



UNIT-2

Set Theory

Discrete Mathematics

Subject Code:25CS301

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TOPICS TO BE COVERED

Set theory:

Introduction

Basic Concepts of Set Theory

Representation of Discrete Structures

Relations and Ordering, Functions.

Basic Concepts of Set Theory

2.1 Definition of a Set

Definition of a Set

A **set** is a well-defined collection of distinct objects, called **elements** or **members**.

Example:

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

$$B = \{a, e, i, o, u\}$$

Notation:

If a is an element of set A , then $a \in A$

If not, $a \notin A$

Representation of Sets

(a) Roster (Tabular) Form

Elements are listed within curly braces.

Example:

$$A = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$$

(b) Set-Builder Form

Elements are described using a property.

Example:

$$A = \{x \mid x \text{ is an even natural number less than } 10\}$$

© . Venn Diagrams

Graphical representation of sets using closed curves.

Types of Sets

Empty (Null) Set ($\emptyset$)

A set with no elements.

Example: $A = \{x \mid x \text{ is a natural number less than } 0\}$

Singleton Set

A set containing exactly one element.

Example: $A = \{5\}$

Finite Set

A set with a finite number of elements.

Example: $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$

Infinite Set

A set with infinite elements.

Example: $N = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

- Equivalent Sets**

Two sets having the same number of elements.

- Subset ($\subseteq$)**

$A \subseteq B$ if every element of A is in B .

- Proper Subset ($\subset$)**

$A \subset B$ if $A \subseteq B$ and $A \neq B$.

- Universal Set (U)**

The set containing all elements under consideration.

Set Operations

Union:

$$A \cup B = \{x: x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$$

Intersection:

$$A \cap B = \{x: x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$$

Difference:

$$A - B = \{x: x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$$

Complement:

$$A' = U - A$$

Example

Let $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $B = \{3, 4, 5\}$

$$A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

$$A \cap B = \{3\}$$

Types of Relations

Reflexive:

$$(a,a) \in R \quad \forall a \in A$$

Symmetric:

$$(a,b) \in R \Rightarrow (b,a) \in R$$

Transitive:

$$(a,b), (b,c) \in R \Rightarrow (a,c) \in R$$

Equivalence Relation:

Reflexive + Symmetric + Transitive

Partial Order Relation:

Reflexive + AntiSymmetric + Transitive

Poset

A set with a partial order relation is called a **Partially Ordered Set (Poset)**.

Problem

Let $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ and

$$R = \{(1,1), (2,2), (3,3), (1,2), (2,1)\}$$

Check whether R is an equivalence relation.

Solution

Reflexive:

$$(1,1), (2,2), (3,3) \in R$$

Symmetric:

$$(1,2) \in R \Rightarrow (2,1) \in R$$

Transitive:

$$(1,2), (2,1) \Rightarrow (1,1) \in R$$

R is an equivalence relation

Problem

Define relation R on $\mathbb{Z}$ by

$$aRb \iff a - b \text{ is even}$$

Solution

Reflexive: $a - a = 0$ even ✓

Symmetric: $a - b$ even $\Rightarrow b - a$ even ✓

Transitive: ✓

Equivalence *relation*

PROBLEMS ON PARTIAL ORDER RELATION

Let $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ and

$$R = \{(1,1), (2,2), (3,3), (1,2), (2,3), (1,3)\}$$

Check whether R is a partial order relation.

Solution

- ✓ Reflexive
- ✓ Antisymmetric
- ✓ Transitive

Partial *order relation*

HASSE DIAGRAM PROBLEM

Draw the **Hasse diagram** for the set

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 6\}$$

with relation “divides”.

Solution

Relations:

$$1|2, 1|3, 2|6, 3|6$$

Hasse Diagram (text form):

```
  6
 / \
2   3
 \ /
  1
```

Problem

Draw Hasse diagram for

$$A = \{2, 4, 8\}$$

8
|
4
|
2

FUNCTIONS

Definition

A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ assigns **exactly one element of B** to each element of A.

Types of Functions

One-to-One (Injective):

Different inputs $\rightarrow$ different outputs

Onto (Surjective):

Every element of B has a pre-image

Bijjective:

Both one-to-one and onto

Example

Let $f(x) = 2x$, $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$f(1) = 2, f(2) = 4, f(3) = 6$$

Different inputs give different outputs. So f is one – one.

Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by

$$f(x) = 3x + 5$$

Check whether f is bijective.

Solution

- ✓ One-to-one: linear function
- ✓ Onto: every real number has a preimage

Bijjective *function*

FINDING INVERSE FUNCTION

Find the inverse of

$$f(x) = 2x + 1$$

Solution

$$y = 2x + 1 \Rightarrow x = \frac{y - 1}{2}$$

$$\boxed{f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x - 1}{2}}$$

COMPOSITE FUNCTION PROBLEM

Let

$$f(x) = x + 2, g(x) = x^2$$

Find:

$$(f \circ g)(x)$$

$$(g \circ f)(x)$$

Solution

$$(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x)) = x^2 + 2$$

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(x + 2) = (x + 2)^2$$



