

# Sets, Sequences and Functions

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# Introduction to Sets

A set is an unordered collection of objects, called elements or members of the set.

Examples of set.

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, [a, b], (a, b), [a, b).$$

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### Remark

*To show that two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are equal, show that  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ .*

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Let  $S$  be a set. If there are exactly  $n$  distinct elements in  $S$  where  $n$  is a nonnegative integer, we say that  $S$  is a finite set and that  $n$  is the cardinality of  $S$ . The cardinality of  $S$  is denoted by  $|S|$ .

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

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Give definitions for:

Cartesian Product of two sets

Union of two sets

Intersection of two sets

Disjoint sets

Difference of two sets

Complement of A.

Show that  $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$  and  $A - B = A \cap B^c$ .

# Set Identities

$$A \cup U = U, A \cup \phi = A$$

$$A \cap U = A, A \cap \phi = \phi$$

$$A \cup A = A, A \cap A = A$$

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

$$A \cup B = B \cup A, A \cap B = B \cap A$$

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

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$$(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c, (A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c \text{ (De Morgan's laws)}$$

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

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

$$A \cup A^c = U, A \cap A^c = \phi.$$

1. Prove that  $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$ ,  $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$ .

2. Prove that  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
3. Prove that  $(A \cup (B \cap C))^c = (C^c \cup B^c) \cap A^c$ .

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For  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ , define  $A_i = \{i, i + 1, i + 2, \dots\}$  find  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i$  and  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i$ .

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If  $I$  is any index set,  $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = \{x | x \in A_i \text{ for some } i\}$  and

$\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i = \{x | x \in A_i \text{ for all } i\}$ .

Let  $A_i = \{1, 2, \dots, i\}$  for  $i = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ . Then find  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$  and  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$ .

# Computer Representation of Sets

- Assume that the universal set  $U$  is finite (and of reasonable size so that the number of elements of  $U$  is not larger than the memory size of the computer being used).
- Specify an arbitrary ordering of the elements of  $U$ , for instance  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ .
- Represent a subset  $A$  of  $U$  with the bit string of length  $n$ , where the  $i$ th bit in this string is 1 if  $a_i$  belongs to  $A$  and is 0 if  $a_i$  does not belong to  $A$ .



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- ① Let  $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$ , and the ordering of elements of  $U$  has the elements in increasing order; that is,  $a_i = i$ . What bit strings represent the subset of all odd integers in  $U$ , the subset of all even integers in  $U$ , and the subset of integers not exceeding 5 in  $U$ ?

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- 2 The bit strings for the sets  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  and  $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$  are 1111100000 and 1010101010, respectively. Use bit strings to find the union and intersection of these sets.

# Functions

## Definition

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- $f(S)$  is the position of a 0 bit in  $S$ .
- $f(S)$  is the number of 1 bits in  $S$ .
- $f(S)$  is the smallest integer  $i$  such that the  $i$ th bit of  $S$  is 1 and  $f(S) = 0$  when  $S$  is the empty string, the string with no bits.

Find the domain and range of these functions.

- 1 the function that assigns to each pair of positive integers the first integer of the pair
- 2 the function that assigns to each positive integer its largest decimal digit
- 3 the function that assigns to a bit string the number of ones minus the number of zeros in the string
- 4 the function that assigns to each positive integer the largest integer not exceeding the square root of the integer
- 5 the function that assigns to a bit string the longest string of ones in the string



Express the definitions of one-one, surjective, increasing functions using logical operators and use negations to define a function is not one-one, not surjective, not increasing.

Consider these functions from the set of students in a discrete mathematics class. Under what conditions is the function one-to-one if it assigns to a student his or her

- a. mobile phone number.
- b. student identification number.
- c. final grade in the class.
- d. home town

Give an example of a function from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$  that is

- one-to-one but not onto.
- onto but not one-to-one.
- both onto and one-to-one (but different from the identity function).
- neither one-to-one nor onto.

Give an explicit formula for a function from the set of integers to the set of positive integers that is

- one-to-one, but not onto.
- onto, but not one-to-one.
- one-to-one and onto.
- neither one-to-one nor onto

- 1 Suppose that  $f$  is a function from  $A$  to  $B$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are finite sets with  $|A| = |B|$ . Show that  $f$  is one-to-one if and only if it is onto.
- 2 Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and let  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Show that  $f(x)$  is strictly increasing if and only if the function  $g(x) = 1/f(x)$  is strictly decreasing.
- 3 Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and let  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Show that  $f(x)$  is strictly decreasing if and only if the function  $g(x) = 1/f(x)$  is strictly increasing.
- 4 Prove that a strictly increasing function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to itself is one-to-one.
- 5 Give an example of an increasing function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to itself that is not one-to-one.
- 6 Prove that a strictly decreasing function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to itself is one-to-one.
- 7 Give an example of a decreasing function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to itself that is not one-to-one

Suppose that  $g$  is a function from  $A$  to  $B$  and  $f$  is a function from  $B$  to  $C$ .

- 1 Show that if both  $f$  and  $g$  are one-to-one functions, then  $f \circ g$  is also one-to-one.
- 2 Show that if both  $f$  and  $g$  are onto functions, then  $f \circ g$  is also onto.

# Summary

Suppose that  $f : A \rightarrow B$ .

- To show that  $f$  is injective: Show that if  $f(x) = f(y)$  for arbitrary  $x, y \in A$  with  $x \neq y$ , then  $x = y$ .
- To show that  $f$  is not injective: Find particular elements  $x, y \in A$  such that  $x \neq y$  and  $f(x) = f(y)$ .
- To show that  $f$  is surjective: Consider an arbitrary element  $y \in B$  and find an element  $x \in A$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .
- To show that  $f$  is not surjective: Find a particular  $y \in B$  such that  $f(x) \neq y$  for all  $x \in A$ .

## Definition

The function  $f$  is a one-to-one correspondence, or a bijection, if it is both one-to-one and onto. We also say that such a function is bijective

## Definition

Let  $f$  be a one-to-one correspondence from the set  $A$  to the set  $B$ . The inverse function of  $f$  is the function that assigns to an element  $b$  belonging to  $B$  the unique element  $a$  in  $A$  such that  $f(a) = b$ . The inverse function of  $f$  is denoted by  $f^{-1}$ . Hence,  $f^{-1}(b) = a$  when  $f(a) = b$ .

Remark: Be sure not to confuse the function  $f^{-1}$  with the function  $1/f$ , which is the function that assigns to each  $x$  in the domain the value  $1/f(x)$ . Notice that the latter makes sense only when  $f(x)$  is a non-zero real number.