

# MATH1510 - Discrete Mathematics

## Sets

University of Newcastle

UoN

## Why study sets?

- The **language** of sets is used to write mathematics
- The theory of sets **underpins** most modern mathematics
- Sets have interesting structure: they make a “**Boolean algebra**”, relevant to Computer Science

## What is a Set?

### Definition

- A **set** is a well-defined collection of distinct objects.
- Objects in a set are called **elements**.

**Example:** The **set of days of the week** has elements:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

**Example:** The **set of counting numbers** (starting at 1) less than six has elements: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

## Sets must be *well-defined*

There must be no ambiguity about which objects belong to the set.

### Examples of sets:

- 1 The collection of all students studying Math1510.
- 2 The collection of stars in our galaxy.
- 3 The collection of all even numbers.

### Examples of collections which are not sets:

- 4 The collection of all good movies.
- 5 The collection of all pretty pictures.
- 6 The collection of all bad weather.

## Which of the following is *not* a set?

- A** The collection of books in the Auchmuty Library
- B** The collection of boring books in the Auchmuty Library
- C** The collection of birds in the Southern Hemisphere
- D** The collection of flightless birds in the Southern Hemisphere

Why?

## Notational Conventions

- Capital letters, like  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , represent **sets**
- Lower-case letters, like  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , represent **elements** of sets
- We say any of
  - $a$  is an element of the set  $A$ ,
  - $a$  belongs to  $A$ ,
  - $a$  is in  $A$
- and we write
  - $a \in A$

### Example:

- if an object  $2$  is an element of set  $B$ , we write  $2 \in B$ .
- if an object  $2$  is **not** an element of set  $B$ , we write  $2 \notin B$ .

## Notational Conventions from *logic*

We may also use the following notation:

- $\forall$  means 'for all', called the universal quantifier
- $\exists$  means 'there exists', called the existential quantifier
- $\exists!$  means 'there exists a unique', also  $\exists_1$
- $:=$  means 'defined to be equal to'
- $\therefore$  means 'therefore'
- $\square$  indicates the end of a proof
- QED also indicates the end of a proof: "*quod erat demonstrandum*" which translates loosely to "that which was to be demonstrated"

## Notational Conventions: order doesn't matter for sets

- **Curly brackets** enclosing brackets  $\{$  and  $\}$  denote a set.

**Example:** Let  $T$  stand for the set of colours used in traffic lights. Then

$$T = \{\text{red, orange, green}\}.$$

We could equally have written

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \{\text{orange, green, red}\} \\ T &= \{\text{red, red, orange, green}\} \end{aligned}$$

because

- elements may be listed any **number of times**, and
- in any **order**.

Note that

$$T \neq \{\text{red, orange}\}.$$

Three sets are the same. One is different. Which one?

A  $\{1, 2, 2\}$

B  $\{2, 2, 1\}$

C  $\{2, 2, 2\}$

D  $\{2, 1\}$

## Set Descriptions

We describe sets into two ways:

- **Roster notation** - listing all elements
- **Set-builder notation** - alternative to listing all elements

## Roster notation

In **roster notation**, also known as **tabular form** or **enumeration**, the elements of the set are presented in a complete or implied listing, separated by commas, eg.

①  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

②  $\{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, \dots\}$

③  $\{\dots, -4, -2, 0, 2, 4, \dots\}$

We use ellipsis (...) to show that a pattern continues.

## Set-builder Form

In **set-builder form** the set is described in terms of some properties of the set. We use colon to mean “such that” (though some authors use “|”).

①  $\{x : x \text{ is a natural number less than } 5\}$

②  $\{y : y \text{ is a prime number}\}$

③  $\{x : x \text{ is an even number}\}$

Note: often it will be clear from the context what our “universe of discourse” is, in which case we can just write  $\{x : x < 5\}$  instead of  $\{x : x \text{ is a natural number less than } 5\}$ .

## Two special sets are

- The empty set, and
- The Universal set

## Important sets

### Definition

The **empty set** is the unique set containing no elements. It is denoted by the Norwegian and Danish letter  $\emptyset$  (or  $\varnothing$ ) or by a pair of empty braces  $\{\}$ .

## The Universal Set

The Universal Set depends on the context.

Any set which contains all the elements we may wish to discuss may be designated as a **universal set**. We denote the universal set by  $U$ .

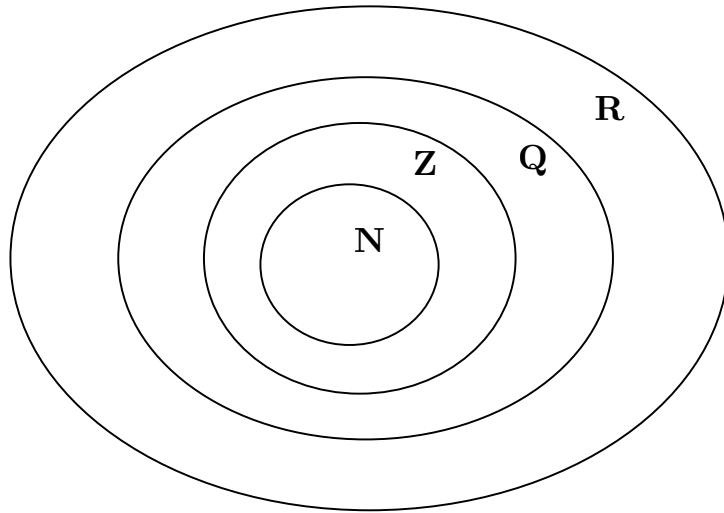
- 1 If we are dealing with whole numbers then an appropriate universal set would be the set of all integers.
- 2 If the topic being discussed were stars then an appropriate universal set would be the set of all stars in the universe.

## Common Sets

Some sets are so common and important that they have special symbols:

- $\mathbb{Z}$  is the set of integers,  $\{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .
- $\mathbb{N}$  is the set of natural numbers,  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ . (Some books say  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  instead).
- $\mathbb{Q}$  is the set of rational numbers. That is, the set  $\{x : x = \frac{p}{q}, \text{ where } p \text{ and } q \text{ are integers, } q \neq 0\}$ .
- $\mathbb{R}$  is the set of real numbers (the rationals and the irrationals).
- Subscripts and superscripts can restrict the set, for instance to only the positive members. For example,  $\mathbb{R}^+$  and  $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$  both denote the set of positive real numbers, and  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  is non-negative real numbers.
- Of these common sets,  $\mathbb{N}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$  are part of *Discrete Mathematics*, whereas  $\mathbb{R}$  is not. *Why?*

These common sets nest inside each other



## Cardinality

### Definition

The **cardinality** of a finite set is the number of elements in the set. The cardinality of set  $A$  is denoted  $|A|$ .

- ① If  $A = \{x, y, z\}$  then  $|A| = 3$ .
- ②  $|\emptyset| = 0$ .

Which of the following sets has **cardinality not equal to 3**?

- A**  $\{\{1, 2\}, 3\}$
- B**  $\{1, 2, 3\}$
- C**  $\{4, 5, 6\}$
- D**  $\{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}, \{5, 6\}\}$

## Finite and Infinite Sets

### Definition

If a set contains a finite number of elements then we say that the set is **finite**. Otherwise we say that the set is **infinite**.

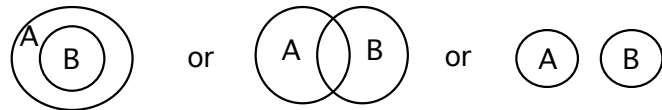
- ① The set of stars in our galaxy is finite.
- ② The set of all even numbers is infinite.

## Venn Diagrams

### Definition

A diagram in which sets are represented as circles or more general shapes that may overlap is called a **Venn Diagram**.

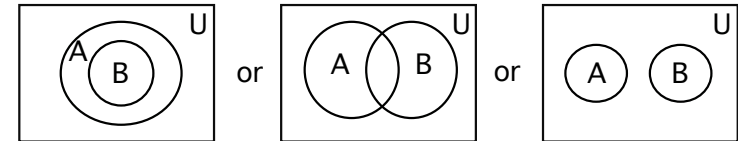
eg.



Venn Diagrams were introduced for visualizing concepts in set theory in the late 1800s by English logician, John Venn, although it is believed that the method originated earlier.

## Venn Diagrams with Universal Sets

A Universal set is typically represented as a rectangle containing all the other sets under discussion, eg.



## Relationships between sets

We discuss the following relationships:

- Subset  $\subseteq$
- Superset  $\supseteq$
- Proper subset  $\subset$
- Proper superset  $\supset$
- Set equality  $=$

## Subsets and supersets

### Definition

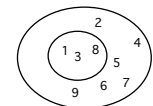
A set  $A$  is a **subset** of a set  $B$  if every element of  $A$  is also an element of  $B$ . We write this as

$$A \subseteq B.$$

If  $A$  is a subset of  $B$ , then  $B$  is called a **superset** of  $A$ .

Examples:

- 1  $\{1, 3, 8\} \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, 9\}$
- 2  $\{a\} \subseteq \{a, b, c\}$



## Some subset relationships that are always true

### Theorem

- The empty set is a subset of every set.
- Every set is a subset of itself.

## Proper subsets and proper supersets

### Definition

A set  $A$  is a **proper subset** of a set  $B$  if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $A \neq B$ . We write this as

$$A \subset B.$$

If  $A$  is a proper subset of  $B$  then we say  $B$  is a **proper superset** of  $A$ .

Examples:

- 1  $\{a, c\} \subset \{a, b, c\}$
- 2  $\{b\} \subset \{a, b, c\}$
- 3  $\emptyset \subset \{a, b, c\}$

Warning: some authors use  $\subset$  for subset and  $\subsetneq$  for proper subset.

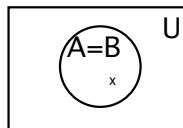
## Equality of Sets

### Definition

Two sets,  $A$  and  $B$ , are said to be **equal** if and only if they contain exactly the same elements. We write this as

$$A = B.$$

More formally,  $A = B$  provided: for all  $x \in U$ ,  $x \in A$  if and only if  $x \in B$ .



## Which claim is false?

Let  $S = \{a, b, c\}$ . Exactly one claim is FALSE. Which one?

- A  $\{c\} \subseteq S$
- B  $a \subset S$
- C  $\emptyset \subseteq S$
- D  $\{b, a\} \subset S$

## How do we find out if two sets are equal?

Eg.

- Let  $S = \{x : 1 < x < 9 \text{ and } x \in \mathbb{Z}\}$
- Let  $T = \{w : w \leq 7 \text{ and } w \text{ is a prime number}\}$

Which is true?

**A**  $S = T$

**B**  $S \neq T$

## How do we find out if two sets are equal?

We can express equality of sets in terms of subsets as follows:

### Theorem

*Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are equal if and only if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ .*

This is because the only way we can have both  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$  is if they contain the same elements.

- 1  $\{a, a, b\} = \{a, b\}$
- 2  $\{a, b, c\} = \{b, c, a\}$

## Proving the set equality theorem

### Theorem

*Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are equal if and only if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ .*

PROOF

- $\Rightarrow$  Suppose that  $A = B$ . Then since every set is a subset of itself we must have both  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ .
- $\Leftarrow$  Now suppose that  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ . We show that the elements of  $B$  are precisely the elements of  $A$ . For each element  $x$  in our universe either  $x \in A$  or  $x \notin A$ . Suppose  $x \in A$ , then since  $A \subseteq B$ ,  $x \in B$ . Suppose  $x \notin A$ , then since  $B \subseteq A$ ,  $x \notin B$ . So  $x \in A$  precisely when  $x \in B$ . Hence the two sets are the same.  $\square$

## Exercise

- Dream up an example in which you would need to use the set equality theorem to show that two sets are equal.



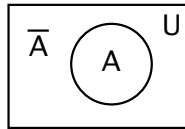
## The Complement of a Set

### Definition

The **complement** of a set  $A$  in relation to some universal set  $U$  is the set

$$\bar{A} = \{x \in U : x \notin A\}.$$

$\bar{A}$  is sometimes written  $A^c$ .



- Eg, if  $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  and  $A = \{1, 3\}$ , then  $\bar{A} = \{2, 4, 5\}$ .

## What is $\bar{A}$ ?

Let  $U = \{1, 3, 5, 7, \dots\}$  and  $A = \{1, 3\}$ . Then which is correct?

- A**  $\bar{A} = \{5, 7\}$
- B**  $\bar{A} = \{5, 7, 9, 11, \dots\}$
- C**  $\bar{A} = \{5, 7, 9, 11\}$
- D**  $\bar{A} = \{-1, -3\}$

## Power Sets

### Definition

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

Note that

- the empty set is a subset of any set; and
- any set is a subset of itself.

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

$$\mathcal{P}(A) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}.$$

Notice that in our example  $A$  contains 3 elements and  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  contains  $2^3$  elements. This is no accident. For a set containing  $n \in \mathcal{N}$  elements, its power set contains  $2^n$  elements. Why?

## Binary Operations on Sets

In arithmetic we have the **binary operations** of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Similarly there are binary operations for sets.

The four binary set operations that we will consider are

- $\cup$  is *union*
- $\cap$  is *intersection*
- $-$  or  $\setminus$  is *difference*
- $\Delta$  is *symmetric difference*

## The Union of Sets

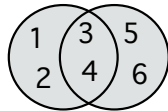
### Definition

The **union** of two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , written as  $A \cup B$ , is the set of all elements which belong to either  $A$  or  $B$  (or both, since we use the “inclusive or” by default.). Symbolically

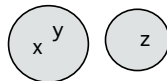
$$A \cup B = \{x : x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$$

Examples:

①  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\} \cup \{3, 4, 5, 6\} = \{1, 2, \dots, 6\}$



②  $\{x, y\} \cup \{z\} = \{x, y, z\}$



## Some Properties of the Union of Sets

The following are always true for any two sets  $A$  and  $B$ .

- $A \cup B = B \cup A$
- $A \subseteq A \cup B$
- $B \subseteq A \cup B$
- $A \cup A = A$
- $A \cup \emptyset = A$
- $A \cup U = U$

## Unions of More than Two Sets

We can also take the union of several sets. Since  $A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$ , we can just write  $A \cup B \cup C$  without ambiguity.

Similarly for a union of  $n$  sets we can write

$$S_1 \cup S_2 \cup S_3 \cup \dots \cup S_n.$$

Or we can use the following notation:

$$\bigcup \{S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots, S_n\}.$$

or sometimes just

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^n S_i$$

## The Intersection of Sets

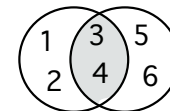
### Definition

The **intersection** of two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , written as  $A \cap B$ , is the set of all elements which belong to both  $A$  and  $B$ . Symbolically

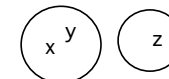
$$A \cap B = \{x : x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$$

Examples:

①  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\} \cap \{3, 4, 5, 6\} = \{3, 4\}$



②  $\{x, y\} \cap \{z\} = \emptyset$



The shaded parts of the Venn Diagrams indicate the intersections. In the second example, the intersection is empty.

## Some Properties of the Intersection of Sets

The following are always true for any two sets  $A$  and  $B$ .

- $A \cap B = B \cap A$
- $A \cap B \subseteq A$
- $A \cap B \subseteq B$
- $A \cap A = A$
- $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$
- $A \cap U = A$

Draw Venn Diagrams!

## A direct proof of one of these properties

To show that  $A \cap B \subseteq A$  we must show that for all  $x$ , if  $x \in A \cap B$ , then  $x \in A$ .

**Proof:** Let  $x$  be a particular but arbitrary element of  $A \cap B$ . Then

$$x \in A \cap B \quad (1)$$

$$\text{which implies that } x \in A \text{ and } x \in B \quad (2)$$

$$\text{which implies that in particular } x \in A. \quad (3)$$

Since  $x$  was an arbitrary element of  $A \cap B$ , we have shown that all of the elements of  $A \cap B$  are contained in  $A$ , i.e.,  $A \cap B \subseteq A$ , as required.  $\square$

## Intersections of More than Two Sets

We can also take the intersection of several sets. Just as in the case of unions, there is no ambiguity if we write  $A \cap B \cap C$ .

Similarly for an intersection of  $n$  sets we can write

$$S_1 \cap S_2 \cap S_3 \cap \cdots \cap S_n.$$

Or we can use the following notation:

$$\bigcap \{S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots, S_n\}.$$

or sometimes just

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^n S_i$$

## Disjoint Sets

### Definition

If two sets  $A$  and  $B$  have no elements in common then we say that they are **disjoint**.

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

- 1 The sets  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $\{4, 5, 6\}$  are disjoint.
- 2 The set of even numbers and the set of odd numbers are disjoint; as are the sets of prime and composite numbers.
- 3 For any set  $A$ ,  $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$ , hence every set is disjoint from the empty set.

## The Difference of Sets

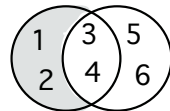
### Definition

The **difference** of two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , written  $A - B$ , is the set of all elements which belong to  $A$  and which do not belong to  $B$ . Symbolically

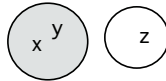
$$A - B = \{x : x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$$

$A - B$  is also written as  $A \setminus B$ .

①  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\} - \{3, 4, 5, 6\} = \{1, 2\}$



②  $\{x, y\} - \{z\} = \{x, y\}$



## Some Properties of the Difference of Sets

The following are always true for any two sets  $A$  and  $B$ .

- $A - B = A \cap \overline{B}$
- $A - B \subseteq A$
- $A - A = \emptyset$
- $A - \emptyset = A$
- $A - U = \emptyset$
- $U - A = \overline{A}$

Note: generally,  $A - B \neq B - A$ .

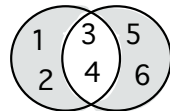
## The Symmetric Difference of Sets

### Definition

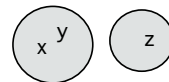
The **symmetric difference** of two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , written  $A \triangle B$ , is the set of all elements which are in exactly one of  $A$  or  $B$ . Symbolically

$$A \triangle B = (A - B) \cup (B - A).$$

①  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\} \triangle \{3, 4, 5, 6\} = \{1, 2, 5, 6\}$



②  $\{x, y\} \triangle \{z\} = \{x, y, z\}$

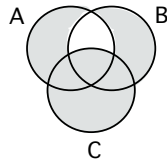


## Some Properties of the Symmetric Difference of Sets

The following are always true for any two sets  $A$  and  $B$ .

- $A \triangle B = B \triangle A$
- $A \triangle B = (A \cup B) - (A \cap B)$
- $A \triangle A = \emptyset$
- $A \triangle \emptyset = A$
- $A \triangle U = \overline{A}$

Which situation does the shaded part of the Venn Diagram below represent?



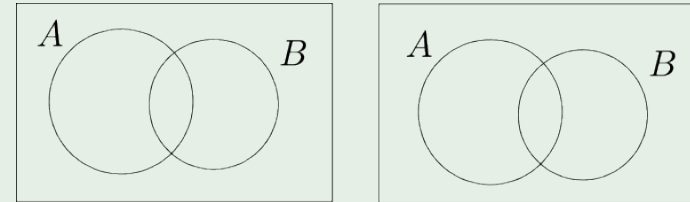
- A**  $A \cup (B \cap C)$
- B**  $(A \cup B) \cap C$
- C**  $(B - C) \cap A$
- D**  $(A \triangle B) \cup C$

## Deciding if sets are equal using Venn Diagrams

One use for Venn diagrams is checking to see if two sets are equal.

### Example

Decide if the sets  $(A \cup B) - (A \cap B)$  and  $(A - B) \cup (B - A)$  are equal.



Yes,  $(A \cup B) - (A \cap B) = (A - B) \cup (B - A)$

## Laws of the Algebra of Sets

Just as numbers obey laws, so do sets:

- (a) Associative Laws**
  - $(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$
  - $(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$
- (b) Commutative Laws**
  - $A \cup B = B \cup A$
  - $A \cap B = B \cap A$
- (c) Distributive Laws**
  - $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
  - $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

## Laws of the Algebra of Sets (continued)

- (d) Identity Laws**
  - $A \cup \emptyset = A$
  - $A \cap U = A$
- (e) Complement Laws**
  - $A \cup \bar{A} = U$
  - $A \cap \bar{A} = \emptyset$
- (f) Idempotent Laws**
  - $A \cup A = A$
  - $A \cap A = A$
- (g) Bound Laws**
  - $A \cup U = U$
  - $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$

## Laws of the Algebra of Sets (continued)

### Ⓜ Absorption Laws

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

### Ⓜ Involution Law

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

### Ⓜ 0/1 Laws

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

### Ⓜ De Morgan's Laws

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

Check these, either 'in your head' or with a Venn Diagram

## An example of proving a property using the Algebra of Sets

**Lemma:** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets. Then  $A \cup B - A \cap B = A \Delta B$ .

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned} A \cup B - A \cap B &= (A \cup B) \cap (A \cap B)^c, \text{ by Set Difference law} \\ &= (A \cup B) \cap (A^c \cup B^c), \text{ by De Morgan's law} \\ &= ((A \cup B) \cap A^c) \cup ((A \cup B) \cap B^c), \text{ by Distributive law} \\ &= (A^c \cap (A \cup B)) \cup (B^c \cap (A \cup B)), \text{ by Commutative law} \\ &= ((A \cap A^c) \cup (B \cap A^c)) \cup ((A \cap B^c) \cup (B \cap B^c)), \text{ Distrib.} \\ &= (\emptyset \cup (B \cap A^c)) \cup ((A \cap B^c) \cup \emptyset), \text{ by Complement laws} \\ &= (B \cap A^c) \cup (A \cap B^c), \text{ by Identity laws} \\ &= (B - A) \cup (A - B), \text{ by Set Difference law} \\ &= (A - B) \cup (B - A), \text{ by Commutative law} \\ &= A \Delta B, \text{ by definition of } \Delta. \end{aligned}$$

□

## The Principle of Duality

### Theorem

For any general theorem on sets involving only the operations of intersection and union, there is another theorem obtained by interchanging both

Ⓜ  $\cup$  with  $\cap$ ,

and

Ⓜ  $\emptyset$  with  $U$ .

You can check that each of the previously listed laws has a dual which is also in the list.

## A Cover of a Set

### Definition

A **cover** for a set  $S$  is a set  $X$  of distinct, non-empty subsets of  $S$  such that

$$\bigcup X = S.$$

All **except one** of the following are covers for  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ . Which is not?

☐  $\{\{1, 2\}, \{2\}, \{1, 4, 5\}, \{1, 3\}\}$

☒ **A**  $\{\{1, 2\}, \{2, 3\}, \{3, 4\}, \{4, 5\}\}$

☒ **B**  $\{\{1, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}\}$

☐  $\{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}\}$

☒ **C**  $\{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}, \emptyset\}$

☒ **D**  $\{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4, 5\}\}$

## A Partition of a Set

### Definition

A **partition** for a set  $S$  is a set  $X$  of **pairwise** disjoint, non-empty subsets of  $S$  such that

$$\bigcup X = S.$$

In other words, a partition of  $S$  is a pairwise disjoint cover of  $S$ .

All **except one** of the following are partitions for  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ . Which is not?

☐  $\{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}\}$

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

**B**  $\{\{1, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}\}$

**C**  $\{\{1, 2, 3\}, \{4, 5\}\}$

**D**  $\{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}, \{5\}\}$

Which of the following is neither a cover nor a partition for  $\{a, b, c, d\}$ ?

**A**  $\{\{a, b, c\}, \{a, d\}\}$

**B**  $\{\{a, c\}, \{b, d\}\}$

**C**  $\{a, b, c, d\}$

**D**  $\{\{a, b, c, d\}\}$

## The Cartesian Product of 2 Sets

### Definition

Given two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , the **Cartesian product** of  $A$  and  $B$ , denoted  $A \times B$ , is the set of **all ordered pairs**  $(a, b)$ , where  $a$  is in  $A$  and  $b$  is in  $B$ .

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) : a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}.$$

$a$  is called the first coordinate and  $b$  is called the second coordinate.

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

$$A \times B = \{(1, a), (1, b), (1, c), (2, a), (2, b), (2, c)\}.$$

Which is false?

**A**  $\{s_1, s_2\} \times \{t_1, t_2\} = \{(s_1, t_1), (s_1, t_2), (s_2, t_1), (s_2, t_2)\}$

**B**  $\{s_1, s_2\} \times \{t_1, t_2\} = \{(s_1, t_1), (s_2, t_2)\}$

**C**  $\{s\} \times \{t_1, t_2\} = \{(s, t_1), (s, t_2)\}$

**D**  $\{\} \times \{t_1, t_2\} = \{\}$

## Equality of ordered pairs

### Definition

Two ordered pairs  $(a_1, a_2)$  and  $(b_1, b_2)$  are equal if and only if

$$a_1 = b_1 \text{ and } a_2 = b_2.$$

Is this true?

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

**A** True

**B** False

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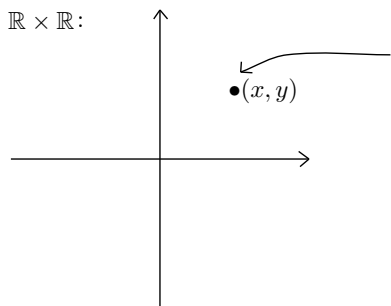
**A** True

**B** False, because order matters.

## The Cartesian Plane

The Cartesian product  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  is often represented by the *Cartesian Plane*:

$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ :



By convention, the first coordinate of an element of the Cartesian Plane is usually labelled  $x$ , while the second coordinate is usually called  $y$ .

Two points in the plane are equal (i.e. the *same* point) if and only if both coordinates agree.

## A bit of history, if we have time

Bertrand Russell, (1872 – 1970)



caused a big stir in 1901 when he discovered **Russell's Paradox**:

*Is the set of all sets that are not members of themselves a member of itself or not?*



## Russell's Paradox in set notation

*Let  $S$  be the set of all sets which are not elements of themselves, i.e.,*

$$S = \{T : T \notin T\}$$

*Question: Is  $S \in S$ ?*

*Think about this. Do you see a problem?*

## How Russell's Paradox is avoided

- Several different ways out of the dilemma posed by Russell's Paradox have been invented.
- A 'standard solution' is the Zermelo-Fraenkel (ZF) Axioms.
- In the ZF system, sets are built 'from the ground up' according to strict rules which **disallow** Russell's original construction.

## Textbook exercises

Review Exercises Chapter 1.1:

- 1-8, 11, 14, 16-27, 39 (Notation and interpretation)
- 9-10, 12-13, 15 (Understanding and proving)
- 28-38 (Recognizing and naming structures sets obey)

Exercises Chapter 1.1:

- 1-16 (Computations with set operations)
- 17-24 (Computing cardinality)
- 25-40 (Finding/proving equality and subset relationships)
- 41-48 (Notation and interpretation: Venn Diagrams)
- 49-56 (Modelling)
- 73-76 (Computation: partitions)
- 77-82 (Notation and interpretation)
- 83-86 (Computing cardinality of Power Sets)
- 87-90 (Interpreting and understanding structure)
- 91-95 (Notation and Interpretation)