

Set Theory: Venn Diagrams & Subsets

1. Consider the set $A = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$.

(a) Determine the number of proper subsets of A .

$$2^5 - 1 = 31$$

(b) What's the only non-proper subset of A ?

$$A$$

(c) Consider the set $B = \{0, 1, 3\}$. Is B a subset of A ? Explain why or why not.

$$\text{No, } 0 \in B, 0 \notin A$$

2. Suppose you have a collection of dollar bills, one twenty, one ten, one five, and one single. How many different sums of money can you make using just these bills? (Note: You don't have to use all of them).

$$2^4 = 16$$

3. There are nine students in a math club. At least one of these students must show up to advertise the club at freshman orientation. How many different subsets of the math club could possibly show up?

$$2^9$$

4. Let $U = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$. Find the complement of each of the following sets.

(a) U

$$U' = \emptyset$$

(b) $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

$$\{0, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$$

(c) \emptyset

$$U$$

(d) $\{0, 2, 4, 6, 8\}$

$$\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$$

5. In discovering the expression 2^n for finding the number of subsets of a set of n elements, it's easy to see that for the first few values of n , increasing the number of elements by 1 doubles the number of subsets. We will prove this formula in general for any value of n . Let A be a set with n elements and s subsets. Let us add an additional element, let's call it e , to the set A . Note we now have a new set, we can call this B , with $n + 1$ elements.

While general solutions are given, it is highly advised that you explore and understand the solutions

- (a) How many subsets of B do not contain e ?
 2^n (all subsets of A , which contained n elements.)
- (b) How many subsets of B do contain e ? (Hint: these are all the subsets that don't contain e with an additional element e).
 2^n , each of the subsets above, except now each contains element e
- (c) What is the total number of subsets of B ?
 $2^n + 2^n = 2(2^n) = 2^{n+1}$
- (d) What do you conclude?