

# **CS 2336: Discrete Mathematics**

## **Chapter 3**

### **Set Theory (Overview)**

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# Outline

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**3.1 Sets and Subsets**

**3.2 Set Operations and the Laws of Set Theory**

**3.3 Counting and Venn Diagrams**

**3.4 A First Word on Probability**

# Set and Element

- Set: A well-defined collection of objects. We use upper-case letters to denote sets, such as  $A$ ,  $B$ , ... ..
- Element (Member): The objects contained in sets. We use lower-case letter to denote elements, such as  $a$ ,  $b$ , ...
- We write  $a \in A$  if  $a$  is an element of  $A$ , and  $a \notin A$  if  $a$  is not an element of  $A$

# Example 3.1

- One way to represent a set is to use **set braces**
- Let  $A$  be a set of the five smallest positive integer
  - We write  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$
  - 1 is in  $A$ :  $1 \in A$
  - 8 is not in  $A$ :  $8 \notin A$
- Another way to represent  $A$ 
  - $A = \{x \mid 1 \leq x \leq 5, x \in \mathbb{Z}\}$
  - It reads: the set of all  $x$  such that ...
  - **When the universe is clear (to be integers), we may write**  
 $A = \{x \mid 1 \leq x \leq 5\}$

# Cardinality

- Sets can be **finite** or **infinite** set
  - $\{x|x > 0, x \in \mathbb{Z}\}$
  - $\{x|1 > x > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$
- For a finite set  $A$ , we use  $|A|$  to denote the number of elements in it. It is called **cardinality** or **size**

# Definition 3.1

- For two sets  $C$  and  $D$  from the same universe,  $C$  is a **subset** of  $D$  if and only if every element of  $C$  is an element of  $D$ 
  - We write  $C \subseteq D$  or  $D \supseteq C$
- In addition, if  $D$  contains at least one element that is not in  $C$ , we call  $C$  is a **proper subset** of  $D$ 
  - We write  $C \subset D$  or  $D \supset C$

# Some Properties

- $C \subseteq D$  iff  $\forall x[x \in C \Rightarrow x \in D]$
- For all  $C$  and  $D$ ,  $C \subset D \Rightarrow C \subseteq D$  and  $D \supset C \Rightarrow D \supseteq C$
- For all  $C$  and  $D$ ,  $C \subseteq D \Rightarrow |C| \leq |D|$  and  $C \subset D \Rightarrow |C| < |D|$

# Definition 3.2

- For any sets  $A$  and  $B$  from the same universe,  $A$  and  $B$  are equal iff  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ , we write  $A = B$ 
  - Example:  $\{1, 2, 3\} = \{3, 2, 1\} = \{2, 2, 1, 3\} = \{1, 2, 3, 1, 1\}$



# Theorem 3.1

- Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be from the same universe
- If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq C$ , then  $A \subseteq C$
- If  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C$ , then  $A \subset C$
- If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subset C$ , then  $A \subset C$
- If  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subseteq C$ , then  $A \subset C$

# Definition 3.3

- The **null set**, or **empty set**, is the (unique) set containing no elements.
- We denote it as  $\{\}$  or  $\emptyset$
- $|\emptyset| = 0$
- $\emptyset \neq \{0\}$
- $\emptyset \neq \{\emptyset\}$

# Theorem 3.2

- For any universe  $\mathbb{U}$ , for  $A \subseteq \mathbb{U}$ , we have  $\emptyset \subseteq A$
- Proof: Assume  $\emptyset \not\subseteq A$ , then there is an element  $x$  with  $x \in \emptyset$  and  $x \notin A$ . However,  $x \in \emptyset$  is impossible. Hence the assumption is rejected.
- Moreover, if  $A \neq \emptyset$  then  $\emptyset \subset A$

# Example 3.7

- How many subsets does the set  $C = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  have?
- Approach #1: For each element, it can appear or not in a subset. Hence, C has  $2^5 = 32$  subsets
- Approach #2: We may have  $0, 1, 2, \dots, 5$  elements in a subset.  $\binom{5}{0} + \binom{5}{1} + \binom{5}{2} + \binom{5}{3} + \binom{5}{4} + \binom{5}{5} = 32$
- Definition 3.4: The **power set** of  $A$ ,  $P(A)$ , is the collection of all subsets of  $A$

# Definition 3.5 & 3.6

- For  $A, B$  from the same universe, we define
  - Union:  $A \cup B = \{x | x \in A \vee x \in B\}$
  - Intersection:  $A \cap B = \{x | x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$
  - Symmetric Difference:  $A \Delta B = \{x | x \in A \cup B \wedge x \notin A \cap B\}$
- Let  $S, T$  from the same universe.  $S$  and  $T$  are **disjoint** or **mutually disjoint** iff  $S \cap T = \emptyset$

# Definition 3.7 & 3.8

- For a set  $A$  from universe  $U$ , the **complement** of  $A$ , denoted by  $U-A$  or  $\bar{A}$ , which is given by  $\{x|x \in U \wedge x \notin A\}$
- For set  $A$  and  $B$  from  $U$ , the **(relative) complement** of  $A$  in  $B$ , written as  $B-A$ , is given by  $\{x|x \in B \wedge x \notin A\}$
- Let  $U$  be real numbers,  $A = [1,2]$  and  $B=[1,3)$ . What are: (i)  $A \cup B$ , (ii)  $A \cap B$ , (iii)  $\bar{A}$ , and (iv)  $B - A$

# The Laws of Set Theory

For any sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  taken from a universe  $\mathcal{U}$

1)  $\overline{\overline{A}} = A$

*Law of Double Complement*

2)  $\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$

*DeMorgan's Laws*

$\overline{A \cap B} = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}$

3)  $A \cup B = B \cup A$

*Commutative Laws*

$A \cap B = B \cap A$

4)  $A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$

*Associative Laws*

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

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

*Distributive Laws*

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

6)  $A \cup A = A$

*Idempotent Laws*

$A \cap A = A$

7)  $A \cup \emptyset = A$

*Identity Laws*

$A \cap \mathcal{U} = A$

8)  $A \cup \overline{A} = \mathcal{U}$

*Inverse Laws*

$A \cap \overline{A} = \emptyset$

9)  $A \cup \mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}$

*Domination Laws*

$A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$

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

*Absorption Laws*

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

# Definition 3.9 and Theorem 3.5

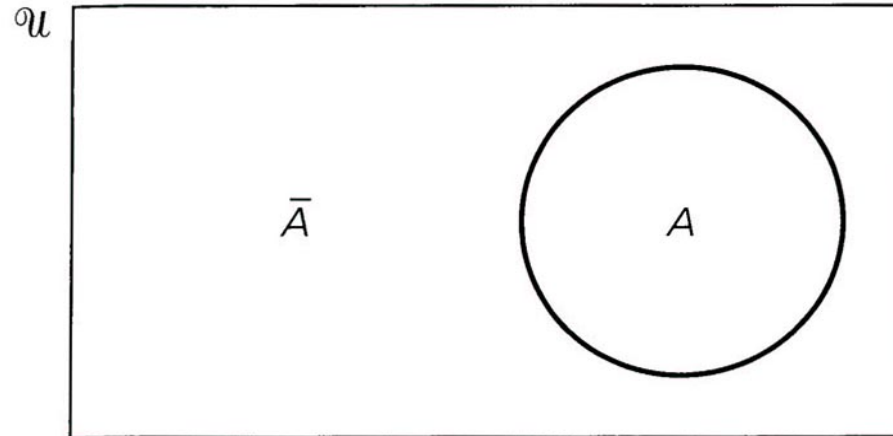
- Let  $s$  be an equality statement of two set expressions with only union and intersection operands. The **dual** of  $s$ , written as  $s^d$  can be derived from  $s$  by replacing: (i) each  $\emptyset$  and  $U$  by  $U$  and  $\emptyset$ ; (ii) each  $\cup$  and  $\cap$  by  $\cap$  and  $\cup$
- **The principle of duality**: let  $s$  be a theorem with the quality of two set expressions, then  $s^d$  is also a theorem



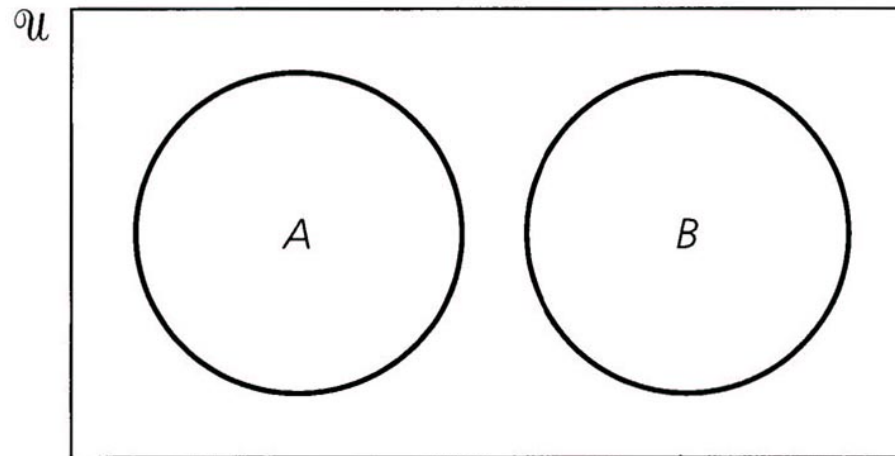
# Definition 3.10

- Let  $I$  be a nonempty set and  $U$  be a universe. For each  $i$  in  $I$ , let  $A_i \subseteq U$ . Then  $I$  is called an **index set**, and each  $i \in I$  is an index. Define
  - $\cup_{i \in I} A_i = \{x \mid x \in A_i \text{ for at least an } i \in I\}$
  - $\cap_{i \in I} A_i = \{x \mid x \in A_i \text{ for all } i \in I\}$
- Example: Let  $U = \mathbb{R}$  and  $I = \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $A_r = [-r, r]$ , what are: (i)  $\cup_{r \in I} A_r$  and (ii)  $\cap_{r \in I} A_r$

# Venn Diagrams



**Figure 3.9**



**Figure 3.10**

# Counting

- For two finite sets:  $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$

- If  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint:  $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B|$

- 

$$|A \cup B \cup C| =$$

$$|A| + |B| + |C| - |A \cap B| - |A \cap C| - |B \cap C| + |A \cap B \cap C|$$

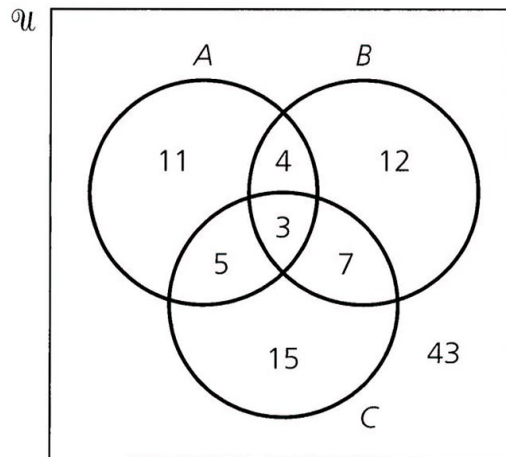


Figure 3.13

# A First Word on Probability

- Example **Experiments**: toss a fair coin, roll a fair die, or randomly select 2 students from a class of 20
- **Outcome**: The item that got picked
- **Sample Spaces ( $\mathcal{S}$ )**: the sets of all possible outcomes:  $\{H, T\}$ ,  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ , and  $\{(i, j) \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq 20\}$

# Probability

- Assume equal likelihood, let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the sample space for an experiment  $\mathcal{E}$ . Each subset  $A$  of  $\mathcal{S}$  is called an **event**. Each element of  $\mathcal{S}$  determines an **outcome**. Let  $|\mathcal{S}| = n, A \subseteq \mathcal{S}, a \in \mathcal{S}$

- $\Pr(\{a\}) =$  The probability that  $\{a\}$  occurs  $= \frac{|\{a\}|}{|\mathcal{S}|} = \frac{1}{n}$

- $\Pr(A) =$  The probability that  $A$  occurs  $= \frac{|A|}{|\mathcal{S}|} = \frac{|A|}{n}$

# Cartesian Product

- For sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , their **Cartesian product**, or **cross product**, is written as  $A \times B = \{(a, b) | a \in A, b \in B\}$
- Consider an experiment: A single die is rolled and a coin is flipped. Both outcomes are noted.
  - Independent assumption

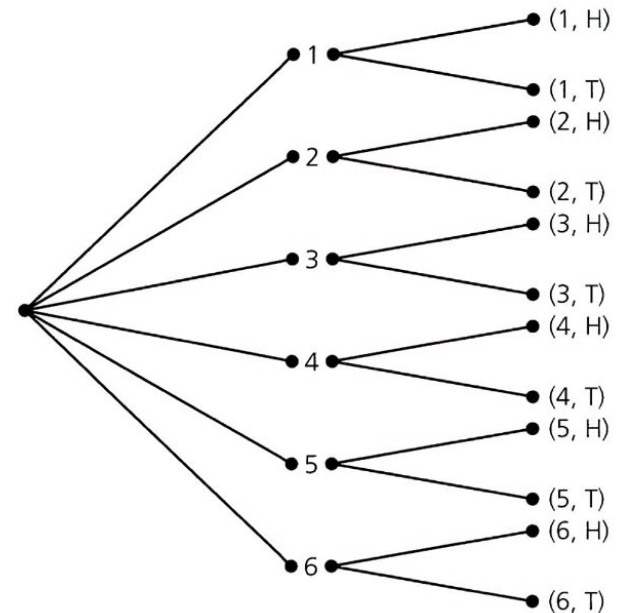


Figure 3.14