

# Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science

## Lecture 3 Sets; Set Operations

### Introduction

Theoretical construction of  
mathematics

Practice

Logic

Logic

*Necessary to understand  
mathematical statements*

Sets

Sets

Everything is a set!

*Sets are intensively used in computer  
science!*

- 1- Natural numbers
- 2- Integers
- 3- Rationals
- 4- Reals numbers
- 5- Vector spaces.....

*(Theoretical computer science: sets  
are everywhere*

*Practical computer science:  
Algorithms work on sets of data, e.g.  
Lists, Trees, Graphs, ...)*

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### Outline

- | Basic definitions for sets
- | Operations to build sets

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### Sets

- | Collection of objects (not ordered)
- | Denoted using braces
  - |  $\{1,2,a,b\}$
  - |  $\{\}$  usually denoted by  $\emptyset$
- | Sets can contain sets!
  - |  $\{\{1\},\{2\},\{a\},\{b\}\}$
  - |  $\{\emptyset\}$
- | Two sets are equal if they contain the same elements
  - |  $\{1,2,a,b\} = \{a,1,2,b\} \neq \{\{1\},\{2\},\{a\},\{b\}\}$
  - |  $\emptyset \neq \{\emptyset\} \neq \{\{\emptyset\}\}$

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## Sets of numbers

### Natural numbers

$N = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

### Integers

$Z = \{\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

### Rational numbers

$Q$  is the set of fractions of integers like  $\frac{-2}{3}$

### Real numbers

$R$  is the set of rational numbers together with some non rational numbers like  $\sqrt{2}, \pi, e, \dots$

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## Appurtenance and inclusion

### Appurtenance

1 is an *element* (a *member*) of  $N$

$N$  *contains* 1

Denoted by  $1 \in \{1, 2, a, b\}$

### Inclusion

$A$  is a *subset* of  $B$  :  $\forall x (x \in A \rightarrow x \in B)$

Denoted by  $A \subseteq B$  or  $B \supseteq A$

Note that for any sets  $A$  and  $B$

$\emptyset \subseteq A$  (because  $(F \rightarrow T) = T$ )

$A \subseteq A$

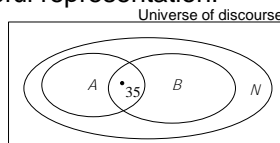
$A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$  implies  $A = B$

Note that  $1 \in N$  while  $\{1\} \subseteq N$

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## Venn Diagrams

### Very useful representation!



- $A =$  natural numbers divisible by 5
- $35 \in A$
- $B =$  natural numbers divisible by 7
- $35 \in B$
- $A \subseteq N$  and  $B \subseteq N$

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## Cardinality

à Number of elements in a set

Denoted by  $|A|$

Examples:

$\{1, 2, a, b\} = 4$

$|\emptyset| = 0$ ,  $|\{\emptyset\}| = 1$ ,  $|\{\{\emptyset\}\}| = 1$

$|N| = \text{infinity}$

Finite set: cardinality is a natural number

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## Outline

- | Basic definitions for sets
- | How to build sets?

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## Enumeration

- | Simplest way:
  - |  $N = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
  - |  $E = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 9, 10\}$
- | Problems:
  - | Often not rigorous
  - | Can be very heavy to write
- | Example: the set of numbers that are divisible by 5 and 7 and 11?
  - |  $F = \{5, 7, 11, 35, 55, 77, 385, \dots\}$
  - | IQ test!

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## Set builder

- | Use a propositional function to describe the elements
- |  $\{x \mid P(x)\}$  reads "the set of  $x$  (in the universe of discourse) such that  $P(x)$ "
- | Example: the set of numbers that are divisible by 5 and 7 and 11?
  - |  $E = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \text{ is divisible by 5 AND } x \text{ is divisible by 7 AND } x \text{ is divisible by 11}\}$
  - |  $E = \{1, 3, 5, 7, \dots\} = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \text{ is odd}\}$

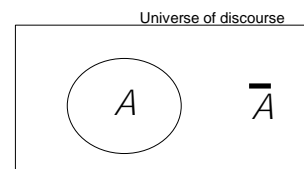
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Specify the universe of discourse

## Complement

- | Complement of  $A$ : elements of the universe which not in  $A$

$$\bar{A} = \{x \in U \mid x \notin A\}$$

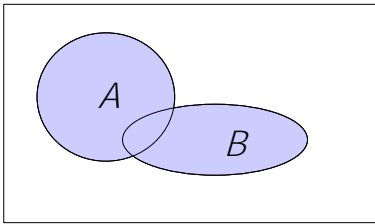


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## Union

$$x \in A \cup B \leftrightarrow x \in A \vee x \in B$$

Universe of discourse

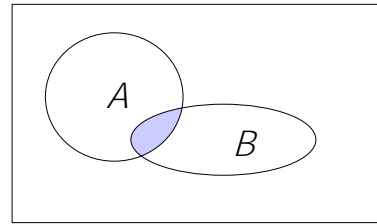


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## Intersection

$$A \cap B = \{x \in A \mid x \in B\}$$

Universe of discourse

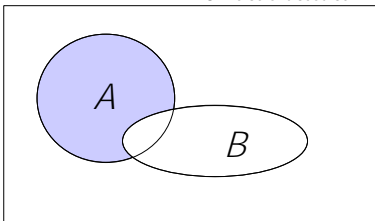


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## Difference

$$A - B = \{x \in A \mid \neg x \in B\}$$

Universe of discourse



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## Properties of $\cup$ , $\cap$ and $-$

| Table 1 p 89

à Compare to Table 5 page 24

| Example: De Morgan's law

$$A \cup B = \{x \in U \mid x \in A \vee x \in B\}$$

$$\overline{A \cup B} = \{x \in U \mid \neg(x \in A \vee x \in B)\}$$

$$\text{De Morgan's law} = \{x \in U \mid \neg(x \in A) \wedge \neg(x \in B)\}$$

$$= \{x \in U \mid x \in \bar{A} \wedge x \in \bar{B}\}$$

$$= \bar{A} \cap \bar{B}$$

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## Power set

- The power set of A is the set of all subsets of A
- Denoted by  $P(A)$ 

$$x \in P(A) \leftrightarrow x \subseteq A$$
- $P(\{1,2,a\})$  ?
  - Subset of cardinality 3:  $\{1,2,a\}$
  - Subset of cardinality 2:  $\{1,2\}$ ,  $\{1,a\}$ ,  $\{2,a\}$
  - Subset of cardinality 1:  $\{1\}$ ,  $\{2\}$ ,  $\{a\}$
  - Subset of cardinality 0:  $\emptyset$
- Remember:  $A \in P(A)$  and  $\emptyset \in P(A)$

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## Playing cards

- Let E be a deck of cards
- Poker: give 5 cards to each players
- What are the possible hands?
- 1 hand is a subset of E with 5 elements
 
$$H = \{ x \in P(E) \mid |x| = 5 \}$$
- Nice, isn't it?

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## Cartesian product

- Ordered pair:  $(a,b)$   
Note that  $(a,b) \neq (b,a)$  !
- Ordered 3-tuple:  $(a,b,c)$
- Ordered n-tuple:  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$
- Cartesian Product:
 
$$A \times B = \{ (x,y) \mid x \in A \text{ AND } y \in B \}$$

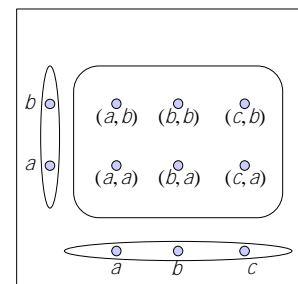
$$A \times B \times C = \{ (x,y,z) \mid x \in A \text{ AND } y \in B \text{ AND } z \in C \}$$

$$A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n = \{ (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mid x_1 \in A_1 \text{ AND } x_2 \in A_2 \text{ AND } \dots \text{ AND } x_n \in A_n \}$$

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## Cartesian product: Example 1

- $A = \{a,b,c\}$  and  $B = \{a,b\}$
- $A \times B$  contains
  - $(a,a)$  and  $(a,b)$
  - $(b,a)$  and  $(b,b)$
  - $(c,a)$  and  $(c,b)$



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