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MATHEMATICS 1

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**Part I**  
**Set theory**

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# 1. Sets and mappings

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## 1.1 Sets

**Definition 1.1.1** Intuitively, a set  $A$  is a collection of objects. An object  $x$  containing in  $A$  is called *element* or *member*. We write

$$x \in A$$

to say  $x$  is an *element (member)* of  $A$ ,  $x$  *belongs to*  $A$  or  $A$  *contains*  $x$ .

The number of elements of a set  $A$  is denoted by  $\text{card}(A)$  (the cardinality of  $A$ ).

A set is represented by

1. listing its members between a pair of braces. For example:  $\{\text{book}, \text{copybook}, \text{pen}, \text{pencil}, \text{paper}, \text{gum}\}$  or  $\{0, 1.2, \sqrt{2}, \pi, \frac{2}{3}, \ln 3, e^2\}$ ;
2. means of some defining property. For example: *the set of all letters of the English alphabet* or  $\{x \mid x \text{ is an integer}\}$  also written by  $\{x : x \text{ is an integer}\}$ . In general, if  $P$  is a property, thus the set is often defined by  $\{x : x \text{ has property } P\}$ .

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- $x$  is not an element of the set  $X$  is symbolised by  $x \notin A$  ( $x$  doesn't belong to  $A$ ).
- The empty set is denoted by  $\emptyset$  and is defined by for all  $x$ ,  $x$  doesn't belong to  $\emptyset$ , i.e.,

$$\forall x, \quad x \notin \emptyset.$$

Its cardinality  $\text{card}(\emptyset) = 0$ .

- We call  $0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9$  a *digit*.
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$\mathbb{N}$  = the set of natural numbers,

$$\triangleq \{1; 2; 3; \dots\}$$

$$\triangleq \llbracket 1; \infty \llbracket$$

$\mathbb{Z}$  = the set of integers,

$$\triangleq \{\dots; -3; -2; -1; 0; 1; 2; 3; \dots\}$$

$$\triangleq \llbracket -\infty; \infty \llbracket$$

$\mathbb{D}$  = the set of decimal numbers,

$$\triangleq \left\{ \frac{p}{2^n 5^m} : (p \in \mathbb{Z}) \wedge (n, m \in \mathbb{N}) \right\}$$

$\mathbb{Q}$  = the set of rational numbers,

$$\triangleq \{p/q : (p \in \mathbb{Z}) \wedge (q \in \mathbb{N})\}$$

$\mathbb{R}$  = the set of real numbers,

$$\triangleq \left\{ x : x = n + \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{a_k}{10^k} \text{ with } (\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, a_k \text{ is a digit}) \wedge (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \right\}$$

$$\triangleq (-\infty; \infty) \text{ or } ] -\infty; \infty [$$

$\mathbb{C}$  = the set of complex numbers,

$$\triangleq \{a + ib : (a, b \in \mathbb{R}) \wedge (i^2 = -1)\}.$$

- An *interval* is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  defined by  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} (a < b)$ ,

$$(a; b) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a < x < b\}, \quad \text{Open interval;}$$

$$[a; b) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x < b\}, \quad \text{Right-open interval;}$$

$$(a; b] \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a < x \leq b\}, \quad \text{Left-open interval;}$$

$$[a; b] \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x \leq b\}, \quad \text{Closed interval;}$$

$$(-\infty; b] \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \leq b\};$$

$$(-\infty; b) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x < b\};$$

$$[a; \infty) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \geq a\};$$

$$(a; \infty) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x > a\};$$

we can replace '(' by '[' in the right-open interval and '(' by ')' in the left-open interval, thus, the open interval  $(a; b)$  can be denoted by  $]a; b[$

- A *singleton* is a set consisting of exactly one member as in  $A = \{b\}$ . We have

$$x \in \{b\} \text{ if and only if (iff) } x = b.$$

**Definition 1.1.2** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two sets, we say that  $A$  is a *subset* of  $B$  or  $A$  is *contained* in  $B$  ( $A \subseteq B$ ), iff, every member of  $A$  is a member of  $B$  (for all  $x$ , if  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in B$ ), i.e.,

$$A \subseteq B \iff (\forall x, x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B)$$

**Definition 1.1.3** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two sets, we say that  $A$  equal to  $B$  iff  $A$  is a subset of  $B$  and  $B$  is a subset of  $A$ . We symbolise

$$A = B \iff (A \subseteq B) \wedge (B \subseteq A).$$

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- If  $B \subseteq A$  and  $B \neq A$  then we say that  $B$  is a *proper subset* of  $A$  and we write  $B \subset A$ .
- $A$  is not subset of  $B$  iff there exists an element  $x$  such that  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$ , we symbolise

$$A \not\subseteq B \iff \exists x: (x \in A) \wedge (x \notin B).$$

**Theorem 1.1.1** For all sets  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ , we have

1.  $A = A$ ;
2. If  $A = B$ , then  $B = A$ ;
3. If  $A = B$  and  $B = C$ , then  $A = C$ ;

**Theorem 1.1.2** For all sets  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ , we have

1.  $A \subseteq A$  (reflexivity);
2.  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$  imply  $A = B$  (antisymmetry);
3.  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq C$  imply  $A \subseteq C$  (transitivity);

**Definition 1.1.4** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two non-empty sets

- The *complement* of  $A$  denoted by  $A^c$  is the set of all elements which do not belong to  $A$ , i.e.,

$$A^c \triangleq \{x: x \notin A\}.$$

- The *intersection* of  $A$  and  $B$  denoted by  $A \cap B$  ( $A$  intersect  $B$ ) is the set of all elements that belong to both  $A$  and  $B$ , i.e.,

$$A \cap B \triangleq \{x: (x \in A) \wedge (x \in B)\}.$$

- The *union* of  $A$  and  $B$  denoted by  $A \cup B$  ( $A$  union  $B$ ) is the set of all elements that



belong either to  $A$  or to  $B$  or to both  $A$  and  $B$ , i.e.,

$$A \cup B \triangleq \{x : (x \in A) \vee (x \in B)\}.$$

- The *set difference* of  $A$  and  $B$  denoted by  $A \setminus B$  ( $A$  minus  $B$ ) is the set of all elements that belong to  $A$  and don't belong to  $B$ , i.e.,

$$A \setminus B \triangleq \{x : (x \in A) \wedge (x \notin B)\}.$$

- The *Cartesian product* of  $A$  and  $B$  denoted by  $A \times B$  ( $A$  times (cross)  $B$ ) is the set of all ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  with  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$ , i.e.,

$$A \times B \triangleq \{(x, y) : (x \in A) \wedge (y \in B)\}.$$

If  $A = B$ , then we denote the Cartesian product by  $A \times A$  by  $A^2$ .

## 1.2 Mappings

**Definition 1.2.1** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be non-empty sets. A *mapping* (map or function)  $f$  from  $X$  to  $Y$  is an assignment (rule) that relates each element  $x \in X$  with a **unique** point  $y \in Y$  denoted  $f(x)$  ( $xf$ ,  $f_x$  or  $fx$ ) (the *value* of  $f$  at the *argument*  $x$  or the *image* of  $x$  under  $f$ ).

We denote symbolically this assignment by  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  or  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$  ( $f$  maps  $X$  to  $Y$ ) where  $X$  is called the *domain* of  $f$  ( $X \triangleq \text{dom}f(\text{dom}(f)) \triangleq \mathcal{D}_f$ ) and  $Y$  is called the *codomain* of  $f$ . On occasion we use the symbol  $x \mapsto f(x)$  which means that  $x$  maps to  $f(x)$ . And sometimes also

$$\begin{aligned} f : X &\rightarrow Y \\ x &\mapsto f(x). \end{aligned}$$

The *range* (image) of  $f$  is the subset  $f(X)$  ( $\text{Im}(f)$  or  $\text{Im}f$ ) of  $Y$  defined by

$$\text{Im}f \triangleq \{f(x) : x \in X\}.$$

The *graph* of  $f$  denoted  $\mathcal{G}_f$  is the set of ordered pairs  $(x, y) \in X \times Y$  such that  $y = f(x)$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_f &\triangleq \{(x, y) \in X \times Y : y = f(x)\}, \\ &= \{(x, f(x)) : x \in X\}. \end{aligned}$$

The set of all maps from  $X$  to  $Y$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{F}(X, Y)$ .

**Definition 1.2.2** The *image* by a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  of  $A \subset X$ , is the subset  $f(A)$  of  $Y$  defined by

$$f(A) \triangleq \{f(x) : x \in A\},$$

The *inverse image* (preimage) by  $f$  of a subset  $B$  of  $Y$  is the subset  $f^{-1}(B)$  of  $X$

defined by

$$f^{-1}(B) \triangleq \{x \in X : f(x) \in B\}.$$

**Definition 1.2.3** A map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said

- a *surjection* (surjective) iff  $f(X) = Y$ ;
- an *injection* (injective) iff  $\forall x_1, x_2 \in X, \quad x_1 \neq x_2 \implies f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ , in an equivalent manner,  $\forall x_1, x_2 \in X, \quad f(x_1) = f(x_2) \implies x_1 = x_2$ ;
- a *bijection* (bijective) iff  $\forall y \in Y, \exists! x \in X : \quad y = f(x)$ , i.e.,  $f$  is a surjection and an injection.

**Definition 1.2.4** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y' \rightarrow Z$  ( $Y \subseteq Y'$ ) be two functions. The *composition* of  $g$  and  $f$  is the function denoted by  $g \circ f$  ( $g$  round  $f$ ) and defined by

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \subseteq Y' & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \\ \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \\ x & \longrightarrow & f(x) & \longrightarrow & g[f(x)]. \end{array}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} g \circ f : X & \rightarrow & Z \\ x & \mapsto & g \circ f(x) = g[f(x)]. \end{array}$$

$g \circ f$  is the *composite* of  $g$  and  $f$ .

**R** In general,  $f \circ g \neq g \circ f$

**Theorem 1.2.1** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ . Then

- $g \circ f$  is injective  $\implies f$  is injective;
- $g \circ f$  is surjective  $\implies g$  is surjective.

**Theorem 1.2.2** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ . Then,

1. if  $f$  and  $g$  are both injections, then  $g \circ f$  is an injection.
2. if  $f$  and  $g$  are both surjections, then  $g \circ f$  is a surjection.
3. if  $f$  and  $g$  are both bijections, then  $g \circ f$  is a bijection.

**Definition 1.2.5** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a bijection. Then there exists a unique function called the *inverse* function of  $f$  and is defined by  $f^{-1} : Y \rightarrow X$  such that

$$\begin{cases} \forall x \in X, & f^{-1}[f(x)] = x \\ \forall y \in Y, & f[f^{-1}(y)] = y. \end{cases}$$

In other words, if we define the *identity function* of a set  $A$  as

$$\begin{aligned}\text{id}_A : A &\rightarrow A \\ x &\mapsto \text{id}_A(x) = x.\end{aligned}$$

Then, the inverse function verifies  $f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_X$  and  $f \circ f^{-1} = \text{id}_Y$ .

**Theorem 1.2.3** If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow X$  are functions such that

$$f \circ g = \text{id}_Y \text{ and } g \circ f = \text{id}_X.$$

Then,  $f$  is a bijection and  $f^{-1} = g$  (note that  $g$  is also a bijection and  $g^{-1} = f$ . Thus,  $f$  and  $g$  are each other's inverses.)

**Theorem 1.2.4** If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  are bijections. Then,

$$(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}.$$