

Set Theory

Definitions:

- an object either belongs or does not belong
- set-collection of things that are brought together because they obey a certain (well defined) rule
 - ex: numbers, people, shapes
- element- "thing" that belongs to a given set

Symbols:

- $\{\dots\}$ -the set of ...
 - ex: $\{-3,-2,-1,0,1,2\}$, {integers between -3 and 3 inclusive}, $\{x|x \text{ is an integer and } |x| < 4\}$
- (\in) symbol means element of
- set usually uppercase A,B and elements lowercase x,y
- U-universal set, all things under discussion
- $\{\}, (\emptyset)$ -empty set, null set
- N-natural numbers, whole numbers starting at 1
- Z-integers
- R-real numbers

Set Operations:

- $(A \cap B)$ intersection (two sets overlap)
- $(A \cup B)$ union (elements in either)
- $(A - B)$ or $(A \setminus B)$ difference (elements in A but not B)
- (A') or (A^C) or complement (everything not in A is in A')
- cardinality (if $A = \{\text{lowercase letters of the alphabet}\}$, $|A| = 26$)
- $P(A)$ powerset-set of all subsets (including empty) of A

- if $|A| = k$ then $|P(A)| = 2^k$ proof (for each element we can choose to include element or not)
- Cartesian Products
 - if we have n sets: A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n , then their Cartesian product is defined by: $A_1 A_2 \dots A_n = \{ (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \mid a_1 \in A_1, a_2 \in A_2, \dots, a_n \in A_n \}$ and (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) is called an ordered n -tuple.

Relationships:

- Equality = (same elements, repeats ignored)
- subsets ($A \subseteq B$) all elements of A are also elements of B
 - $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$, then $A = B$
 - proper subset ($A \subset B$) if B contains at least one element that isn't in A
- disjoint no elements in common

Foundational Rules of Set Theory:

- The Laws of Sets
 - Commutative Laws
 - * $A \cap B = B \cap A$
 - * $A \cup B = B \cup A$
 - Associative Laws
 - * $(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$
 - * $(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$
 - Distributive Laws
 - * $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
 - * $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$
 - Idempotent Laws
 - * $A \cap A = A$
 - * $A \cup A = A$
 - Identity Laws
 - * $A \cup \emptyset = A$
 - * $A \cap U = A$
 - * $A \cup U = U$
 - * $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$
 - Involution Law

- * $(A')' = A$
- Complement Laws
 - * $A \cup A' = U$
 - * $A \cap A' = \emptyset$
 - * $U' = \emptyset$
 - * $\emptyset' = U$
- De Morgan's Laws
 - * $(A \cap B)' = A' \cup B'$
 - * $(A \cup B)' = A' \cap B'$
 - * proof
 - $(A \cup B)' \subseteq A' \cap B'$
 - $A' \cap B' \subseteq (A \cup B)'$

Sources:

- https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Discrete_Mathematics/Set_theory