

## Today's & next class:

- sets
- subsets, power sets
- operations on sets
- proofs about sets.

Note: this is parallel to logic.

subset (relation between sets)

1) Definition We say  $A \subseteq B$  "A a subset of B"  
 if every element of A is also an element of B  
 (in quantifiers:  $\forall x \in A, x \in B$ )  
 or: 
$$\boxed{x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B}$$

relation between an element and a set.

Example: Let  $A = \{\underline{1}, \underline{\{1, 2\}}, \circled{1} \}$ .

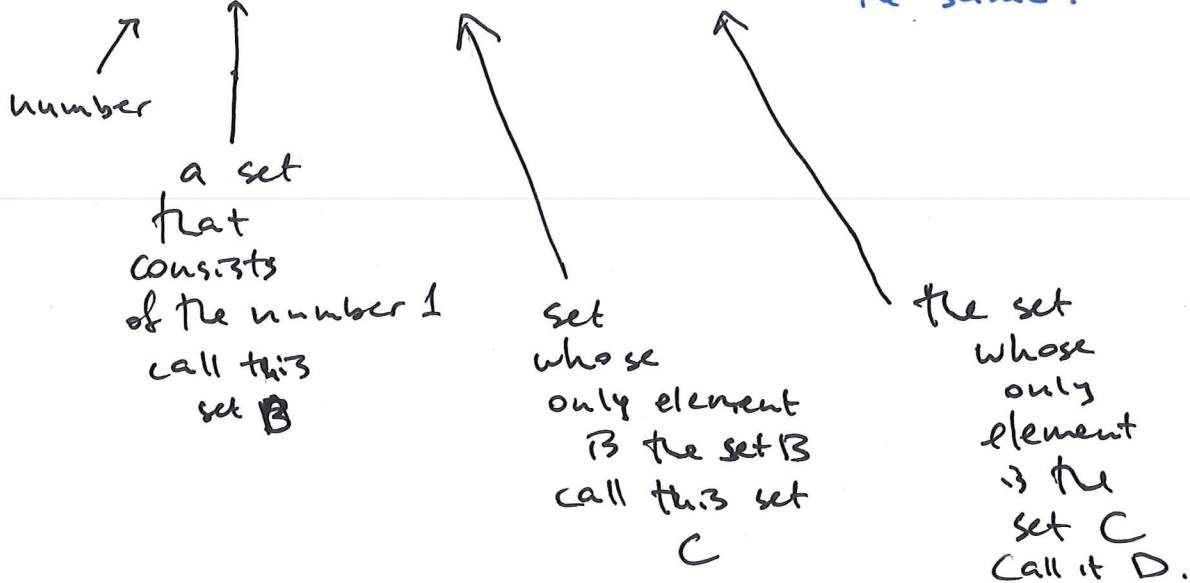
Which statements are true?

- $1 \in A$  T
- False. → •  $1 \subseteq A$  (  $\subset$  or  $\subseteq$  : same thing  
Need a set on the left      indicates they could be equal )
- $2 \in A$  ← 2 is an element of a set, which itself is an element of A.
- $2 \subseteq A$  ← False same as above for  $1 \subseteq A$ : need a set on the left.

T.  $\{1\} \subseteq A$ , see circled {1}.

- $\{1\} \subseteq A$ , T because: 1 is the element of {1}, is also an element of A.
- $\{2\} \subseteq A$ : F - 2 is not an element of A.
- $\{1, 2\} \subseteq A$  ← True see  $\{1, 2\}$ .
- $\{1, 2\} \subseteq A$  -F : 2 is not an element of A.
- $\{\{1\}\} \subseteq A$  - true: {1} is an element of A
- $\{\{1\}\} \in A$  - False : it is not on the list.

Main point:  $1$ ,  $\{1\}$ ,  $\{\{1\}\}$ ,  $\{\{\{1\}\}\}$  are NOT the same:



We have:

$$1 \in B$$

$$B \in C$$

$$C \in D$$

but NOT:

$$1 \in C$$

$$B \subseteq C$$

$$C \subseteq D$$

$$B \subseteq D$$

Def: Let  $A$  be a set.

$P(A)$  = set whose elements are all the subsets of  $A$

$$P(A) = \{ B : B \subseteq A \}$$

power set of  $A$ .

so for any set  $A$ ,  $P(A) \ni \emptyset \Leftrightarrow \emptyset \in P(A)$   
 $P(A) \ni A \Leftrightarrow A \in P(A)$

## Worksheet 10: Sets

In all problems,  $A, B, C$  are sets (subsets of a universal set  $U$ ).

1. Write down (using set notation) the power set of the set  $A = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, 1\}$ .

$$\mathcal{P}(A) = \{ \emptyset, \underbrace{\{\emptyset\}, \{\{\emptyset\}\}, \{1\}}_{1\text{-element subsets}}, \underbrace{\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}, \{\emptyset, 1\}, \{\{\emptyset\}, 1\}}_{2\text{-element subsets}} \}$$

$\xrightarrow{3\text{-elements}} \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, 1\} \quad (8 \text{ elements})$

2. Prove that  $\overline{(A \cup B)} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$  (one of the DeMorgan laws for sets).

3. Prove or disprove:  $(A \cup B) \setminus B = A$ .

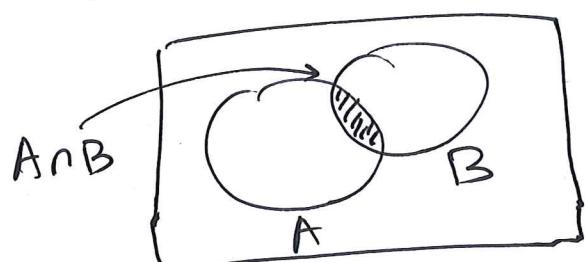
In general, if  $|A| = n$  (this means, A has n elements)

then  $|P(A)| = 2^n$

why: as we are forming different subsets,  
we can take/not take every given element.  
making this decision n times.

Each decision doubles  
the number of outcomes.

Unions and intersections of sets.



Venn diagram

- very useful illustration.  
But NOT proof.

represents  $U$ : universal set.

Usually, all sets we talk about in a particular problem, are subsets of some big set (called the universe)

(often  $U = \mathbb{R}$  or  $U = \mathbb{Z}, \dots$ )  
 $\uparrow$   
universe

"set of all sets" is an impossible thing.

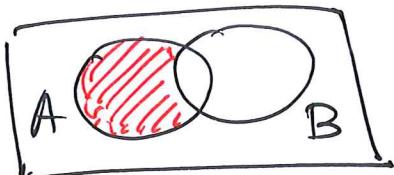
Question: Is this set its own element?  
has no answer: it's like "I am lying" statement.]

Note: Textbook: Chapter 1 - all ; HW6 due next Tuesday.  
Chapter 8: 8.1-8.3 ; HW7 due Thursday.

Def: Set difference:  $A - B$  or  $A \setminus B$

"setminus" in Tex

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



Proving things about sets :

often you need to prove:  $A \subseteq B$  where  $A, B$  are given sets

or abstract sets.

(e.g. question 2 in worksheet)

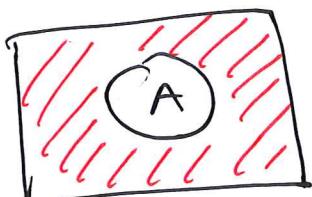
To prove it, always start with:

let  $x \in A$ . Then argue about this  $x$  and somehow show it is also an element of  $B$ .

To prove  $A = B$ : you need  $x \in A \iff x \in B$ .  
(proving a biconditional)

Def Set complement;  $\overline{A} = U \setminus A$

↑  
universe



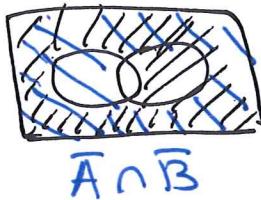
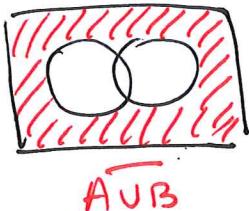
## Worksheet 10: Sets

In all problems,  $A, B, C$  are sets (subsets of a universal set  $U$ ).

1. Write down (using set notation) the power set of the set  $A = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, 1\}$ .

## Solution to #2 :

2. Prove that  $\overline{(A \cup B)} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$  (one of the DeMorgan laws for sets).



- looks true.

Proof: Need to prove:  $\overline{A \cup B} \subseteq \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$   
 and  $\overline{A \cup B} \supseteq \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$

*One set contains the other.*

3. Prove or disprove:  $(A \cup B) \setminus B = A$

Proving:  $\overline{A \cup B} \subset \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$ :

Let  $x \in \overline{A \cup B}$

Then by definition of complement,  $x \notin A \cup B \Leftrightarrow$

Then by def. of union:  $\sim (x \in A \vee x \in B) \Leftrightarrow$

Then (by De Morgan)  $(x \notin A) \wedge (x \notin B) \Leftrightarrow$

Then  $x \in \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$  by def. of complement and intersection.

(in fact, all my statements are equivalent to each other).

## Worksheet 10: Sets

In all problems,  $A, B, C$  are sets (subsets of a universal set  $U$ ).

1. Write down (using set notation) the power set of the set  $A = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, 1\}$ .

2. Prove that  $\overline{(A \cup B)} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$  (one of the DeMorgan laws for sets).

### Solution to #3 :

3. Prove or disprove:  $(A \cup B) \setminus B = A$ .



$$A \cup B$$



$$(A \cup B) \setminus B - \text{doesn't look like } A!$$

This suggests the statement  $\Rightarrow$  False.  
We need a counterexample.  
(The picture helps us make it!)

$$\text{Let } A = \{1, 2\} \quad \text{let } B = \{2\}.$$

$$\text{Then } A \cup B = \{1, 2\}_1 \quad \text{and } (A \cup B) \setminus B = \{1\} \neq A.$$

## Connection between sets and logic:

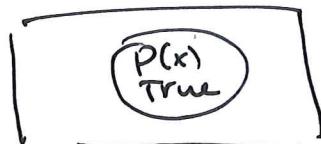
~~DEFINITION~~ let  $U$  be the universal set.

Let  $P(x)$  be an open sentence, with  $x \in U$

(example:  $U = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $P(x) = "x > 0"$ . )

To  $P(x)$  we can associate a set:

$$A_P = \{x : \underset{\substack{\text{P(x)} \\ \in U}}{P(x)} \text{ is True}\}$$



Conversely, if  $A \subset U$ , can make an open sentence  $P_A(x) = 'x \in A'$ .

Now: sets      statements

$$\rightarrow A \cup B \rightsquigarrow P_A(x) \vee P_B(x)$$

$$A \cap B \rightsquigarrow P_A(x) \wedge P_B(x)$$

$$2) \bar{A} \rightsquigarrow \sim P_A(x)$$

Quantifiers: often you have a collection of sets:

$$A_n = \{b \in \mathbb{Z} : n \mid b\} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} \text{set that depends} \\ \text{on a parameter.} \end{matrix}$$

can make  $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n =$  (infinite) union of the sets  $A_n$

$$\text{union of them all: } A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \dots$$

$$= \{b \in \mathbb{Z} : \exists \underline{n} \text{ such that } b \in \underline{A_n}\}$$

- the set of integers that belongs to at least one of the sets  $A_n$ .