

Chapter 6 Sets

Notation

Meaning / Definition

$$x \in A \text{ or } x \in A$$

x is an element of the set A

$$x \notin A \text{ or } x \notin A$$

x is not an element of the set A

$$A \subseteq B$$

A is a subset of B

[ie. $\forall x \in A, x \in B$]

$$A \subset B \text{ or } A \subsetneq B$$

A is a proper subset of B

[ie. $(\forall x \in A, x \in B) \wedge (\exists x \in B, x \notin A)$]

$$A \not\subseteq B$$

A is not a subset of B

[ie. $\exists x \in A, x \notin B$]

$$A = B$$

A equals B

[ie. $(\forall x \in A, x \in B) \wedge (\forall x \in B, x \in A)$]

$$\emptyset$$

empty set (ie. the set with no elements)

Example Let $S = \{2n+1 : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ and $T = \{s^2 : s \in S\}$.

Prove that $T \subsetneq S$.

Proof We begin by showing the inclusion $T \subset S$.

Let $x \in T$. Then there exists $s \in S$ such that $x = s^2$.

We must now show $x \in S$. Note that since $s \in S$,

there exists $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ so that $s = 2n+1$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} x &= s^2 \\ &= (2n+1)^2 \\ &= 4n^2 + 4n + 1 \\ &= 2(2n^2 + 2n) + 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, since $2n^2 + 2n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $x \in S$.

Now, to show $T \subsetneq S$, we must show there exists

$x \in S$ such that $x \notin T$. Indeed, notice $x = 5$

is in S since $5 = 2n+1$ when $n=2$. Also, $5 \notin T$

since its square root is not an odd integer.

Example Let $A = \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 - x = y^2 = 0 \}$

and $B = \{ (0, 0), (1, 0) \}$. Prove $A = B$.

Proof Let $(u, v) \in A$. Then $u^2 - u = 0$ and $v^2 = 0$.

Therefore $u(u-1) = 0$ and $v = 0$. Since $u(u-1) = 0$,

$u = 0$ or $u = 1$, and in either case $v = 0$. Thus

$(u, v) = (0, 0)$ or $(u, v) = (1, 0)$, so $(u, v) \in B$.

Therefore $A \subseteq B$.

Now, we'll show $B \subseteq A$ by showing for every $(u, v) \in B$,

we have that $(u, v) \in A$. If $(u, v) = (0, 0)$, then

$u^2 - u = 0^2 - 0 = 0$ and $v^2 = 0^2 = 0$. Therefore $(u, v) \in A$

in this case. If $(u, v) = (1, 0)$, then $u^2 - u = 1^2 - 1 = 0$

and $v^2 = 0^2 = 0$. Thus $(u, v) \in A$ in this case.

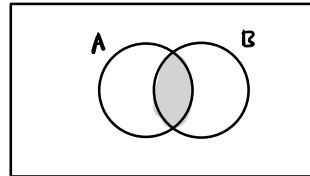
We conclude that, since $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$, we have $A = B$.

$$A \cap B$$

the set of elements common to A and B

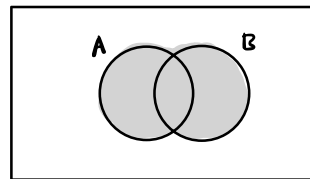
[ie. $x \in A \cap B$ if $(x \in A) \wedge (x \in B)$]

(intersection of A and B)



$$A \cup B$$

the set of elements in A or B (union)

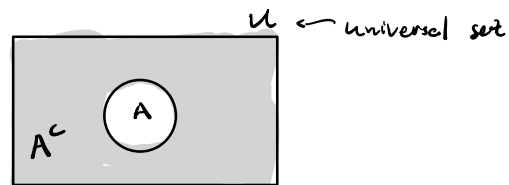


(ie. $x \in A \cup B$ if $(x \in A) \vee (x \in B)$)

$$A^c$$

the set of elements not in A (complement)

(ie. $x \in A^c$ if $\neg(x \in A)$.)



$$A \setminus B$$

the set of elements in A but not in B

(ie. $x \in A \setminus B$ if $(x \in A) \wedge (x \notin B)$)

(set difference) note this is $A \cap B^c$

Let $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$, $S = \{2n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

Problem 1. Which of the following are true mathematical statements?

- a. $3 \in A$
- b. $\{3\} \in A$
- c. $5 \in A$
- d. $2 \in a$
- e. $2 \notin A$
- f. $\emptyset \in A$

a is the only true statement

Problem 2. Which of the following are true?

- a. $A \subseteq B$
- b. $B \subseteq A$
- c. $A \in B$
- d. $\{3\} \subseteq A$
- e. $S \not\subseteq \mathbb{Z}$
- f. $S \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$
- g. $\emptyset \subseteq A$

a, d, f, g are true

Problem 3. Let $C = \{x \in \mathbb{N} : x = y^2 \text{ for some } y \in \mathbb{R}\}$. Prove that $C = \mathbb{N}$.

We will show $C \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ and $\mathbb{N} \subseteq C$. In fact $C \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is clear since the definition of C requires that every element of C be a natural number. To show $\mathbb{N} \subseteq C$, suppose $x \in \mathbb{N}$. We must show there exists $y \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x = y^2$. Let $y = \sqrt{x}$. Then $y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $y^2 = x$. Therefore, $x \in C$, and so $\mathbb{N} \subseteq C$.

Problem 4. Let $D = \{(2n+1)^3 : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$, $E = \{2n+1 : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. Prove that $D \subseteq E$.

We begin by showing $D \subseteq E$. We must show that for all $x \in D$, we have $x \in E$. Let $x \in D$. Then

$x = (2n+1)^3$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}x &= (2n+1)(4n^2+4n+1) \\&= 8n^3+12n^2+6n+1 \\&= 2(4n^3+6n^2+3n)+1.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, since $m = 4n^3+6n^2+3n \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have $x \in E$.

Now, to show $D \subsetneq E$, we must show there exists

$x \in E$ such that $x \notin D$. In words, we must show

there is an odd integer which is not the cube

of an odd integer. We claim $9 \in E$ but $9 \notin D$.

It's indeed the case that $9 \in E$ since $9 = 2(4)+1$

and $4 \in \mathbb{Z}$. To show $9 \notin D$, suppose by way of

contradiction that $9 \in D$. Then $9 = (2n+1)^3$ for some

$n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $n = \frac{1}{2}(9^{1/3}-1)$ but this is a

contradiction since it is not an integer.