

Discrete Algebraic Structures

Sheet 1

Exercise 0 (Warmup):

Compute the following objects:

1. $(\{1, 2\} \cap \{2, 3\}) \cup \{2, 4\} = \{2, 4\}$
2. $(\{1, 2\} \cup \{2, 3\}) \setminus \{2, 4\} = \{1, 3\}$
3. $(\{1, 2\} \cap \{2, 3\}) \Delta \{2, 4\} = \{4\}$
4. $(\{1, 2\} \cup \{2, 3\}) \times \{2, 4\} = \{1, 2, 3\} \times \{2, 4\} = \{\{1, 2\}, \{1, 4\}, \{2, 2\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3, 2\}, \{3, 4\}\}$
5. $\mathcal{P}(\{1, 3, 4\}) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{1, 3\}, \{1, 4\}, \{3, 4\}, \{1, 3, 4\}\}$

Exercise 1 (Sets):

- (a) Prove that $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$.
- (b) Prove that $A \cap (A \cup B) = A$.
- (c) Prove that if $B \subseteq A$, then $A \cap B = B$ and $A \cup B = A$.

Exercise 2 (De Morgan's law):

Prove that $A \setminus (B \cap C) = (A \setminus B) \cup (A \setminus C)$ using a written proof in the style of Exercise 1(a).

Exercise 3 (Distributivity of Cartesian Product):

Let A, B, C, D be sets.

1. Show that $(A \cup B) \times C = (A \times C) \cup (B \times C)$
2. Show that $(A \cap B) \times C = (A \times C) \cap (B \times C)$
3. Show that $(A \cap B) \times (C \cap D) = (A \times C) \cap (B \times D)$
4. Do we have $(A \cup B) \times (C \cup D) = (A \times C) \cup (B \times D)$? If not, is one of both inclusions true?
5. Illustrate the results of this exercise using figures. You can use for example $A = [0, 2]$, $B = [1, 3]$, $C = [0, 3]$, $D = [1, 4]$.

Exercise 4 (Symmetric Difference):

This is a supplementary exercise that you should do at home, to get more practice after the tutorials.

- (a) Let $A \Delta B = C$. What is $A \Delta C$?
- (b) Prove that $A \Delta B = (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$.
- (c) Show that the symmetric difference is associative, i.e., that $A \Delta (B \Delta C) = (A \Delta B) \Delta C$ is true for all sets A, B, C . Can you find a natural description of the elements that are in $A \Delta B \Delta C$?

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notes

0: $(A \cup B) \times C \stackrel{!}{=} (A \times C) \cup (B \times C)$ (Thesis)

Hyp. 1: A, B, C are sets

Hyp. 2: $x \in (A \cup B) \times C$

Hyp. 3: using $S = (A \cup B) \rightarrow S \times C$

Hyp. 4: $A \subseteq S$

Hyp. 5: $B \subseteq S$

Hyp. 6: $A \cup B \subseteq S$

Hyp. 6: $x \in (A \cap C) \times (B \cap C)$

proof

Def. 0: Thesis means, "Every tuple from $(A \cup B) \times C$ must correspond to a tuple from $(A \times C) \cup (B \times C)$ (and vice versa)"

Def. 1: For $S = (A \cup B)$ and $S \times C$, $S \times C$ can be written as a union between all of S 's subsets $\times C$

Def. 2: A and B are subsets of S and make up S . Any operation on S can be written as a union between that operation performed on all its subsets

Def. 3: Therefore: $(A \cup B) \times C = (A \times C) \cup (B \times C)$
q.e.d.