

Set Theory

Sets:

A set is any well defined list, collection or class of objects.

ex:

- i) The set of numbers 1, 3, 5, 7,
- ii) The set of vowels of the alphabet: {a, e, i, o, u}.

Null set

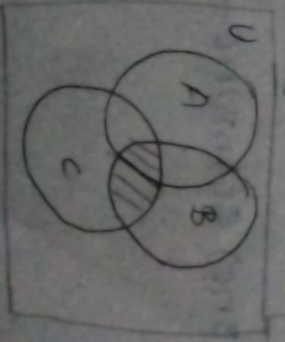
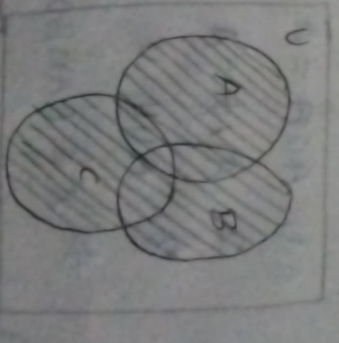
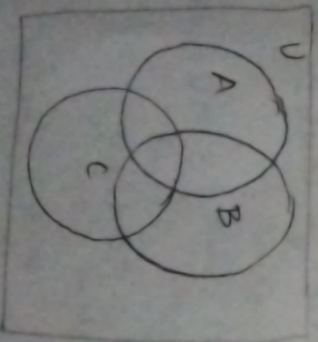
A set which does not contain any elements is called the empty set for null set and is denoted by ϕ .
Union and Intersection.

The operations of union and intersection can be defined for three or more sets in a similar manner.

$$A \cup B \cup C = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B \text{ or } x \in C\}$$

$$A \cap B \cap C = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ and } x \in B \text{ and } x \in C\}$$

These can be illustrated, by venn diagram as follows



Example :-

Let $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, $B = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$ and

$C = \{3, 4, 5, 6\}$

Then $A \cup B \cup C = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8\}$ and

$A \cap B \cap C = \{4\}$

Examples :

1. Let $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$ and A the subset $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

Then $A' = \{7, 8, 9, 10\}$

2. Let the universal set U be the English alphabet and let $A = \{a, b, c\}$

Then $A' = \{d, e, f, g, \dots, x, z\}$.

1) Properties of union operation.

1, $A \cup A = A$

2, $A \cup \phi = A$

3, $A \cup U = U$

$\Rightarrow x \in (A \cup B) \cap C$

$\therefore A \cap (B \cap C) \subset (A \cup B) \cap C \text{--- (1)}$

b. Let us show that $(A \cap B) \cap C \subseteq A \cap (B \cap C)$ $y \in (A \cap B) \cap C$

$$\Rightarrow y \in (A \cap B) \text{ and } y \in C$$

$$\Rightarrow (y \in A \text{ and } y \in B) \text{ and } y \in C$$

$$\Rightarrow y \in A \text{ and } (y \in B \text{ and } y \in C)$$

$$\Rightarrow y \in A \text{ and } y \in (B \cap C)$$

$$\Rightarrow y \in A \cap (B \cap C)$$

$$\therefore (A \cap B) \cap C \subseteq A \cap (B \cap C) \quad \text{--- ②}$$

From ① and ② we have $A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$.

Exercise.

1. Write out the dual of each of the following expressions.

$$\text{i) } (A \cup B)' \cap C = (A \cap B)' \cup \phi$$

$$\text{ii) } (A' \cup C) \cup (A \cap C) = (A' \cap \phi) \cap (A \cup \phi)$$

$$\text{iii) } \cup \cap [(A \cup B) \cup C] = \phi \cup [(A \cap B) \cap \phi]$$

$$\text{iv) } (A \cap B) \cup (C \cap \phi) \cup (A \cap B) = (A \cup B) \cap (C \cup \phi) \cap (A \cap B)$$

2. Write a dual of each of the following.

$$\text{i) } (B \cap C) \cup A = (B \cup A) \cap (C \cup A)$$

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

$$\text{ii) } A \cap (A' \cup B) = A \cap B$$

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

$$\text{iii) } (A \cup \phi) \cup (C \cap A') = C$$

$$(A \cap C) \cap (C \cup A') = \phi$$

3, Prove the following identities then write out the dual identities and prove them.

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

$$A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$$

$$A \cap B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$$

Proof:

$$S: \text{claim } A \cap (A \cup B) \subseteq A$$

$$\mathcal{Z} \in A \cap (A \cup B)$$

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

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

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

$$= A.$$

$$\text{Dual } A \cup (A \cap B) = A$$

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

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

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

Hence it is proved.

A, If $A \cup B = A \cup C$, is $B = C$? Explain.

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

Need not imply $B = C$. for example.

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}; B = \{3, 5, 6\} \text{ and}$$

$$C = \{1, 2, 5, 6\}$$

$$\text{Then } A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} = A \cup C$$

$$\text{but } B \neq C$$

$$\therefore A \cup B = A \cup C \not\Rightarrow B = C$$

5) $A \cup (B - A) = A \cup B$.

$$\begin{aligned} A \cup (B - A) &= A \cup (B \cap A^c) \\ &= (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup A^c) \\ &= (A \cup B) \cap U \\ &= A \cup B \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} &= A \cap (B \cup C)^c \\ &= A \cap (B^c \cap C^c) \\ &= A \cap B^c \cap C^c \quad \text{--- (2)} \\ &= (A \cap B^c) \cap (A \cap C^c) \\ &= (A - B) \cap (A - C) \end{aligned}$$

From ① and ② we have $A - (B \cup C) = (A - B) \cap (A - C)$.

Ex:

If A and B are sets, prove that $A \subseteq B$ if and only if $B^c \subseteq A^c$.

$$\begin{aligned} A \subseteq B &\Leftrightarrow \text{if } x \in A, \text{ then } x \in B \\ &\rightarrow \text{if } x \notin B, \text{ then } x \notin A \\ &\rightarrow \text{if } x \in B^c \text{ then } x \in A^c \\ &\rightarrow B^c \subseteq A^c \end{aligned}$$

Now also consider problems on transposition.

6. If A and B are finite sets then $n(A \cup B) = n(A) + n(B)$

Let A and B be two finite sets

If $A \cap B = \emptyset$, then $n(A \cup B) = n(A) + n(B)$

$$= n(A) + n(B) - n(A \cap B)$$

$$n(A \cap B) = 0$$

Case (ii) general case

$A \cup B = A \cup (B - A)$ and as A and $(B - A)$

$$n(A \cup B) = n(A) + n(B - A) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$B = (A \cap B) \cup (B - A)$ and as $A \cap B$ and $(B - A)$ are disjoint, again

from (1)

$$n(B) = n(A \cap B) + n(B - A)$$

$$\therefore n(B - A) = n(B) - n(A \cap B) \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

From (2) and (3), $n(A \cup B) = n(A) + n(B) - n(A \cap B)$

7. If A, B, C are sets then show that $n(A \cup B \cup C) =$

$$n(A) + n(B) + n(C) - n(A \cap B) - n(B \cap C) - n(C \cap A) + n(A \cap B \cap C)$$

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

$$= n(A \cup D)$$

$$= n(A) + n(D - n(A \cap B))$$

$$= n(A) + n(B \cap C - n(A \cap B \cap C))$$

$$= n(A) + n(B \cup C) - n(A \cap B \cap C)$$

$$= n(A) + n(B) + n(C) - n(B \cap C) - [n(A \cap B) + n(A \cap C)$$

$$- n(A \cap B \cap C)]$$

$$= n(A) + n(B) + n(C) - n(A \cap B) - n(A \cap C) - n(B \cap C)$$

$$+ n(A \cap B \cap C)$$

Write the following statements using set notation.

i) x is a member of A .

$x \in A$

ii) y does not belong to A .

yes

iii) R is not a subset of S .

yes

iv) F is a superset of G .

yes

v) The power set of S .

2^S

Write the following sets in the set builder notation.

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

$A = \{x \mid x \text{ is even and positive}\}$

ii) $B = \{ \text{violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange, red} \}$

$B = \{x \mid x \text{ is a colour of the rainbow}\}$

iii) $C = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$

$C = \{x \mid x \text{ is a positive odd}\}$

iv) $D = \{a, e, i, o, u\}$

$D = \{x \mid x \text{ is a vowel}\}$

3, Write all the subsets of $A = \{0, 1, 2\}$

$\phi = \{0, 1, 2\}, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{1, 2\}$

4, How many proper nonempty subsets are there for $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$.

It would be $2^4 - 2$ so the answer is $16 - 2$ that is 14.

5, Let $T = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ how many subsets of T have less than 4 elements.

$\phi, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\}, \{0, 4\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3, 4\}$
 $\{0, 1, 2\}, \{0, 1, 3\}, \{0, 1, 4\}, \{0, 2, 3\}, \{0, 2, 4\}, \{0, 3, 4\}, \{0, 1, 2, 3\}, \{0, 1, 2, 4\}, \{0, 1, 3, 4\}$

= 25 element of subset

6, If $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ find $P(A)$

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

Difference of two sets.

The difference of the sets A and B is the set of elements which belong to A but which do not belong to B . It is denoted by $A - B$ which is read as "A difference B" or simply

"A minus B", i.e. $A - B = \{x : x \in A, x \notin B\}$

$A - B$ is also denoted by $A \setminus B$ or by $A - B$.

$A - B$ is also known as the relative complement of B in A .

Example :

1, Let $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$ and A the subset

$$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

$$\text{Then } A' = \{7, 8, 9, 10\}$$

2, Let the universal set U be the English alphabet and let

$$A = \{a, b, c\}$$

$$\text{Then, } A' = \{d, e, f, g, \dots, x, y, z\}$$

Property of set operations.

There three main set operations are

union, intersection, and complementation.

Properties of union operation

- 1) $A \cup A = A$
- 2) $A \cup \emptyset = A$
- 3) $A \cup U = U$
4. $A \cup U = U$
5. $A \subseteq A \cup B$ and $B \subseteq A \cup B$
6. $A \cup B = B \cup A$
7. $(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$

Properties of intersection operation.

For any three set A, B, C we have

1. $A \cap A = A$
2. $A \cap B = A$, whenever $A \subseteq B$. In particular $A \cap U = A$
3. $A \cap B = B \cap A$ whenever $B \subseteq A$. In particular $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$
4. $A \cap B \subseteq A$ and $A \cap B \subseteq B$
5. $A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$
6. $(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$ (Associative law)

Theorem 6.

For any two sets A and B

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

$$x \in (A \cup B)' \Leftrightarrow x \notin A \cup B.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \notin A \text{ and } x \notin B$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \in A' \text{ and } x \in B'$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \in A' \cap B'$$

$$\text{Thus } (A \cup B)' = A' \cap B'$$

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

$$y \in (A \cap B)' \Leftrightarrow y \notin A \cap B$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{either } y \notin A \text{ or } y \notin B$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{either } y \in A' \text{ or } y \in B'$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y \in A' \cup B'$$

$$\text{Thus we have } (A \cap B)' = A' \cup B'$$

ex:

write $A \cup (B \cap (C \cap (D \cup E)))$

i) without using \cup . ii) without using \cap .

$$i) A \cup (B \cap (C \cap (D \cup E)))$$

$$= A \cup (B \cap (C \cap (D' \cap E)))$$

$$= (A' \cap (B \cap (C \cap (D' \cap E))))'$$

$$ii) A \cup (B \cap (C \cap (D \cup E)))$$

$$= A \cup (B' \cup (C' \cup (D \cup E)))$$

Properties of the difference operation

Let A, B, C are sets and U be the universal set

Then,

- 1, $A' = U - A$
- 2, $A - B = A \cap B'$
- 3, $A - A = \phi$
- 4, $A - \phi = A$
- 5, $A - B = B - A$
- 6, $A - B = A$
- 7, $A - B = \phi$

Proof:

We prove the properties (2), (6), and (7)

$$\text{2, } x \in A - B \Leftrightarrow x \in A \text{ but } x \notin B$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B,$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y \in A \cap B'$$

$$\text{So, } A - B = A \cap B'$$

6, Let $A - B = A$

$$\text{Then } x \in A \Rightarrow x \in A - B \Rightarrow x \in A \text{ but}$$

$$x \notin B$$

$$\Rightarrow x \notin B$$

$$\text{So } x \in A \Rightarrow x \notin B \text{ and } \text{So } A - B = \phi$$

Conversely let $A \cap B = \phi$

$$\text{Then } x \in A \Rightarrow x \notin B \text{ as } A \cap B = \phi$$

$$\text{So, } x \in A \Rightarrow x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B,$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in A - B$$

$$\text{So, } A \subset A - B.$$

$$\text{Thus, } A = A - B \text{ So } A - B = A$$

- 1, $A - B = \emptyset \Rightarrow A \cap B' = \emptyset$ (by 2)
- \Rightarrow if $x \in A$, then $x \notin B'$
 - \Rightarrow if $x \in A$, then $x \in B$
 - \Rightarrow if $A \subseteq B$.

Verification of the basic laws of algebra of sets by venn diagrams.

In earlier sections we have proved some basic laws of set algebra we list those laws in the table. We use the symbol U to denote the universal set.

The basic laws of sets algebra.

Commutative laws $\rightarrow A \cap B = B \cap A$
 $A \cup B = B \cup A$

Associative law $\rightarrow A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap C$
 $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup C$

Distributive law $\rightarrow A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$
 $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$

Absorption law $\rightarrow A \cup (A \cap B) = A$
 $A \cap (A \cup B) = A$

De Morgan's law $\rightarrow (A \cup B)' = A' \cap B'$
 $(A \cap B)' = A' \cup B'$

Complement law $\rightarrow \phi' = U$; $U' = \phi$; $(A')' = A$
 $A \cap A' = \phi$; $A \cup A' = U$.

Example:

1, Show that $(A-B) - C = A - (B \cup C)$

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

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

2, Show that $A - (B-C) = (A-B) \cup (A \cap C)$

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

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

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

3, Show that $A \cap (B-C) = (A \cap B) - (A \cap C)$

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$= A \cap B \cap C'$$

$$= A \cap (B-C) = \text{LHS}$$

Know that $A \cup (B-C) = (A \cup B) - (C-A)$

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note

$$A \cup (B-C) \neq (A \cup B) - (A \cup C)$$

∴ union is not distributive over difference.

5. If $A \cup B = A \cup C$ and $A \cap B = A \cap C$.

Prove that $B=C$

As it is given that $A \cup B = A \cup C$, we have

$$B \cap (A \cup B) = (B \cap (A \cup C)) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\text{LHS} = B \cap (A \cup B) = B \quad \text{as } B \subseteq A \cup B \rightarrow \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\text{RHS} = B \cap (A \cup C)$$

$$= (B \cap A) \cup (B \cap C) \quad \text{Distributive law}$$

$$= (A \cap B) \cup (B \cap C) \quad \text{Commutative}$$

$$= (A \cap C) \cup (B \cap C) \quad \text{since } A \cap B = A \cap C$$

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

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

$$= C$$

6. If $A \cup B = A \cup C$, is $B = C$? Explain

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

Does not imply $B = C$

$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$; $B = \{3, 5, 6\}$ and $C = \{1, 2, 5, 6\}$

$$A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} = A \cup C$$

but $B \neq C$

$$(\therefore A \cup B = A \cup C \not\Rightarrow B = C)$$