

# 1 What is a set?

## Definition:

A Set is a collection of elements such that, given any element, we can tell whether that element is in the set or not.

Notation: If the element  $x$  is in set  $S$ , we write  $x \in S$  <sup>(in)</sup> and if not, we write  $x \notin S$  <sup>(not in)</sup>.

**Example:** Based on this definition, does the order of elements matter in a set? Why or why not?

No- in the set or not in the set is all that is required from our definition

**Example:** Does the number of times an element is listed matter? Why or why not?

No- same rationale - whether in or not is what matters

**Example:** Let  $C$  be the set of all cities in Illinois. What are some elements in set  $C$ ? What are some non-elements?

DeKalb, Chicago, Rockford

Iowa City, New York, Michigan, Pacific Ocean

**Example:** Let  $U$  be the set of all integers from 12 to 17. List all elements in set  $U$ .

$$U = \{12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17\}$$

## Definition:

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets. Then  $A$  is a subset of  $B$  (notation:  $A \subseteq B$  OR  $B \supseteq A$ ) if every element of  $A$  is also in  $B$ .

**Example:** What are examples of subsets of  $C$  and  $U$  above?

one subset of  $C$  is our list above: {DeKalb, Chicago, Rockford}  
subsets of  $U$ : {2, 14, 16} OR {13, 15, 17} OR {12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17}

## Notation:

If  $A$  is a finite set, we will denote the number of elements in  $A$  by  $|A|$ .

## Definition:

The empty set is the set that has no elements (notation:  $\emptyset$ ).

**Definition:**

We say two sets are equal if every element in the first is also in the second and, conversely, every element in the second is also in the first. Thus,  $A = B$  if and only if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ .  
 If  $A = B$ , then  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$   
 If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ , then  $A = B$ . ← translates to

**Example:** Provide two examples of equal sets. (Be creative: what must remain the same and what can change?) Kids of <sup>same</sup> parents,

Order, number of times appearing  $\{1, 2, 3\} = \{3, 3, 2, 1, 1\}$  phrasing different  
 $\{\text{multiples of } 2\} = \{\text{even numbers}\}$

**2 Set Operations****Definition:**

The union of sets  $A$  and  $B$  (notation  $A \cup B$ ) is the set consisting of all elements in  $A$  or  $B$ , meaning one of these scenarios is true:

- (1)  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$
- (2)  $x \notin A$  and  $x \in B$
- (3)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ .

**Definition:**

The intersection of sets  $A$  and  $B$  (notation  $A \cap B$ ) is the set consisting of all elements in  $A$  and  $B$ , meaning  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ .

**Definition:**

If the intersection of two sets is the empty set, then the sets are said to be disjoint.

**Example:** Suppose  $A = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$ ,  $B = \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ , and  $C = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$ .  
 odds primes evens 1-9

- (a) Determine  $A \cup B$ .  $= \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$   $A \cap B = \{3, 5, 7\}$
- (b) Determine  $B \cap C$ .  $= \{2\}$   $B \cup C = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$
- (c) Which, if any, sets are disjoint?

$A \cap C$   
and

Bonus question: what is  $|A \cup B|$ ? = 6  
 (6 elements in)

$\{1, 1\}$  is a subset of  $\{1, 2, 3\}$   
 because  $\{1, 1\} = \{1\}$

**Definition:**

The difference of sets  $A$  and  $B$  (notation:  $A - B$ ) is the set consisting of the elements in  $A$  that are not in  $B$ .

**Example:** Using  $A = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$  and  $B = \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ , find  $A - B$  and  $B - A$ . Will  $A - B = B - A$  in general?

$$A - B = \{1, 9\}$$

$$B - A = \{2\}$$

No

**Definition:**

A set consisting of all of the elements of interest in a particular situation is called a universal set.

**Definition:**

Given a universal set  $U$  and a subset  $A$  of  $U$ , the set  $U - A$  is called the complement of  $A$  (notation:  $\bar{A}$ ). (together  $A$  and  $\bar{A}$  "complete"  $U$ :  $A \cup \bar{A} = U$ )

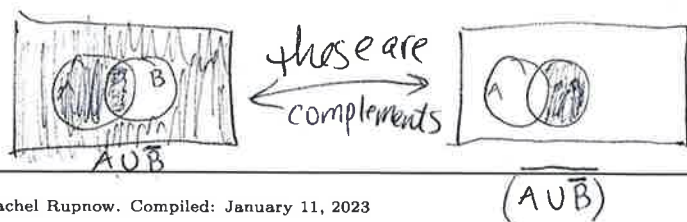
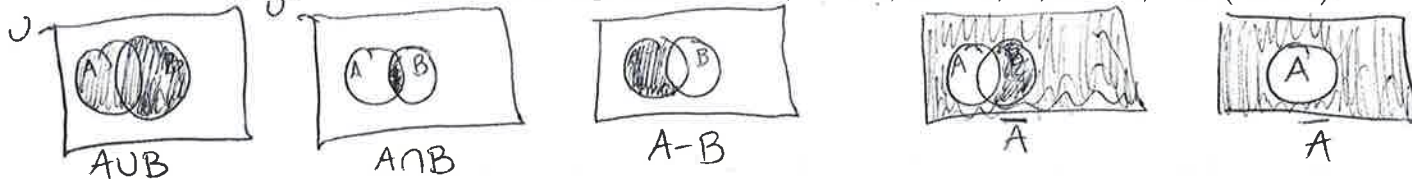
**Example:** Suppose  $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$  is the universal set and  $A = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$ ,  $B = \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ , and  $C = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$ . What are  $\bar{A}$ ,  $\bar{B}$ , and  $\bar{C}$ ?

$$\bar{A} = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}; \quad \bar{B} = \{1, 4, 6, 8, 9\}; \quad \bar{C} = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\} (= A)$$

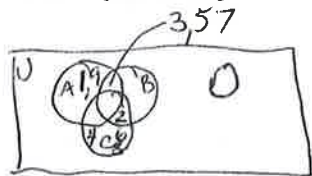
**Definition:**

A Venn diagram is a visual representation of the relationships among sets in which the universal set is represented by a rectangular region and subsets of the universal set are represented by circular disks drawn within the rectangular region. Sets not known to be disjoint should be represented by overlapping circles.

**Example:** Draw Venn diagrams to represent  $A \cup B$ ,  $A \cap B$ ,  $A - B$ ,  $\bar{A}$ ,  $A \cup \bar{B}$ , and  $\overline{(A \cup B)}$ .



**Example:** Suppose  $U = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$  is the universal set and  $A = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$ ,  $B = \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ , and  $C = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$ . Draw a Venn diagram that places each number appropriately.



**Theorem 2.1:**

Let  $U$  be a universal set. For any subsets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  of  $U$ , the following are true:

- (a)  $A \cup B = B \cup A$  and  $A \cap B = B \cap A$  (commutative property for union or intersection)
- (b)  $(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$  and  $(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$  (associative property for union or intersection)
- (c)  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$  and  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$  (distributive property)
- (d)  $\overline{\overline{A}} = A$
- (e)  $A \cup \overline{A} = U$
- (f)  $A \cap \overline{A} = \emptyset$
- (g)  $A \subseteq A \cup B$  and  $B \subseteq A \cup B$
- (h)  $A \cap B \subseteq A$  and  $A \cap B \subseteq B$
- (i)  $A - B = A \cap \overline{B}$

**Theorem 2.2, De Morgan's Laws:**

For any subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of a universal set  $U$ , the following are true:

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

**Example:** Use Theorems 2.1 and/or 2.2 to simplify  $\overline{A} \cap (A \cup B)$ .

Using Thm 2.1c:  $(\overline{A} \cap A) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B)$

Using Thm 2.1f, we know  $\overline{A} \cap A = \emptyset$  so  $(\overline{A} \cap A) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B) = \boxed{\overline{A} \cap B}$

**Definition:**

An ordered pair of elements (notation:  $(a, b)$ ) lists two elements and attends to the order of entries. Thus  $(a, b) = (c, d)$  if and only if  $a = c$  and  $b = d$ .

**Definition:**

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

**Example:** Let  $C = \{1, 5\}$  and  $D = \{2, 4, 5\}$ . Find  $C \times D$  and  $D \times C$ .

$$C \times D = \{(1, 2), (1, 4), (1, 5), (5, 2), (5, 4), (5, 5)\}$$

$$D \times C = \{(2, 1), (2, 5), \cancel{(4, 1)}, (4, 5), (5, 1), (5, 5)\}$$

**Example:** In general, will  $A \times B = B \times A$ ? Why or why not?

No -  $C \times D$  <sup>and</sup>  $D \times C$  above are already different  
(have a counterexample)