Section 3.6 Cartesian Products

Unordered Sets

• Sets are unordered

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

• Sometimes the order of items is important such as when we want to talk about the first, second, and third place finishers of a race

1st	Chris
2nd	Stacy
3rd	Sandy

• In this case, we can use an ordered triple:

(Chris, Stacy, Sandy)

 Note that we use parentheses instead of the curly braces used for sets

 In general, to establish an order of n items, we use an ordered ntuple

$$(a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n)$$

• Since the order matters:

(Chris, Stacy, Sandy) \neq (Stacy, Sandy, Chris)

• Unlike sets, repetition is allowed in ordered n-tuples

• Example: what are the different ways that some one can give you 7-cents using 3 coins?

(penny, penny, nickel)

(penny, nickel, penny)

(nickel, penny, penny)

• Two n-tuples are equal if they have the same items in the same order:

$$(a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n) = (b_1, b_2, \cdots, b_n)$$

if and only if
$$\forall i (1 \le i \le n \rightarrow a_i = b_i)$$

• The cartesian product of two sets A and B, A × B, is the set containing all of the ways that a member of A can be paired with a member of B.

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$$

• Note that (*a*, *b*) is an ordered pair (2-tuple)

• What is {chocolate, vanilla, strawberry} × {ice cream, milkshake}?

• A table may be helpful:

chocolate	
vanilla	
strawberry	

ice cream	milkshake	
(chocolate, ice cream)	(chocolate, milkshake)	
(vanilla, ice cream)	(vanilla,milkshake)	
(strawberry,ice cream)	(strawberry,milkshake)	

• What is {chocolate, vanilla, strawberry} × {ice cream, milkshake}?

{chocolate, vanilla, strawberry} × {ice cream, milkshake} = {(chocolate, ice cream), (chocolate, milkshake), (vanilla, ice cream), (vanilla, milkshake), (strawberry, ice cream), (strawberry, milkshake)}

 Any finite number of sets can be combined using the cartesian product:

$$A_1 \times A_2 \times \cdots \times A_n = \{(a_1, a_2, \cdots a_n) \mid a_1 \in A_1, a_2 \in A_2, \cdots a_n \in A_n\}$$

• Example

 $\{1,2\} \times \{a,b\} \times \{X\} \times \{3,c\} = \{(1,a,X,3), (1,a,X,c), (1,b,X,3), (1,b,X,c), (2,a,X,3), (2,a,X,c), (2,b,X,3), (2,b,X,c)\}$

• The cartesian product of a set A with itself is abbreviated as A^2

$$A^2 = A \times A = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A \text{ and } b \in A\}$$

• In general:

$$A^n = A \times A \times \dots \times A$$

$$n \text{ times}$$

• Cartesian products are not always finite. Recall that *N* is the set of natural numbers, {0, 1, 2, 3, ... }

$N \times N$ = {(0,0), (0,1), (0,2), ..., (1,0), (1,1), (1,2), ... (2,0), (2,1), (2,2), ..., ... }

Sets of N-Tuples

• The cartesian product of sets A and B, A × B, contains <u>all possible</u> pairs of values from A and B

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$$

• It is possible to have subsets of $A \times B$

Sets of N-Tuples

- Example: Let $A = \{a, b, c\}$ and $B = \{1, 2\}$
- $A \times B = \{(a, 1), (a, 2), (b, 1), (b, 2), (c, 1), (c, 2)\}$

$\{(a,1),(b,1),(c,1)\}\subseteq A\times B$

 $\{a,c\}\times\{2\}\subseteq A\times B$

• What is $\emptyset \times \{x, y, z\}$?

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• $A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$

• $\emptyset \times \{x, y, z\} = \emptyset$

• Prove that if $A \subseteq C$ and $B \subseteq D$ then $A \times B \subseteq C \times D$

- Prove that if $A \subseteq C$ and $B \subseteq D$ then $A \times B \subseteq C \times D$
 - $A \subseteq C$ means if $x \in A$ then $x \in C$
 - $B \subseteq D$ means if $x \in B$ then $x \in D$
 - $A \times B \subseteq C \times D$ means if $(x, y) \in A \times B$ then $(x, y) \in C \times D$
 - $(x, y) \in A \times B$ means $x \in A$ and $y \in B$
 - $(x, y) \in C \times D$ means $x \in C$ and $y \in D$

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First, try using a few sets

- $A = \{x, y\}$
- $B = \{1, 2\}$
- $C = \{x, y, z\}$
- $D = \{1, 2, 3\}$
- $A \times B = \{(x, 1), (x, 2), (y, 1), (y, 2)\}$
- $C \times D = \{(x, 1), (x, 2), (x, 3), (y, 1), (y, 2), (y, 3), (z, 1), (z, 2), (z, 3)\}$

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 - 2. Assume $(x, y) \in A \times B$
 - 3. $x \in A$ and $y \in B$

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 - 1. Assume $A \subseteq C$ and $B \subseteq D$
 - 2. Assume $(x, y) \in A \times B$
 - 3. $x \in A$ and $y \in B$
 - 4. $x \in C$ and $y \in D$ because $A \subseteq C$ and $B \subseteq D$

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 - 6. If $(x, y) \in A \times B$ then $(x, y) \in C \times D$
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 - 7. $A \times B \subseteq C \times D$
 - 8. If $A \subseteq C$ and $B \subseteq D$ then $A \times B \subseteq C \times D$

• Prove that if A, B, and C are nonempty sets and $A \times B = A \times C$ then B = C

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 - 11. $x \in B$

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 - 10. $(a, x) \in A \times B$
 - 11. $x \in B$
 - 12. If $x \in C$ then $x \in B$

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 - 9. $(a, x) \in A \times C$
 - 10. $(a, x) \in A \times B$
 - 11. $x \in B$
 - 12. If $x \in C$ then $x \in B$
 - 13. $x \in B$ if and only if $x \in C$

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 - 14. B = C

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15. if A, B, and C are nonempty sets and $A \times B = A \times C$ then B = C