



Set

GATE PYQs



Instructor:

Deepak Poonia

IISc Bangalore

GATE CSE AIR 53; AIR 67; AIR 206; AIR 256;

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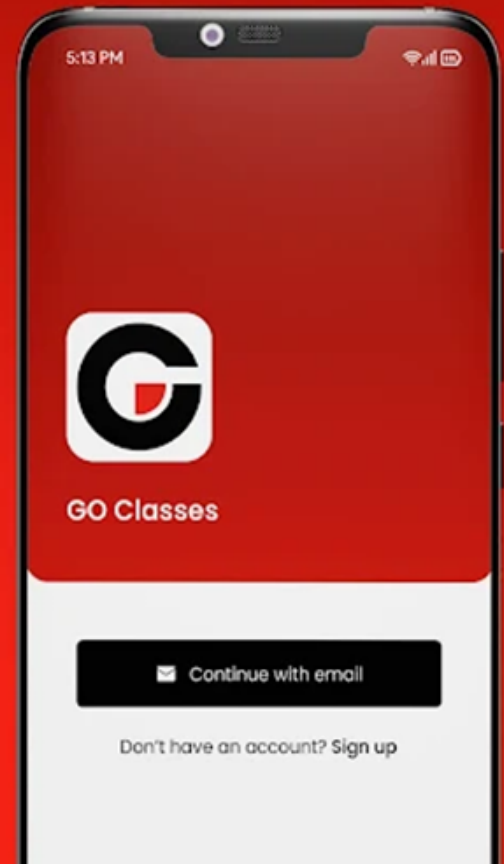
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Set Basics

GATE PYQs



Source of these Questions:

GATEOverflow Website (for GATE CSE)

Download “BEST GATE CSE PYQs Books” for FREE:

<https://github.com/GATEOverflow/GO-PDFs/releases/tag/gatecse-2022-vol1%2C2>

BEST Website for GATE CSE Questions:

<https://gateoverflow.in/>

4.11.5 Sets: GATE CSE 1995 | Question: 1.20 [top](#)<https://gateoverflow.in/2607>

The number of elements in the power set $P(S)$ of the set $S = \{\{\emptyset\}, 1, \{2, 3\}\}$ is:

- A. 2
- B. 4
- C. 8

$$\text{Set } S; |S| = n \\ |P(S)| = 2^n$$

4.11.5 Sets: GATE CSE 1995 | Question: 1.20 top<https://gateoverflow.in/2607>

The number of elements in the power set $P(S)$ of the set $S = \{\{0\}, 1, \{2, 3\}\}$ is:

- A. 2
- B. 4
- C. 8 ✓

$$|S| = 3$$

$$|P(S)| = 2^3 = 8$$

→ an element of S
→ $\{\emptyset\}$

10.9.1 Power Set: UGC NET CSE | December 2012 | Part 2 | Question: 4 [top](#)

The power set of the set $\{\Phi\}$ is

- A. $\{\Phi\}$
B. $\{\Phi, \{\Phi\}\}$
C. $\{0\}$
D. $\{0, \Phi, \{\Phi\}\}$

[ugcnetcse-dec2012-paper2](#) [set-theory&algebra](#) [set-theory](#) [power-set](#)



$$S = \{\phi\} \Rightarrow P(S) = \{\phi, \{\phi\}\}$$

10.9.1 Power Set: UGC NET CSE | December 2012 | Part 2 | Question: 4 top 3

The power set of the set $\{\Phi\}$ is

- A. $\{\Phi\}$
- C. $\{0\}$

- B. $\{\Phi, \{\Phi\}\}$
- D. $\{0, \Phi, \{\Phi\}\}$

ugcnetcse-dec2012-paper2 set-theory&algebra set-theory power-set

$$|S| = 1$$

$$|P(S)| = 2$$

$\phi \subseteq S$ for all set S



$\{\phi\} \neq \phi$

Empty set

Not empty set

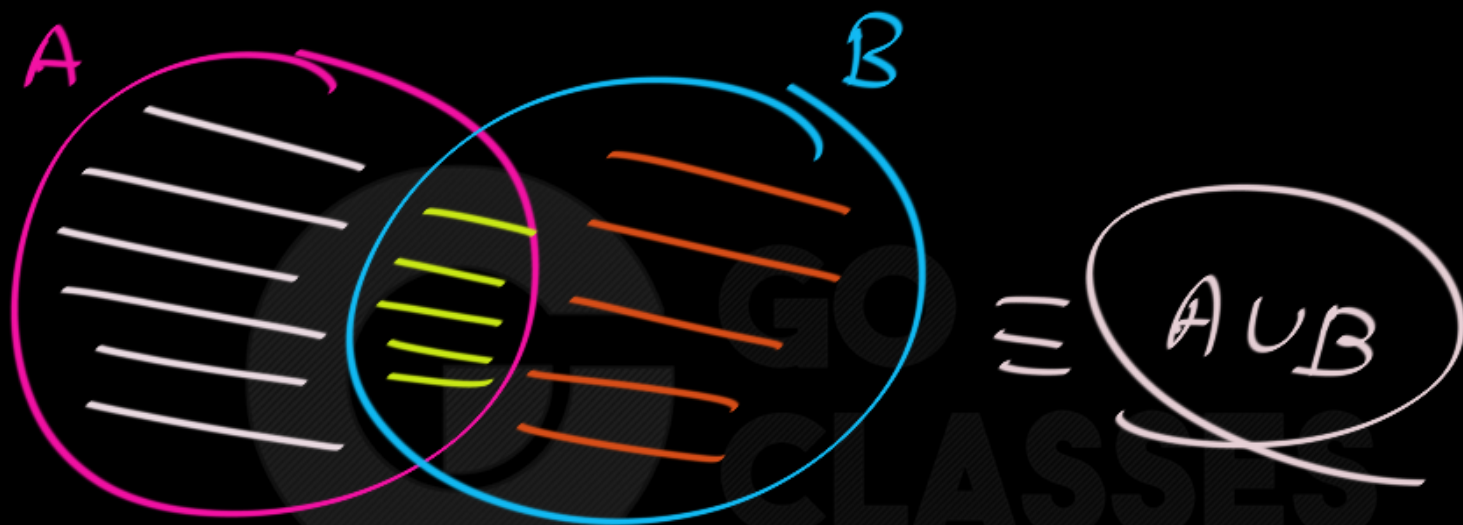
$$|\phi| = 0$$
$$|\{\phi\}| = 1$$

4.11.7 Sets: GATE CSE 1996 | Question: 1.1 [top](#)<https://gateoverflow.in/2705>

Let A and B be sets and let A^c and B^c denote the complements of the sets A and B . The set $(A - B) \cup (B - A) \cup (A \cap B)$ is equal to

- A. $A \cup B$
- B. $A^c \cup B^c$
- C. $A \cap B$
- D. $A^c \cap B^c$





$$(A - B) \cup (B - A) \cup (A \cap B)$$

$$P \Delta Q = (P \cup Q) - (P \cap Q)$$



4.11.26 Sets: GATE IT 2006 | Question: 23 [top](#)<https://gateoverflow.in/3562>

Let P , Q and R be sets let Δ denote the symmetric difference operator defined as $P\Delta Q = (P \cup Q) - (P \cap Q)$. Using Venn diagrams, determine which of the following is/are TRUE?

- I. $P\Delta(Q \cap R) = (P\Delta Q) \cap (P\Delta R)$
- II. $P \cap (Q \cap R) = (P \cap Q)\Delta(P\Delta R)$

- A. I only
- B. II only
- C. Neither I nor II
- D. Both I and II



4.11.26 Sets: GATE IT 2006 | Question: 23 top<https://gateoverflow.in/3562>

Let P , Q and R be sets let Δ denote the symmetric difference operator defined as $P\Delta Q = (P \cup Q) - (P \cap Q)$.
Using Venn diagrams, determine which of the following is/are TRUE?

I. $P\Delta(Q \cap R) = (P\Delta Q) \cap (P\Delta R)$

II. $P \cap (Q \cap R) = (P \cap Q) \Delta (P \Delta R)$

- A. I only
 B. II only
 C. Neither I nor II
 D. Both I and II

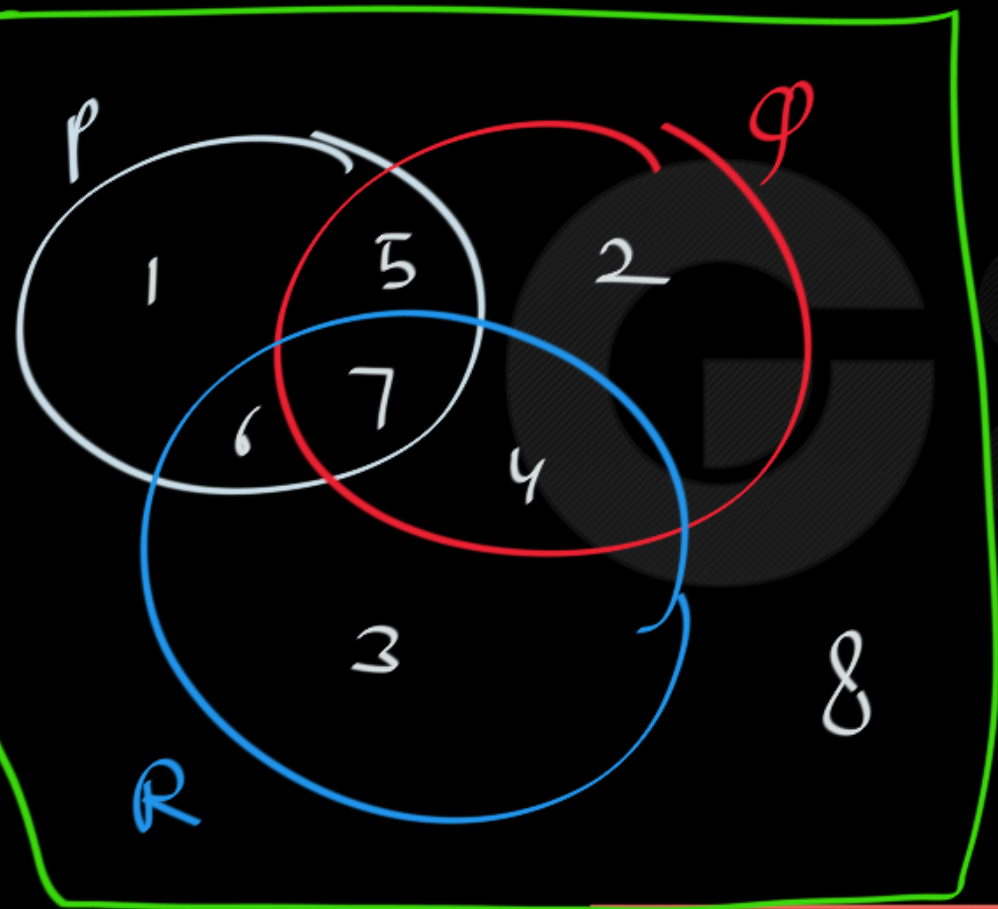
false

false

$P \cap Q \cap R$



①



3 set P, Q, R

23 Areas in Venn Diagram

Exclusive News:

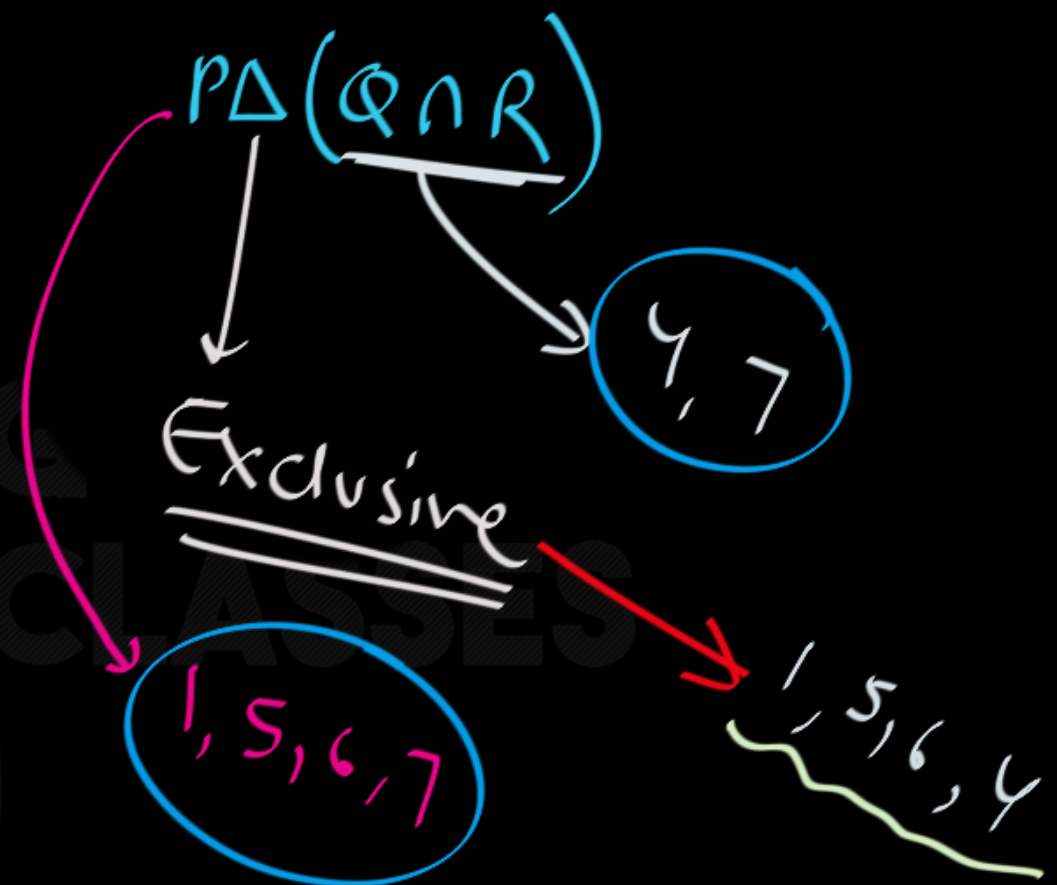
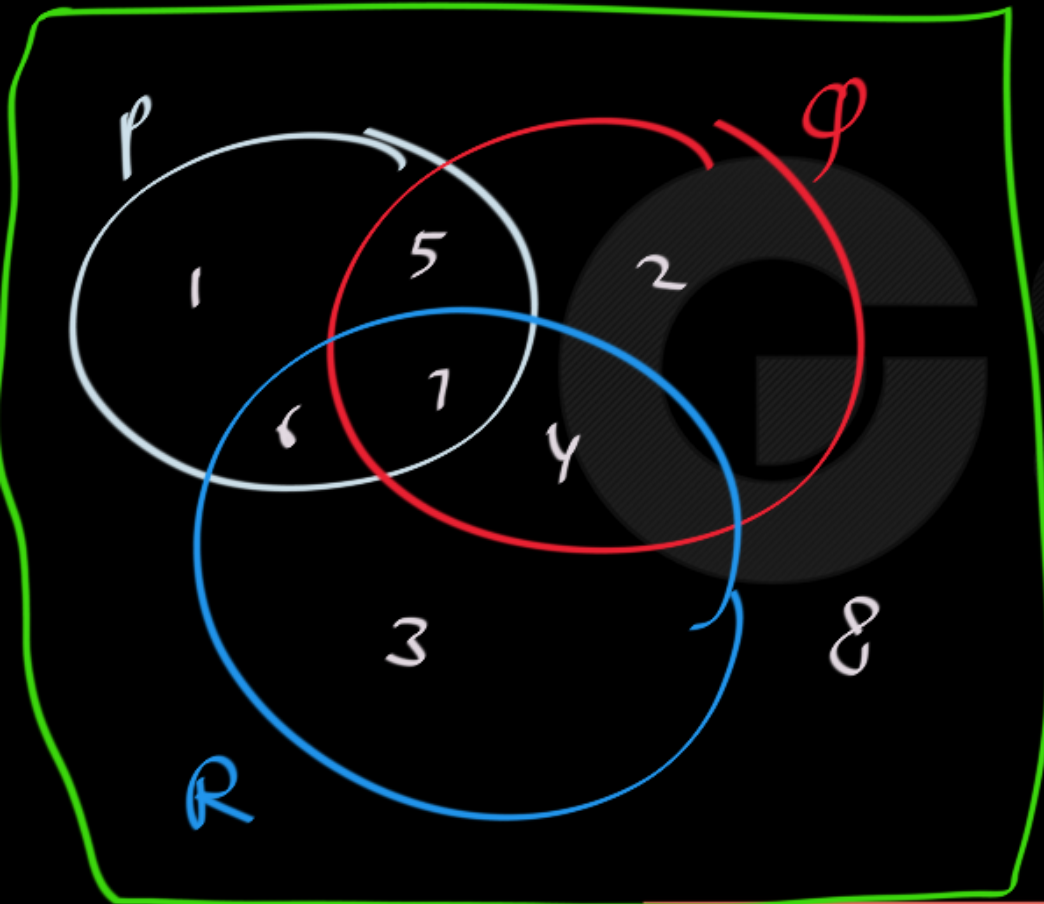
Tv channels: ZN, AT

ZN and \overline{AT}

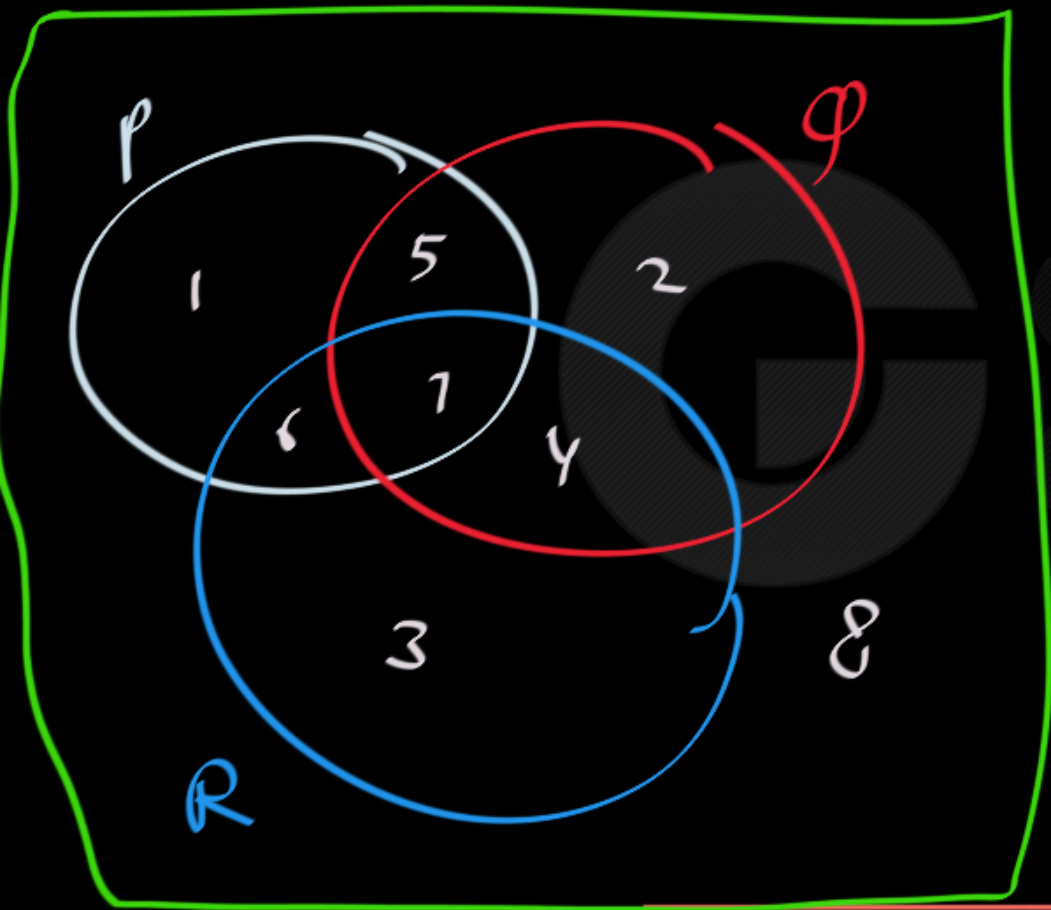
OR

AT and \overline{ZN}

①



①



$$P \Delta (Q \cap R) = \underline{\underline{1, 5, 6, 4}}$$

$$(P \Delta Q) \cap (P \Delta R)$$

\uparrow 1567 \uparrow 2457 \uparrow 1567
 \rightarrow 3, 4, 6, 7

exclusive

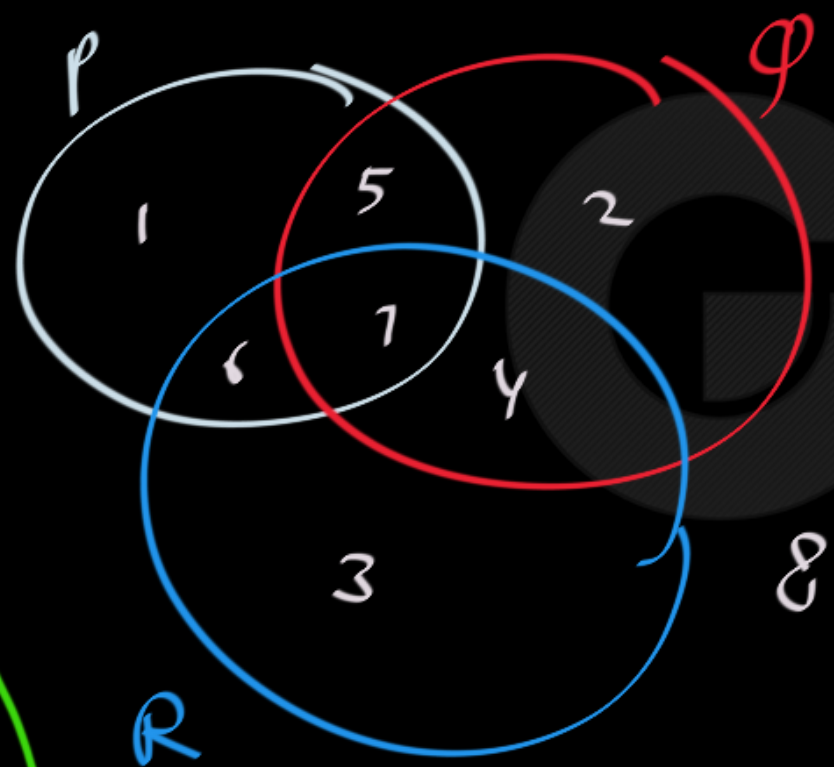
$$\underline{\underline{1624}}$$

exclusive

$$\underline{\underline{1534}}$$

$$\textcircled{14}$$

①

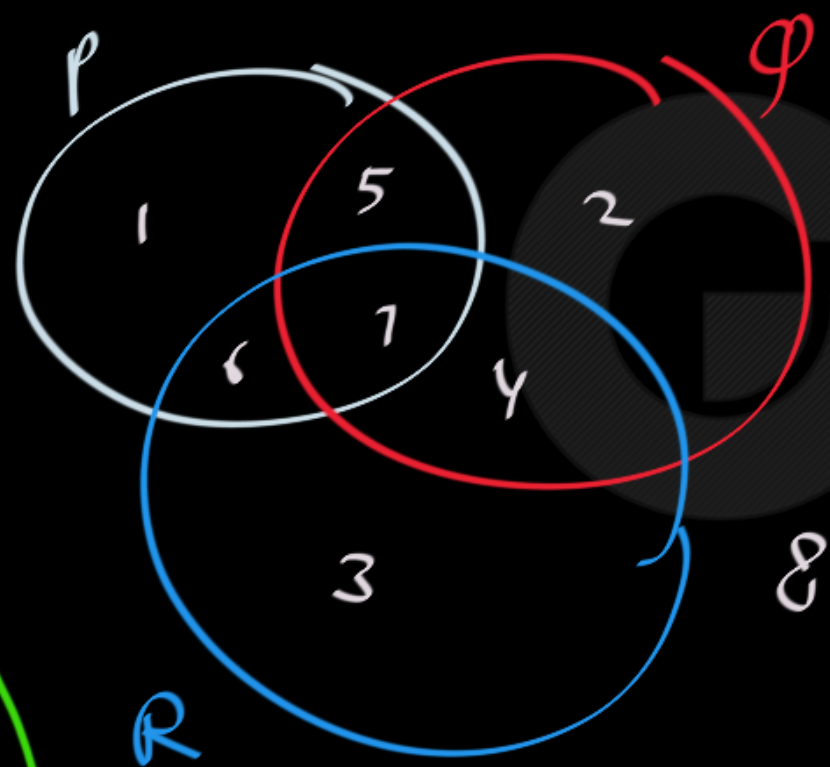


$$P \Delta (Q \cap R) = \underline{\underline{1, 5, 6, 4}}$$

$$(P \Delta Q) \cap (P \Delta R) = 1, 4$$

$$(P \Delta Q) \cap (P \Delta R) \neq P \Delta (Q \cap R)$$

①



$$P \Delta (Q \cap R) = \underline{\underline{1, 5, 6, 4}}$$

$$(P \Delta Q) \cap (P \Delta R) = 1, 4$$

$$(P \Delta Q) \cap (P \Delta R) \subset$$

$$P \Delta (Q \cap R)$$

①: false

$$P \Delta (Q \cap R) = (P \Delta Q) \cap (P \Delta R)$$

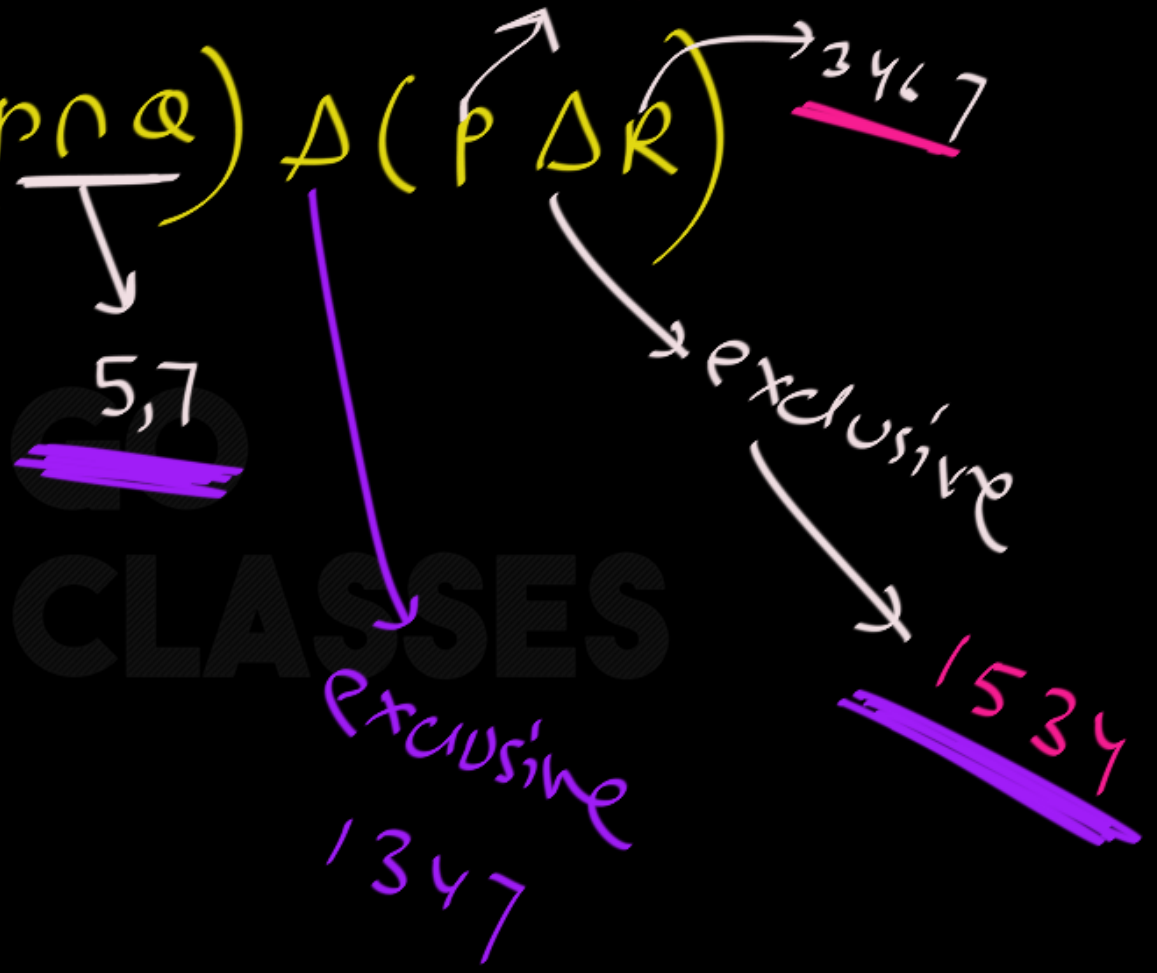
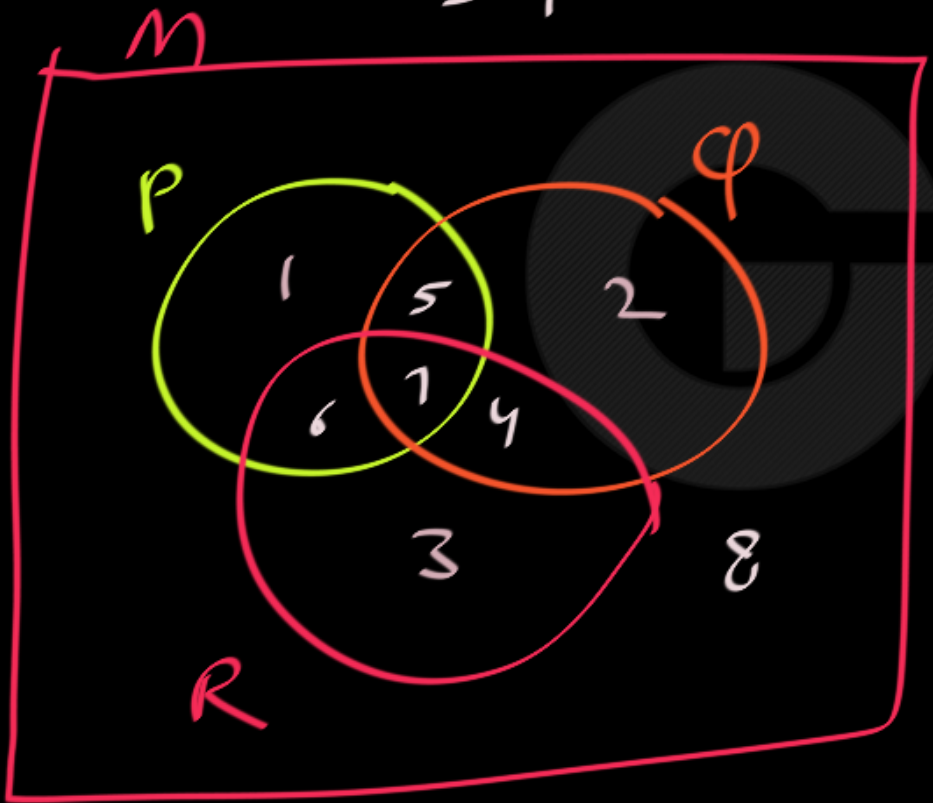
→ false

means:

Δ is **NOT** distributive
over \cap .

2

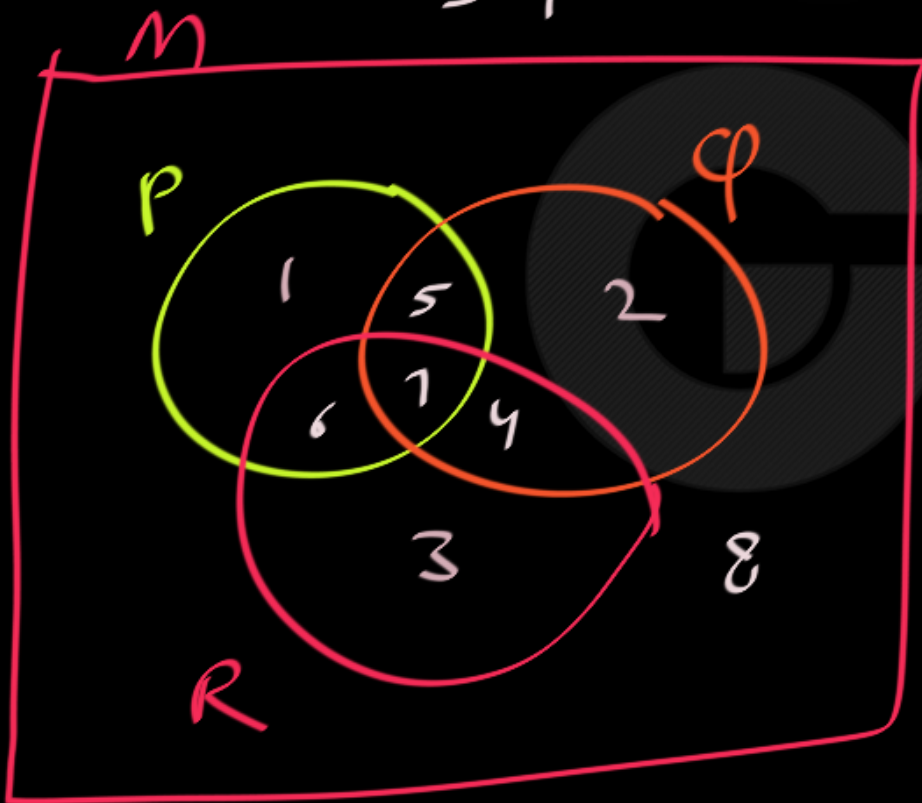
$$\underline{p \cap q \cap r} = (\underline{p \cap q}) \Delta (p \Delta r)$$



2

$$\underline{p \cap q \cap r} = (\underline{p \cap q}) \Delta (p \Delta r)$$

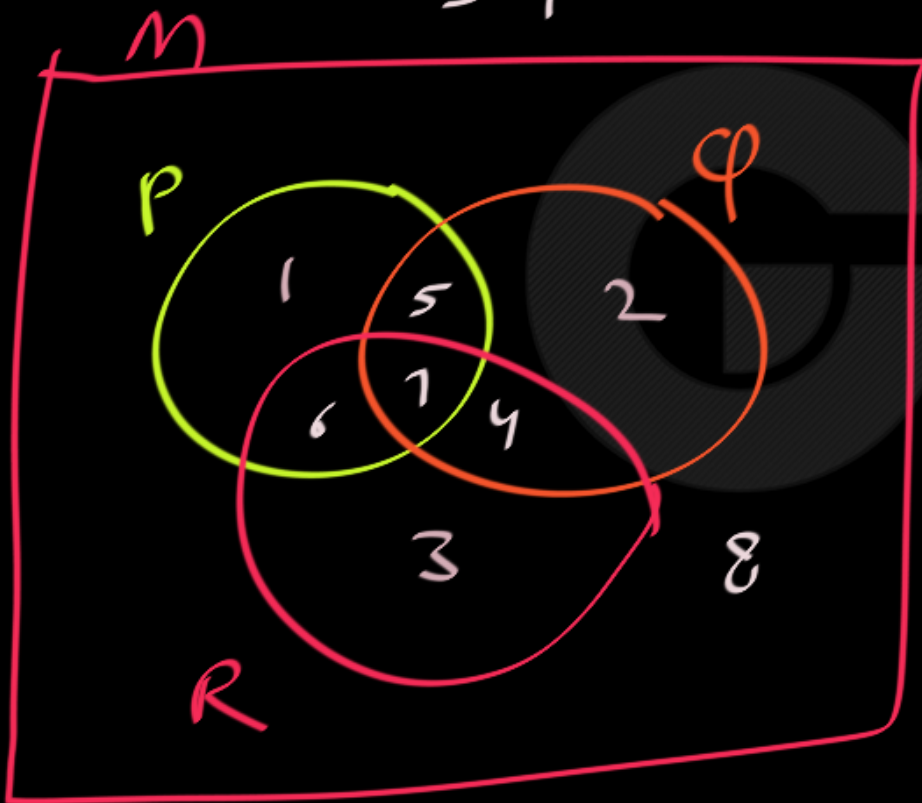
False



1347

2

$$\underline{P \cap Q \cap R} \subseteq \left(\underline{P \cap Q} \right) \Delta (P \Delta R)$$



1, 3, 4, 7

4.11.16 Sets: GATE CSE 2008 | Question: 2 [top](#)<https://gateoverflow.in/400>

If P, Q, R are subsets of the universal set U , then

$$(P \cap Q \cap R) \cup (P^c \cap Q \cap R) \cup Q^c \cup R^c$$

is

- A. $Q^c \cup R^c$
- B. $P \cup Q^c \cup R^c$
- C. $P^c \cup Q^c \cup R^c$
- D. U



$$\overline{P} \cup Q \cup R = \overline{Q} \cup R \quad \text{m}$$

4.11.16 Sets: GATE CSE 2008 | Question: 2 [top](#)

<https://gateoverflow.in/400>



If P, Q, R are subsets of the universal set U , then

$$(P \cap Q \cap R) \cup (P^c \cap Q \cap R) \cup Q^c \cup R^c$$

is

- A. $Q^c \cup R^c$
- B. $P \cup Q^c \cup R^c$
- C. $P^c \cup Q^c \cup R^c$
- D. U

$$(Q \cap R) \cup Q^c \cup R^c$$

$$\overline{Q} \cup R \cup \overline{R} = U$$



+

+

4.11.16 Sets: GATE CSE 2008 | Question: 2 [top](#)<https://gateoverflow.in/400>

If P, Q, R are subsets of the universal set U , then

$$(P \cap Q \cap R) \cup (P^c \cap Q \cap R) \cup Q^c \cup R^c$$

is

- A. $Q^c \cup R^c$
- B. $P \cup Q^c \cup R^c$
- C. $P^c \cup Q^c \cup R^c$
- ~~D. U~~ $= m$



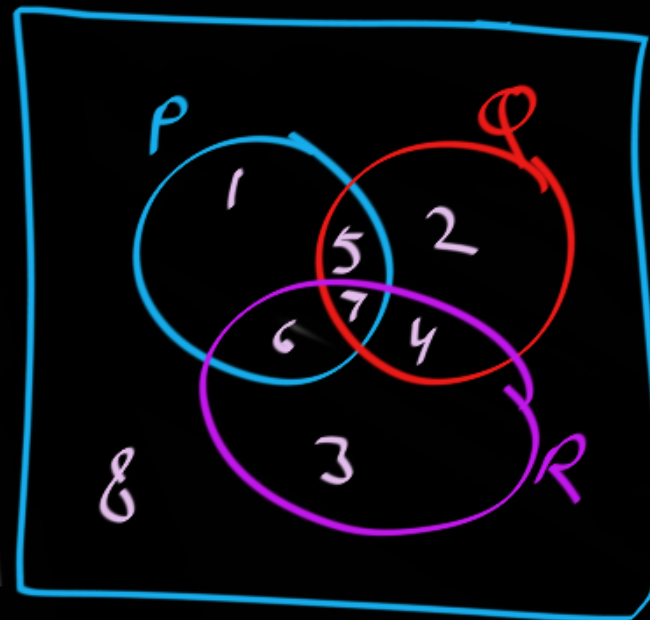
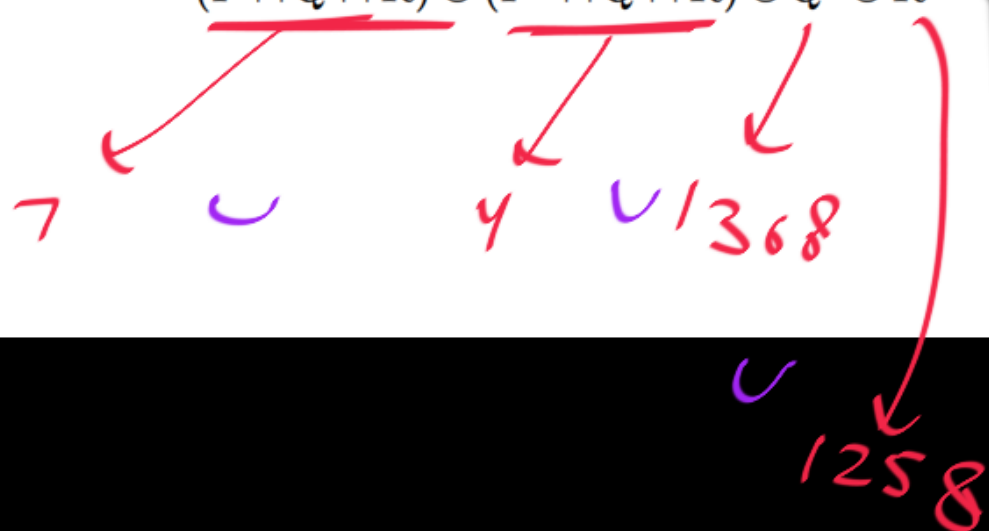
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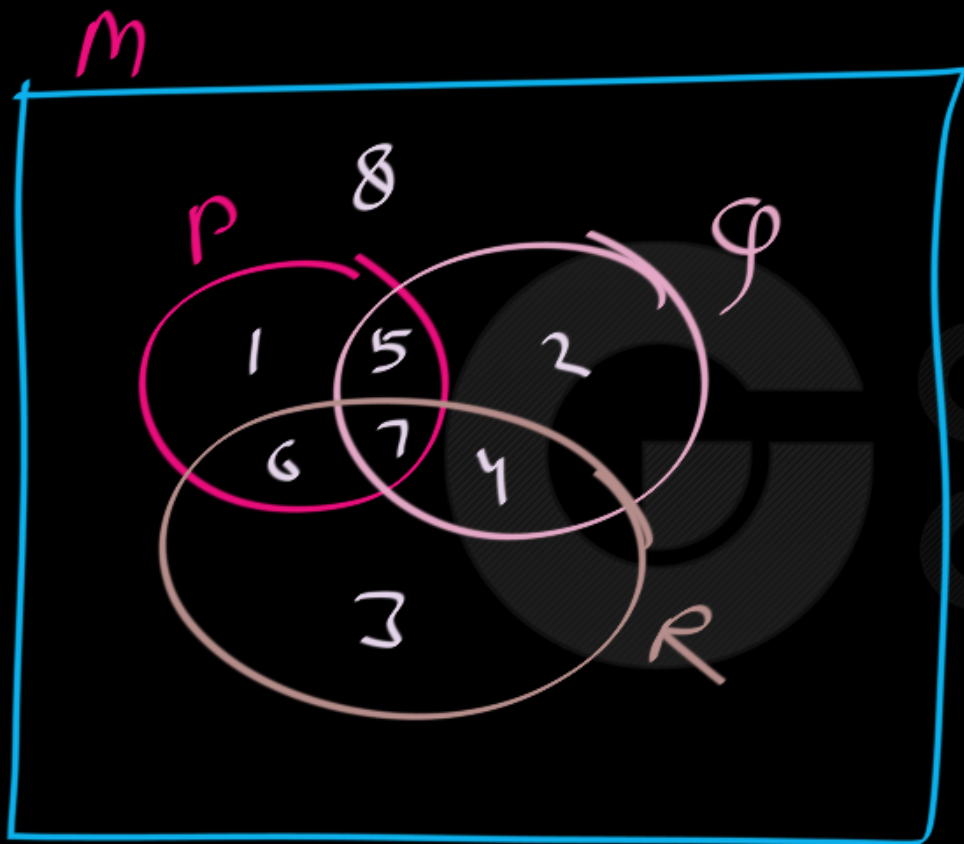
If P, Q, R are subsets of the universal set U , then

$$(P \cap Q \cap R) \cup (P^c \cap Q \cap R) \cup Q^c \cup R^c$$

is

- A. $Q^c \cup R^c$
- B. $P \cup Q^c \cup R^c$
- C. $P^c \cup Q^c \cup R^c$
- D. $U = \mathcal{M}$





$$(P \cap Q \cap R)$$

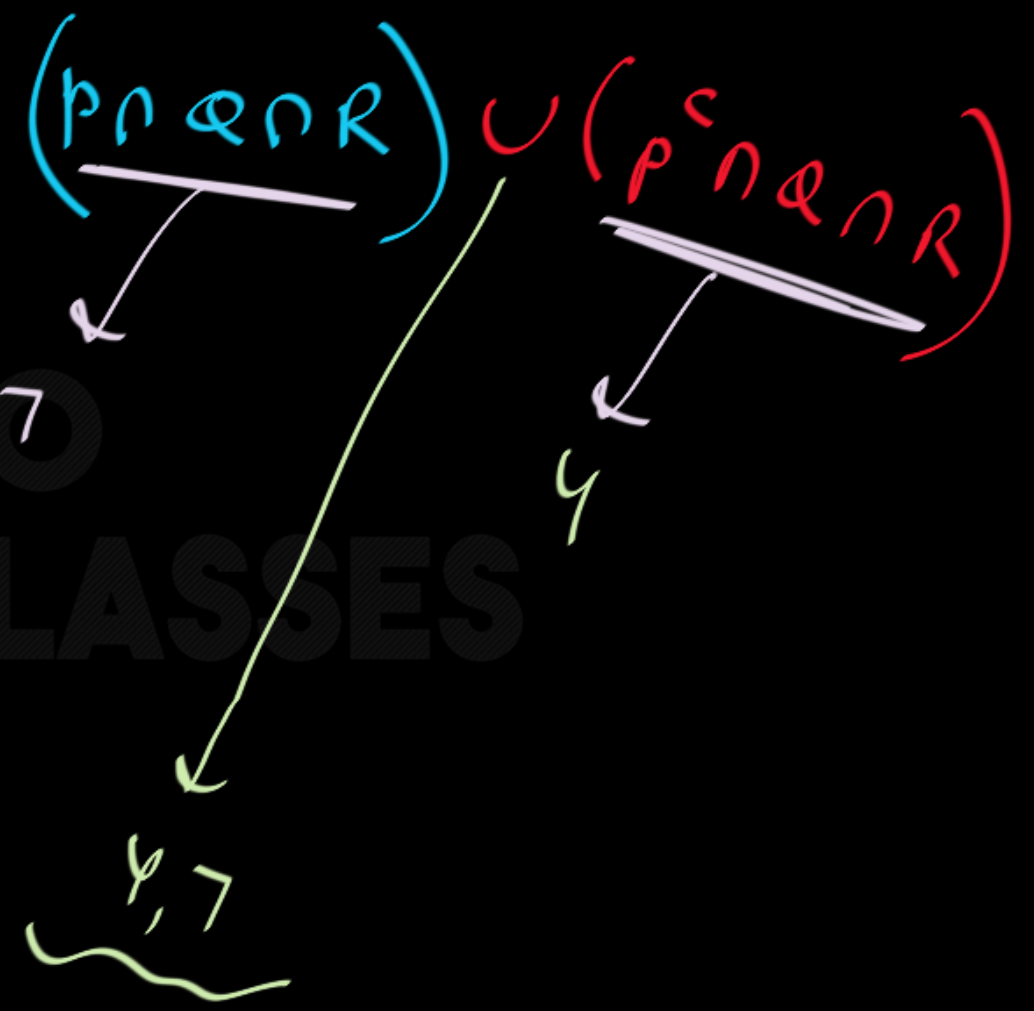
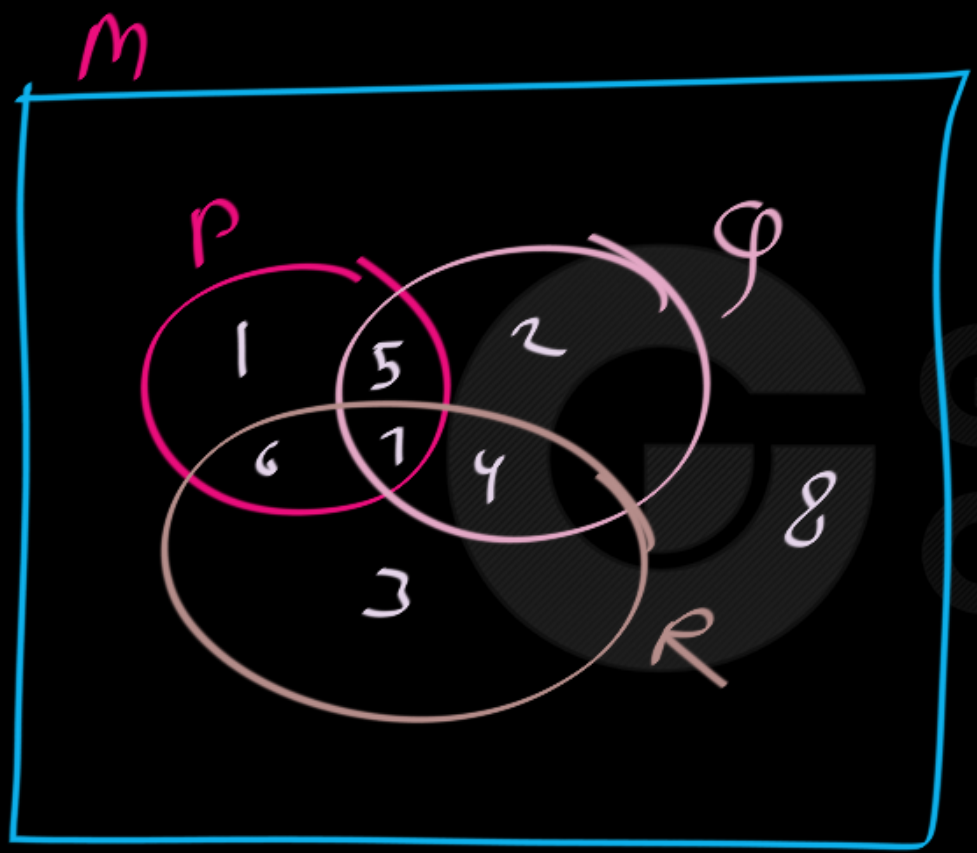
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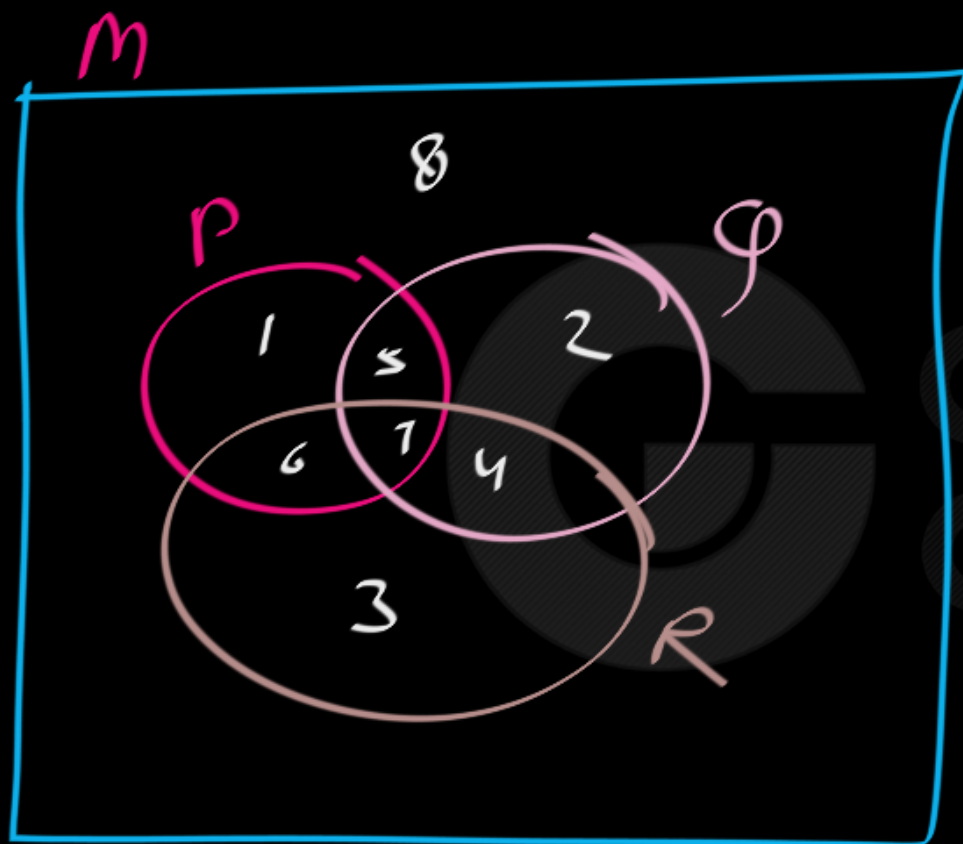
7

$P \cap Q \cap R$

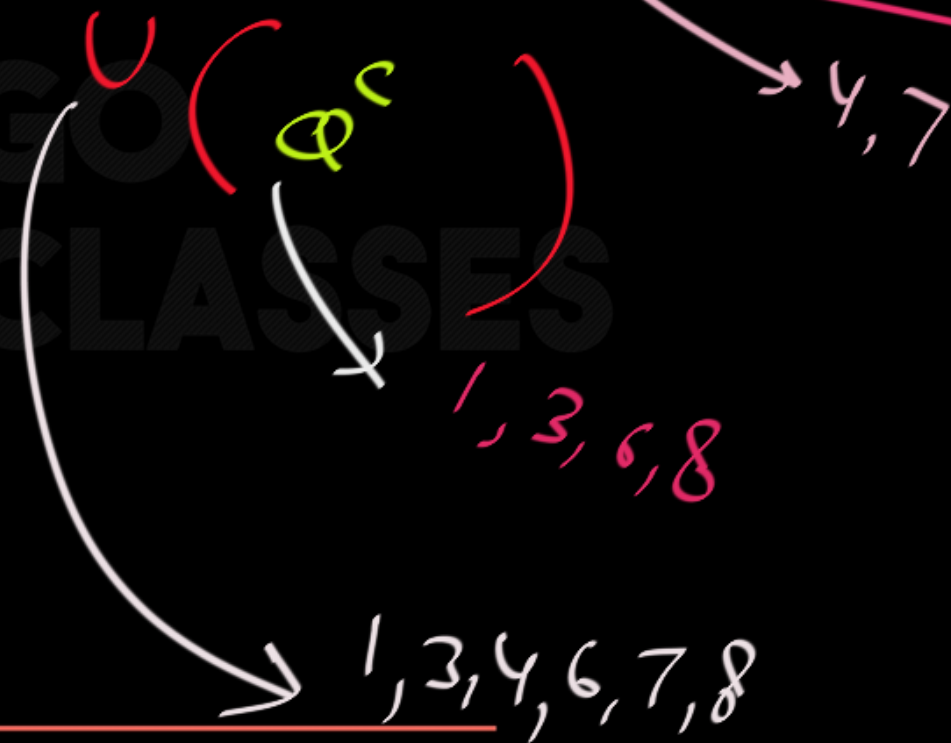
means

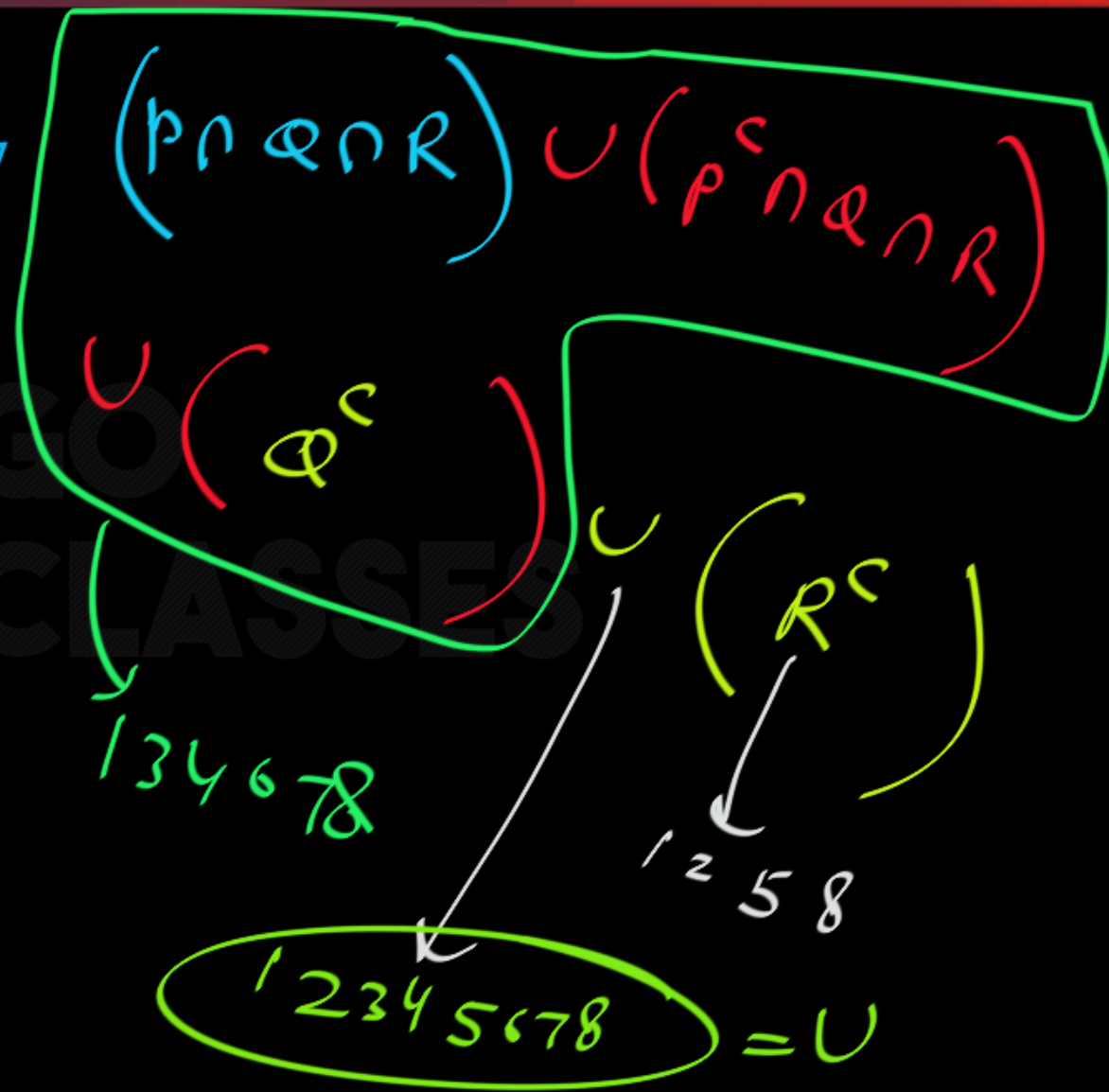
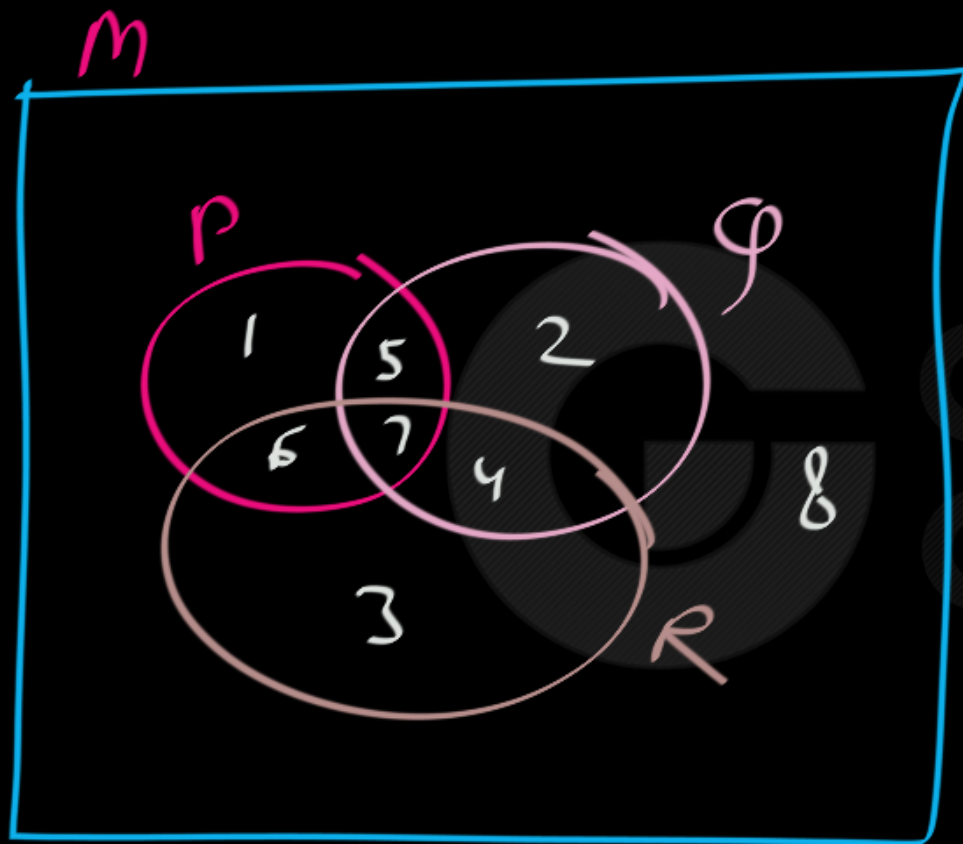
In ~~Q~~ and R BUT
NOT in P



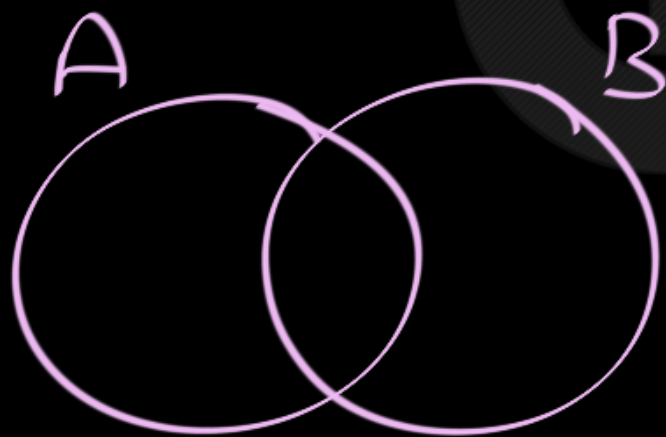


$$(P \cap Q \cap R) \cup (P^c \cap Q \cap R)$$





$$A \cup (\bar{A} \cap B) = A \cup B$$



B - A

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A} \cup (A \cap B) \\ = \bar{A} \cup B \end{aligned}$$

$$p \cup \overline{p}q = p \cup q$$

$$\overline{p} \cup pq = \overline{p} \cup q$$

Boolesche A1f:

$$a + \overline{a}b = a + b$$

$$\overline{a} + ab = \overline{a} + b$$

Method 2:

$$(P \cap R) \cup (\bar{P} \cap Q \cap R) \cup (\bar{Q}) \cup (\bar{R})$$

$$P \cap R \cup (\bar{Q} \cup P \cap R) \cup (\bar{R})$$

$$P \cap R \cup \bar{Q} \cup \bar{R} \cup P$$

$$\cancel{P} \cup \bar{Q} \cup \bar{R} \cup P$$

$$P \cup \bar{Q} \cup \bar{R} \cup P$$

$$M \cup \bar{Q} \cup \bar{R} = M$$

Universal set

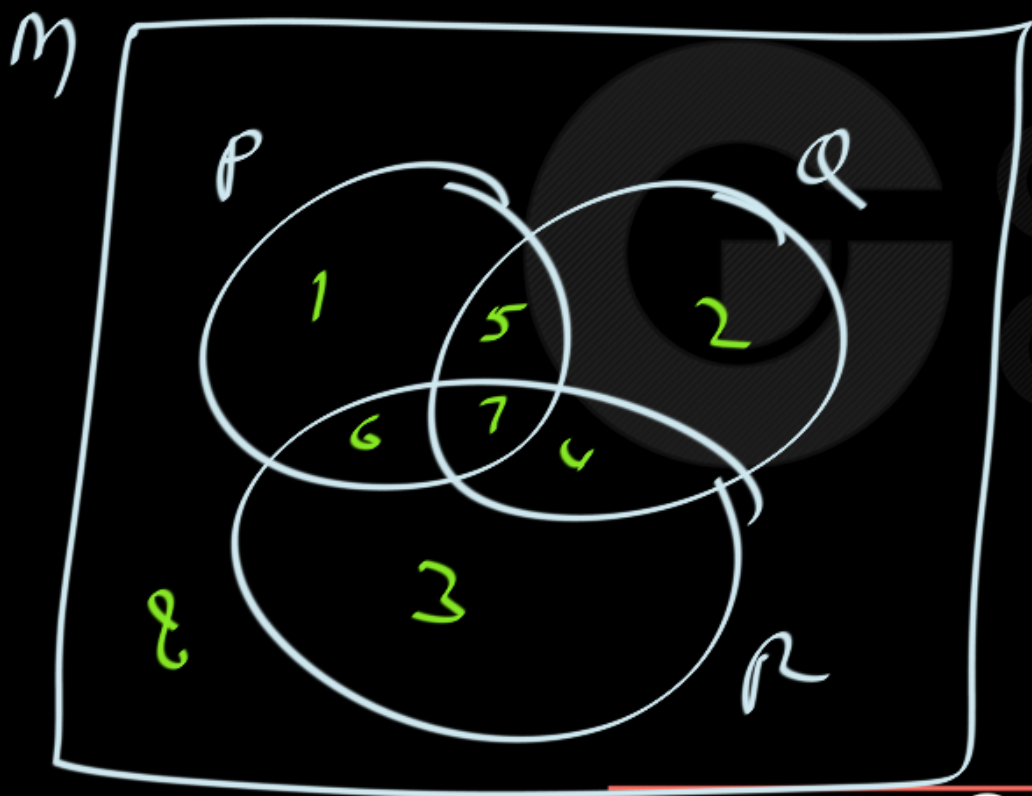
Note:

$$A \cup \overline{A}B = A \cup B$$

$$\overline{A} \cup AB = \overline{A} \cup B$$

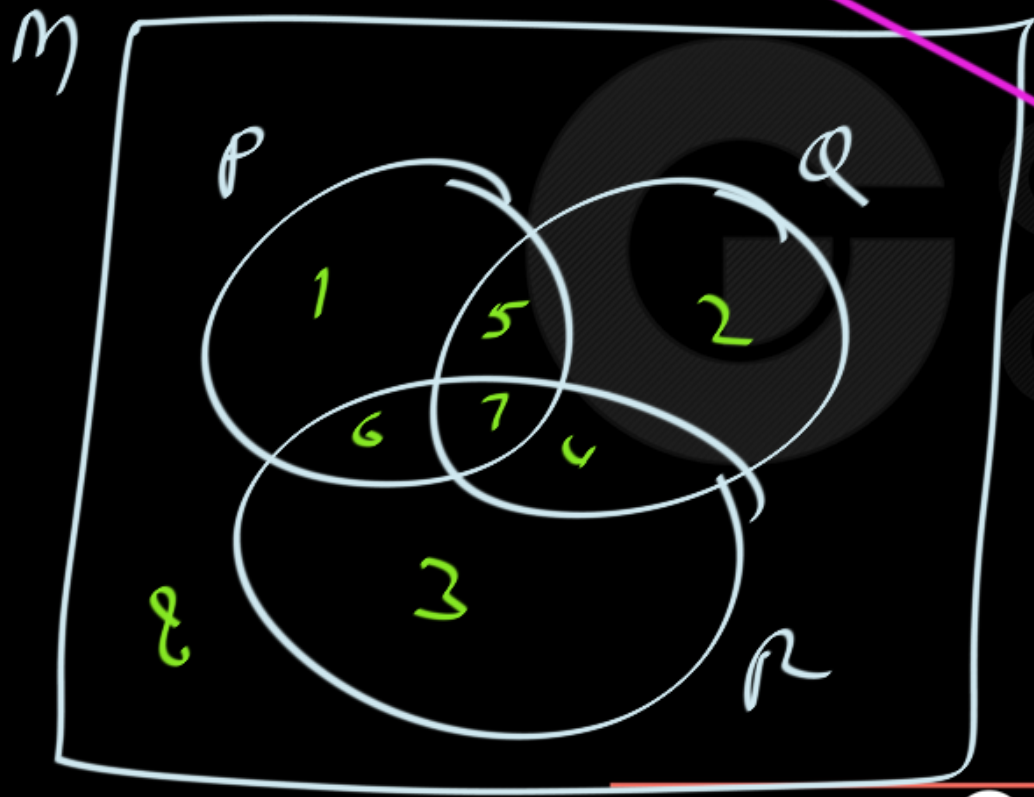
$\Phi:$

$$P \cap Q \cap R \cup \bar{P} \cap Q \cap R ?$$



$\Phi:$

$$(p \cap q \cap r) \cup (\bar{p} \cap q \cap r) = \{4, 7\}$$



4

$q \cap r$

$$p \cap q \cap r \cup \bar{p} \cap q \cap r = q \cap r$$

Boolean Alf: $abc + ab\bar{c}$

$$= ab(c + \bar{c}) = ab$$

$$P \cap R \cup P \cap \bar{R}$$

$$= P \cap (R \cup \bar{R})$$

$$= (P \cap M) = P$$

Intersection

Universal set M

Note:

$$\underline{p \cap R} \cup \underline{p \cap \bar{R}} = p \cap \mathcal{Q}$$

$$p \cup p \cap \mathcal{Q} = p$$

$$p \cup \bar{p} \cap \mathcal{Q} = p \cup \mathcal{Q}$$

video
solution4.11.2 Sets: GATE CSE 1993 | Question: 8.3 top<https://gateoverflow.in/2301>

Let S be an infinite set and S_1, \dots, S_n be sets such that $S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_n = S$. Then

- A. at least one of the sets S_i is a finite set
- B. not more than one of the sets S_i can be finite
- C. at least one of the sets S_i is an infinite
- D. not more than one of the sets S_i can be infinite
- E. None of the above

<https://gateoverflow.in/2301/gate-cse-1993-question-8-3>

Video
solution

<https://gateoverflow.in/2302>



4.11.3 Sets: GATE CSE 1993 | Question: 8.4 top

Let A be a finite set of size n . The number of elements in the power set of $A \times A$ is:

- A. 2^{2^n}
- B. 2^{n^2}
- C. $(2^n)^2$
- D. $(2^2)^n$
- E. None of the above

<https://gateoverflow.in/2302/gate-cse-1993-question-8-4>



9.7.1 Set Theory: TIFR CSE 2010 | Part A | Question: 15 top

Let A, B be sets. Let \bar{A} denote the complement of set A (with respect to some fixed universe), and $(A - B)$ denote the set of elements in A which are not in B . Set $(A - (A - B))$ is equal to:

- A. B B. $A \cap \bar{B}$ C. $A - B$ D. $A \cap B$ E. \bar{B}

tifr2010 set-theory&algebra set-theory

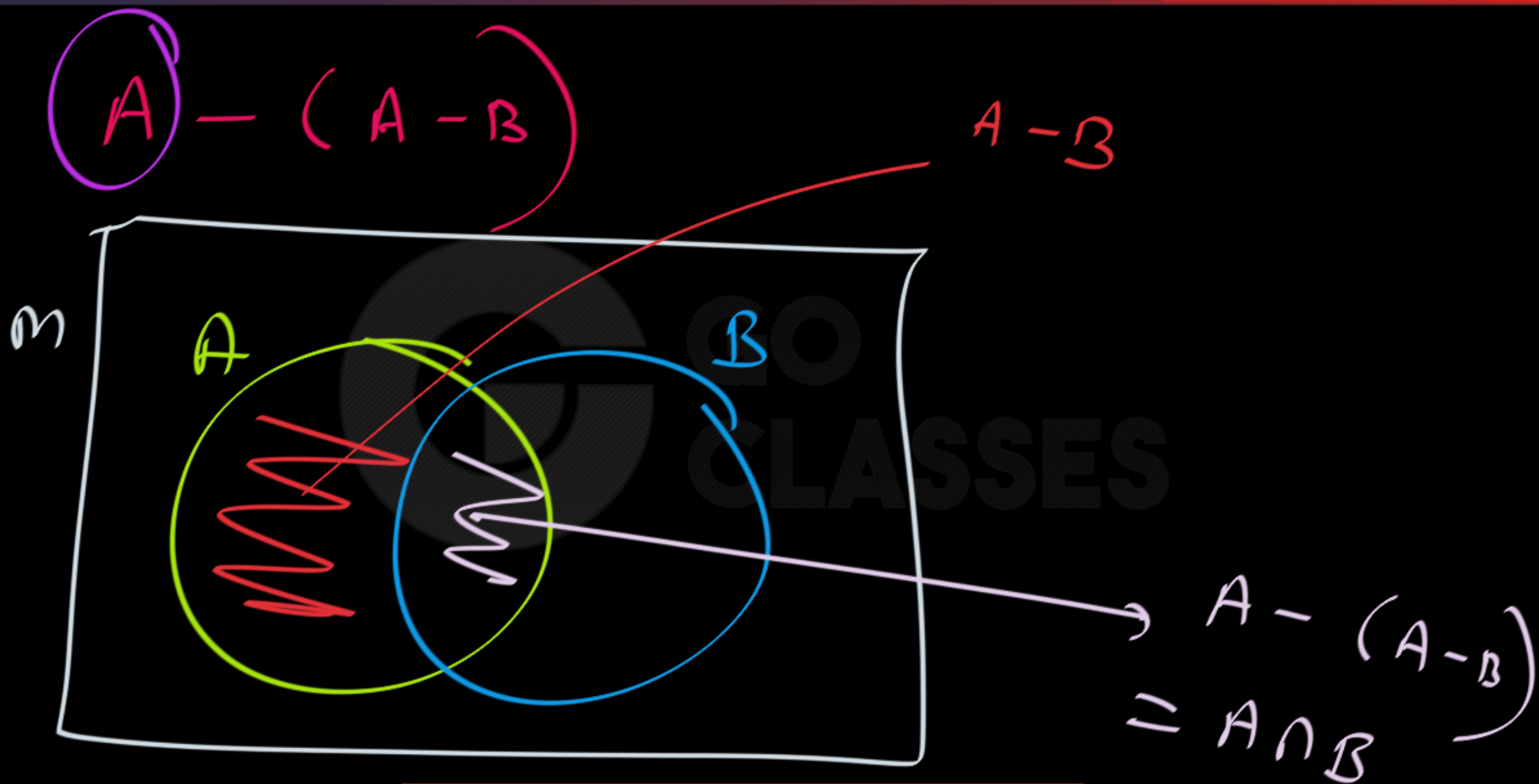


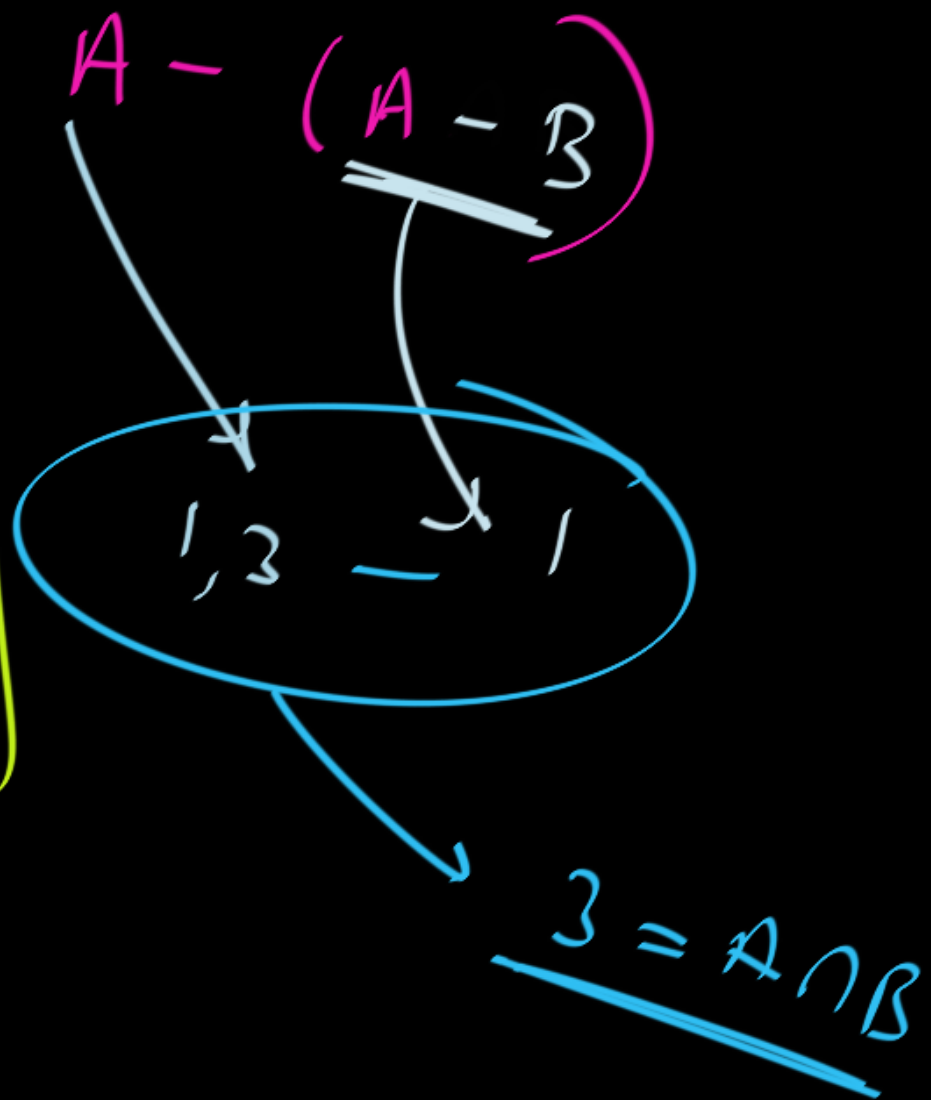
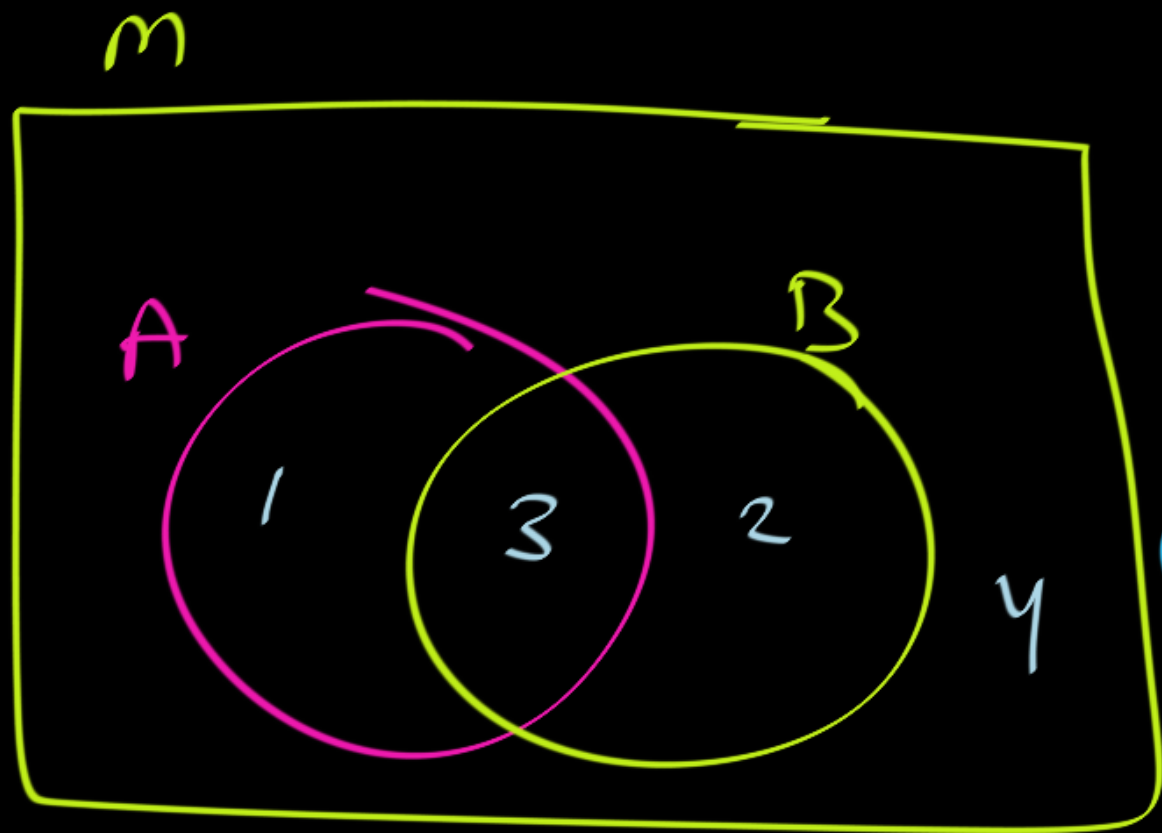
9.7.1 Set Theory: TIFR CSE 2010 | Part A | Question: 15 top

Let A, B be sets. Let \bar{A} denote the complement of set A (with respect to some fixed universe), and $(A - B)$ denote the set of elements in A which are not in B . Set $(A - (A - B))$ is equal to:

- A. B B. $A \cap \bar{B}$ C. $A - B$ D. $A \cap B$ E. \bar{B}

tifr2010 set-theory&algebra set-theory





Standard Q: (Illinois)

Problem 2

(Multiple choice. Circle the correct answer.) For arbitrary sets A and B , the difference set $A - B$ is equal to

- (a) $\overline{B - A}$ (b) $\overline{A \cup B}$ (c) $\overline{B} \cup A$ (d) $\overline{B} \cap A$ (e) $\overline{A \cup B}$ (f) None of the above.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} A - B &= A \cap \bar{B} \\ B - A &= B \cap \bar{A} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\overline{(A - B)} = \overline{(A \cap \bar{B})} = \bar{A} \cup B$$

$$\overline{(B - A)} = \bar{B} \cup A$$

Standard Q: (Illinois)

Problem 2

msg

$$A - B = A \cap \bar{B}$$

(Multiple choice. Circle the correct answer.) For arbitrary sets A and B , the difference set $A - B$ is equal to

- (a) $\overline{B - A}$
 (b) $\overline{A \cup B}$
 (c) $\bar{B} \cup A$
 (d) $\bar{B} \cap A$
 (e) $\overline{A \cup B}$
 (f) None of the above.

$$\overline{(B \cap \bar{A})}$$

$$= \bar{B} \cup A$$

$$A \cap \bar{B}$$

Ans: B, D

Standard Q: (Illinois)

Problem 2

(Multiple choice. Circle the correct answer.) For arbitrary sets A and B , the difference set $A - B$ is equal to

- (a) $\overline{B - A}$ (b) $\overline{A \cup B}$ (c) $\overline{B} \cup A$ (d) $\overline{B} \cap A$ (e) $\overline{A \cup B}$ (f) None of the above.

Solution: $A - B$ is the set of elements which are in A , but not in B , so it is equal to $\overline{B} \cap A$.

Also correct is $\overline{A \cup B}$. (A Venn diagram shows that the latter is the same as $\overline{B} \cap A$.)

Note: Set A ;

If $S \in P(A)$ then $S \subseteq A$

If $S \subseteq A$ then $S \in P(A)$

Standard Q: (Illinois)

(d) (True/false) With the set $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ defined as above, determine which of the following statements about the power set $P(A)$ are true, and which are false. Mark those that are true by $\boxed{\text{T}}$, and those that are false by $\boxed{\text{F}}$. If you are unsure, leave the answer blank. (There will a small penalty for an incorrectly marked answer.)

- A. $\{2, 3\} \in P(A)$
- B. $\{2, 3\} \subseteq P(A)$
- C. $\emptyset \in P(A)$
- D. $\emptyset \subseteq P(A)$

Standard Q: (Illinois)

(d) (True/false) With the set $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ defined as above, determine which of the following statements about the power set $P(A)$ are true, and which are false. Mark those that are true by \boxed{T} , and those that are false by \boxed{F} . If you are unsure, leave the answer blank. (There will a small penalty for an incorrectly marked answer.)

✓ A. $\{2, 3\} \in P(A)$

✗ B. $\{2, 3\} \subseteq P(A)$

✓ C. $\emptyset \in P(A)$

✓ D. $\emptyset \subseteq P(A)$

$\{2, 3\} \subseteq A$ so; $\{2, 3\} \in P(A)$

means: $2 \in P(A)$
 $3 \in P(A)$ } false

Note: for EVERY set S

$$\phi \subseteq S \quad \checkmark$$

for Every power set P

$$\phi \in P ; \phi \subseteq P$$

If \mathcal{P} is a powerset
then for some set A

$$\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}(A)$$

$$\phi \subseteq A \implies \phi \in \mathcal{P}$$

set
 $\phi \subseteq A$
 \implies
 $\phi \in \mathcal{P}$

Standard Q: (Illinois)

(d) (True/false) With the set $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ defined as above, determine which of the following statements about the power set $P(A)$ are true, and which are false. Mark those that are true by T, and those that are false by F. If you are unsure, leave the answer blank. (There will a small penalty for an incorrectly marked answer.)

- A. $\{2, 3\} \in P(A)$
- B. $\{2, 3\} \subseteq P(A)$
- C. $\emptyset \in P(A)$
- D. $\emptyset \subseteq P(A)$

Solution: A, C, D are true, B is false. Reason: By definition, $P(A)$ is the set whose elements are the subsets of $\{1, 2, 3\}$. Since $\{2, 3\}$ and \emptyset are among these subsets, they are elements of $P(A)$, so A and C are true. D is true since any set contains the empty set **as a subset**. However, B is false, since $\{2, 3\}$ is an **element**, not a subset of $P(A)$.



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<https://gateoverflow.in/blog/14237/gate-overflow-and-go-classes-test-series-gate-cse-2023>

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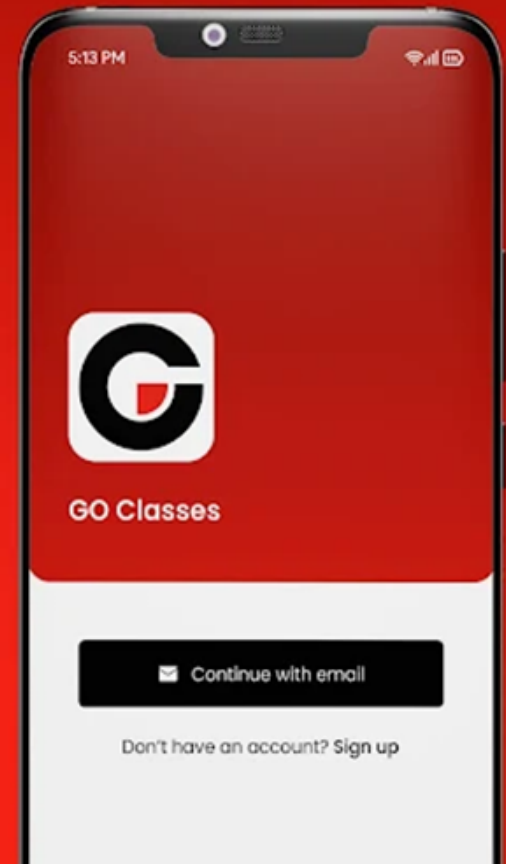
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