

1/16/2021

Set Notation

Set: what is it?

A set is a list of elements (unordered)

An example: $S = \{B, E, T, S, Y\}$

$$T = \{B, E, S, T, Y\}$$

If all the elements of two sets are the same, then the sets are equal. $S = T$

Universal sets: the set of all possible elements for a given situation

For the S set, the universal set might be the set that contains all 26 letters of the English alphabet.

Set builder notation

$$\{a \text{ variable} \mid \text{conditions}\}$$
$$\{x \mid x > 10, x \text{ is an integer}\}$$

"x such that x is an integer greater than 10"

$$\{11, 12, 13, 14, 15, \dots\}$$

$$\{x \mid x \text{ is an integer}, 3 \leq x \leq 7\}$$

Is equivalent to

$$\{3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$$

$$\{x \mid x \text{ is a letter in my last name}\}$$

Is equivalent to

$$\{M, C, A, L\}$$

Do not list repeated elements in the set more than once.

Sets are the groups; elements are the objects in the set

Mathematical notation for asking whether or not an element is contained in a set.

\in = "is an element of"

$$A = \{3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$$

Is $4 \in A$?

"is 4 an element of the set A"?

Is $8 \in A$? False; $8 \notin A$: "8 is not an element of the set A"

$$A = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$$

$$B = \{3, 6, 9\}$$

$$C = \{4, 8\}$$

Subset notation: \subset "is a subset of"

A subset of another set is a set where all the elements of the first set are contained in the second set

$$C \subset A$$

$$B \not\subset A$$

B is not a subset of A because there is at least one element of B that is not also in A

Bad notation: $6 \subset B$ bad because 6 is not a set; 6 is an element of B, which is written $6 \in B$
 $\{6\} \subset B$ is okay because $\{6\}$ is a set

The empty set: $\{ \}, \emptyset$

The empty set is a set, but it contains no elements.

$$D = \{cats, dogs, birds, fish, gerbils, lizards, snakes, hamsters \dots\}$$

The set of all pets I currently have: $E = \{ \}$

Use subset notation with the empty set, because it's a set

The empty set is considered to be a subset of every set

What are all the subsets of C?

\subset vs. \subseteq there is no distinction

$$\{ \}, \{4\}, \{8\}, \{4,8\}$$

Subsets of B:

$$\{ \}, \{3\}, \{6\}, \{9\}, \{3,6\}, \{3,9\}, \{6,9\}, \{3,6,9\}$$

Three more relationships with sets:

Complement or negation

$$U = \{x \mid \text{the capital letters of the English alphabet}\}$$

$$S = \{B, E, T, S, Y\}$$

$S' = \bar{S} = \sim S$: the set of all elements that are in the universal set but that are **not** in the set S

$$S' = \{A, C, D, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, U, V, W, X, Z\}$$

$$U = \{x \mid \text{all positive integers less than 10}\}$$

$$A = \{x \mid \text{even positive integers less than 10}\}$$

$$U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$$

$$A = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$$

$$A' = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$$

Union and intersection

Union of two sets A, B, is the set of all elements contained in **either** set A **or** set B. \cup

Intersection of two sets A, B is the set of all elements that are contained in **both A and B**. \cap

$$A = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$$

$$B = \{3, 6, 9\}$$

$$C = \{4, 8\}$$

$$A \cup B = \{2, 4, 6, 8, 3, 9\} = \{2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9\}$$

$$A \cap B = \{6\}$$

Order of operations: parentheses, negation, intersection, union

$$A' \cup B$$

The complement of A first, then union the result with B

$$(A \cap B)'$$

Do inside the parentheses first, and then take the complement of the result

$$A - B$$

All the elements of A that are not also in B: $A \cap B'$ is equivalent

Cross product, cartesian product

$$B \times C$$

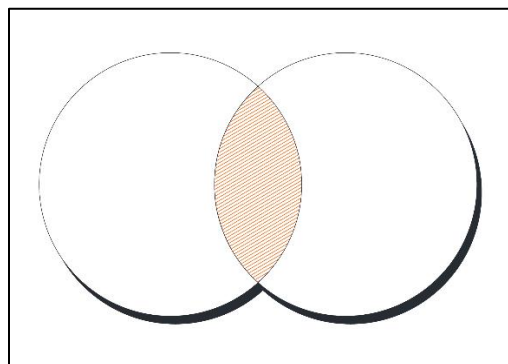
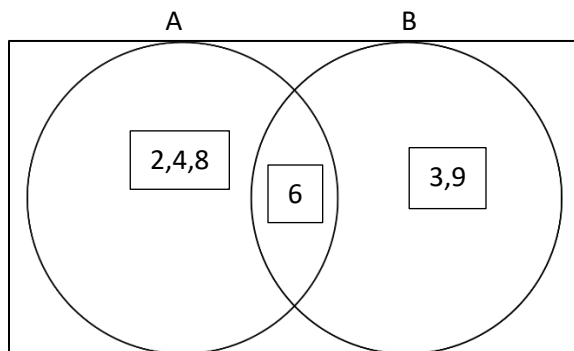
Creates a set of ordered pairs where the first element is in B, and the second element is from C

$$B \times C = \{(3,4), (3,8), (6,4), (6,8), (9,4), (9,8)\}$$

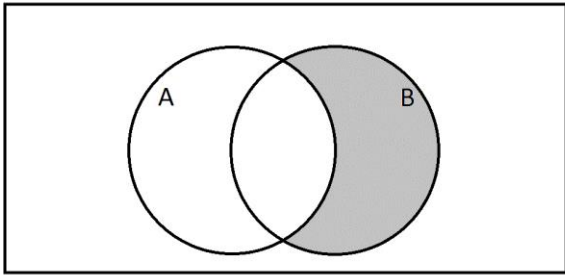
$$B \times C \times A$$

$$= \{(3,4,2), (3,8,2), (6,4,2), (6,8,2), (9,4,2), (9,8,2), (3,4,4), (3,8,4), (6,4,4), (6,8,4), (9,4,4), (9,8,4), (3,4,6), (3,8,6), (6,4,6), (6,8,6), (9,4,6), (9,8,6), (3,4,8), (3,8,8), (6,4,8), (6,8,8), (9,4,8), (9,8,8)\}$$

Venn diagrams

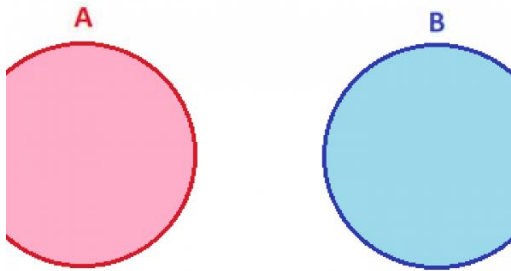


intersection of two sets



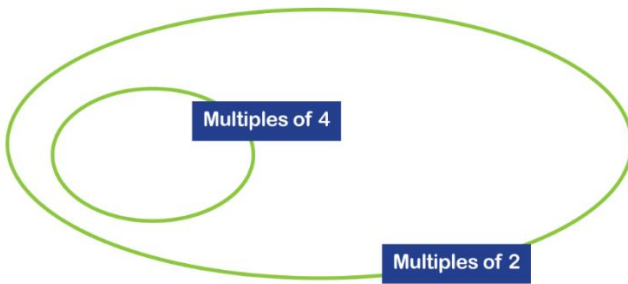
$B - A$

Mutually exclusive: have an empty intersection



there is no intersection {}, because there is no overlap

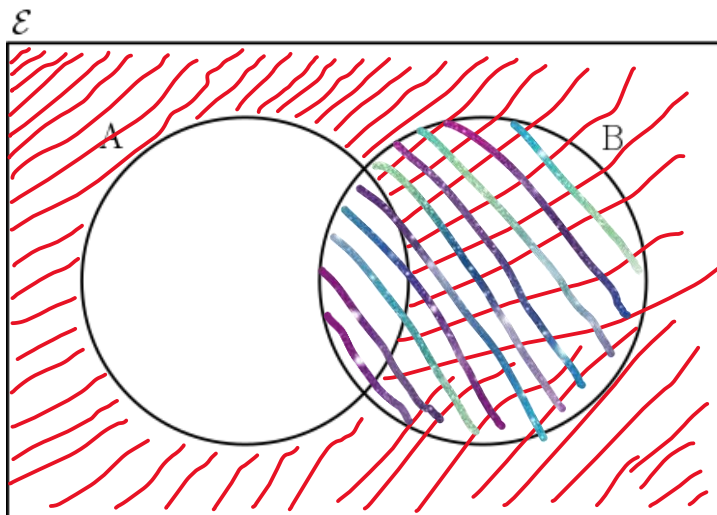
between the sets, have no elements



subset relation

$$A = \{2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 \dots\}$$

$$B = \{4, 8, 12, \dots\}$$



$A' \cup B$

Any shading is the union. Any overlap is the intersection.

Logical notation

Logic and sets are closely related, but uses statements instead of sets.

Statement: sentence: The snow is falling. John is speaking.

The snow is falling = p

John is speaking = q

Negation: The snow is not falling. $\sim p$

And: The snow is falling, and John is speaking: $p \wedge q$ (but)

Or: The snow is falling or John is speaking: $p \vee q$

If, then: If the snow is falling, then John is speaking: $p \rightarrow q$ (p implies q)

Iff (if and only if): $p \leftrightarrow q$ (biconditional, equivalency)

Only if the snow is falling is John speaking. The snow is falling if and only if John is speaking.

“Backwards E” = \exists = there exists (at least one thing exists that will make the statement true)

“Upside A” = \forall = for all (this is always the case)

$\forall x, x^2 \geq 0$ (if x is real)

$\exists x$ such that $x^2=1$.

$\sim p \wedge q$: The snow is not falling and John is speaking

If p is true, then $\sim p$ is false.

And: the combined statement is only true if both things are true.

Or: is inclusive rather than exclusive: is only false if both statements are false

If then: if p is true, and q is true, it's true; but if p is false, then q can be anything (only false when p is true and q is false)

Biconditional: both are true or both are false makes the whole statement true; if they don't match, then the combined statement is false.

$n(A)$ = the number of elements in $A = |A|$

Z is the set of integers

N is the set natural numbers $\{1,2,3,\dots\}$

R is the set of real numbers