

## 2. Sets (Part I)

### Describing a Set

#### Set-builder notation and its extensions

**Set-builder notation:**  $A = \{x|P(x)\}$  is the set of all elements  $x$  such that the open sentence  $P(x)$  is a true statement. The symbol “|” is read “such that”.

**Extensions:** •  $A = \{x \in S|P(x)\}$  is the set of all elements  $x$  in  $S$  such that the open sentence  $P(x)$  is a true statement.

- $A = \{T|P(x)\}$ , where  $T$  is an expression involving  $x$  and  $P(x)$  is an open sentence.

EXAMPLE 1. Use set-builder notation and its extensions to describe the following sets in two different ways:

a)  $\mathbf{O}$

b)  $\mathbf{E}$

c)  $\mathbf{N}$

d)  $\mathbf{Q}$

e)  $5\mathbf{Z}$

EXAMPLE 2. Describe the following set using set-builder notation:  $A = \{2t + 5|t \in \mathbf{Z}\}$ .

Two sets are equal if and only if their set-builder rules are logically equivalent:

$$\forall x, (\{x|P(x)\} = \{x|Q(x)\}) \Leftrightarrow (P(x) \equiv Q(x)).$$

EXAMPLE 3. Prove or disprove: If  $A = \{x|x \in \mathbf{R} \wedge |x| = 1\}$ ,  $B = \{x|x \in \mathbf{R} \wedge x^4 = 1\}$ , and  $C = \{x|x \in \mathbf{C} \wedge x^4 = 1\}$ , then  $A = B = C$ .

**Interval notation:****Intervals:**

- bounded intervals:

1. closed interval  $[a, b] =$

2. open interval  $(a, b) =$

3. half-open, half-closed interval  $(a, b] =$

4. half-closed, half-open interval  $[a, b) =$

- unbounded intervals:

5.  $[a, \infty) =$

6.  $(a, \infty) =$

7.  $(-\infty, a] =$

8.  $(-\infty, a) =$

9.  $(-\infty, \infty) =$

EXAMPLE 4. Represent the following sets in interval notation when it is possible.

a)  $\{x \in \mathbf{R} \mid (x \geq 0) \wedge (x \in \mathbf{Z})\} =$

b)  $\{x \in \mathbf{Z} \mid 3 \leq x < 10\} =$

c)  $\{x \in \mathbf{R} \mid -2016 \leq x \leq 2017\} =$

d)  $\{x \mid x \in \mathbf{R} \wedge |x + 5| \leq 7\} =$

e)  $\{x \in \mathbf{R} \mid \sin x = 0\} =$

## Subsets

- Two sets,  $A$  and  $B$ , are **equal**, written  $A = B$ , if and only if they have exactly the same elements. (NOTE: they do not have to be in the same order!).
- If every element in set  $A$  is also an element in set  $B$ , then  $A$  is a subset of  $B$ , written  $A \subseteq B$ .
- If  $A \subseteq B$ , but  $A \neq B$ , then  $A$  is a **proper** subset of  $B$ , written  $A \subset B$ .
- The **empty set** is the set that doesn't have any elements, denoted by  $\emptyset$  or  $\{\}$ .
- The **universal set** is the set that contains all of the elements for a problem, denoted by  $U$ .

EXAMPLE 5. Let  $A, B \subseteq U$ . Then

$$A = B \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in U, (x \in A \Leftrightarrow x \in B)$$

$$A \subseteq B \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in U, (x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B)$$

$$A \subset B \Leftrightarrow$$

Question: Let  $A = \{n \in \mathbf{Z} | n \text{ is even}\}$ ,  $B = \{n \in \mathbf{Z} | n^2 \text{ is even}\}$ , and  $C = \{n^2 | n \text{ is even}\}$ . Are these sets the same?

EXAMPLE 6. Let  $A = \{n \in \mathbf{Z} | n = 3t - 2 \text{ for some } t \in \mathbf{Z}\}$  and  $B = \{n \in \mathbf{Z} | n = 3t + 1 \text{ for some } t \in \mathbf{Z}\}$ . Prove that  $A = B$ .

EXAMPLE 7. Use set notation to reformulate the following theorem: “Every real-valued continuous function on  $[a, b]$  is integrable on  $[a, b]$ .” Also describe a universal set. Discuss the converse statement.

### Cardinality

**infinite set**

**finite set**

**cardinality** of  $A$ ,  $|A|$

EXAMPLE 8. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two sets.

(a) **TRUE/FALSE** If  $A = B$ , then  $|A| = |B|$ .

(b) **TRUE/FALSE** If  $|A| = |B|$ , then  $A = B$ .

EXAMPLE 9. Given  $A = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 8\}$ ,  $B = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$ ,  $C = \{3, 5, 1, 7, 3, 1\}$ ,  $D = \{5, 3, 1\}$ , and  $E = \emptyset$ , then which of the following are TRUE?

(a)  $B = C$       (b)  $B \subseteq C$       (c)  $B \subset C$       (d)  $C \subseteq B$       (e)  $D \subset B$

(f)  $D \subseteq B$       (g)  $B \subset D$       (h)  $8 \in A$       (i)  $\{4, 6\} \subset A$       (j)  $1, 5 \subset A$

(k)  $9 \notin C$       (l)  $D \subseteq D$       (m)  $\emptyset = 0$       (n)  $0 \in E$       (o)  $A \in A$

(p)  $|A| = 8$       (q)  $|C| = 7$       (r)  $|E| = 0$       (s)  $|B| = 5$

EXAMPLE 10. Which of the following are TRUE?

1.  $\mathbf{Z}^+ \subset \mathbf{Z}$

2.  $\mathbf{Z}^+ \subseteq \mathbf{Z}$

3.  $\mathbf{N} \subseteq \mathbf{Z}^+$

4.  $\mathbf{Z} \subset \mathbf{Q} \subseteq \mathbf{R}$

EXAMPLE 11. Describe the set  $S = \{x \in \mathbf{R} \mid \sin x = 2\}$  in another manner.

**Power set**

EXAMPLE 12. Give all the subsets of  $A = \{x, y\}$

DEFINITION 13. Let  $A$  be a set. The power set of  $A$ , written  $P(A)$ , is

$$P(A) = \{X \mid X \subseteq A\}.$$

EXAMPLE 14. Find the following

(a)  $P\{x, y\}$

(b)  $|P\{x, y\}|$

EXAMPLE 15. Let  $A = \{-1, 0, 1\}$ .

1. Write all subsets of  $A$ .

2. Find all elements of power set of  $A$ .

3. Write 3 subsets of  $P(A)$ .

4. Find  $|P(A)|$

5. Compute  $|P(P(A))|$

6. What are  $|P(A)|$  and  $|P(P(A))|$  for an arbitrary set  $A$ ?

EXAMPLE 16. Find

(a)  $P(\emptyset)$

(b)  $P(P(\emptyset))$

(c)  $P(\{-1\})$

(d)  $P(\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\})$

REMARK 17. Note that

$$\emptyset \subseteq \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}, \quad \emptyset \subset \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}, \quad \{\emptyset\} \subset \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}, \quad \{\emptyset\} \in \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\},$$

as well as

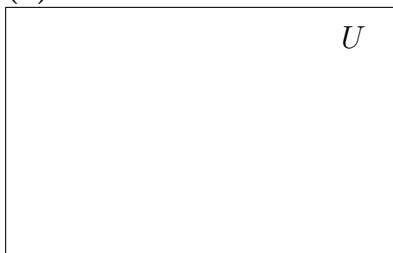
$$\{\{\emptyset\}\} \subseteq \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}, \quad \{\{\emptyset\}\} \notin \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}, \quad \{\{\emptyset\}\} \in P(\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}).$$

## VENN DIAGRAMS

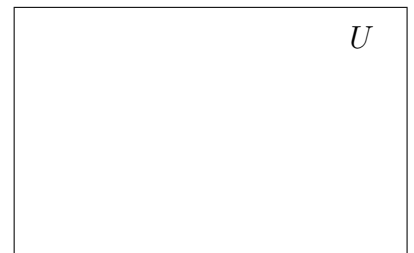
- a visual representation of sets (the universal set  $U$  is represented by a rectangle, and subsets of  $U$  are represented by regions lying inside the rectangle).

EXAMPLE 18. Use Venn diagrams to illustrate the following statements:

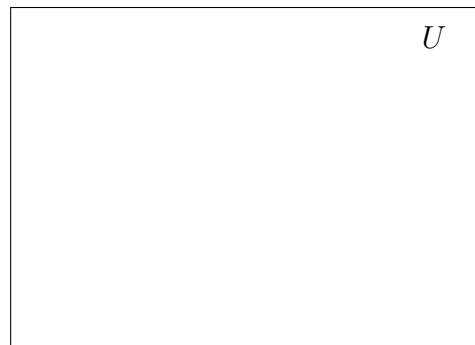
(a)  $A = B$



(b)  $A \subset B \subset C$



(c)  $A$  and  $B$  are not subsets of each other.



## SET OPERATIONS

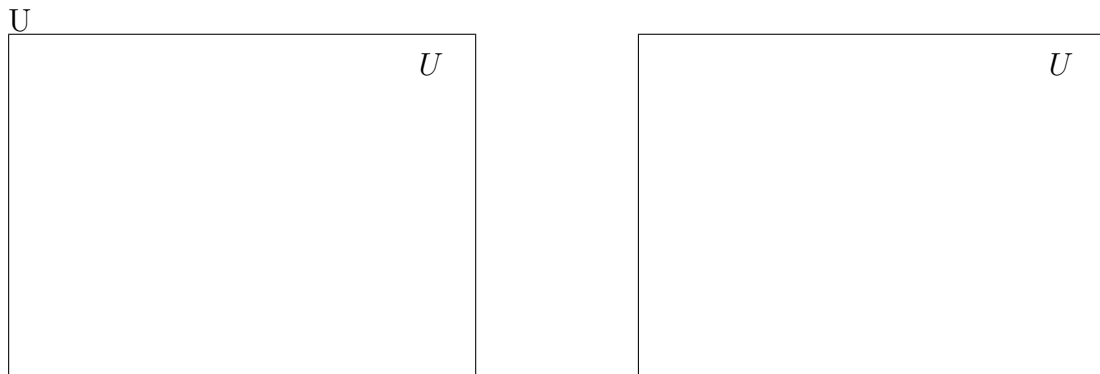
DEFINITION 19. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets. The **union** of  $A$  and  $B$ , written  $A \cup B$ , is the set of all elements that belong to either  $A$  or  $B$  or both. Symbolically:

$$A \cup B = \{x | x \in A \vee x \in B\}.$$

U

DEFINITION 20. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets. The **intersection** of  $A$  and  $B$ , written  $A \cap B$ , is the set of all elements in common with  $A$  and  $B$ . Symbolically:

$$A \cap B = \{x | x \in A \wedge x \in B\}.$$



DEFINITION 21. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets. The **complement of  $A$  in  $B$**  denoted  $B - A$ , is  $\{b \in B | b \notin A\}$ .



REMARK 22. For convenience, if  $U$  is a universal set and  $A$  is a subset in  $U$ , we will write  $U - A = \bar{A}$ , called simply the **complement** of  $A$ .



EXAMPLE 23. Let  $A$  be a subset of a universal set  $U$ . Prove the following

(a)  $\overline{\bar{A}} = A$ .

(b)  $\overline{\emptyset} = U$ .

(c)  $\overline{U} = \emptyset$



EXAMPLE 24. Let  $U = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 9, 10\}$  be a universal set,  $A = \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10\}$ , and  $B = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$ . Find

$$(\overline{A \cap B}) \cap (\overline{A \cup B}).$$

set notation	=	$\subset, \subseteq$	$\cup$	$\cap$	$\bar{\square}$	$\emptyset$
logical connectivity						

### Cartesian Product

DEFINITION 25. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets. The **Cartesian product** of  $A$  and  $B$ , written  $A \times B$ , is the following set:

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A \wedge b \in B\}.$$

Informally,  $A \times B$  is the set of **ordered** pairs of objects.

EXAMPLE 26. Given  $A = \{0, 1\}$  and  $B = \{4, 5, 6\}$ .

(a) Does the pair  $(6, 1)$  belong to  $A \times B$ ?

(b) List the elements of  $A \times B$ .

(c) What is the cardinality of  $A \times B$ ?

(d) *List the elements of  $A \times A \times A$ .*

(e) *Does the triple  $(1, 6, 4)$  belong to  $A \times B \times B$ ?*

(f) *Describe the following sets  $R \times R$ ,  $R \times R \times R$ .*