

Union \cup and intersection \cap

- ▶ $\{2, 4, 6\} \cup \{4, 6, 8\} = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$
- ▶ $\{2, 4, 6\} \cap \{4, 6, 8\} = \{4, 6\}$
- ▶ $A \cup B$ means the disjunction $\{x \mid (x \in A) \vee (x \in B)\}$
- ▶ $A \cap B$ means the conjunction $\{x \mid (x \in A) \wedge (x \in B)\}$

If the intersection $A \cap B$ is the empty set, then A and B are called *disjoint* sets.

Commutative, associative, and distributive laws

Union and intersection satisfy these properties.

For example, $A \cup B = B \cup A$ (commutative law),

$(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$ (associative law),

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

De Morgan's laws for complements



Augustus De Morgan (1806–1871)

- ▶ Complement of $A \cup B$ is the intersection of the complement of A and the complement of B .
- ▶ Similarly, the complement of $A \cap B$ is the union of the complement of A and the complement of B .

Spelling lesson

- ▶ Complement of a set: all the elements not in the set.
- ▶ Compliment of a set: “You are an intelligent set!”