


THE AXIOM OF CHOICE ALLOWS YOU TO SELECT ONE ELEMENT FROM EACH SET IN A COLLECTION AND HAVE IT EXECUTED AS AN EXAMPLE TO THE OTHERS.



CS151 Fall 2014
Lecture 15 – 10/16
Set Theory
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MY MATH TEACHER WAS A BIG BELIEVER IN PROOF BY INTIMIDATION.

<http://xkcd.com/982/>
Adapted from Lap Chi Lau – The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Sets

A **set** is a collection of mathematical objects, with the collection treated as a single mathematical object.

- Examples:
- real numbers, \mathbb{R}
 - complex numbers, \mathbb{C}
 - integers, \mathbb{Z}
 - empty set, \emptyset

Defining Sets

Sets can be defined directly:

e.g. $\{1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, \dots\}$,
 $\{\text{CS101}, \text{CS151}, \dots\}$

Order, number of occurrence are not important.

e.g. $\{A, B, C\} = \{C, B, A\} = \{A, A, B, C, B\}$

A set can be an element of another set.

$\{1, \{2\}, \{3, \{4\}\}\}$

Defining Sets by Predicates

The set of elements, x , in A such that $P(x)$ is true.

$$\{x \in A \mid P(x)\}$$

$$\{-1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4\} = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid -2 < x < 5\}$$

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -2 < x < 5\}$$

The set of prime numbers:

$$\{p \in \mathbb{Z} \mid (p > 1) \wedge (\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} > 1 \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} > 1 \ a \cdot b \neq p)\}$$

Membership

$\{7, \text{"Albert"}, \pi/2, \mathbb{T}\}$

$x \in A$ x is an element of A
 x is in A

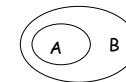
Examples: $\pi/2 \in \{7, \text{"Albert"}, \pi/2, \mathbb{T}\}$
 $\pi/3 \notin \{7, \text{"Albert"}, \pi/2, \mathbb{T}\}$
 $14/2 \in \{7, \text{"Albert"}, \pi/2, \mathbb{T}\}$

Containment

$A \subseteq B$ A is a subset of B
 A is contained in B

Every element of A is also an element of B .

$A \subseteq B \iff \forall x, \text{ if } x \in A \text{ then } x \in B$



$A \not\subseteq B \iff \exists x, x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B$

$A \subset B$ A is a proper subset of B

$A = B \iff A \subseteq B \text{ and } B \subseteq A$

Examples

$\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}$

$\{3\} \subset \{5, 7, 3\}$

$\emptyset \subseteq \text{every set,}$

$A \subseteq A$

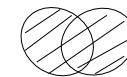
prime $\not\subseteq$ odd

$\{a, \{b\}, c\} \not\subseteq \{a, b, c\}$

$\{\{b\}\} \neq \{b\}$

Basic Operations on Sets

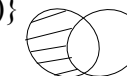
union: $A \cup B ::= \{x \mid (x \in A) \vee (x \in B)\}$



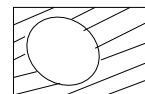
intersection: $A \cap B ::= \{x \mid x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$



difference: $A - B ::= \{x \mid (x \in A) \wedge (x \notin B)\}$



complement: $\bar{A} ::= \{x \in D \mid x \notin A\} = D - A$



Examples

$$A = \{1, 3, 6, 8, 10\} \quad B = \{2, 4, 6, 7, 10\}$$

$$A \cap B = \{6, 10\}, \quad A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10\} \quad A - B = \{1, 3, 8\}$$

$$\text{prime} \cap \text{even} = \{2\}, \quad \text{even} \cap \text{odd} = \emptyset$$

$$A = \{x \mid x = 2k \text{ for some integer } k\}, \quad B = \{x \mid x = 3k \text{ for some integer } k\}$$

$$A \cap B = \{x \mid x = 6k \text{ for some integer } k\}$$

$$A \cup B = \{x \mid x \text{ is either a multiple of 2 or a multiple of 3 (or both)}\}$$

$$A - B = \{x \mid x \text{ is even but not a multiple of 3}\}$$

Let D be the set of integers, then $\overline{A} = \text{odd}$

Partitions of Sets

Two sets are **disjoint** if their intersection is empty.

A collection of nonempty sets $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$ is a **partition** of a set A if and only if

$$A = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n$$

A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n are **mutually disjoint**.

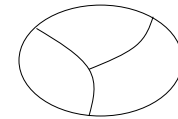
Example. Let A be the set of integers.

A_1 be the set of integers $\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

A_2 be the set of integers $\equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

A_3 be the set of integers $\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$

$\{A_1, A_2, A_3\}$ is a partition of A



Power Sets

power set: $\text{pow}(A) ::= \{S \mid S \subseteq A\}$

$$\text{pow}(\{a,b\}) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a,b\}\}$$

$$\text{pow}(\{a,b,c\}) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a,b\}, \{a,c\}, \{b,c\}, \{a,b,c\}\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pow}(\{a,b,c,d\}) = \{ & \emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}, \\ & \{a,b\}, \{a,c\}, \{b,c\}, \{a,d\}, \{b,d\}, \{c,d\}, \\ & \{a,b,c\}, \{a,b,d\}, \{a,c,d\}, \{b,c,d\}, \{a,b,c,d\} \} \end{aligned}$$

If A has n elements, then the $\text{pow}(A)$ has 2^n elements.