
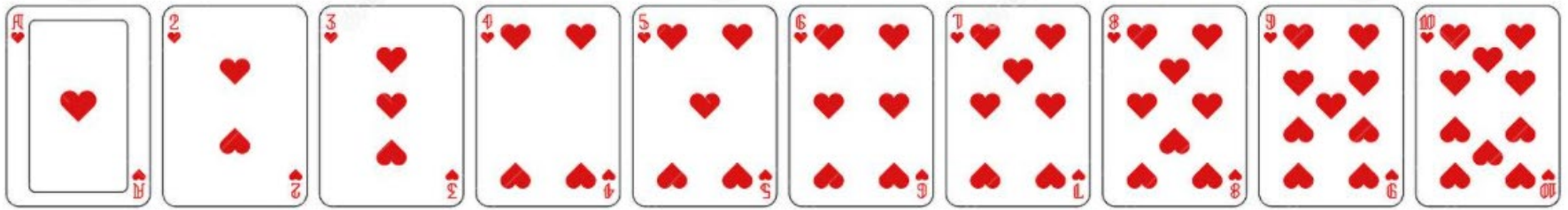


# Unit 4

## Sets



I don't think so.

After random shuffling, no card will be on its original position.



Who has a higher chance to win?

- a) Alice
- b) Bob
- c) Equal probability

# Outline of Unit 4

- 4.1 Basic Concepts
- 4.2 Set Operations
- 4.3 Algebraic Rules
- 4.4 Derangements

# Unit 4.1

## Basic Concepts

# Set

- ❑ A set is a **collection of objects**.
- ❑ The **cardinality** of a set  $A$  is defined as the number of elements in the set.
- ❑ It is denoted by  $|A|$ .
  - If  $|A|$  is finite,  $A$  is called a **finite** set.
  - Otherwise,  $A$  is called an **infinite** set.
- ❑ Example:
  - $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$  (roster notation)
  - $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} : 1 \leq x \leq 10\}$  (set builder notation)
  - $|A| = 10$

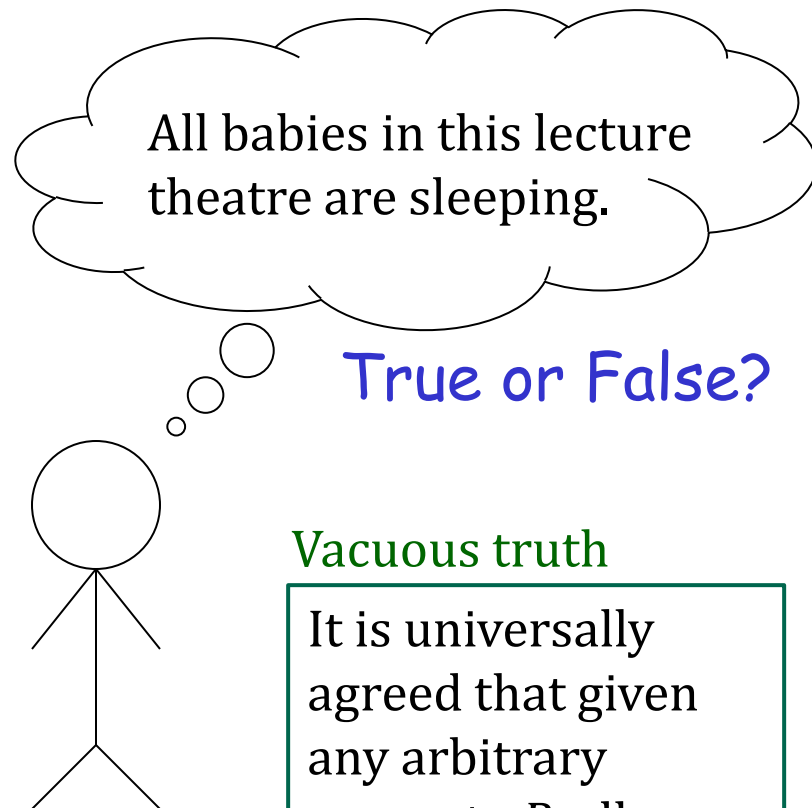
# Some Common Sets in Math

Set	Symbols
Natural Numbers*	$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
Whole Numbers	$\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ or $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$
Integers	$\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$
Binary Numbers	$\mathbb{B} = \{0, 1\}$
Rational Numbers	$\mathbb{Q}$
Real Numbers	$\mathbb{R}$
Complex Numbers	$\mathbb{C}$

\*In some convention, 0 is included in the set of natural numbers.

# The Empty Set

- ❑ A set is **empty** if it contains no elements at all.
- ❑ There is only one empty set.
  - If two sets are empty, each set is a subset of the other one, so they are the same set.
- ❑ We denote it by  $\emptyset$ .
- ❑ Remark:
  - The empty set  $\emptyset$  is different from the set containing  $\emptyset$ .
    - i.e.,  $\emptyset \neq \{\emptyset\}$ .



# Subset

- $A$  is a **subset** of  $B$ , written as  $A \subseteq B$ , if every member of  $A$  is also a member of  $B$ .  $B$  is then said to be a **superset** of  $A$ .
  - $A$  is a subset of itself, and also a superset of itself.
- A subset  $A$  of  $B$  is called a **proper subset** of  $B$  if  $B$  contains some elements that are not in  $A$ .
  - i.e.,  $A$  is not the same as  $B$ .
  - Example: The set of all women is a proper subset of the set of all human beings.
- The empty set is a subset of every other set.



# Number of Subsets

- ❑ How many subsets does a set have?
- ❑ Example:  $A = \{1, 2\}$ 
  - There are four subsets of  $A$ :  $\emptyset$ ,  $\{1\}$ ,  $\{2\}$ ,  $\{1, 2\}$ .
- ❑ Example:  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ 
  - How many subsets are there?
    - a) 3
    - b) 4
    - c) 6
    - d) 8
    - e) 9

# Number of Subsets

**Theorem:** Let  $A$  be a finite set and  $n = |A|$ . The number of subsets of  $A$  is  $2^n$ .

*Proof:*

Let  $A = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n\}$ .

To each subset  $B$  of  $A$ , we can associate a binary sequence of length  $n$ .

- For example, if  $n = 4$  and  $B = \{a_1, a_4\}$ , then the binary sequence is 1001.
- For example, 0100 corresponds to  $\{a_2\}$ .

The number of subsets equals the number of possible binary sequence, which is  $2^n$ .

*Q.E.D.*

# Power Set

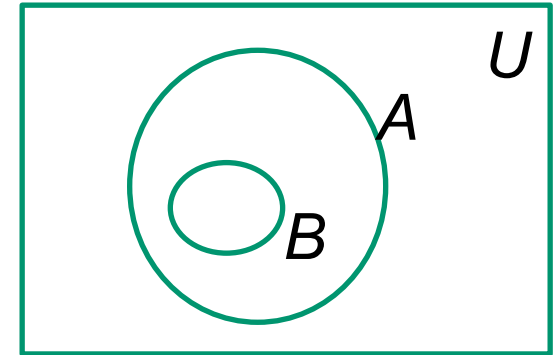
- Given a set  $A$ , the set of all its subsets, denoted by  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ , is called the **power set** of  $A$ .
- By the previous result,  $|\mathcal{P}(A)| = 2^{|A|}$ .
- Example:
  - Suppose  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ .
  - List all subsets of  $A$ :  
 $\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}$  and  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ .
  - Hence,  
 $\mathcal{P}(A) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ .

## Unit 4.2

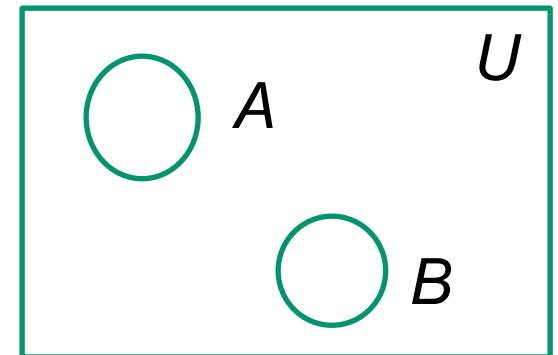
### Set Operations

# Relationship between Sets

- A **universal** set  $U$  is a set containing everything that we are considering.
- **Venn diagram**
  - $U$  is represented by a rectangular box.
  - Subsets of  $U$  (e. g.  $A$  and  $B$ ) are represented by circles (more precisely, regions inside closed curves).
- $A$  and  $B$  are **disjoint** if they have no elements in common.



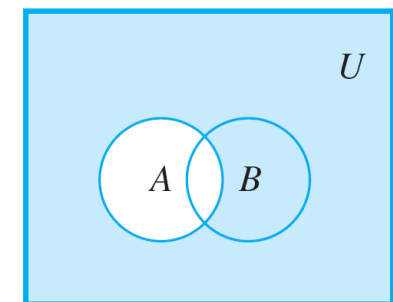
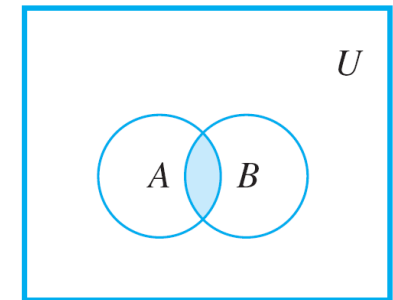
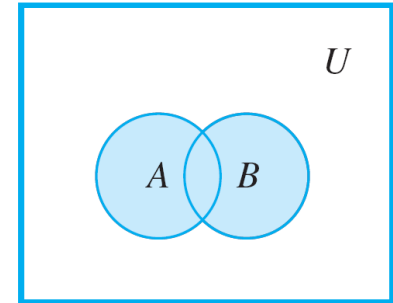
$B$  is a subset of  $A$ .



$A$  and  $B$  are disjoint.

# Three Basic Operations

- ❑ The **union** of  $A$  and  $B$ , denoted by  $A \cup B$ , is the set of all elements that belong to  $A$  **or**  $B$ , (or in both).
- ❑ The **intersection** of  $A$  and  $B$ , denoted by  $A \cap B$ , is the set of all elements that are **in both**  $A$  **and**  $B$ .
- ❑ The **complement** of  $A$ , denoted by  $A^c$  or  $\bar{A}$ , is the set of all elements in  $U$  that **do not** belong to  $A$ .



# Algebraic Properties

1. *Commutative Laws*: For all sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$(a) \ A \cup B = B \cup A \quad \text{and} \quad (b) \ A \cap B = B \cap A.$$

2. *Associative Laws*: For all sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ ,

$$(a) \ (A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C) \quad \text{and}$$

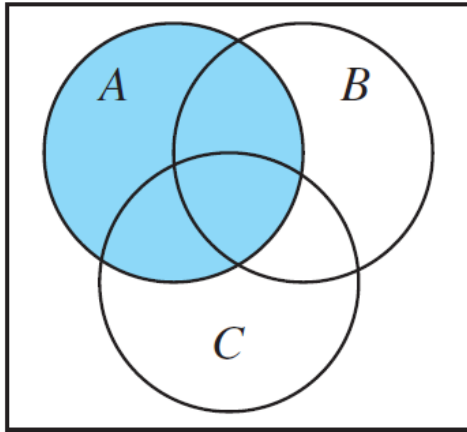
$$(b) \ (A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C).$$

3. *Distributive Laws*: For all sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ ,

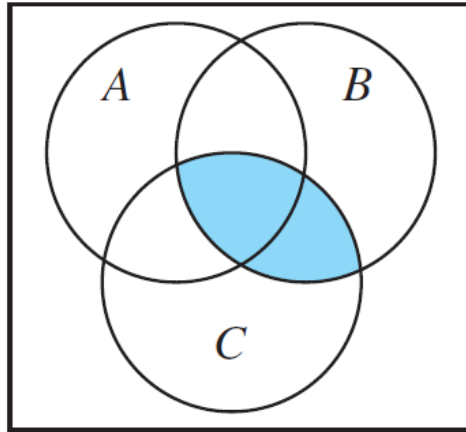
next slide  $\longrightarrow$  (a)  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$  and

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

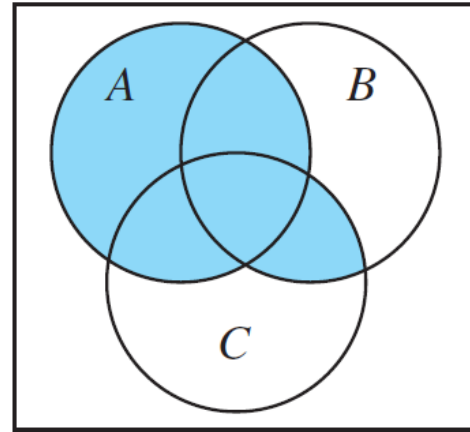
# A Distributive Law



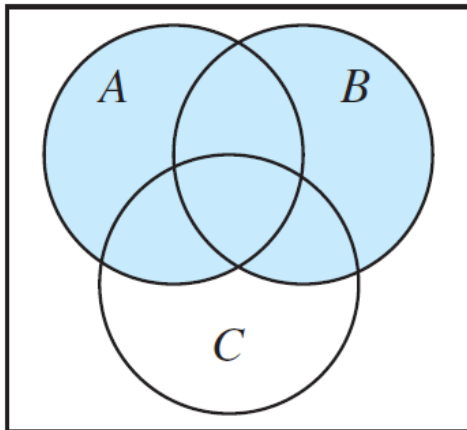
$A$



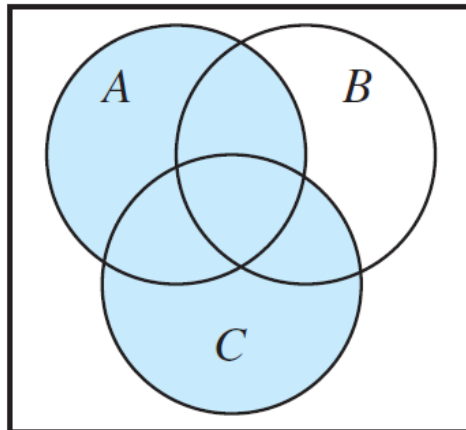
$B \cap C$



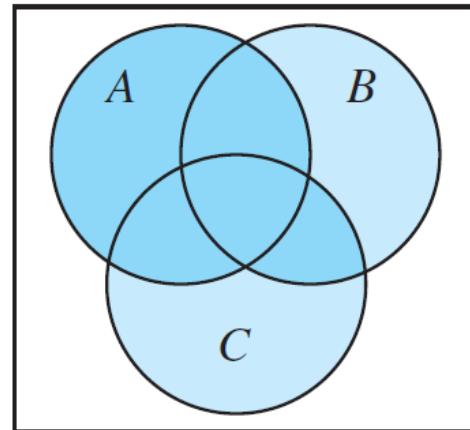
$A \cup (B \cap C)$



$A \cup B$



$A \cup C$

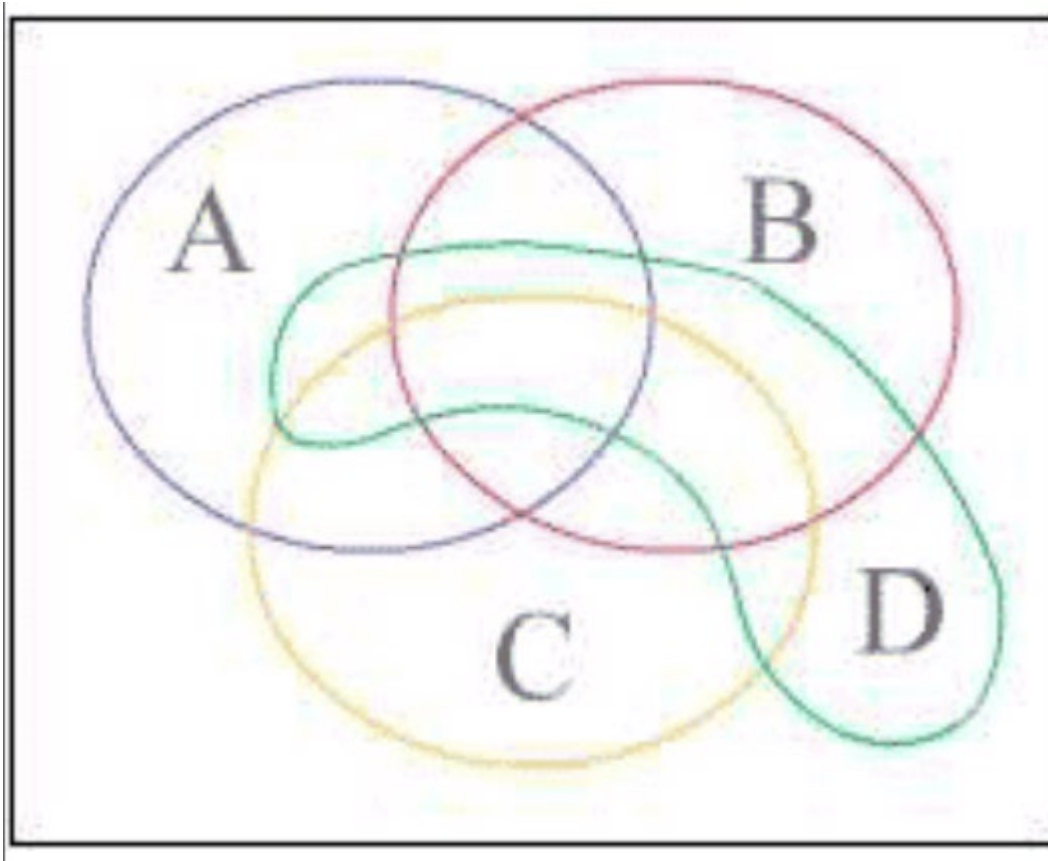


$(A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$



# Four-Variable Venn Diagram

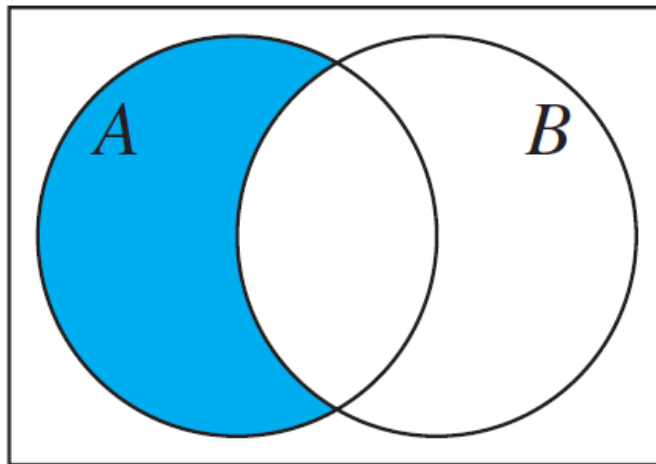
□ A possible way to draw it:



# Set Difference

- $A - B$  is defined as the set of all elements that are in  $A$  but not in  $B$ .

$$A - B = A \cap B^c$$



$A - B$

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

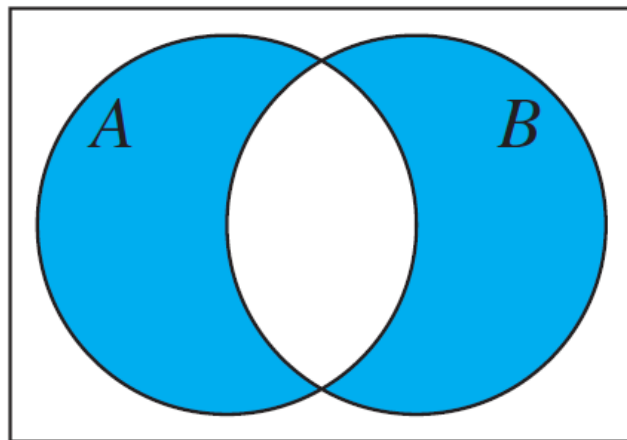
# Symmetric Difference

- $A \triangle B$  is the set of all elements “in  $A$  but not in  $B$ ” or “in  $B$  but not in  $A$ ”.

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

- Venn diagram shows that

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



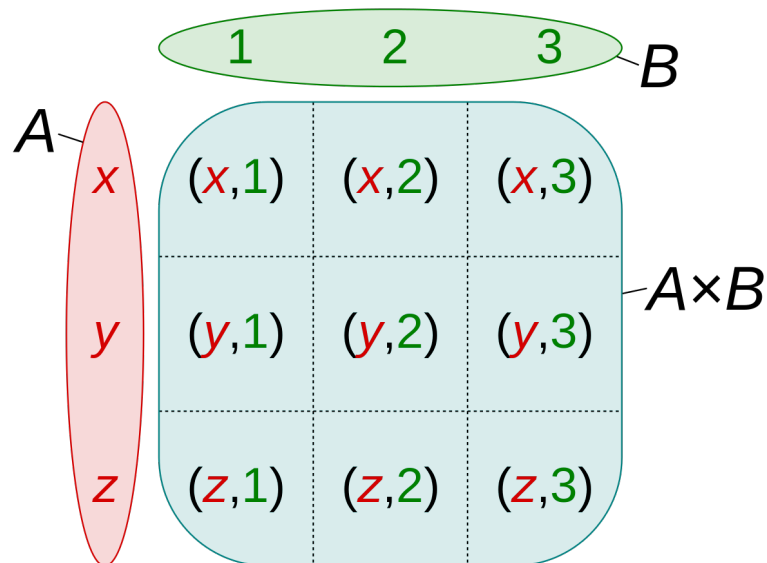
$A \triangle B$

# Cartesian Product

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

$$A \times B \triangleq \{(a, b) | a \in A \wedge b \in B\}.$$

- Example:



Ordered pair:

- The order is important:  
 $(a, b) \neq (b, a)$

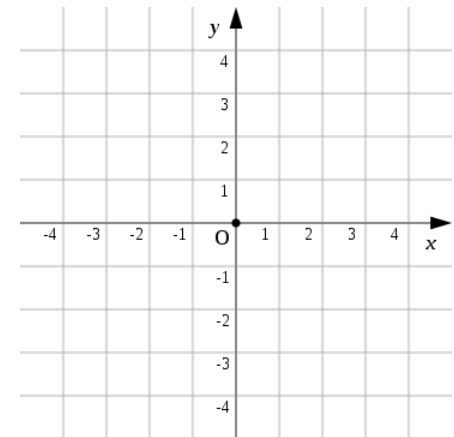
What is  $|A \times B|$  ?

# Cartesian Product

- ❑ The Cartesian product can be generalized to more than two sets, e.g.,  $A \times B \times C$ .
- ❑ If the same set is involved, we write

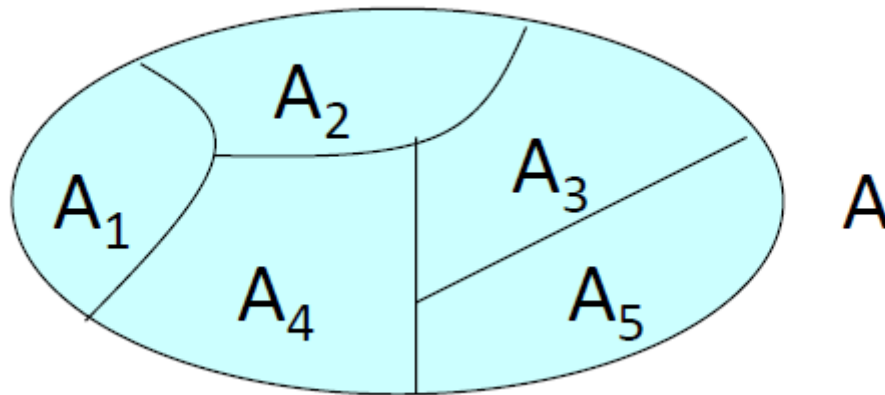
$$\underbrace{A \times A \times \cdots \times A}_n = A^n$$

- ❑ For example, the  $x$ - $y$  plane is  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .



# Partition

- A collection of **non-empty** sets  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$  is a **partition** of a set  $A$  iff
- i.  $A = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n$ , and
  - ii.  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  are **pairwise disjoint**, i.e.,  
 $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$  for all  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and  $i \neq j$ .



# Examples

- ❑ Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ .
- ❑  $\{\{1, 2\}, \{3\}, \{4, 5, 6\}\}$  is a partition of  $A$ .
- ❑ Other partitions:
  - $\{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}, \{6\}\}$
  - $\{\{1, 2, 3\}, \{4\}, \{5, 6\}\}$
  - $\vdots$
  - how many are there?

Partition of a set  
is itself a set.

# Bell Numbers

- ❑ Consider the set  $S_n = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .
- ❑ The number of different ways to partition  $S_n$  is called the Bell number, denoted by  $B_n$ .
  - $S_1$ :  $\{\{1\}\}$  is the only partition, so  $B_1 = 1$ .
  - $S_2$ :  $\{\{1\}, \{2\}\}$  and  $\{\{1, 2\}\}$  are the partitions, so  $B_2 = 2$ .
  - $S_3$ :  $\{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}\}$ ,  $\{\{1\}, \{2, 3\}\}$ ,  $\{\{2\}, \{1, 3\}\}$ ,  $\{\{3\}, \{1, 2\}\}$ , and  $\{\{1, 2, 3\}\}$  are the partitions, so  $B_3 = 5$ .
- ❑ How about  $S_0$ ?
  - $S_0$  is the empty set  $\emptyset$ . Its only partition is  $\emptyset$ , *not*  $\{\emptyset\}$ .
  - Hence,  $B_0 = 1$ .



# Recurrence Relation

- The Bell numbers satisfy the following recurrence relation:

$$B_{n+1} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k \quad (\text{proof omitted})$$

- Example:

- $B_3 = \binom{2}{0} B_0 + \binom{2}{1} B_1 + \binom{2}{2} B_2 = 1 + 2 \times 1 + 2 = 5.$

## Unit 4.3

### Algebraic Rules

# How to Prove Set Equalities?

Three methods to prove that  $A = B$ .

- 1) To show that each set is a subset of the other, i.e.,  
 $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ . (omitted)
- 2) Use the algebraic rules (stated in the next few slides)  
to construct an **algebraic proof**.
- 3) Use membership table (similar to truth table, omitted)

# Algebraic Rules

□ We have a list of set identities as follows:

Let all sets referred to below be subsets of a universal set  $U$ .

1. *Commutative Laws*: For all sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$(a) A \cup B = B \cup A \quad \text{and} \quad (b) A \cap B = B \cap A.$$

2. *Associative Laws*: For all sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ ,

$$(a) (A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C) \quad \text{and}$$

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

# Algebraic Rules

3. *Distributive Laws*: For all sets,  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ ,

$$(a) A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \quad \text{and}$$

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

4. *Identity Laws*: For all sets  $A$ ,

$$(a) A \cup \emptyset = A \quad \text{and} \quad (b) A \cap U = A.$$

5. *Complement Laws*:

$$(a) A \cup A^c = U \quad \text{and} \quad (b) A \cap A^c = \emptyset.$$

6. *Double Complement Law*: For all sets  $A$ ,

$$(A^c)^c = A.$$


7. *Idempotent Laws*: For all sets  $A$ ,

$$(a) A \cup A = A \quad \text{and} \quad (b) A \cap A = A.$$

# Algebraic Rules

8. *Universal Bound Laws*: For all sets  $A$ ,

$$(a) A \cup U = U \quad \text{and} \quad (b) A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset.$$

9. *De Morgan's Laws*: For all sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,  **Next slide**

$$(a) (A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c \quad \text{and} \quad (b) (A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c.$$

10. *Absorption Laws*: For all sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$(a) A \cup (A \cap B) = A \quad \text{and} \quad (b) A \cap (A \cup B) = A.$$

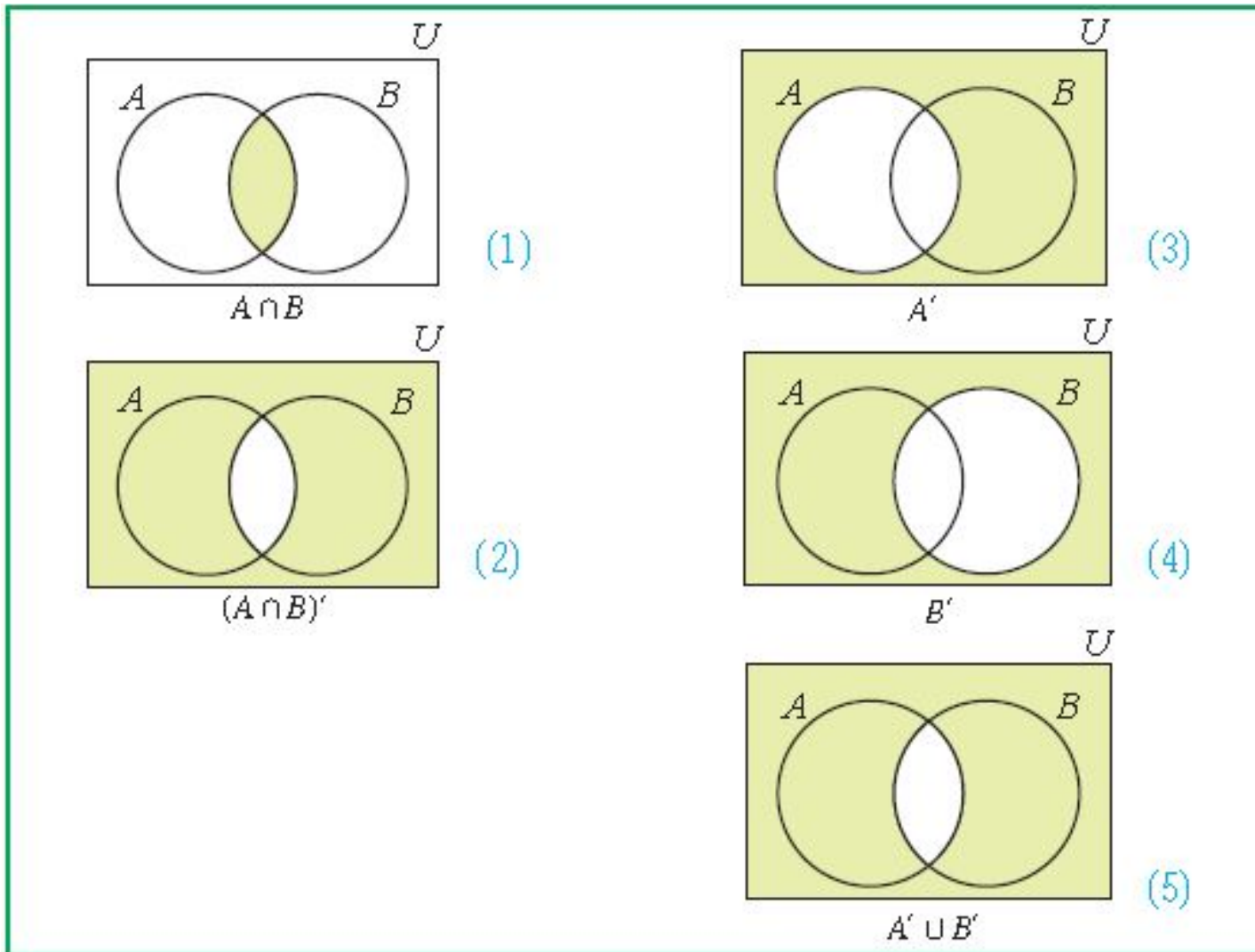
11. *Complements of  $U$  and  $\emptyset$* :

$$(a) U^c = \emptyset \quad \text{and} \quad (b) \emptyset^c = U.$$

12. *Set Difference Law*: For all sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$A - B = A \cap B^c.$$

# De Morgan's Law: $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$



# Example

Construct an algebraic proof that for all sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,  
 $(A \cup B) - C = (A - C) \cup (B - C)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}(A \cup B) - C &= (A \cup B) \cap C^c && \text{by the set difference law} \\ &= C^c \cap (A \cup B) && \text{by the commutative law for } \cap \\ &= (C^c \cap A) \cup (C^c \cap B) && \text{by the distributive law} \\ &= (A \cap C^c) \cup (B \cap C^c) && \text{by the commutative law for } \cap \\ &= (A - C) \cup (B - C) && \text{by the set difference law.}\end{aligned}$$



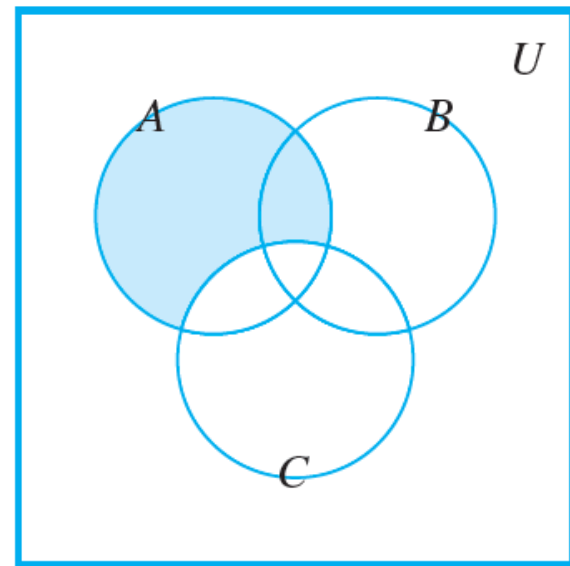
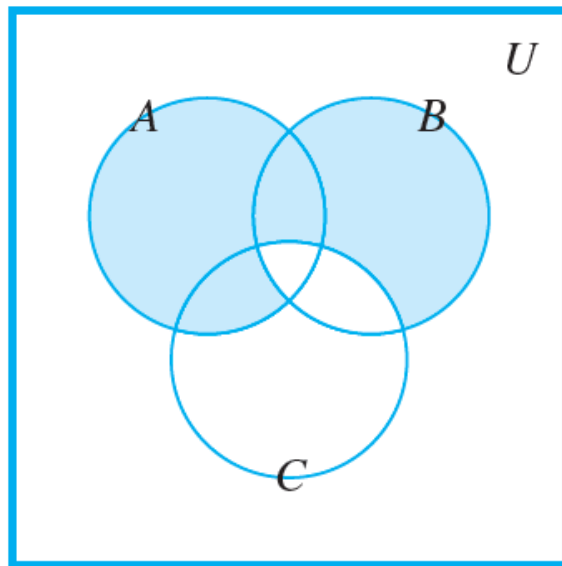
## Example

Construct an algebraic proof that for all sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,  
$$A - (A \cap B) = A - B.$$

$A - (A \cap B) = A \cap (A \cap B)^c$	by the set difference law
$= A \cap (A^c \cup B^c)$	by De Morgan's laws
$= (A \cap A^c) \cup (A \cap B^c)$	by the distributive law
$= \emptyset \cup (A \cap B^c)$	by the complement law
$= (A \cap B^c) \cup \emptyset$	by the commutative law for $\cup$
$= A \cap B^c$	by the identity law for $\cup$
$= A - B$	by the set difference law.

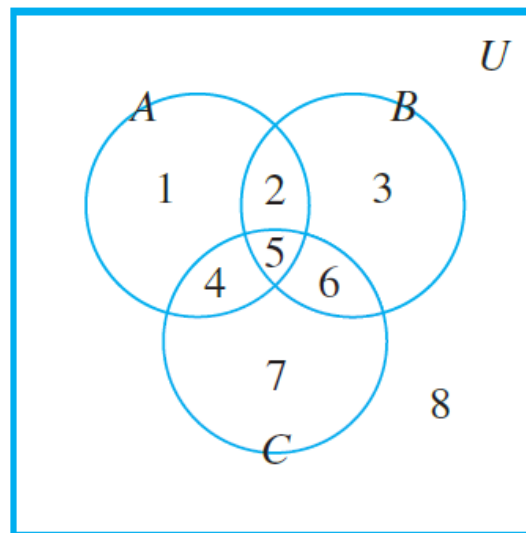
# Example

Give a counter-example to disprove that for all sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ ,  $(A - B) \cup (B - C) = A - C$ .



How to find a counter-example?

## Example (cont'd)



**Counterexample 1:** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 4, 5\}$ ,  $B = \{2, 3, 5, 6\}$ , and  $C = \{4, 5, 6, 7\}$ .  
Then

$$A - B = \{1, 4\}, \quad B - C = \{2, 3\}, \quad \text{and} \quad A - C = \{1, 2\}.$$

Hence

$$(A - B) \cup (B - C) = \{1, 4\} \cup \{2, 3\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}, \quad \text{whereas} \quad A - C = \{1, 2\}.$$

Since  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\} \neq \{1, 2\}$ , we have that  $(A - B) \cup (B - C) \neq A - C$ .

## Example (cont'd)

- From the Venn diagram, it can be seen that the statement can be disproved if  $B$  contains an element that is not in  $A$  or in  $C$ .
- The following counterexample is simpler:

**Counterexample 2:** Let  $A = \emptyset$ ,  $B = \{3\}$ , and  $C = \emptyset$ . Then

$$A - B = \emptyset, \quad B - C = \{3\}, \quad \text{and} \quad A - C = \emptyset.$$

Hence  $(A - B) \cup (B - C) = \emptyset \cup \{3\} = \{3\}$ , whereas  $A - C = \emptyset$ .

Since  $\{3\} \neq \emptyset$ , we have that  $(A - B) \cup (B - C) \neq A - C$ .

# Duality Principle

- ❑ The dual of an expression is obtained by interchanging  $\cup$  and  $\cap$ , and interchanging  $U$  and  $\emptyset$ .
  - The dual of  $A \cup (A \cap B)$  is  $A \cap (A \cup B)$ .
  - The dual of  $U \cup \emptyset$  is  $U \cap \emptyset$ .
- ❑ The duality principle says that a set identity remains valid if the duals of both sides of the identity is taken.
  - De Morgan:  $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$
  - Its Dual:  $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$

# Why is Duality Principle True?

- ❑ An algebraic proof for a set identity is simply a sequence of applying those basic rules.
- ❑ Duality holds for the basic algebraic rules, so we can apply duality to every step.

## Unit 4.4

### Derangements

# Example of 3 Cards

□ There are  $3! = 6$  permutations of these cards.

1) A 2 3

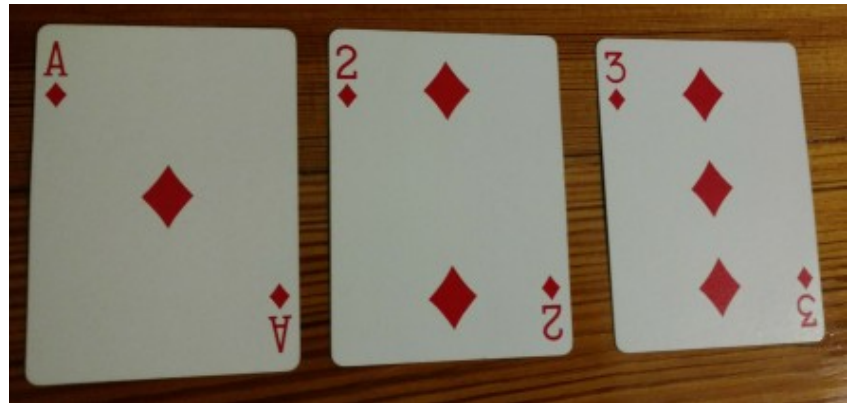
2) A 3 2

3) 2 A 3

4) 2 3 A

5) 3 A 2

6) 3 2 A



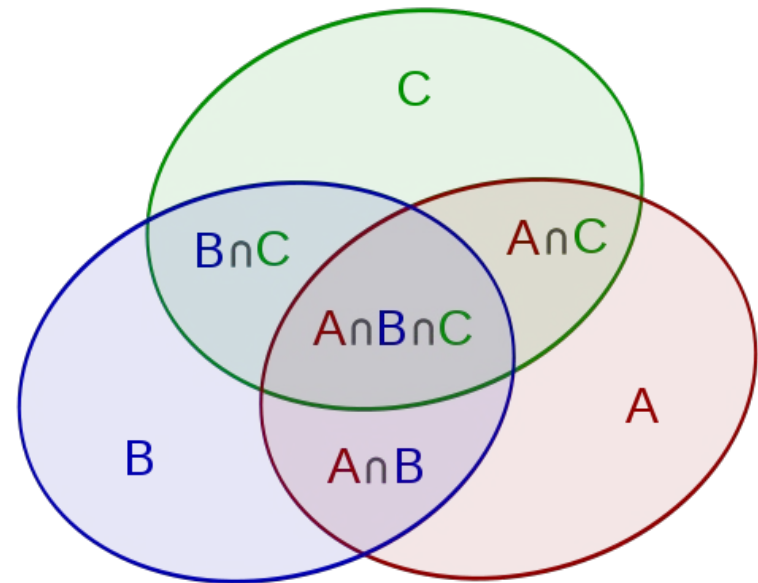
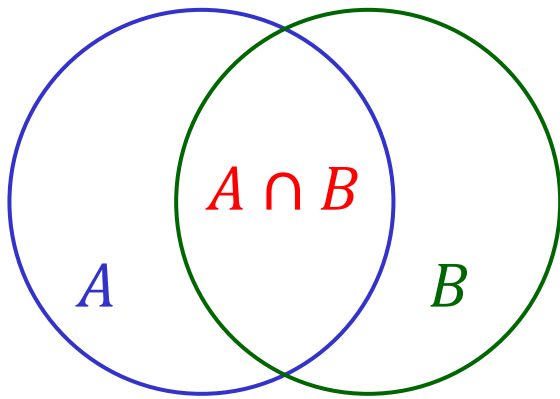
□ There are two derangements (4 and 5).



# Inclusion-Exclusion Principle

□ For finite sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

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



$$|A| + |B| + |C| - |A \cap B| - |A \cap C| - |B \cap C| + |A \cap B \cap C|$$

# Inclusion-Exclusion Principle

□ The general form for  $n$  sets is

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i \right| &= \sum_{i=1}^n |A_i| - \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |A_i \cap A_j| \\ &\quad + \sum_{1 \leq i < j < k \leq n} |A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k| \\ &\quad - \cdots + (-1)^{n-1} |A_1 \cap \cdots \cap A_n|. \end{aligned}$$

# Number of Derangements

- Let there be  $n$  cards.
- Let  $A_i$  be the set of all permutations such that the  $i$ -th position is preserved.
  - $A_1$  contains permutations of the form 1 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  - $A_2$  contains permutations of the form \_ 2 \_ \_ \_ \_
- $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \cdots \cup A_n$  is the set of all permutations that have at least one position preserved.
- No. of derangements
$$!n = n! - |A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \cdots \cup A_n|.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\left| \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i \right| &= \sum_{i=1}^n |A_i| - \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |A_i \cap A_j| \\
&\quad + \sum_{1 \leq i < j < k \leq n} |A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k| \\
&\quad - \cdots + (-1)^{n-1} |A_1 \cap \cdots \cap A_n|.
\end{aligned}$$

$(n-1)!$        $(n-2)!$        $(n-3)!$        $(n-n)! = 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \binom{n}{1} (n-1)! - \binom{n}{2} (n-2)! + \binom{n}{3} (n-3)! - \cdots + (-1)^{n-1} \\
&\quad = n! - \frac{n!}{2!} + \frac{n!}{3!} - \cdots + (-1)^{n-1}
\end{aligned}$$

$$!n = n! - |A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n|$$

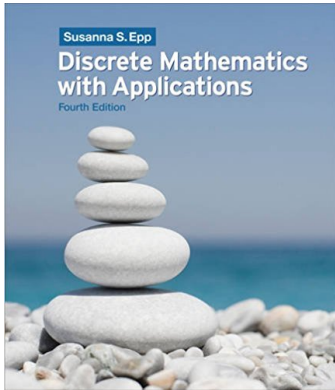
$$!n = n! - \left( n! - \frac{n!}{2!} + \frac{n!}{3!} - \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \right)$$

$$\frac{!n}{n!} = 1 - \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} - \frac{1}{3!} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} \rightarrow e^{-1} \approx 0.37$$

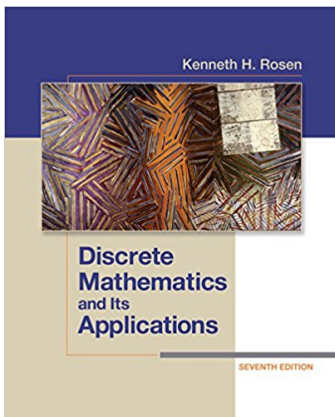
When  $n = 10$ , the derangement probability is very close to 0.37.

Alice has a higher chance (0.63) to win.

# Recommended Reading



- Chapter 6, S. S. Epp, *Discrete Mathematics with Applications*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., Brooks Cole, 2010.



- Sections 2.1 and 2.2, K. H. Rosen, *Discrete Mathematics and its Applications*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed., McGraw-Hill Education, 2011.