# Sets. Ordered pairs.

Sets

Ordered pair

The set theory is a branch of mathematical logic that was created by Georg Cantor in 1870s.

**Def.** A *set* is a unordered collection of objects being regarded as a single object.



Examples:

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

$$B = \{x \in A \mid (x \ge 3) \land (x \text{ is odd})\}$$

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

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

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If x belongs to a set A, we say that it is a *member* (or an element) of A and write

$$x \in A$$
.

If x is not a member of A, we write

$$x \notin A$$
.

*Empty set*, denoted by  $\emptyset$  or  $\emptyset$ , has no members:

$$\forall x \ (x \notin \varnothing).$$

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Two sets A and B are equal, A = B, iff they have exactly the same elements:

$$\forall x \ (x \in A \longleftrightarrow x \in B)$$

For any two objects x and y, we can make a set containing exactly these two objects

$$\{x, y\}$$

If those two objects are identical, x = y, we get a singleton set,

$$\{x,x\}=\{x\}.$$

Notice that these sets are not equal:

$$\emptyset$$
,  $\{\emptyset\}$ ,  $\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$ 

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#### *Set-builder* notation.

A set of all objects that satisfy the property *P*:

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

Examples:

$$B = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x \text{ is even}\}$$

$$C = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} (x = 2k)\}$$

$$D = \{x \mid (x \in \mathbb{Z}) \land (\exists k \in \mathbb{Z} (x = 2k))\}$$

$$E = \{0, 2, -2, 4, -4, 6, -6, \ldots\}$$

In naive set theory, any definable collection is a valid set. And usually it works fine.

However, it leads to contradictions, such as Russell's paradox.

## Russell's paradox

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Let *R* be the set of all sets that are not members of themselves:

$$R = \{x \mid x \notin x\}$$

It is legal to ask, is R a member of itself or not.

There are only two cases, either  $R \in R$ , or  $R \notin R$ .

So, where is the paradox?

## Russell's paradox

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$$R = \{x \mid x \notin x\}$$

(a) If *R* is a member of itself, then by its definition,  $R \notin R$ ,

$$R \in R \to R \notin R$$
.

(b) Otherwise, if R is not a member of itself, then  $R \in R$ ,

$$R \notin R \to R \in R$$
.

Therefore, we get a contradiction,  $R \in R \longleftrightarrow R \notin R$ .

There exist several axiomatic systems that rule out such pathological cases. For example, Zermelo-Fraenkel set theory with the Axiom of Choice (ZFC).

### **Union and Intersection**

Sets

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*Union* of two sets *A* and *B*,

$$A \cup B = \{x \mid (x \in A) \lor (x \in B)\}$$
$$\{1, 2\} \cup \{2, 3\} = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

*Intersection* of two sets *A* and *B*,

$$A \cap B = \{x \mid (x \in A) \land (x \in B)\}$$
$$\{1, 2\} \cap \{2, 3\} = \{2\}$$

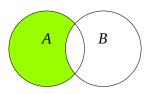
### Difference

Sets

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*Difference* between two sets *A* and *B*,

$$A \setminus B = \{x \mid (x \in A) \land (x \notin B)\}\$$



$$\{1,2\} \setminus \{2,3\} = \{1\}$$

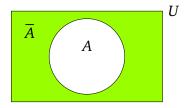
## Complement

Sets

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If there is a *universal set U* of all possible objects, then the *complement* of a set *A* is

$$\overline{A} = U \setminus A = \{x \in U \mid x \notin A\} = \{x \in U \mid \neg(x \in A)\}\$$



Exmaple: When  $U = \mathbb{Z}$ :

$$Odd = \{ x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x \text{ is odd} \}$$

$$Even = \overline{Odd} = \mathbb{Z} \setminus A$$

### Set identities

Sets

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Given the universal set U, sets with respect to union, intersection, and complement satisfy the same identities as propositions with respect to  $\land$ ,  $\lor$ , and  $\neg$ 

Sets: 
$$A \cap B$$
  $A \cup B$   $\overline{A}$   $U$   $\varnothing$  Propositions:  $p \wedge q$   $p \vee q$   $\neg p$   $T$   $F$ 

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

See the full list in Rosen's book.

### Set identities

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Let's prove De Morgan's law for sets:

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

$$\overline{A \cup B} = \{x \mid \neg((x \in A) \lor (x \in B))\}$$
$$\overline{A} \cap \overline{B} = \{x \mid \neg(x \in A) \land \neg(x \in B)\}$$

The propositions in the right hand sides of the equations are equal, therefore, the left hand sides are equal too.

### Subset

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A is a *subset* of B iff every element of A is an element of B:

$$A \subseteq B \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \forall x((x \in A) \to (x \in B))$$
$$\{1, 2\} \subseteq \{1, 2, 3\}$$
$$\{1, 2, 3\} \subseteq \{1, 2, 3\}$$
$$\varnothing \subseteq \{1, 2, 3\}$$

A is a proper subset of B iff A is a subset of B, but it's not equal to B

$$A \subsetneq B \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \forall x((x \in A) \to (x \in B)) \land \exists x((x \in B) \land (x \notin A))$$

$$\{1,2\} \subsetneq \{1,2,3\}$$

$$\varnothing \subsetneq \{1,2,3\}$$

Proper subset *A* is strictly "smaller" than *B*.

### Power set

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**Def.** The set of all subsets of *A* is called a *power set* of *A*, denoted by  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ .

#### Examples:

$$\mathscr{P}(\{0,1\}) = \{\emptyset, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{0,1\}\}\$$
  
 $\mathscr{P}(\{0,1,2\}) =$ 

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## Cardinality

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**Def.** The *cardinality* of a finite set A is equal to the number of elements in A. It's denoted by |A|.

$$|\emptyset| = 0$$
$$|\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}| = 5$$

We already know the subtraction rule for the cardinality of a union:

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

## Question

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Compute the cardinality of the power set  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  if |A| = n.

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$$|\mathscr{P}(A)| = 2^{|A|} = 2^n$$

### Generalized union and intersection

Sets

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Union of a finite set of sets:

$$\bigcup \{A_0\} = A_0$$

$$\bigcup \{A_0, A_1, \dots A_n\} = \bigcup_{i=0}^n A_i = A_0 \cup A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n$$

Intersection of a finite set of sets:

$$\bigcap \{A_0\} = A_0$$

$$\bigcap \{A_0, A_1, \dots A_n\} = \bigcap_{i=0}^n A_i = A_0 \cap A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n$$

## Ordered pair

Sets

Ordered pair

**Def.** The *ordered pair* of  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$  is an ordered collection (a, b).

Two ordered pairs are equal

$$(a, b) = (c, d)$$
 if and only if  $(a = c) \land (b = d)$ .

Observe that this property implies that

$$(a,b) \neq (b,a)$$

unless a = b. So, the order matters. This is why it is called the ordered pair, and (a, b) is not equivalent to a set  $\{a, b\}$ .

$$(1,2) = (1,2)$$

$$(1,2) \neq (1,3)$$

$$(1,2) \neq (2,1)$$

## Ordered pair

Sets

Ordered pair

More examples of ordered pairs:

$$(1, 2)$$
  
 $(\{1\}, \{2\})$   
 $(1, \{2, 3, 4, 5\})$   
 $((1, 2), \emptyset)$ 

If  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ , what is the set of all ordered pairs (a, b)?

### Cartesian product

Sets

Ordered pair

**Def.** Let *A* and *B* be sets. The *Cartesian product* of *A* and *B*, denoted by  $A \times B$ , is the set of all ordered pairs (a, b), where  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . Hence,

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A \land b \in B\}.$$

(Named after Rene Decartes)

*Question.* Given two sets  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $B = \{C, D\}$ , what is their Cartesian product  $A \times B$ ?

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$$A \times B = \{(1, C), (2, C), (3, C), (1, D), (2, D), (3, D)\}$$

## Cartesian product

Sets

Ordered pair

*Question.* If the |A| = n, and |B| = m, what is the cardinality of  $A \times B$ ?

## Building a list

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Ordered pair is fundamental for defining data types. *Question.* How to implement the list data type with ordered pairs?

Example of a list:

Interface:

construct 
$$(1,[2,3,4]) = [1,2,3,4]$$
  
head  $([1,2,3,4]) = 1$   
tail  $([1,2,3,4]) = [2,3,4]$ 

## **Building a list**

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Possible implementation:

$$(1,(2,(3,4)))$$
  
construct  $(h,t) = (h,t)$   
head  $((h,t)) = h$   
tail  $((h,t)) = t$ 

## Ordered *n*-tuple

Sets

Ordered pair

**Def.** The *ordered n-tuple* of is an ordered collection  $(a_1, a_2, ..., a_n)$ .

It is just an extension of an ordered pair for joining n elements together.

**Def.** The *Cartesian product* of the sets  $A_1, ...A_n$ , is the set of all n-tuples such that

$$A_1 \times ... \times A_n = \{(a_1, ..., a_n) \mid a_i \in A_i \text{ for } i = 1, ..., n\}$$

If all sets  $A_i$  are equal, that is,  $A_1 = ... = A_n = A$ , then their Cartesian product is denoted by  $A^n$ 

$$A_1 \times \ldots \times A_n = \underbrace{A \times \ldots \times A}_{n \text{ times}} = A^n$$