

# Discrete Mathematics

## Lecture 2: Sets, Relations and Functions

**Instructor: Sourav Chakraborty**

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- The number of elements in a set is called the cardinality of the set. (If  $S$  is a set the cardinality is denoted by  $|S|$  )

## Notations related to set

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- If  $S$  is a set and we want to denote that  $x$  is an element of the set we write as  $x \in S$ .
- If  $S$  is a set and  $T$  is another set such that all the elements of  $T$  is contained in the set set  $S$  then  $T$  is called a **subset** of the set  $S$  and is denoted as  $T \subseteq S$  or  $T \subset S$  (depending on whether the containment is strict or not). Conversely, in this case  $S$  is called a super-set of  $T$ .

# Kinds of Sets

- Usually by a set we mean a collection of elements where the ordering of the elements in the set does not matter and no element is repeated. For example: the set  $\{3, 1, 2, 2, 4, 4\}$  is actually thought of as  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .
- But in some context we may have to allow repetitions. We call them **multisets**. Thus in the multiset  $\{1, 1, 2\}$  is different from  $\{1, 2\}$  is different from  $\{1, 1, 1, 2\}$ .
- Sometimes we care about the ordering of the elements in the set. We call them **ordered sets**. They are sometime referred as lists or strings or vectors. For example: the ordered set  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  is different from  $\{2, 1, 3\}$ .
- We can also have ordered multi-sets.

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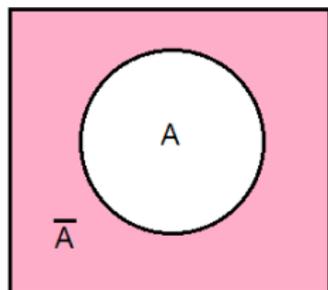
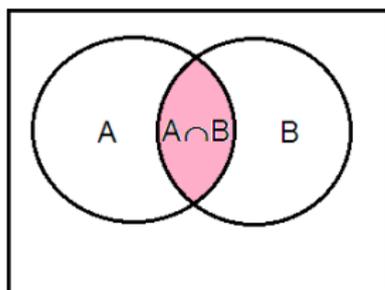
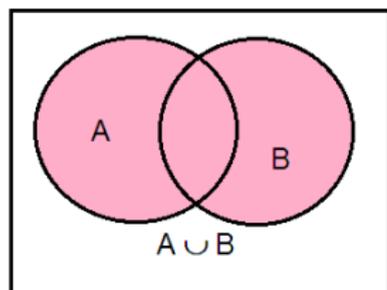
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- Cartesian Product.

# Union, Intersection and Complement



# Rules of Set Theory

Let  $p$ ,  $q$  and  $r$  be sets.

- ❶ Commutative law:

$$(p \cup q) = (q \cup p) \text{ and } (p \cap q) = (q \cap p)$$

- ❷ Associative law:

$$(p \cup (q \cup r)) = ((p \cup q) \cup r) \text{ and } (p \cap (q \cap r)) = ((p \cap q) \cap r)$$

- ❸ Distributive law:

$$(p \cup (q \cap r)) = (p \cup q) \cap (p \cup r) \text{ and} \\ (p \cap (q \cup r)) = (p \cap q) \cup (p \cap r)$$

- ❹ De Morgan's Law:

$$(p \cup q)^c = (p^c \cap q^c) \text{ and } (p \cap q)^c = (p^c \cup q^c)$$

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- For example:  $\{0, 1\}^n$  the set of all “strings” of 0 and 1 of length  $n$ .

## Some problems on set theory

- If  $|A| = 5$  and  $|B| = 8$  and  $|A \cup B| = 11$  what is the size of  $A \cap B$ ?

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- Sometimes it is denoted as “ $x \sim y$ ” and sometime by abuse of notation we will say “ $\sim$ ” is the relation.
- Binary relation is a simple yet powerful tool to represent complicated situations and hence is heavily used for modeling of problems.

# Types of Relations

There are three main types of relations:

- [Reflexive] “ $x$  related to  $x$ ”, that is, the relation  $\mathcal{R}$  on the set  $S$  is reflexive is for all  $x \in S$ ,  $(x, x) \in \mathcal{R}$ .
- [Symmetric] “ $x$  related to  $y$  implies  $y$  related to  $x$ ”, that is, the relation  $\mathcal{R}$  on the set  $S$  is symmetric is for all  $x, y \in S$ ,  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{R}$  implies  $(y, x) \in \mathcal{R}$ .
- [Transitive] “ $x$  related to  $y$  and  $y$  related to  $z$  implies  $x$  is related to  $z$ ”, that is, the relation  $\mathcal{R}$  on the set  $S$  is symmetric is for all  $x, y, z \in S$ ,  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $(y, z) \in \mathcal{R}$  implies  $(x, z) \in \mathcal{R}$ .

If a relation is reflexive, symmetric and transitive then it is called an equivalence relation. An equivalence relation is often denoted by “ $\equiv$ ”.

# Properties of Equivalence Relation

- Let “ $\equiv$ ” be an equivalence relation on the set  $S$ . An equivalence class is a maximal subset  $E$  of the set  $S$  such that any two element in the set  $E$  is related.
- There can be multiple equivalence class corresponding to the relation  $\equiv$ .

## Theorem

*If  $\equiv$  is an equivalence relation on the set  $S$  then the equivalence classes for  $\equiv$  forms a partition of the set  $S$ . That is, the union of the equivalence classes is the whole set and no two equivalence class intersect.*

# Problems on Binary Relations

- Prove that the relation “=” is an equivalence relation.
- Which of the properties of reflexive, symmetric and transitive does the relation “ $\leq$ ” satisfy.
- A binary relation can have the properties of reflexive, symmetric and transitive. thus we have 8 possible different subsets of these properties a binary relation can have. Give an example of a relation in each of the eight cases.
- Prove the proposition on the equivalence classes.

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- $f : D \rightarrow R$
- For all element  $x \in D$ ,  $f(x) \in R$ .
- For every element in  $D$  there is a uniquely defined element  $f(x)$ .

## Example of a Function

$$f : \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$f(0) = 0$$

$$f(1) = 1$$

$$f(2) = 4$$

$$f(3) = 9$$

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Either explicitly give the function OR say  $f(x) = x^2$

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- Order the elements in the domain in a mutually agreeable way.

$$\text{Say } D = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d\}$$

- For each elements in the particular order write down the function value of the element in the same order.

$$\{f(x_1), f(x_2), \dots, f(x_d)\}$$

# Boolean Functions

- $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$
- Sometimes  $\{0, 1\}$  can be viewed as  $\{True, False\}$  or  $\{Left, Right\}$  or  $\{+1, -1\}$ .

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- How many different functions are there from  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  to  $\{a, e, i, o, u\}$ ?
- How many different Boolean functions of the form  $\{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  are possible?