## Sets

## A set contains unique, unordered objects

- A Set is a container data type, like a List
- Duplicate objects are not allowed in a Set
- Adding the same object more than once is idempotent, meaning it has no effect.
- Objects do not have a specific ordering in the Set

- Testing membership in a Set significantly more efficient than in a List


## Constructing a set

- The Set type is defined in the typing package
- from typing import Set
- Set Literal Notation surrounds objects in curly braces names: Set[str] = \{"Cardi B", "Lil Jon", "Steve Carell"\}
- The set function constructs a Set from an iterable
 colors: Set[str] = set(["red", "green", "blue"])
odds: Set[int] = set(range(1, 10, 2))


## Fundamental Operations on a set

- Objects can be added to a set

```
names: Set[str] = {"Cardi B", "Lil Jon", "Steve Carell"}
names.add("Kaki")
```

- Objects can be removed from a set
colors: Set[str] = set(["red", "green", "blue"])
colors.remove("red")
- Test whether an object is in a set
odds: Set[int] = set(range(1, 10, 2))
1 in odds \# Evaluates to True
2 in odds \# Evaluates to False


## Set Operations

- The Set data structure is inspired by its namesake in discrete math
- Often taught and visualized in terms of Venn diagrams
- Common set operations:



## Union

- The union method returns a new set with every object included from its operands

```
odds: Set[int] = set(range(1, 10, 2))
evens: Set[int] = set(range(0, 10, 2))
odds.union(evens) # Evaluates to {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9}
evens.union(odds) # Evaluates to {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9}
```

- Python's set type also overloads the $\mid$ operator to result in union: odds | evens \# Evaluates to $\{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}$


## Intersection

- The intersection method returns a set of only the objects shared by both of its operands

```
one_to_seven: Set[int] = set(range(1, 8))
five_to_ten: Set[int] = set(range(5, 11))
one_to_seven.intersection(five_to_ten) # Evaluates to {5, 6, 7}
```

- Python's set type also overloads the \& operator to result in intersection:

```
one_to_seven & five_to_ten
# Evalutes to {5, 6, 7}
```


## Difference

- The difference method returns a set of the left-hand set's objects excluding any in the right-hand set's

```
one_to_seven: Set[int] = set(range(1, 8))
five_to_ten: Set[int] = set(range(5, 11))
one_to_seven.difference(five_to_ten) # Evaluates to {1, 2, 3, 4}
five_to_ten.difference(one_to_seven) # Evaluates to {8, 9, 10}
```

- Python's set type also overloads the - operator to result in difference:

```
one_to_seven - five_to_ten # Evalutes to {5, 6, 7}
five_to_ten - one_to_seven # Evalutes to {5, 6, 7}
```


## Boolean Relationships between Sets

- issubset - are each of set_a's members in set_b?
- Method: set_a.issubset(set_b)
- Operator overload: set_a <= set_b
- issuperset - are each of set_b's members in set_a?
- Method: set_a.issuperset(set_b)
- Operator overload: set_a >= set_b
- isdisjoint - do set_a and set_b share no objects in common?
- Method: set_a.isdisjoint(set_b)

