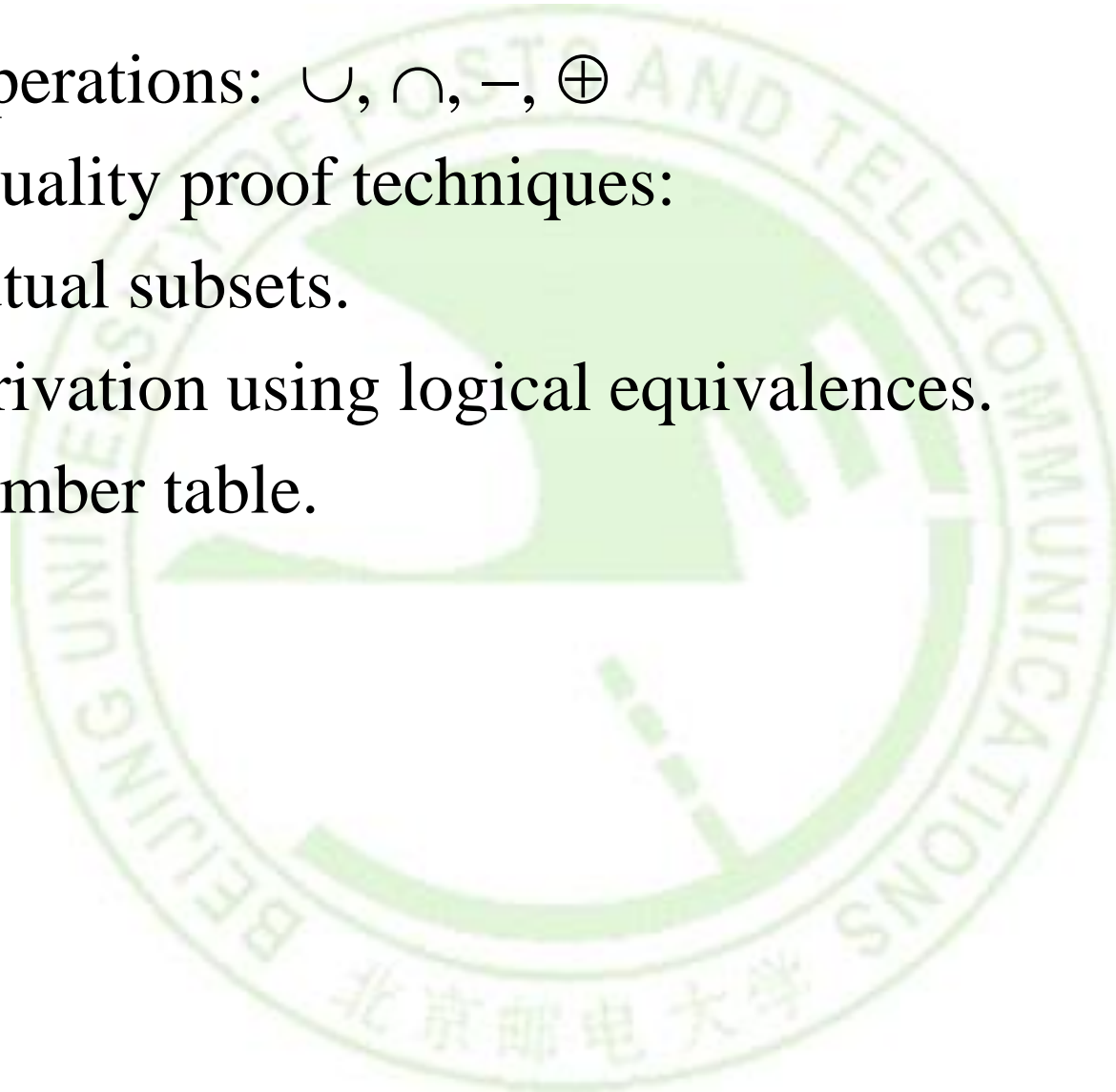
1010101010

1010100000



REVIEW OF 2.2

- Set Operations: \cup , \cap , $-$, \oplus
- Set equality proof techniques:
 - Mutual subsets.
 - Derivation using logical equivalences.
 - Member table.



HOMEWORK

- § 2.2
- 21, 32, 54

