

LECTURE 3  
(Fri. JAN. 10, 2020)

Three subsets  $A, B, C \subseteq X$ .

Their union:

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

Their intersection:

~ usual interpretation

⋯

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

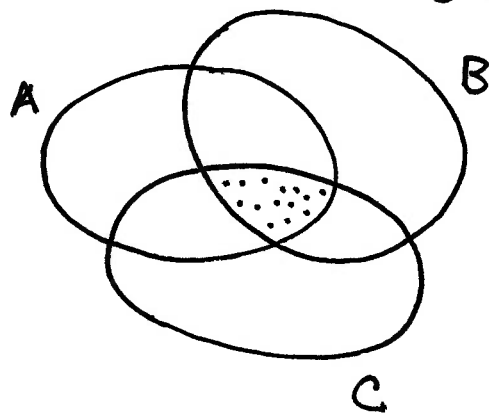
— Extends to  $n$  subsets

$$A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$$

or even a whole (infinite)

sequence of subsets:

$$A_1, A_2, \dots$$



For instance: By definition,

$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \{x: x \in A_n \text{ for some } n \geq 1\}$$

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \{x: x \in A_n \text{ for all } n \geq 1\}$$

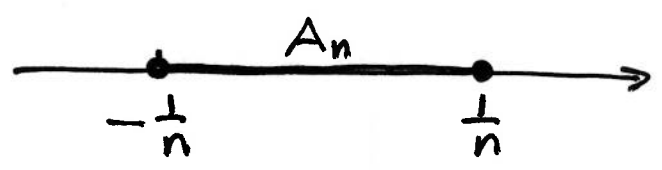
Remark: Analogous to  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  where  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  sequence of numbers.

— the summation index "n" can be called anything.  
(dummy variable)

EX ( $X = \mathbb{R}$ )  $A_n = [-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : |x| \leq \frac{1}{n}\}$

$A_1 = [-1, 1]$

$A_2 = [-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$  etc.



"decreasing":  $A_1 \supseteq A_2 \supseteq A_3 \supseteq \dots$

$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = A_1 = [-1, 1]$

$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = A_{\infty} = [-\frac{1}{\infty}, \frac{1}{\infty}]$

For the whole sequence:

$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \{0\}$

$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = A_1 = [-1, 1]$

- why? Clearly  $0 \in A_n$  for all  $n$ . (shows  $\supseteq$ )

$\subseteq$ : Suppose  $x \in A_n$  for all  $n$ , i.e.  $|x| \leq \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $n$ . Must have  $|x| = 0$ .

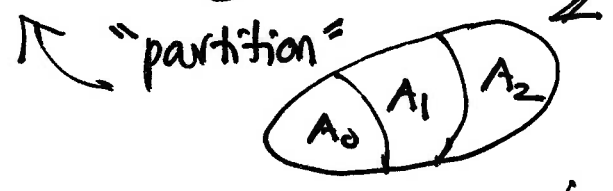
Otherwise  $|x| > 0$  and  $\frac{1}{n} < |x|$  for large enough  $n$ .

EX  $A_0 = \{3m : m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

$A_1 = \{3m+1 : m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

$A_2 = \{3m+2 : m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

$A_0 \cup A_1 \cup A_2 = \mathbb{Z}$



(pairwise disjoint)  $\leftarrow$  stronger than:  $A_0 \cap A_1 \cap A_2 = \emptyset$

Indexed collections of sets:

Fix an "index set"  $I$ .

(above  $I = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  or  $I = \mathbb{N}$  etc.)

Suppose for each  $\alpha \in I$  there's an associated subset:

$$A_\alpha \subseteq X.$$

- Now,

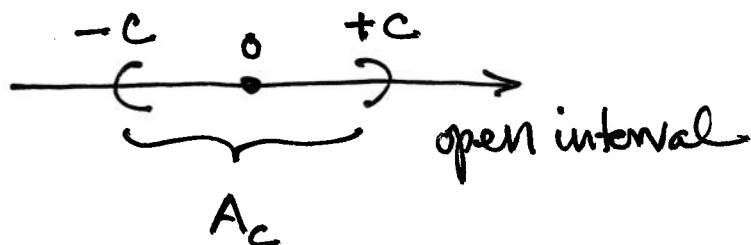
$$\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha = \{x: x \in A_\alpha \text{ for some } \alpha \in I\}$$

$$\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha = \{x: x \in A_\alpha \text{ for all } \alpha \in I\}.$$

EX. ( $X = \mathbb{R}$ ) Take index set  $I = \{c \in \mathbb{R}: c > 0\}$   
(pos. reals)

For each  $c > 0$  consider

$$A_c = (-c, c)$$



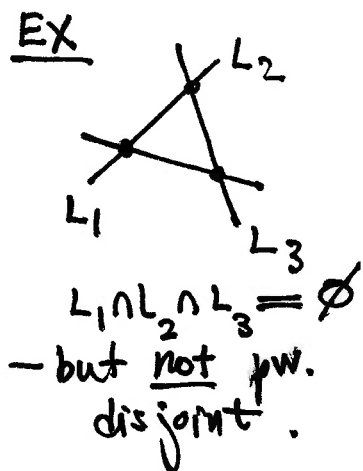
Hence:

$$\bigcup_{c > 0} A_c = \mathbb{R}$$

and

$$\bigcap_{c > 0} A_c = \{0\}$$

(if  $x \neq 0$ , then  $|x| \geq c$   
for some  $c > 0$ ,  
for ex.  $c = |x|$ .)



Thm (de Morgan - extended) For every indexed collection  $A_\alpha \subseteq X$ , for  $\alpha \in I$ : (ex.  $A_1, A_2, \dots$ )

$$(i) \quad \overline{\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha} = \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} \overline{A_\alpha}$$

$$(ii) \quad \overline{\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha} = \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} \overline{A_\alpha}$$

- Why? (i): Unwind def., etc. (mimic  $A \cup B$  case)

(ii): Apply (i) to  $\overline{A_\alpha}$  ✓

o Fundamental properties: (p. 121)

1) commutative laws:  $\begin{cases} A \cup B = B \cup A \\ A \cap B = B \cap A \end{cases}$   
(obvious)

2) associative laws:  $\begin{cases} A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap C \\ A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup C \end{cases}$   
(obvious)

3) distributive laws:  $\begin{cases} A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \\ A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C) \end{cases}$   
↑ (not obvious)

compare: For numbers  $a, b, c$ ,  
 $a \cdot (b + c) = (a \cdot b) + (a \cdot c)$  etc.