
EE1001 Counting Part II

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Intended Learning Outcomes

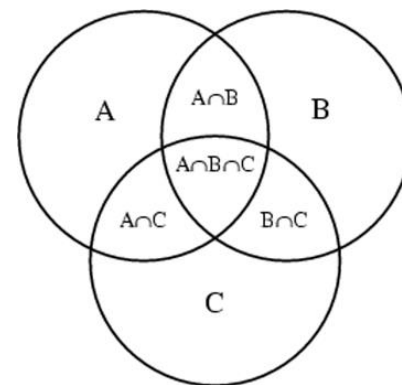
- Upon completion of this session, you will be able to:
 - ✓1 understand required basic concepts in set theory
 - ✓2. solve problems with the inclusion-exclusion principle
 - ✓3. solve problems with the pigeon-hole principle

Chapter Contents

- **Basic Set Theory**
- **The inclusion-exclusion principle**
- **The pigeon-hole principle**

Why study Set Theory

- **the common language to speak about mathematics, so learning set theory means learning the common language.**
- Studying set theory, even naively, is the technical spine of how to handle infinite sets. Since modern mathematics is concerned with many infinite sets, larger and smaller, it is a good idea to learn about infinite sets if one wishes to understand mathematical objects better.
- We can easily find the relationship between different things or sets with set theory.



1. Basic Set Theory

Basic Definitions

- **Set:** a set is an unordered collection of objects. For sets, we'll use variables $S, T, U, \dots$
- **Element:** The objects used to form a set are called its element. For elements, we'll use variables $a, b, c \dots$
- There are ways of describing a set
 - **Explicitly:** listing the elements of a set

e.g. $\{a, b, c\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, \{\text{Woody, Joe, Paul}\}$ are all finite sets
 $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ is a way we denote an infinite set
 - **Set builder notation:** For any proposition $P(x)$ over any universe of discourse, $\{x|P(x)\}$ is the set of all x such that $P(x)$.

e.g., $\{x \mid x \text{ is an integer where } x > 0 \text{ and } x < 5\}$
or $\{x : x \text{ is an integer where } x > 0 \text{ and } x < 5\}$

Properties of sets

- Sets are inherently *unordered*.

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

- All elements are *distinct (unequal)*: multiple listings make no difference!

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

- Two sets are declared to be equal *if and only if* they contain exactly the same elements.

The set $\{1, 2, 3, 4\} =$

$$\{x \mid x \text{ is an integer where } x > 0 \text{ and } x < 5\} =$$

$$\{x \mid x \text{ is a positive integer whose square is } > 0 \text{ and } < 25\}$$

Infinite Sets

- Conceptually, sets may be *infinite* (i.e., not *finite*, without end, unending).
- Symbols for some special infinite sets:
 - $\mathbf{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ The natural numbers.
 - $\mathbf{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ The integers.
 - $\mathbf{R}$ = The “real” numbers, such as 20, 2.14, π
 - $\mathbf{Z}^+ = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ set of positive integers

Note: Real number are the numbers that can be represented by an infinite decimal representation, including both **rational**, and **irrational** numbers such as π that can be represented as points along an infinitely long number line.

Basic Set Relations

- $x \in S$ (“ x is in S ”) is the proposition that object x is an *element* or *member* of set S .
- $x \notin S$: “ x is not in S ”
- $\emptyset$ (“null”, “the empty set”) is the unique set that contains no elements whatsoever.
- $\emptyset = \{\} = \{x | \mathbf{False}\}$
- $\emptyset \neq \{\emptyset\}$. Since the right term is a set with an element $\emptyset$.
- $S \subseteq T$ (“ S is a **subset** of T ”) means that every element of S is also an element of T .
- $\emptyset$ is a subset of any set. $\emptyset \subseteq S$

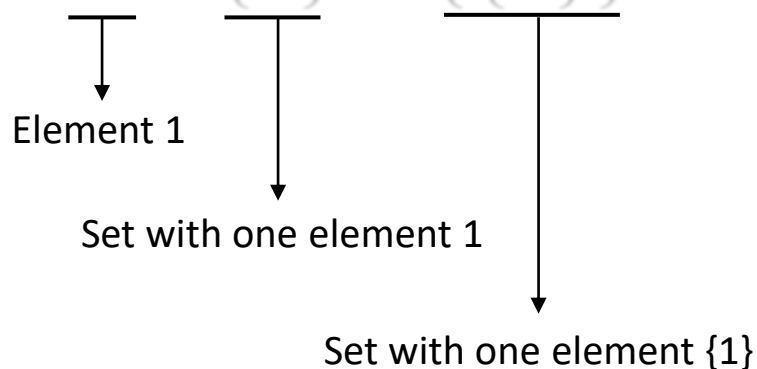
Sets Are Objects

- The objects that are elements of a set may themselves be sets.

let $S = \{x \mid x \subseteq \{1,2,3\}\}$

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

■ Note that $1 \neq \{1\} \neq \{\{1\}\}$!!!!



Operation Between Set: Union

- For sets A , B , their *union* $A \cup B$ is the set containing all elements that are either in A , **or** (“ $\vee$ ”) in B (or, of course, in both).

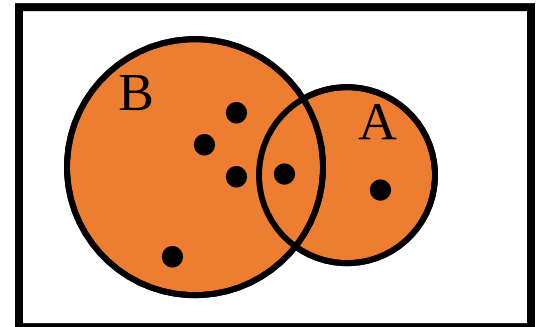
- $$A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \vee x \in B\}.$$

- Note that $A \cup B$ contains all the elements of A and it contains all the elements of B :

- $$(A \cup B \supseteq A) \wedge (A \cup B \supseteq B)$$

e.g.

- $\{a,b,c\} \cup \{2,3\} = \{a,b,c,2,3\}$
- $\{2,3,5\} \cup \{3,5,7\} = \{2,3,5,3,5,7\} = \{2,3,5,7\}$



$A \cup B$

Operation Between Set: Intersection

- For sets A , B , their intersection $A \cap B$ is the set containing all elements that are simultaneously in A and (“ $\wedge$ ”) in B .

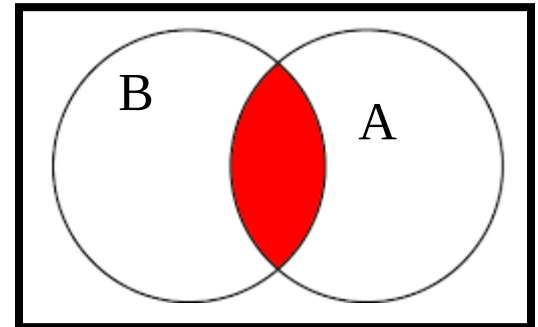
- $A \cap B \equiv \{x \mid x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$

- Note that that $A \cap B$ is a subset of A **and** it is a subset of B :

- $(A \cap B \subseteq A) \wedge (A \cap B \subseteq B)$

e.g.

- $\{a,b,c\} \cap \{2,3\} = \emptyset$
- $\{2,4,6\} \cap \{3,4,5\} = \{4\}$



$A \cap B$

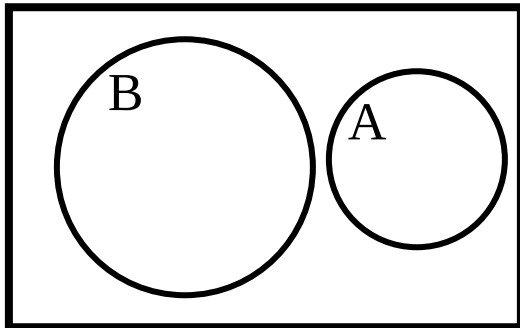
Operation Between Set: Intersection

■ Considering $A = \{x : x \text{ is a US president}\};$

$B = \{x : x \text{ is in this room}\}$

What is $A \cap B$?

$$A \cap B = \{x : x \text{ is a US president in this room}\} = \emptyset$$



Sets whose
intersection is
empty are called
disjoint sets

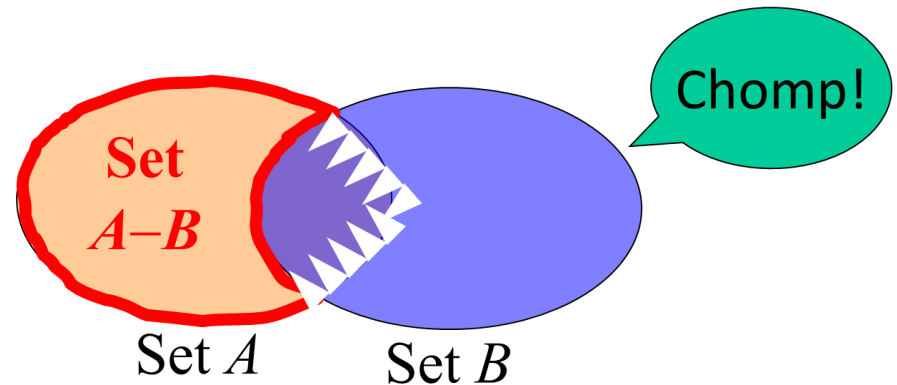
Operation Between Set: Complement

- Complement of B with respect to A: for sets A, B, the *difference of A and B*, written $A-B$, is the set of all elements that are in A but not B.

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

e.g.

- $\{a,b,c\} - \{a,b,c\} = \emptyset$
- $\{2,4,6\} - \{3,4,5\} = \{2,6\}$
- $\{3,4,5\} - \{2,4,6\} = \{3,5\}$



Operation Between Set: Complement

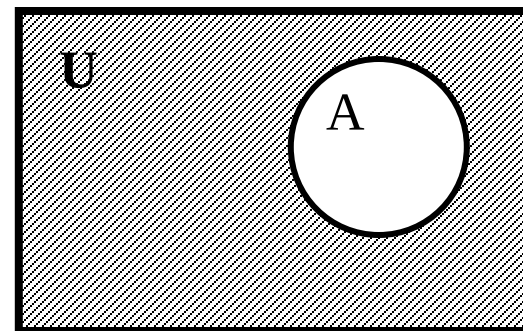
- The *universe of discourse* can itself be considered a set, call it U .
- The complement of a set A is:

$$\overline{A} = U - A$$

- Specifically:

$$\overline{\emptyset} = U$$

$$\overline{U} = \emptyset$$

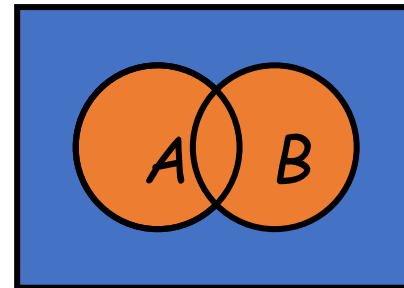


Set Identities

- Identity: $A \cup \emptyset = A$ $A \cap U = A$
 - Domination: $A \cup U = U$ $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$
 - Idempotent: $A \cup A = A = A \cap A$
 - Double complement: $\overline{\overline{A}} = A$
 - Commutative: $A \cup B = B \cup A$ $A \cap B = B \cap A$
 - Associative: $A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$
 $A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$
- Specifically:

$$\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$$

$$\overline{A \cap B} = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}$$



Proof by “diagram” (useful!).

In-Class Exercises:

- Finish the membership Table:

A	B	$A \cup B$	$(A \cup B) - B$	$A - B$
0	0			
0	1			
1	0			
1	1			

2. The inclusion-exclusion principle

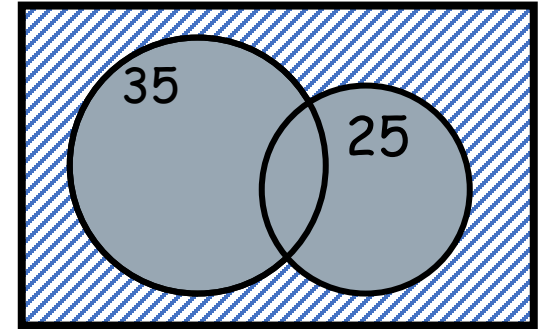
Inclusion/Exclusion

■ Considering we have 50 students:

35 like apple; A

25 like orange; B

15 like both; $A \cap B$



How many students don't like the two fruits Neither?

students like orange or apple $A \cup B$

= students only like apple + students only like orange + students like both

= students only like apple + students like both (students like apple) A

+ students only like orange + students like both (students like orange) B

- students like both $A \cup B$

$$= 35 + 25 - 15 = 45$$

$$A \cup B = A + B - A \cap B$$

Students don't like neither = $50 - 45 = 5$

Principle of Inclusion & Exclusion

- This is so-called Principle of Inclusion & Exclusion:

$$A \cup B = A + B - A \cap B$$

- For three disjoint sets

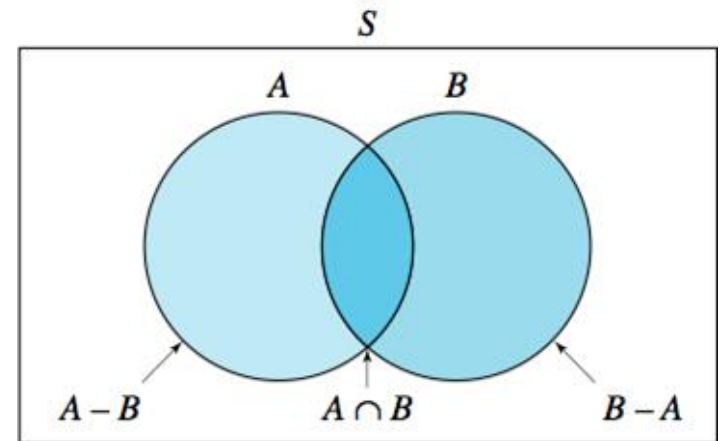
$$A \cup B = (A - B) + (B - A) + (A \cap B)$$

- We have solved for two finite sets A and B

$$A - B = A - (A \cap B) \quad \text{and} \quad B - A = B - (A \cap B)$$

- Hence,

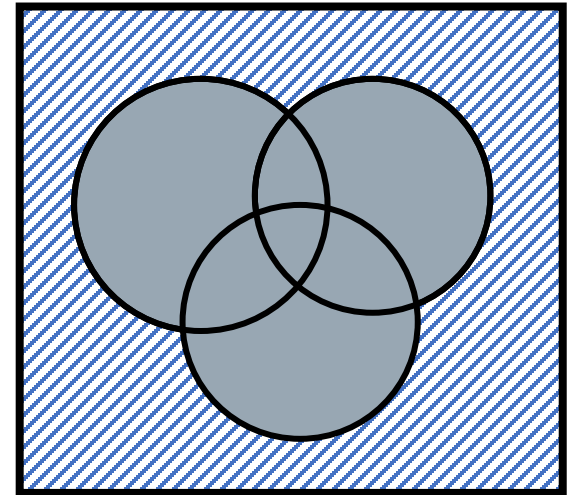
$$\begin{aligned} A \cup B &= (A - B) + (B - A) + (A \cap B) \\ &= A - (A \cap B) + B - (A \cap B) + (A \cap B) \\ &= A + B - (A \cap B) \end{aligned}$$



Principle of Inclusion & Exclusion

- Similarly, for three sets, we can obtain:

$$A \cup B \cup C = A + B + C - A \cap B - A \cap C - B \cap C + A \cap B \cap C$$



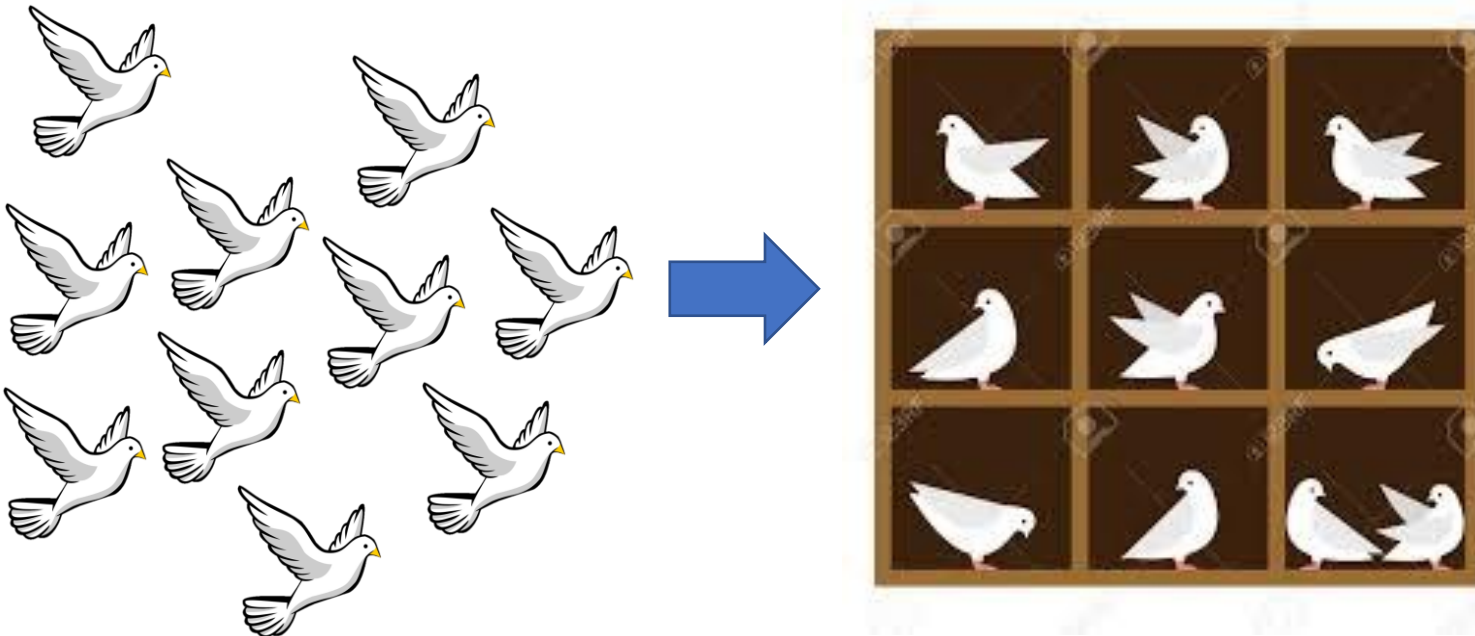
Applications

- How many integers from 1 to 1000 are either multiples of 3 or multiples of 5?

3. The pigeon-hole principle

The pigeon-hole principle

- Suppose a flock of pigeons fly into a set of pigeonholes to roost;
- If there are more pigeons than pigeonholes, then there must be at least 1 pigeonhole that has more than one pigeon in it
- *If $k+1$ or more objects are placed into k boxes, then there is at least one box containing two or more of the objects*



The applications of pigeon-hole principle

- Some examples:
- In a group of 13 people, there must be two people with the birthdays in the same month;
- In a group of 367 people, there must be two people with the same birthday.
- In a group of 27 English words, at least two words must start with the same letter

The applications of pigeon-hole principle

- Furthermore:
- If N objects are placed into k boxes, then there is at least one box containing $\lceil N/k \rceil$ objects.
- $\lceil N/k \rceil$ denotes the ceiling function, which is the smallest integer that is not smaller than N/k .
- Examples:
- Among 100 people, there are at least $\lceil 100/12 \rceil = 9$ born on the same month;

In-Class Exercises:

- How many students in a class must there be to ensure that 6 students get the same grade (one of A, B, C, D, or F)?

• - END -