

Essentials of Applied Data Analysis IPSA-USP Summer School 2017

The Basics of Set Theory

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Set Theory

Basic notions and notation of set theory.

First concepts and notation

- Sets are a list or collection of objects.
- These objects are elements.
- \emptyset is the empty set.
- $p \in A$: p is an element in the set A .
- $A \subset B$: A is a subset of B

Set Theory - operations

- $A \cup B$: union of A and B .
 - $p \in (A \cup B)$: p is an element of A **OR** B .
- $A \cap B$: intersection of A and B .
 - $p \in (A \cap B)$: p is an element of A **AND** B .

- If $A \cap B$ is equal to \emptyset , then A and B are **disjoint** sets.
- A^c (A' , $\sim A$ or simply *not A*) is the set of all elements that does not belong to A. A_c is the complement of A.

Venn Diagrams

We can represent sets with diagrams. These are called “Venn Diagrams”. See Figure ?? and locate the following sets as a quick exercise:

- | | | | |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) $A \cup B$ | 5) $(A \cup B) \cup C$ | 9) A^c | 13) $((A \cap B) \cap C)^c$ |
| 2) $A \cap B$ | 6) $(A \cap B) \cap C$ | 10) $(A \cap B)^c$ | 14) $((A \cup B) \cap C)^c$ |
| 3) $A \cup C$ | 7) $(A \cup B) \cap C$ | 11) $(A \cup C)^c$ | |
| 4) $A \cap C$ | 8) $(A \cap B) \cup C$ | 12) $((A \cup B) \cup C)^c$ | |

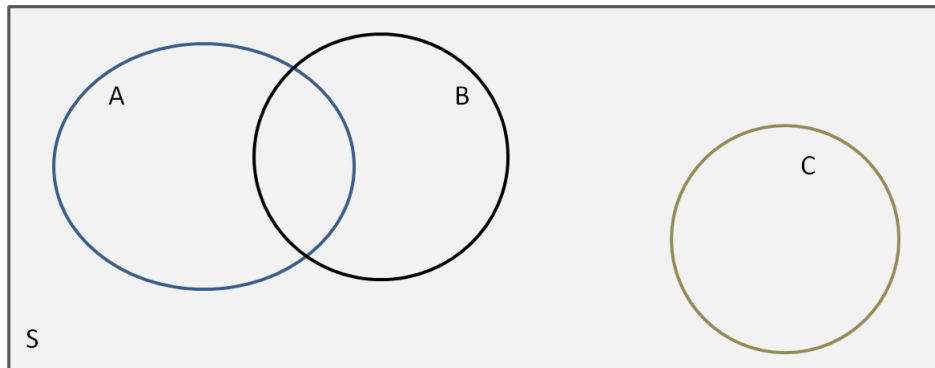


Figure 1: Venn Diagrams