

Last name \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

**LARSON—MATH 750—CLASSROOM WORKSHEET 17**  
**Inclusion-Exclusion**

Let  $S = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ .  $A_1 = \{a, b, c, d\}$ ,  $A_2 = \{b, c, d, e\}$  and  $A_3 = \{a, d, e\}$ .  
Let  $\bar{A}_i = S \setminus A_i$ . The index set is  $[3]$ . For any  $K \subseteq [3]$  let  $\bar{K} = [3] \setminus K$ .

1. Find  $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3$  and  $|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3|$ . We will find them directly first—and then with theory.

We know  $|\overline{A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3}| = |S| - |A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3|$  and  $\overline{A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3} = \bar{A}_1 \cap \bar{A}_2 \cap \bar{A}_3$  (DeMorgan's Law). So to find  $|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3|$  it is enough to find  $|\bar{A}_1 \cap \bar{A}_2 \cap \bar{A}_3|$ .

2. Find  $\bar{A}_1$ ,  $\bar{A}_2$  and  $\bar{A}_3$ .
3. Find  $\bar{A}_1 \cap \bar{A}_2 \cap \bar{A}_3$  and  $|\bar{A}_1 \cap \bar{A}_2 \cap \bar{A}_3|$ .

We will now define an appropriate function  $F$  and calculate  $|\bar{A}_1 \cap \bar{A}_2 \cap \bar{A}_3|$  using Moebius Inversion. The secret here, as with the calculation of the Euler Totient Function, is to find a nice partition that allows us to calculate an expression for  $G$ .

Let  $S_K = \{s \in S : s \in \cap_{i \in \bar{K}} A_i \text{ and } s \in \cap_{j \in K} \bar{A}_j\}$ , for every  $K \subseteq [3]$ , and let  $F(K) = |S_K|$ .

We will show that the non-empty  $S_L$ 's ( $L \subseteq [3]$ ) form a partition of  $\cap_{i \in \bar{K}} A_i$ .

We'll do this for each subset of  $[3]$ . Note importantly that  $\cap_{i \in \emptyset} A_i = S$ .

4. Find  $S_{\{1\}}$  and  $F(\{1\})$ .
5. Find  $S_{\{2\}}$  and  $F(\{2\})$ .
6. Find  $S_{\{3\}}$  and  $F(\{3\})$ .
7. Find  $S_{\{1,2\}}$  and  $F(\{1,2\})$ .

8. Find  $S_{\{1,3\}}$  and  $F(\{1, 3\})$ .

9. Find  $S_{\{2,3\}}$  and  $F(\{2, 3\})$ .

10. Find  $S_{\{\emptyset\}}$  and  $F(\emptyset)$ .

11. Find  $S_{\{1,2,3\}}$  and  $F(\{1, 2, 3\})$ .

Let  $G(K) = \sum_{L \subseteq K} F(L)$ .

12. Find  $G(\{1\})$  and check that for  $L \subseteq \{1\}$  that non-empty  $S_L$ 's partition  $\bigcap_{i \in \overline{\{1\}}} A_i$ .

13. Find  $G(\{2\})$  and check that for  $L \subseteq \{2\}$  that non-empty  $S_L$ 's partition  $\bigcap_{i \in \overline{\{2\}}} A_i$ .

14. Find  $G(\{3\})$  and check that for  $L \subseteq \{3\}$  that non-empty  $S_L$ 's partition  $\bigcap_{i \in \overline{\{3\}}} A_i$ .

15. Find  $G(\{1, 2\})$  and check that for  $L \subseteq \{1, 2\}$  that non-empty  $S_L$ 's partition  $\bigcap_{i \in \overline{\{1,2\}}} A_i$ .

16. Find  $G(\{1, 3\})$  and check that for  $L \subseteq \{1, 3\}$  that non-empty  $S_L$ 's partition  $\bigcap_{i \in \overline{\{1,3\}}} A_i$ .

17. Find  $G(\{2, 3\})$  and check that for  $L \subseteq \{2, 3\}$  that non-empty  $S_L$ 's partition  $\bigcap_{i \in \overline{\{2,3\}}} A_i$ .

18. Find  $G(\{1, 2, 3\})$  and check that for  $L \subseteq \{1, 2, 3\}$  non-empty  $S_L$ 's partition  $\bigcap_{i \in \overline{\{1,2,3\}}} A_i$ .

19. Find  $G(\emptyset)$  and check that for  $L \subseteq \emptyset$  that non-empty  $S_L$ 's partition  $\bigcap_{i \in \overline{\emptyset}} A_i$ .

We wanted  $|\bar{A}_1 \cap \bar{A}_2 \cap \bar{A}_3|$ . We see that  $F([3]) = |\bar{A}_1 \cap \bar{A}_2 \cap \bar{A}_3|$  directly from the definition. Now we will check the theory, and what we get from that:

20. We know  $F([3]) = \sum_{L \subseteq [3]} \mu(L, [3])G(L)$ , and we showed that  $G(L) = |\cap_{i \in \bar{L}} A_i|$ . and with a few substitutions we'll get:

$$|\bar{A}_1 \cap \bar{A}_2 \cap \bar{A}_3| = \sum_{J \subseteq [3]} (-1)^{|J|} |\cap_{j \in J} A_j|.$$

Let's check.

We can now follow these same steps to show that:

$$|S| - |\cup_{i \in [n]} A_i| = |\cap_{i \in [n]} \bar{A}_i| = \sum_{J \subseteq [n]} (-1)^{|J|} |\cap_{j \in J} A_j|.$$