

... and now for something  
completely different...

# Set Theory

Actually, you will see that logic and  
set theory are very closely related.

# Set Theory

- Set: Collection of objects (called elements)
- $a \in A$  "a is an element of A"  
"a is a member of A"
- $a \notin A$  "a is not an element of A"
- $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  "A contains  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ "
- Order of elements is insignificant
- It does not matter how often the same element is listed (repetition doesn't count).

# Set Equality

Sets  $A$  and  $B$  are equal if and only if they contain exactly the same elements.

## Examples:

- $A = \{9, 2, 7, -3\}, B = \{7, 9, -3, 2\} : \quad A = B$
- $A = \{\text{dog}, \text{cat}, \text{horse}\},$   
 $B = \{\text{cat}, \text{horse}, \text{squirrel}, \text{dog}\} : \quad A \neq B$
- $A = \{\text{dog}, \text{cat}, \text{horse}\},$   
 $B = \{\text{cat}, \text{horse}, \text{dog}, \text{dog}\} : \quad A = B$

# Examples for Sets

## "Standard" Sets:

- Natural numbers  $\mathbf{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
- Integers  $\mathbf{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$
- Positive Integers  $\mathbf{Z}^+ = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$
- Real Numbers  $\mathbf{R} = \{47.3, -12, \pi, \dots\}$
- Rational Numbers  $\mathbf{Q} = \{1.5, 2.6, -3.8, 15, \dots\}$

(correct definitions will follow)

# Examples for Sets

- $A = \emptyset$  "empty set/null set"
- $A = \{z\}$  Note:  $z \in A$ , but  $z \neq \{z\}$
- $A = \{\{b, c\}, \{c, x, d\}\}$  set of sets
- $A = \{\{x, y\}\}$  Note:  $\{x, y\} \in A$ , but  $\{x, y\} \neq \{\{x, y\}\}$
- $A = \{x \mid P(x)\}$  "set of all  $x$  such that  $P(x)$ "

$P(x)$  is the membership function of set  $A$

$$\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow x \in A)$$

- $A = \{x \mid x \in \mathbf{N} \wedge x > 7\} = \{8, 9, 10, \dots\}$   
"set builder notation"

# Examples for Sets

We are now able to define the set of rational numbers  $Q$ :

$$Q = \{a/b \mid a \in \mathbb{Z} \wedge b \in \mathbb{Z}^+\}, \text{ or}$$

$$Q = \{a/b \mid a \in \mathbb{Z} \wedge b \in \mathbb{Z} \wedge b \neq 0\}$$

And how about the set of real numbers  $R$ ?

$$R = \{r \mid r \text{ is a real number}\}$$

That is the best we can do. It can neither be defined by enumeration nor builder function.

# Subsets

$A \subseteq B$       "A is a subset of B"

$A \subseteq B$  if and only if every element of A is also an element of B.

We can completely formalize this:

$$A \subseteq B \Leftrightarrow \forall x (x \in A \rightarrow x \in B)$$

Examples:

$A = \{3, 9\}, B = \{5, 9, 1, 3\}, \quad A \subseteq B ? \quad \text{true}$

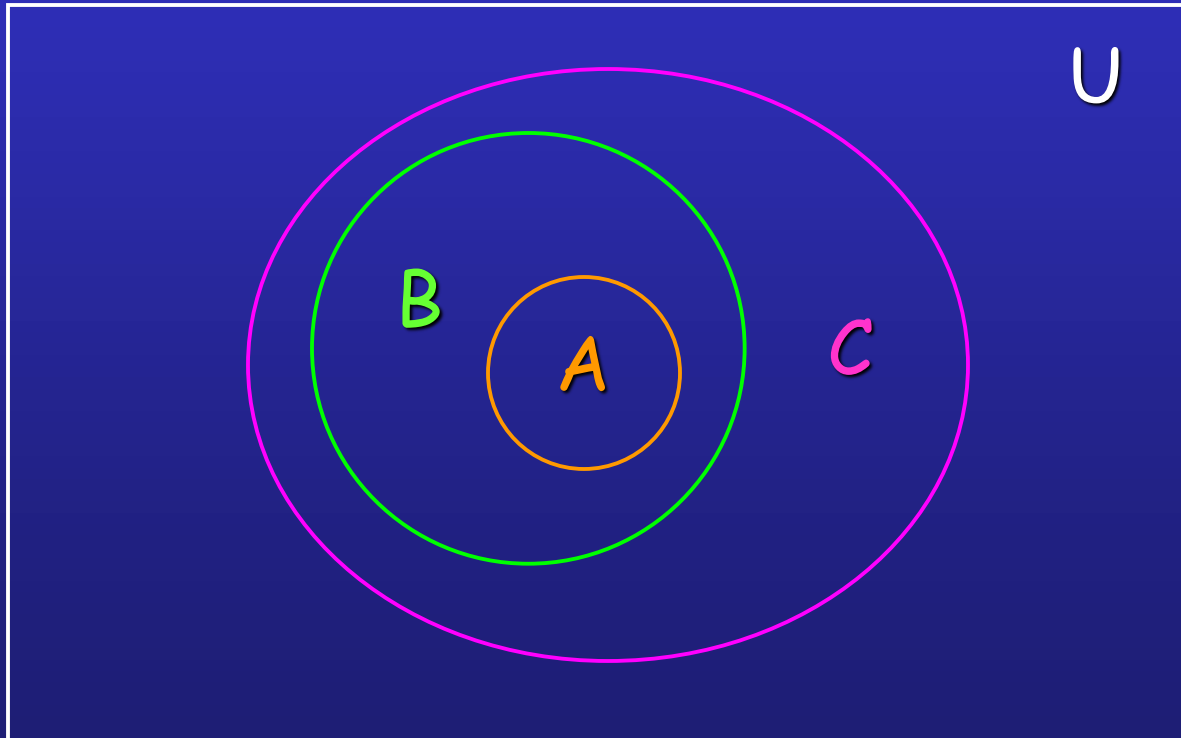
$A = \{3, 3, 3, 9\}, B = \{5, 9, 1, 3\}, \quad A \subseteq B ? \quad \text{true}$

$A = \{1, 2, 3\}, B = \{2, 3, 4\}, \quad A \subseteq B ? \quad \text{false}$

# Subsets

Useful rules:

- $A = B \Leftrightarrow (A \subseteq B) \wedge (B \subseteq A)$
- $(A \subseteq B) \wedge (B \subseteq C) \Rightarrow A \subseteq C$  (see Venn Diagram)





# Subsets

Useful rules:

- $\emptyset \subseteq A$  for any set  $A$   
(but  $\emptyset \in A$  may not hold for any set  $A$ )
- $A \subseteq A$  for any set  $A$

Proper subsets:

$A \subset B$  "A is a proper subset of B"

$$A \subset B \Leftrightarrow \forall x (x \in A \rightarrow x \in B) \wedge \exists x (x \in B \wedge x \notin A)$$

or

$$A \subset B \Leftrightarrow \forall x (x \in A \rightarrow x \in B) \wedge \neg \forall x (x \in B \rightarrow x \in A)$$

# Cardinality of Sets

If a set  $S$  contains  $n$  distinct elements,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we call  $S$  a finite set with cardinality  $n$ .

Examples:

$A = \{\text{Mercedes, BMW, Porsche}\}, \quad |A| = 3$

$B = \{1, \{2, 3\}, \{4, 5\}, 6\} \quad |B| = 4$

$C = \emptyset \quad |C| = 0$

$D = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \leq 7000\} \quad |D| = 7001$

$E = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \geq 7000\} \quad E \text{ is infinite!}$

# The Power Set

$P(A)$  "power set of  $A$ " (also written as  $2^A$ )

$P(A) = \{B \mid B \subseteq A\}$  (contains all subsets of  $A$ )

Examples:

$$A = \{x, y, z\}$$

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

$$A = \emptyset$$

$$P(A) = \{\emptyset\}$$

Note:  $|A| = 0$ ,  $|P(A)| = 1$

# The Power Set

Cardinality of power sets:  $|P(A)| = 2^{|A|}$

- Imagine each element in  $A$  has an "on/off" switch
- Each possible switch configuration in  $A$  corresponds to one subset of  $A$ , thus one element in  $P(A)$

A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
z	z	z	z	z	z	z	z	z

- For 3 elements in  $A$ , there are  $2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$  elements in  $P(A)$

# Cartesian Product

The ordered  $n$ -tuple  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)$  is an ordered collection of  $n$  objects.

Two ordered  $n$ -tuples  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)$  and  $(b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n)$  are equal if and only if they contain exactly the same elements in the same order, i.e.  $a_i = b_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

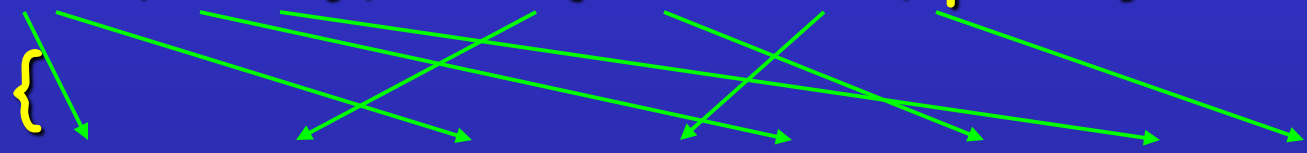
The Cartesian product of two sets is defined as:

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A \wedge b \in B\}$$

# Cartesian Product

Example:

$$A = \{\text{good}, \text{bad}\}, B = \{\text{student}, \text{prof}\}$$

$$A \times B = \{ \begin{array}{l} \text{good, student} \\ \text{good, prof} \\ \text{bad, student} \\ \text{bad, prof} \end{array} \}$$


$$B \times A = \{(\text{student}, \text{good}), (\text{prof}, \text{good}), (\text{student}, \text{bad}), (\text{prof}, \text{bad})\}$$

Example:  $A = \{x, y\}, B = \{a, b, c\}$

$$A \times B = \{(x, a), (x, b), (x, c), (y, a), (y, b), (y, c)\}$$

# Cartesian Product

Note that:

- $A \times \emptyset = \emptyset$
- $\emptyset \times A = \emptyset$
- For non-empty sets  $A$  and  $B$ :  $A \neq B \Leftrightarrow A \times B \neq B \times A$
- $|A \times B| = |A| \cdot |B|$

The Cartesian product of two or more sets is defined as:

$$A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n = \{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \mid a_i \in A_i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n\}$$

# Set Operations

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

Example:  $A = \{a, b\}, B = \{b, c, d\}$

$$A \cup B = \{a, b, c, d\}$$

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

Example:  $A = \{a, b\}, B = \{b, c, d\}$

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

Cardinality:  $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$