

# Automata and Languages

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## Mathematical Background

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Sets

Relations

Functions

Graphs

Proof techniques

### Sets

Set: *collection of objects*

Finite

Infinite

Countable

Countable

Uncountable

Ex. 1

$S_1 = \{a, 2, b\}$

Ex. 2

$S_2 = \{0, 2, 4, \dots\}$

Ex. 3

Set of real numbers  $R$

## $\in$ -Notation & $\subseteq$ -Notation

The Greek letter “ $\epsilon$ ” (epsilon) is used to denote that an object is an *element* of a set. When crossed out “ $\notin$ ” denotes that the object is *not an element*.”

Ex.:  $3 \in S$  reads:

“3 is an element of the set  $S$ ”.

A set  $S$  is said to be a **subset** of the set  $T$  iff every element of  $S$  is also an element of  $T$ . This situation is denoted by

$$S \subseteq T$$

## Specifying Sets

– By listing elements :

Ex.

- $S_1 = \{1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 20\}$

- $S_2 = \{0, 2, 4, \dots\}$

– By defining property :

Ex.

- $S_1 = \{n : n \in \mathbb{N}, n \text{ divides } 20\}$

- $S_2 = \{n : n \in \mathbb{N}, n \text{ is even number}\}$

## Examples

–  $\{11, 12, 13\}$

–  $\{\text{🍎}, \text{🍌}, \text{🍇}\}$

–  $\{\text{🍎}, \text{🍌}, \text{🍇}, 11, \text{Leo}\}$

–  $\{11, 11, 11, 12, 13\} = \{11, 12, 13\}$  ?

–  $\{\text{🍎}, \text{🍌}, \text{🍇}\} = \{\text{🍌}, \text{🍇}, \text{🍎}\}$  ?

## The Empty Set

The **empty set** is the set containing no elements. This set is also called the **null set** and is denoted by:

–  $\{\}$

–  $\emptyset$

Quiz

1.  $\emptyset \subseteq \emptyset$  ? (yes)

2.  $\emptyset \subset \emptyset$  ? (No)

## Cardinality

The **cardinality** of a set is the number of distinct elements in the set.  $|S|$  denotes the cardinality of  $S$ .

Q: Compute each cardinality.

1.  $|\{1, -13, 4, -13, 1\}|$  ? (3)
2.  $|\{3, \{1,2,3,4\}, \emptyset\}|$  ? (3)
3.  $|\emptyset|$  ? (0)
4.  $|\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, \{\{\emptyset\}\}|$  ? (3)

## Set Theoretic Operations

Set theoretic operations allow us to build new sets out of old.

Given sets  $A$  and  $B$ , the set theoretic operators are:

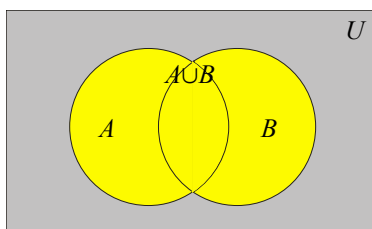
- Union ( $\cup$ )
- Intersection ( $\cap$ )
- Difference ( $-$ )
- Complement (" $\overline{\phantom{x}}$ ")
- Cartesian Product:  $A \times B$
- Power set:  $P(A)$

give us new sets  $A \cup B$ ,  $A \cap B$ ,  $A - B$ ,  $\overline{A}$ ,  $A \times B$ , and  $P(A)$ .

## Union

Elements in at least one of the two sets:

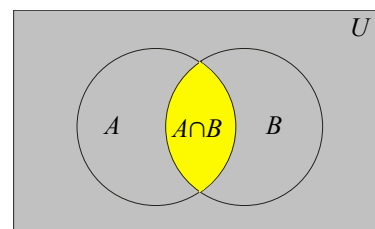
$$A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \vee x \in B\}$$



## Intersection

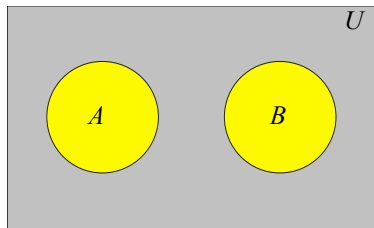
Elements in exactly one of the two sets:

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



## Disjoint Sets

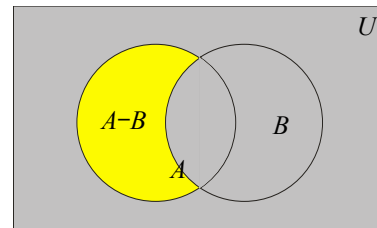
DEF: If  $A$  and  $B$  have no common elements, they are said to be **disjoint**, i.e.  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .



## Set Difference

Elements in first set but not second:

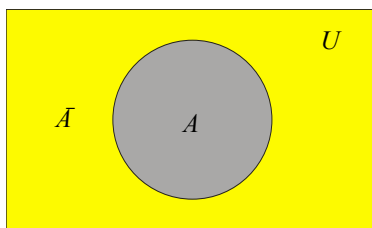
$$A - B = \{ x \mid x \in A \wedge x \notin B \}$$



## Complement

Elements not in the set (unary operator):

$$\bar{A} = \{ x \mid x \notin A \}$$



## Cartesian Product

The most famous example of 2-tuples are points in the Cartesian plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Here ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  of elements of  $\mathbb{R}$  describe the coordinates of each point. We can think of the first coordinate as the value on the  $x$ -axis and the second coordinate as the value on the  $y$ -axis.

The **Cartesian product** of two sets  $A$  and  $B$  (denoted by  $A \times B$ ) is the set of all ordered pairs  $(a, b)$  where  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ .

- $A \times B = \{ (x, y) \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B \}$

Q: What does  $\emptyset \times S$  equal? ( $= \emptyset$ )

## Some Examples

$$L_{<6} = \{ x \mid x \in \mathbb{N}, x < 6 \}$$

$$L_{<6} \cap L_{\text{prime}} = \{2, 3, 5\}$$

$$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$$

$$\Sigma \times \Sigma = \{(0,0), (0,1), (1,0), (1,1)\}$$

## Power Sets

$$\text{Formal: } P(A) = \{ S \mid S \subseteq A \}$$

$$\text{Example: } A = \{x, y\}$$

$$P(A) = \{ \emptyset, \{x\}, \{y\}, \{x, y\} \}$$

Note the different sizes:

$$|P(A)| = 2^{|A|}$$

$$|A \times A| = |A|^2$$

## Power Sets

The **power set** of  $S$  is the set of all subsets of  $S$ .

Denote the power set by  $P(S)$  or by  $2^S$ .

The latter weird notation comes from the following lemma.

$$\text{Lemma: } |2^S| = 2^{|S|}$$

## Power Sets: Example

To understand the previous fact consider

$$S = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

Enumerate all the subsets of  $S$ :

0-element sets:  $\{\}$  1

1-element sets:  $\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}$  +3

2-element sets:  $\{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}$  +3

3-element sets:  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  +1

$$\text{Therefore: } |2^S| = 8 = 2^3 = 2^{|S|}$$

## Binary Relations

A binary relation  $R$  is a set of pairs of elements of sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

i.e.  $R \subseteq A \times B$

- $A$  is called the domain of  $R$
- $B$  is called the range (or codomain) of  $R$
- If  $A=B$  we say that  $R$  is a relation on  $A$
- We may write  $aRb$  for  $(a,b) \in R$

## Properties of Binary Relations

Special properties for relation *on* a set  $A$ :

- **reflexive** : every element is self-related.  
i.e.  $aRa$  for all  $a \in A$
- **symmetric** : order is irrelevant. i.e. for all  $a,b \in A$   $aRb$  iff  $bRa$
- **transitive** : when  $a$  is related to  $b$  and  $b$  is related to  $c$ , it follows that  $a$  is related to  $c$ .  
i.e. for all  $a,b,c \in A$   $aRb$  and  $bRc$  implies  $aRc$

## Properties of Binary Relations

- **asymmetric** : also *not* equivalent to “not symmetric”. Meaning: it’s never the case that both  $aRb$  and  $bRa$  hold.

i.e.  $aRb \rightarrow b \nrightarrow Ra$

- **irreflexive** : *not* equivalent to “not reflexive”. Meaning: it’s never the case that  $aRa$  holds.  
i.e. for all  $a$ ,  $a \nrightarrow Ra$

## Properties of Binary Relations

An **equivalence relation**  $R$  is a relation on a set  $A$  which is reflexive, symmetric and transitive.

- Generalizes the notion of “equals”.
- $R$  partitions  $A$  into disjoint nonempty equivalence classes, i.e.,  $A = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots$ , such that
  - $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ , for all  $i \neq j$
  - $a, b \in A_i \rightarrow aRb$
  - $a \in A_i, b \in A_j, i \neq j \rightarrow a \nrightarrow R b$
  - $A_i$ ’s are called equivalence classes and their number may be infinite

## Examples

- Set of Natural numbers is partitioned by the relation  $R = \{(i, j) : i = j \pmod{5}\}$  into five "equivalence classes":  
 $\{ \{0, 5, 10, \dots\}, \{1, 6, 11, \dots\}, \{2, 7, 12, \dots\}, \{3, 8, 13, \dots\}, \{4, 9, 14, \dots\} \}$
- "String length" can be used to partition the set of all bit strings.  
 $\{ \{\}, \{0, 1\}, \{00, 01, 10, 11\}, \{000, \dots, 111\}, \dots \}$

## Closures of Relations

- If  $P$  is a set of properties of relations, the  $P$ -closure of a relation  $R$  is the smallest relation  $R'$  such that:
  - $R \subseteq R'$
  - $aR'b \Rightarrow P((a, b))$  is true
  - No more elements in  $R'$
- Ex. The transitive-closure of a relation  $R$ , denoted by  $R^+$  is defined by:
  - $aRb \Rightarrow (a, b) \in R^+$
  - $(a, b) \in R^+, (b, c) \in R^+ \Rightarrow (a, c) \in R^+$
  - Only elements in (1) and (2) are in  $R^+$
- Note that: the {reflexive, transitive}-closure of a relation  $R$  is denoted by  $R^*$

## Examples

- For the relation  $R = \{(1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 3)\}$  on the set  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ ,
- $R^+$  and  $R^*$  are
- $R^+ = \{(1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3)\}$   $R + \text{Transitive}$
- $R^* = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3), (3, 3)\}$   $R + \text{Transitive} + \text{Reflexive}$