A Book of Abstract Algebra (2nd Edition)

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Chapter AA, Problem 22E	Bookmark	Show all steps:

Problem

Prove the following identities involving cartesian products:

$$A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C).$$

Step-by-step solution

Step 1 of 2

Objective:-

The objective is to prove $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$.

Comment

Step 2 of 2

Proof:-

Let A and B are two sets.

The Cartesian product of two sets A and B is:-

$$A \times B = \{(x, y) : x \in A, y \in B\}$$

The intersection of two sets A and B is:-

$$A \cup B = \{x : x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$$

Let
$$(x, y) \in A \times (B \cup C)$$
.

$$(x,y) \in A \times (B \cup C)$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in A, y \in B \cup C$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in A, y \in B \text{ or } y \in C$$

$$\Rightarrow (x \in A, y \in B) \quad or(x \in A, y \in C)$$

$$\Rightarrow (x,y) \in (A \times B) \text{ or } (x,y) \in (A \times C)$$

$$\Rightarrow (x,y) \in (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$$
So,
$$A \times (B \cup C) \subseteq (A \times B) \cup (A \times C) \qquad(1)$$
Let $(x,y) \in (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$.
$$(x,y) \in (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$$

$$\Rightarrow (x,y) \in (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$$

$$\Rightarrow (x,y) \in (A \times B) \text{ or } (x,y) \in (A \times C)$$

$$\Rightarrow (x,y) \in (A \times B) \text{ or } (x,y) \in (A \times C)$$

$$\Rightarrow (x \in A, y \in B) \text{ or } (x \in A, y \in C)$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in A, y \in B \text{ or } y \in C$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in A, y \in B \cup C$$

$$\Rightarrow (x,y) \in A \times (B \cup C)$$
So,
$$(A \times B) \cup (A \times C) \subseteq A \times (B \cup C) \qquad(2)$$

Let us consider the equation (1) and (2).

$$A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C).$$

Comment