

# Mathematical and Logical Foundations of DBMS

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November 6, 2023

# Clearing Up Keys

The candidate key meets two conditions

- It is unique: Each key value uniquely identifies one record within the table, different tuples must not have identical keys
- It is minimal: if the key is a combination of attributes nothing from that combination can be removed without eliminating unique identification

## Clearing Up Keys

- ALL candidate keys are superkeys (we are going to do some set theory today, candidate keys are a SUBSET of candidate keys)
- Any candidate key could be a primary key but we might choose to not use it

## Here is an Example Where We have Both

<b>StudentID</b>	<b>SocialSecurityNumber</b>	<b>FirstName</b>	<b>LastName</b>
1	123-45-6789	John	Smith
2	987-65-4321	Alice	Johnson
3	123-45-6788	Bob	Brown
4	555-12-3456	Carol	Davis

**Table 1:** Example of a "Students" Table

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- Of course, the relational model was born out of set theory

- Why learn about set theory?



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  - It is the method to the madness
  - The logical arguments have direct implications how data is stored, queried, and joined
  - Cartesian products, unions, differences, the inclusion exclusion principle, and more are all the basis for how data is joined in a way that is efficient and accurate

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  - Yesterday, we learned that rows of datasets are called tuples
  - Each tuple is a collection of information, and may be considered a set
  - Each arbitrary cell in a database can be thought of as an element in a set

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- Will help you feel trained to be a chef, rather than a cook.

- You will have the slides to work with, but taking notes will help
- You'll remember things better if you have something hand written
- Feel free to verbally interrupt if something doesn't make sense or if I am speaking too quickly

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- For all  $\forall$

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- Understanding how sets behave boils down to a focus on how their elements act



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- $\mathbb{R} = \{x : x \text{ is a real number}\}$  (set of real numbers)

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- $A = \{Cow, Sheep, \{Chicken, Turkey\}, Goat\}$
- We call this the roster method

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- $\{z\} \in \{z, y, x, w\}$

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  - $\{x|?\}$
  - A more formal statement is  $\neg \exists x : x \in \emptyset$

# Sets and Elements

- How big is a set? How many elements?
- We call that cardinality
- It is denoted as  $||$
- Cardinality of the empty set  $|\emptyset| = 0$
- Cardinality counts unique elements - nothing is counted twice
- $|\{1, 1, 2, 3\}| = 3$
- Today we deal with finite sets - cardinality being either 0 or a natural number

- $U$ , or a Universal Set, is a set which has elements of all the related sets, without any repetition of elements

- Sets also have compliments

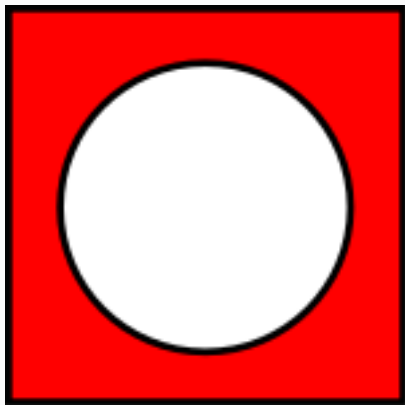
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- $A^c = \{x \in U : x \notin A\}$



# Sets and Elements

Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are considered equal if and only if they have the same elements. In mathematical notation, we write this as:

$$A = B \iff (\forall x)(x \in A \iff x \in B)$$

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- $A \supseteq B$  means  $B \subseteq A$
- Note  $S = T \Leftrightarrow (S \subseteq T \wedge S \supseteq T)$
- $\neg(S \subseteq T)$ , means.,  $\exists x(x \in S \wedge x \notin T)$



$A \subset B$  (A is a proper subset of B) means that  $A \subseteq B$  but  $B \not\subseteq A$

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- For example:  $\{a_1, a_2\} \subset \{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$

# Sets and Elements

- $\in$  is not the same as  $\subseteq$
- $\in$  refers to elements, whereas  $\subseteq$  refers to sets
- Recall the example about  $\{4\}$

The objects that are elements of a set may themselves be sets. For example, let  $S = \{x \mid x \subseteq \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ , then

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

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## Remarkable Statements about Power sets

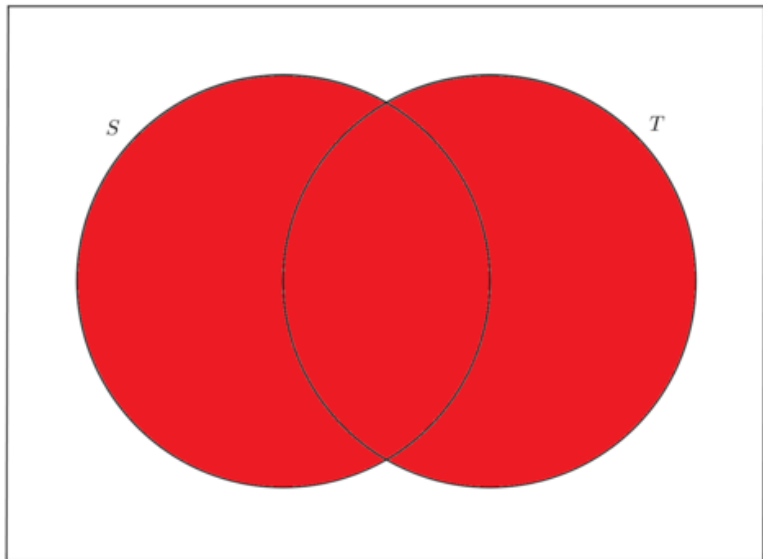
- Let  $S$  be a finite set with  $N$  elements. Then the powerset of  $P(S)$  (that is the set of all subsets of  $S$  ) contains  $2^N$  elements

- $\cup$
- 

$$X \cup Y = \{a : a \in X \vee a \in Y\}$$

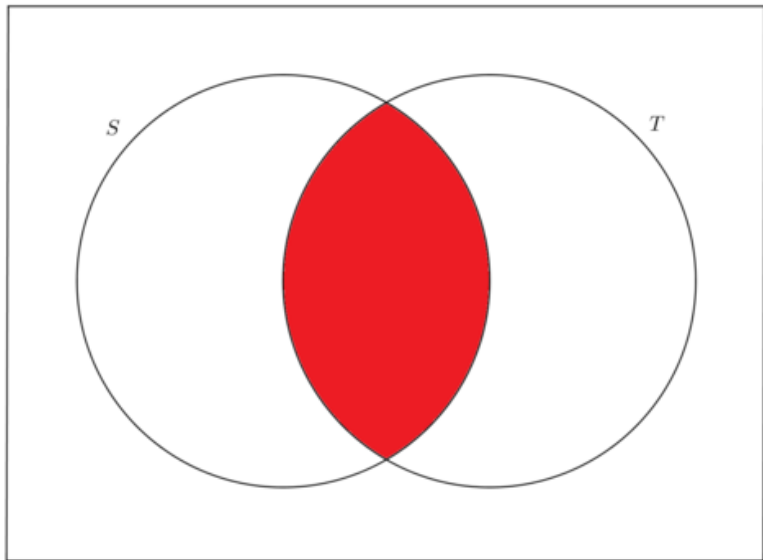


# Set Operations



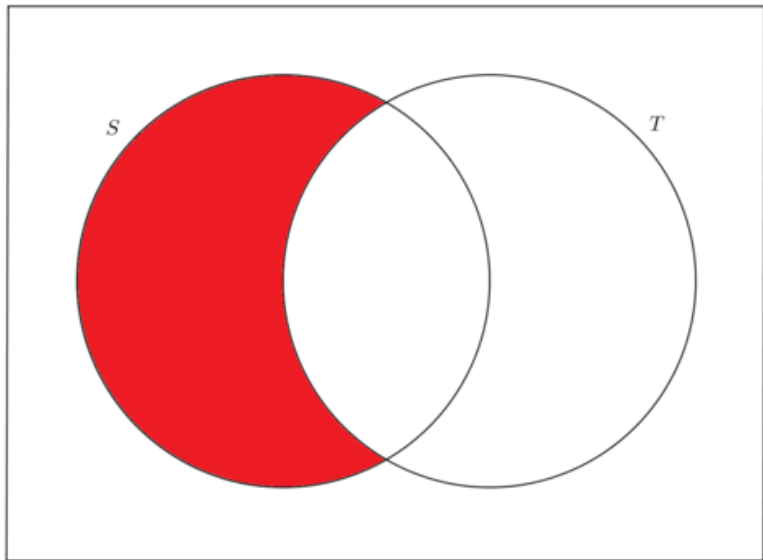
- $\cap$
- $A \cap B := \{x : x \in S \wedge x \in T\}$

# Set Operations



- \ OR –
- $S \setminus T = \{x : x \in S \wedge x \notin T\}$

# Set Operations



For sets  $A$  and  $B$ , their Cartesian product  $A \times B$  is defined as:



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- For example, if  $A = \{a, b\}$  and  $B = \{1, 2\}$ , then  $A \times B = \{(a, 1), (a, 2), (b, 1), (b, 2)\}$ .





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- Holistic perspective:  $A \cup B$  is everything in  $A$  and everything in  $B$
- Elemental perspective:  $x \in A \cup B$  iff  $x \in A$  or  $x \in B$ .

**Guided Example :** For any sets  $A, B, C, D, E$  where  $A \subseteq B \cup C$ ,  $B \subseteq D$ , and  $C \subseteq E$ , we have  $A \subseteq D \cup E$

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- Pictures
- Examples

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- $D = \{1, 4, 5, 7\}$
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- We may be wrong!
- But we at least have some intuition now about where to start



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- $A \subseteq B$  means that every element in  $A$  is also inside of  $B$ .
- We can prove  $A \subseteq B$  by selecting an arbitrary  $x \in A$  and then proving  $x \in B$ .

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- Let  $x \in A$

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- Let  $x \in A$
- We will prove  $x \in D \cup E$
- We introduced a new variable  $x$



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- It is arbitrary, so it is general, we didn't say imagine a prime number in  $A$

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- We cannot say for sure which is the case! So we consider both cases, and show our proof holds for either one



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- We are done!

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- It is therefore important to show both sides of the equality are subsets of one another to do a complete equality proof



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- In words then, what are we saying?
- If the elements that are in  $A$  and  $B$  are equal to  $A$ , then  $A$  is part of the Power Set of  $B$ , meaning  $A$  is one of the group of all subsets of  $B$

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- First statement implies the second, and vice versa

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- For the first step we assume  $A \cap B = A$ . We don't need to prove it until step 2.



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- This completes step 1.

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- As such,  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ .
- Done! This is an easy case, since we only have one set on one side of the equality

# Inclusion-Exclusion principle

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- $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$
- $T = \{1, 4\}$
- $S \cup T = \{1, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$
- $S \cap T = \{1\}$
- $4 = 3 + 2 - 1$

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# Inclusion-Exclusion principle

- We can extend this logic to include a third set
- $|A \cup B \cup C| = |A| + |B| + |C| - |A \cap B| - |A \cap C| - |B \cap C| + |A \cap B \cap C|$

## Quick Question

There is a party!

- You notice 10 people have white shirts, 8 have red shirts
- 4 people have black shoes and white shirts
- 3 have black shoes and red shirts
- 21 people have red shirts or white shorts or black shoes
- How many have black shoes?

We will use set theory rules to translate the words into an algebraic expression. First, define the sets.

- White shirts:  $W$
- Red shirts:  $R$
- Black shoes:  $B$

Next, define the relationships

- Assume people only wear one shirt to a party, so  $(R \cap W) = \emptyset$ .  
Then the set of red shirt guests ( $R$ ) is a complement to the set of white shirt guests ( $R^c$ ).
- Following this assumption, it implies that there are guests wearing other color shirts because  $|R \cup R^c| < |R \cup R^c \cup B|$
- $|B \cup R \cup R^c| = 21$
- $|R \cap B| = 3$
- $|R^c \cap B| = 4$

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# Solution

Now, let's use the inclusion-exclusion principle to solve the equation

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- $21 = 8 + 10 + |B| - 0 - 3 - 4 + 0$



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- $|A \cup B \cup C| = |A| + |B| + |C| - |A \cap B| - |A \cap C| - |B \cap C| + |A \cap B \cap C|$
- $|B \cup R \cup R^c| = |R| + |R^c| + |B| - |R \cap R^c| - |R \cap B| - |B \cap R^c| + |R \cap R^c \cap B|$
- $21 = 8 + 10 + |B| - 0 - 3 - 4 + 0$
- $10 = |B|$

## Cartesian Product is Not Commutative

- $A = \{a, b\}$  and  $B = \{1, 2\}$ , then  
 $A \times B = \{(a, 1), (a, 2), (b, 1), (b, 2)\}$
- BUT  $B \times A = \{(1, a), (1, b), (2, a), (2, b)\}$
- This is because for non-empty  $A$  and  $B$ , if  $A$  contains an element  $x$ , in  $A \times B$  there will be an ordered pair leading with  $x$ , but this will not be the case in the reverse such ordered pair.

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- Let's prove this by **contradiction**

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- From the definition of Cartesian product, this would mean  $x \in A$  and  $y \in \emptyset$
- However, by definition of empty set  $y \notin \emptyset$

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- Then, the ordered pair  $(x, y) \in A \times \emptyset$
- From the definition of Cartesian product, this would mean  $x \in A$  and  $y \in \emptyset$
- However, by definition of empty set  $y \notin \emptyset$
- It is a contradiction to hold  $A \times \emptyset \neq \emptyset$ , therefore  $A \times \emptyset = \emptyset$

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- It **also** means that when our conditions hold, it implies our statement

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- If  $A = \emptyset$ , then  $A \times B = \emptyset$ . Same goes for  $B$ . If that is the case, then  $A \times B = B \times A$



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- Therefore  $A \times (B \cup C) \subseteq (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$
- Recall a complete proof must also show  $(A \times B) \cup (A \times C) \subseteq A \times (B \cup C)$  to establish equality

True or false (and provide a proof) Let  $D, E$  be two sets

$$(D \setminus E) \cup E = D$$



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$$D \cap (D \cup E) = D$$

# Summary

- Set theory is the formal study of the relationship between collections of objects
- Database management is an application of this theory
- Understanding the abstract rules from set theory will provide us with a guide post to move forward
- The more comfortable you feel with the logical rules from set theory, the easier it will be to think about relationships, entities, and manipulating data to form queries
- We will now turn to practicing these questions in a more guided way