

# Course Notes for Math 320: Fundamentals of Mathematics

## Chapter 2: Sets.

August 29, 2013

### 1 Introduction to Sets

**Definition 1.1.** *A set  $A$  is a well defined collection of objects. If  $a$  is an element of  $A$  then we write  $a \in A$ .*

**Remark 1.2.** *Well defined means there is no ambiguity as to whether or not an object is in a given set.*

**Example 1.3.** *Which of the following are sets? How big are they? What are their elements?*

1. *The collection of great novels.*
2. *The truth set for  $x^2 + y^2 = 34$  for  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .*
3. *The collection of members of the math department.*
4. *The students in math 320.*
5.  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} | e^x < x\}$ .
6. *The collection of all twin primes.*
7. *The set of all natural numbers from 5 to 10.*
8.  $\{5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$ .

**Remark 1.4.** *Three ways to describe a set are below: Try each with example 8 above.*

1. *In words.*
2. *Listing elements.*
3. *Set builder notation.*

**Example 1.5.** *Translate the sets below into or out of the various forms.*

1. *The truth set for  $x^2 + y^2 = 34$  for  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .*
2.  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} | e^x < x\}$ .
3. *Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be the collection of all prime numbers. The collection of all twin primes.*
4. *The set of all natural numbers from 5 to 10.*
5.  $\{5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$ .

**Example 1.6.** *Further examples of sets:*

1. *Natural Numbers:*  $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$
2. *Integers:*  $\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots - 2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .
3. *Positive Integers:*  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .
4. *Strictly Positive Integers:*  $\mathbb{Z}_{>0} =$
5. *Even Integers:*  $2\mathbb{Z} =$
6. *Integers that are perfect squares*
7. *Rational Numbers:*  $\mathbb{Q} = \{\frac{a}{b} | a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, b \neq 0\}$
8. *Real numbers:* Defn???
9.  $\mathbb{R}^n = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) | x_i \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .
10. *Matrices:*  $M_{(r,s)}(\mathbb{R})$  is the set of all  $r \times s$  matrices with entries in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
$$M_{(3,3)}(\mathbb{R}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & x_{23} \\ x_{31} & x_{32} & x_{33} \end{bmatrix} \mid x_{11}, x_{12}, \dots, x_{32}, x_{33} \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$
11. *Upper triangular Matrices:*  $U_{(3,3)}(\mathbb{R})$

12. Polynomials over  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $\mathbb{R}[x] = \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n \mid a_i \in \mathbb{R}, n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$ .

**Definition 1.7.** Assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are sets.

1.  $B$  is a **subset** of  $A$ , if  $\forall b \in B$  we have that  $b \in A$ . Notation:  $B \subset A$ .
2.  $B$  is **equal** to  $A$  if  $B \subset A$  and  $A \subset B$ . Notation:  $B = A$ .
3. If  $B$  is a subset of  $A$  and  $B \neq A$  then  $B$  is called a **proper subset** of  $A$ . Notation:

**Example 1.8.** Give some examples of subsets from the set examples above.

**Remark 1.9.** Is a “set” with no elements a set? How many such are there?

*AXIOM:* We consider a collection of objects such that there are no objects in it to be a set and we call it the empty set. Notation:  $\emptyset$ .

**Definition 1.10.** The number of elements in a finite set  $A$  is called its **cardinality**. Notation:  $|A|$ .

**Remark 1.11.** If  $A$  is an infinite set, we can also define its cardinality, but this is trickier: Rank  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$  in terms of containment.

**Proposition 1.12.** Let  $A$  be a set. Then  $\emptyset \subset A$  and  $A \subset A$ .

**Proposition 1.13.** *Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be sets. If  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C$  then  $A \subset C$ .*

Proof see book.

**Proposition 1.14.** *Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be sets. If  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C$  and  $C \subset A$ . Then  $A = C$ .*

## Group Work

**Definition 1.15.** *Power Set: Given a set  $A$  the **power set** of  $A$  is the set whose elements are the subsets of  $A$ .*

1. Find the power set of  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .
2. What is the cardinality of  $P(A)$ ?
3. Is there a set with exactly 12 subsets?
4. (FP 18) Consider the following three “proofs” of the conjecture that: If  $A$  and  $B$  are sets and  $A \subset B$  then  $P(A) \subset P(B)$ . Which, if any are correct. Justify your answers.
  - (a) “Proof 1”: Let  $x \in P(A)$ . Then  $x \in A$ . Since  $A \subset B$ ,  $x \in B$ . Therefore  $x \in P(B)$ , so  $P(A) \subset P(B)$ .
  - (b) “Proof 2”: Let  $A = \{1, 2\}$  and let  $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$ . Then  $P(A) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{1, 2\}\}$  and  $P(B) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ . Therefore  $P(A) \subset P(B)$ .
  - (c) “Proof 3”: Let  $x \in A$ . Since  $A \subset B$ ,  $x \in B$ . Since  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ ,  $\{x\} \in P(A)$  and  $\{x\} \in P(B)$ . Therefore  $P(A) \subset P(B)$ .
5. (FP 19) Modify an incorrect proof in the previous exercise to obtain a correct proof of the conjecture in that exercise.

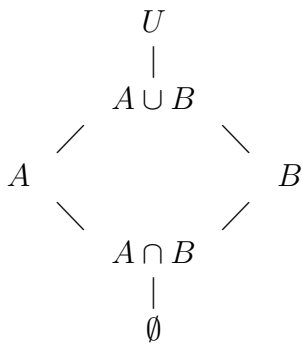
## 2 Operations on Sets

**Universal Set of discourse.**

Venn Diagrams vs. Proofs

**Definition 2.1.** Assume that  $U$  is the universal set of discourse and that  $A$  and  $B$  are two sets (i.e. subsets of  $U$ ).

1. The **union** of  $A$  and  $B$  is the set of all elements of  $U$  that belong to  $A$  or  $B$ . Notation:  $A \cup B = \{x \in U | x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$ .
2. The **intersection** of  $A$  and  $B$  is the set of all elements of  $U$  that belong to  $A$  and  $B$ . Notation:  $A \cap B = \{x \in U | x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$ .
3. The **complement** of  $A$  is the set of all elements of  $U$  that do not belong to  $A$ . Notation:  $A' = \{x \in U | x \notin A\}$ .
4. The **complement of  $B$  relative to  $A$**  is the set of all elements in  $A$  that are not in  $B$ . Notation:  $B - A = \{x \in U | x \in B \text{ and } x \notin A\}$ .



**Example 2.2.**    1. *Intervals:*  $[0, 1) \cup [1, 2) =$

2. *Intervals:*  $[0, 1) \cup (1, 2) =$

3. *Intervals:*  $[0, 1] - [1, 2) =$

4. *Recall that  $n\mathbb{Z} = \{na | a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . What is  $2\mathbb{Z} \cap 3\mathbb{Z}$ ?*

5. *What is  $2\mathbb{Z} \cup 3\mathbb{Z}$ ?*

6. *In  $\mathbb{R}^2$  show that the line  $x + y = -2$  does not intersect with the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ .*

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be sets.*

1.  $\emptyset \cap A = \emptyset$  and  $\emptyset \cup A = A$
2.  $A \cap B \subset A$
3.  $A \subset A \cup B$
4.  $A \cup B = B \cup A$  and  $A \cap B = B \cap A$
5.  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap C$  and  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup C$
6.  $A \cup A = A = A \cap A$
7. If  $A \subset B$  then  $A \cup C \subset B \cup C$  and  $A \cap C \subset B \cap C$
8.  $(A')' = A$
9.  $(A \cup B)' = A' \cap B'$
10.  $(A \cap B)' = A' \cup B'$
11.  $A - B = A \cap B'$
12.  $A \subset B$  if and only if  $B' \subset A'$
13.  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$  and  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

More space