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MATH 308 Fall 2021

HW 6: Due 10/08

"So I was not born with a whole lot of natural talent. But I work hard

and I never give up. That is my gift. That is my ninja way!"

-Rock Lee, Naturo

**Problem 1.** (20pt) Describe all sets (if any) with...

- (a) no proper subsets.
- (b) one proper subset.
- (c) two proper subsets.

#### Solution.

- (a) Because  $\varnothing$  is a subset of every set, every nonempty set S has a proper subset. If  $S=\varnothing$ , then  $\varnothing\subseteq S$  but  $S=\varnothing$  so that  $\varnothing$  is not a proper subset of S. Therefore, there are no sets without at least one proper subset.
- (b) We know that  $\varnothing$  has no proper subsets. If S is a nonempty set with at least two elements, say  $a,b\in S$ , then  $\{a\}\subseteq S$  and  $\{b\}\subseteq S$  so that S has at least two proper subsets. So suppose S is a singleton set, i.e.  $S=\{a\}$ . Then  $\varnothing\subseteq S$  and  $S\neq\varnothing$ . Therefore, S has exactly one proper subset. But then the only sets with exactly one proper subset are singleton sets.
- (c) We know that  $\varnothing$  has no proper subsets. From (b), we know that singleton sets have exactly one proper subset. Suppose that S has at least two elements, say  $a,b\in S$ . But then  $\varnothing\subseteq S$ ,  $\{a\}\subseteq S$ , and  $\{b\}\subseteq S$  are all proper subsets of S so that S has at least three proper subsets. Therefore, there are no sets with exactly two proper subsets.

*Remark.* If a set S is infinite, then S has an infinite amount of proper subsets: for all  $s \in S$ ,  $\{s\} \subseteq S$  is a proper subset. We claim that if S is a finite set with n elements, then S has  $2^n - 1$  proper subsets.

**Proposition.** If S is a finite set with n elements, then S has  $2^n - 1$  proper subsets.

*Proof.* Suppose that |S|=0. But then  $S=\varnothing$ . From (a) above, we know that  $S=\varnothing$  has no proper subsets. Furthermore,  $2^0-1=1-1=0$ . Now let S be a singleton set, say  $S=\{s\}$ . From (b), we know that S has one proper subset—namely,  $\varnothing$ . Observe that |S|=1 and  $2^1-1=2-1=1$ . Now assume that for any finite set S with |S|=k that S has S0 has S1 has S2 has S3.

Now let S be a set with |S| = k + 1. Choose an element  $s \in S$ . Consider all the proper subsets of S that do not contain S. But each such subset is a subset of  $S \setminus \{s\}$ . Conversely, every proper subset of  $S \setminus \{s\} \subseteq S$  is a subset of S that does not contain S. Therefore, the number of proper subsets of S not containing S is the number of proper subsets of  $S \setminus \{s\}$ . We know that  $|S \setminus \{s\}| = k$ . By the induction hypothesis, the number of proper subsets of  $S \setminus \{s\}$  is  $2^k - 1$ .

Now consider the proper subsets of S containing s. Suppose that  $A \subsetneq S$  is a proper subset of S with  $s \in A$ . Then  $A \setminus \{s\} \subseteq A \subsetneq S$  is a proper subset of S not containing s. Conversely, if  $B \subsetneq S$  is a proper subset of S not containing s, then  $B \cup \{s\} \subseteq S$  is a proper subset of S containing S, unless  $B = S \setminus \{s\}$  in which case  $B \cup \{s\} = S$  is not proper. Therefore, the proper subsets of S

not containing s, except for  $S \setminus \{s\}$ , are in one-to-one correspondence with the proper subsets of S containing s. Then there are  $(2^k-1)+(2^k-1)+1=2\cdot 2^k-1=2^{k+1}-1$  proper subsets of S. Therefore, by induction, the number of proper subsets of a set S with |S|=n is  $2^n-1$ .

*Remark.* If one knows that the number of proper subsets of a finite set S with |S| = n is  $2^n$ , then an immediate corollary is the number of proper subsets of S is  $2^n - 1$ : if S is empty the result is clear, and if |S| = n > 0, then the only non-proper subset of S is S itself, making  $2^n - 1$  proper subsets.

This makes the problem simple. If S is infinite, it is clear that S cannot have exactly none, on two proper subsets. If S is finite with |S|=n, then S has  $2^n-1$  proper subsets. But for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ ,  $2^n-1 \notin \{0,2\}$ . We only have  $2^n-1=1$  if n=1, but then S is a singleton set.

**Problem 2.** (20pt) The symmetric difference of two sets A and B, denoted  $A\Delta B$ , is defined by  $A\Delta B := (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$ .

- (a) Describe  $A\Delta B$  in words.
- (b) Show that  $A\Delta B = (A \cup B) (A \cap B)$ .
- (c) Prove that the symmetric difference is commutative.
- (d) Prove that if  $A\Delta B = \emptyset$ , then A = B. Is the converse true?

## Solution.

- (a) The set  $A \setminus B$  is the set of elements that are in A but not in B. The set  $B \setminus A$  is the set of elements that are in B but not in A. Therefore,  $A \Delta B$  is the set of elements that are only in A or only in B.
- (b) Let  $x \in A\Delta B := (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$ . Then  $x \in A \setminus B$  or  $x \in B \setminus A$ . Assume that  $x \in A \setminus B$ . Then  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$ . Because  $x \in A$ , we know that  $x \in A \cup B$ . Because  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$ , we know that  $x \notin A \cap B$ . But then  $x \in (A \cup B) (A \cap B)$ . Now assume that  $x \in B \setminus A$ . Then  $x \in B$  and  $x \notin A$ . Because  $x \in B$ , we know that  $x \in A \cup B$ . But because  $x \in B$  and  $x \notin A$ , we know  $x \notin A \cap B$ . Therefore,  $x \in (A \cup B) (A \cap B)$ . Therefore, if  $x \in A\Delta B$ , then  $x \in (A \cup B) (A \cap B)$  so that  $A\Delta B \subseteq (A \cup B) (A \cap B)$ .

Now let  $x \in (A \cup B) - (A \cap B)$ . Then  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin A \cap B$  or  $x \in B$  and  $x \notin A \cap B$ . Assume that  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin A \cap B$ . But then  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$ . Therefore,  $x \in A \setminus B$  so that  $x \in A \triangle B = (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$ . Now assume that  $x \in B$  and  $x \notin A \cap B$ . But then  $x \in B$  and  $x \notin A$ . Therefore,  $x \in B \setminus A$  so that  $x \in A \triangle B = (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$ . But then if  $x \in (A \cup B) - (A \cap B)$ , then  $x \in A \triangle B$  so that  $(A \cup B) - (A \cap B) \subseteq A \triangle B$ . Therefore,  $(A \cap B) = (A \cup B) - (A \cap B)$ .

OR

$$x \in A \Delta B \iff x \in (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$$

$$\iff (x \in A \setminus B) \vee (x \in B \setminus A)$$

$$\iff (x \in A \land x \notin B) \vee (x \in B \land x \notin A)$$

$$\iff [(x \in A \land x \notin B) \lor x \in B] \land [(x \in A \land x \notin B) \lor x \notin A]$$

$$\iff [(x \in A \lor x \in B) \land (x \notin B \lor x \in B)] \land [(x \in A \lor x \notin A) \land (x \notin B \lor x \notin A)]$$

$$\iff [(x \in A \lor x \in B) \land T_0] \land [T_0 \land (x \notin B \lor x \notin A)]$$

$$\iff (x \in A \lor x \in B) \land (x \notin B \lor x \notin A)$$

$$\iff (x \in A \lor x \in B) \land (x \notin A \lor x \notin B)$$

$$\iff (x \in A \cup B) \land (x \notin A \cap B)$$

$$\iff x \in (A \cup B) - (A \cap B)$$

(c) Using the commutative of unions, observe that...

$$A\Delta B := (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A) = (B \setminus A) \cup (A \setminus B) =: B\Delta A$$

(d) Suppose that  $A\Delta B=\varnothing$ . We then have  $(A\setminus B)\cup (B\setminus A)=\varnothing$ . Therefore,  $A\setminus B=\varnothing$  and  $B\setminus A=\varnothing$ . Because  $A\setminus B=\varnothing$ , if  $x\in A$ , we must have  $x\in B$ . Because  $B\setminus A=\varnothing$ , if  $x\in B$ , then  $x\in A$ . But then  $x\in A$  if and only if  $x\in B$ . Therefore, A=B.

The converse is also true. Suppose that A=B. Then  $A\setminus B=\varnothing$  and  $B\setminus A=\varnothing$  (because  $x\in A$  if and only if  $x\in B$ ). Therefore,  $A\Delta B=(A\setminus B)\cup (B\setminus A)=\varnothing\cup\varnothing=\varnothing$ . Then  $A\Delta B=\varnothing$  if and only if A=B.

OR

*Lemma.* If A and B are sets, then  $A \cap B^c = \emptyset$  if and only if A = B.

*Proof.* Assume  $A \cap B^c = \emptyset$  and suppose that  $A \neq B$ . Then there exists  $a \in A$  such that  $a \notin B$ . Because  $a \notin B$ , we know that  $a \in B^c$ . But then  $a \in A$  and  $a \in B^c$  so that  $a \in A \cap B^c = \emptyset$ , a contradiction. Therefore, A = B. Now assume that A = B. But then  $A \cap B^c = A \cap A^c = \emptyset$ .

We know use this lemma as follows (in the fourth if and only if):

$$A\Delta B = \varnothing \iff (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A) = \varnothing$$
$$\iff (A \setminus B = \varnothing) \land (B \setminus A = \varnothing)$$
$$\iff (A \cap B^c = \varnothing) \land (B \cap A^c = \varnothing)$$
$$\iff (A = B) \land (B = A)$$
$$\iff A = B$$

**Problem 3.** (20pt) Let A, B be sets with a common universal set  $\mathcal{U}$ . Prove the following:

- (a)  $A (A B) = A \cap B$
- (b)  $A \subseteq B$  if and only if  $A^c \supset B^c$

### Solution.

(a) Let  $x \in A - (A - B)$ . Then  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin A - B$ . By definition,  $A - B = A \cap B^c$ . Therefore,  $x \notin A - B$  implies that  $x \notin A \cap B^c$ . But then  $x \in (A \cap B^c)^c$ . Now  $(A \cap B^c)^c = A^c \cup B$  so that  $x \in A^c \cup B$ . Therefore,  $x \in A^c$  or  $x \in B$ . But  $x \in A$  so that  $x \notin A^c$ . Therefore,  $x \in B$ . But then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$  so that  $x \in A \cap B$ . This proves that  $x \in A \cap B$ .

Now assume that  $x \in A \cap B$ . This implies that  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ . Suppose that  $x \notin A - (A - B)$ . From the work above, we know that  $A - B = A \cap B^c$ . But then  $A - (A - B) = A - (A \cap B^c)$ . By definition,  $A - (A \cap B^c)$  is the set  $A \cap (A \cap B^c)^c$ . But  $(A \cap B^c)^c = A^c \cup B$  so that  $A \cap (A \cap B^c)^c = A \cap (A^c \cup B)$ . Now the set  $A \cap (A^c \cup B)$  is  $(A \cap A^c) \cup (A \cap B) = \emptyset \cup (A \cap B) = A \cap B$ . As  $x \notin A - (A - B)$ , this implies  $x \notin A \cap B$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $x \in A - (A - B)$ . But then  $A \cap B \subseteq A - (A - B)$ . Therefore,  $A - (A - B) = A \cap B$ .

OR

$$x \in A \setminus (A \setminus B) \iff x \in A \setminus (A \cap B^c)$$

$$\iff x \in (A \cap (A \cap B^c)^c)$$

$$\iff x \in (A \cap (A^c \cup B))$$

$$\iff x \in ((A \cap A^c) \cup (A \cap B))$$

$$\iff x \in (\varnothing \cup (A \cap B))$$

$$\iff x \in A \cap B$$

(b) Assume that  $A \subseteq B$ . We want to show that  $B^c \subseteq A^c$ . Let  $x \in B^c$ . Now  $x \in B^c$  implies that  $x \notin B$ . Because  $A \subseteq B$ , it must be that  $x \notin A$ ; otherwise,  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$ , contradicting the fact that  $A \subseteq B$ . But then  $x \in B^c$  implies that  $x \in A^c$  so that  $B^c \subseteq A^c$ .

Now assume that  $A^c \supseteq B^c$ . We want to show that  $A \subseteq B$ . Let  $x \in A$ . Because  $x \in A$ , we know that  $x \notin A^c$ . But if  $x \notin A^c$ , we know that  $x \notin B^c$ ; otherwise,  $x \notin A^c$  and  $x \in B^c$  contradicts the fact that  $A^c \supseteq B^c$ . Therefore, if  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in B$ . But then  $A \subseteq B$ .

OR

$$A \subseteq B \iff (\forall x)(x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B)$$

$$\iff (\forall x)(\neg(x \in B) \Rightarrow \neg(x \in A))$$

$$\iff (\forall x)(x \notin B \Rightarrow x \notin A)$$

$$\iff (\forall x)(x \in B^c \Rightarrow x \in A^c)$$

$$\iff B^c \subseteq A^c$$

**Problem 4.** (10pt) If  $A \subseteq U$  and  $B \subseteq V$ , is  $A \times B \subseteq U \times V$ ? Justify your answer.

**Solution.** Yes. Suppose that  $A\subseteq U$  and  $B\subseteq V$ . If either A or B are empty, then  $A\times B$  is empty. Clearly,  $\varnothing\subseteq U\times V$ . So suppose that A and B are nonempty. Let  $(x,y)\in A\times B$ . Then by definition,  $x\in A$  and  $y\in B$ . Because  $A\subseteq U$  and  $B\subseteq V$ , this implies that  $x\in U$  and  $y\in V$ , respectively. But then  $(x,y)\in U\times V$ . Therefore,  $A\times B\subseteq U\times V$ .

**Problem 5.** (10pt) Suppose that X and Y are sets with a common universal set  $\mathscr{U}$ . Show that X = Y if and only if  $(X \cap Y^c) \cup (X^c \cap Y) = \varnothing$ .

**Solution.** Suppose that X=Y. Then  $Y^c=X^c$  so that  $X\cap Y^c=X\cap X^c=\varnothing$ . Similarly,  $X^c=Y^c$  so that  $X^c\cap Y=Y^c\cap Y=\varnothing$ . But then  $(X\cap Y^c)\cup (X^c\cap Y)=\varnothing\cup\varnothing=\varnothing$ .

Now assume that  $(X \cap Y^c) \cup (X^c \cap Y) = \emptyset$ . This implies that  $X \cap Y^c = \emptyset$  and  $X^c \cap Y = \emptyset$ . But we already proved in Problem 2 (see the lemma below) that  $X \cap Y^c = \emptyset$  implies that X = Y. Mutatis mutandis,  $X^c \cap Y = \emptyset$  implies that Y = X. But then we know that X = Y.

*Lemma.* If A and B are sets, then  $A \cap B^c = \emptyset$  if and only if A = B.

*Proof.* Assume  $A \cap B^c = \emptyset$  and suppose that  $A \neq B$ . Then there exists  $a \in A$  such that  $a \notin B$ . Because  $a \notin B$ , we know that  $a \in B^c$ . But then  $a \in A$  and  $a \in B^c$  so that  $a \in A \cap B^c = \emptyset$ , a contradiction. Therefore, A = B. Now assume that A = B. But then  $A \cap B^c = A \cap A^c = \emptyset$ .

# **Problem 6.** (20pt) Prove or disprove:

(a) 
$$(A \cup B) \setminus B = A$$

(b) 
$$A \cap (B \setminus C) = (A \cap B) \setminus (A \cap C)$$

(c) 
$$A \cap (B \setminus C) = (A \cap B) \setminus C$$

(d) 
$$A \setminus (B \cap C) = (A \setminus B) \cup (A \setminus C)$$

### Solution.

- (a) The statement is *false*. Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $B = \{3, 4\}$ . Then  $A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $(A \cup B) \setminus B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \setminus \{3, 4\} = \{1, 2, 3\} = A$ .
- (b) The statement is true. Observe that...

$$A \cap (B \setminus C) = A \cap (B \cap C^c)$$

$$= (A \cap B) \cap C^c$$

$$= (A \cap B) \cap (\emptyset \cap C^c)$$

$$= (A \cap B) \cap ((A \cap A^c) \cap C^c)$$

$$= (A \cap B) \cap (A \cap (A^c \cap C^c))$$

$$= ((A \cap B) \cap A) \cap (A^c \cap C^c)$$

$$= ((A \cap A) \cap B) \cap (A^c \cap C^c)$$

$$= ((A \cap A) \cap B) \cap (A^c \cap C^c)$$

$$= (A \cap B) \cap (A \cap C)^c$$

$$= (A \cap B) \setminus (A \cap C)$$

(c) The statement is true. Observe that...

$$A \cap (B \setminus C) = A \cap (B \cap C^c) = (A \cap B) \cap C^c = (A \cap B) \setminus C$$

(d) The statement is *true*. Observe that...

$$A \setminus (B \cap C) = A \cap (B \cap C)^c = A \cap (B^c \cup C^c) = (A \cap B^c) \cup (A \cap C^c) = (A \setminus B) \cup (A \setminus C)$$

**Problem 7.** (20pt) Express the following sets as an interval, collection of intervals, or well known set (prove your answer):

(a) 
$$\bigcap_{n>1} \left[0, 1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)$$

(b) 
$$\bigcup_{n>1} \left[0, 1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)$$

(c) 
$$\bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} \bigcap_{m>1} \left(n-\frac{1}{m}, n+\frac{1}{m}\right)$$

### Solution.

(a) We claim that...

$$\bigcap_{n>1} \left[ 0, 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) = [0, 1]$$

If x < 0, then  $x \notin [0,2) = [0,1+1/1)$  so that  $x \notin \bigcap_{n \ge 1} \left[0,1+\frac{1}{n}\right)$ . If  $x \in [0,1]$ , then clearly  $x \in [0,1+1/n)$  for all  $n \ge 1$ , so that  $x \in \bigcap_{n \ge 1} \left[0,1+\frac{1}{n}\right)$ . Suppose that x > 1, i.e. x - 1 > 0. It is clear that  $\frac{1}{x-1} \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\frac{1}{x-1} > 0$ . Choose  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $n_0 > \frac{1}{x-1}$ . But then  $\frac{1}{n_0} < x - 1$  so that  $1 + \frac{1}{n_0} < x$ . Clearly, this implies that  $x \notin [0,1+1/n_0)$ . But then  $x \notin \bigcap_{n \ge 1} \left[0,1+\frac{1}{n}\right)$ . Therefore,  $x \in \bigcap_{n \ge 1} \left[0,1+\frac{1}{n}\right)$  if and only if  $x \in [0,1]$ , as desired.

(b) We claim that...

$$\bigcup_{n>1} \left[ 0, 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) = [0, 2)$$

Clearly, if  $x \in [0,2) = [0,1+1/1)$ , then  $x \in \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \left[0,1+\frac{1}{n}\right)$ . But if  $x \in \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \left[0,1+\frac{1}{n}\right)$ , then  $x \in [0,1+1/n_0)$  for some  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ . But  $n_0 \geq 1$  so that  $1/n_0 \leq 1$ . Then we have  $x \in [0,1+1/n_0) \subseteq [0,1+1/1) = [0,2)$ . Therefore,  $x \in \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \left[0,1+\frac{1}{n}\right)$  if and only if  $x \in [0,2)$ , as desired.

(c) We claim that...

$$\bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}\bigcap_{m\geq 1}\left(n-\frac{1}{m},n+\frac{1}{m}\right)=\mathbb{Z}$$

Fix  $N \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $N \in (N - \frac{1}{m}, N + \frac{1}{m})$  for all  $m \ge 1$ . But then  $N \in \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \bigcap_{m \ge 1} (n - \frac{1}{m}, n + \frac{1}{m})$ .

Now suppose that  $x \in \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(n - \frac{1}{m}, n + \frac{1}{m}\right)$  and that x is not an integer. Because  $x \in \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(n - \frac{1}{m}, n + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ , there exists  $N_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $x \in \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(N_0 - \frac{1}{m}, N_0 + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ . We claim that this  $N_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  is unique.

Suppose that  $x \in \left(N-\frac{1}{m},N+\frac{1}{m}\right)$  for some  $N \in \mathbb{Z}, m \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $N \neq N_0$ . Either  $N > N_0$  or  $N < N_0$ . Suppose that  $N > N_0$ . Because  $N \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we know that  $N \geq N_0 + 1$ . But as  $x \in \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(N_0 - \frac{1}{m}, N_0 + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ ,  $x \in (N_0 - 1/2, N_0 + 1/2)$ . Therefore,  $x < N_0 + 1/2$ . But because  $x \in \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(N - \frac{1}{m}, N + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ , we know that  $x \in (N - 1/2, N + 1/2)$ . Therefore, x > N - 1/2. But then

$$x > N - \frac{1}{2} \ge N_0 + 1 - \frac{1}{2} = N_0 + \frac{1}{2},$$

a contradiction. Suppose then that  $N < N_0$ . Because  $N \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we know that  $N \le N_0 - 1$ . But as  $x \in \bigcap_{m \ge 1} \left(N_0 - \frac{1}{m}, N_0 + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ ,  $x \in (N_0 - 1/2, N_0 + 1/2)$ . Therefore,  $N_0 - 1/2 < x$ . But because  $x \in \bigcap_{m \ge 1} \left(N - \frac{1}{m}, N + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ , we know that  $x \in (N - 1/2, N + 1/2)$ . Therefore, x < N + 1/2. But then

 $x < N + \frac{1}{2} \le N_0 - 1 + \frac{1}{2} = N_0 - \frac{1}{2},$ 

a contradiction.

Then there is a unique  $N_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $x \in \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(N_0 - \frac{1}{m}, N_0 + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ . Because  $x \in \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(N_0 - \frac{1}{m}, N_0 + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ , we know that  $x \in (N_0 - 1/1, N_0 + 1/1) = (N_0 - 1, N_0 + 1)$ . As x is not an integer, we know that  $x \neq N_0$ . But then  $|x - N_0| > 0$ . We know also that  $|x - N_0| \in \mathbb{R}$ . Choose  $m_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $m_0 > \frac{1}{|x - N_0|}$ . But then  $\frac{1}{m_0} < |x - N_0|$ . This implies that either  $\frac{1}{m_0} < x - N_0$  or  $\frac{1}{m_0} < -(x - N_0)$ . If  $\frac{1}{m_0} < x - N_0$ , then  $N_0 + \frac{1}{m_0} < x$ , contradicting the fact that  $x \in \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(N_0 - \frac{1}{m}, N_0 + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ . If  $\frac{1}{m_0} < -(x - N_0)$ , then  $-\frac{1}{m_0} > x - N_0$ , so that  $N_0 - \frac{1}{m_0} > x$ , contradicting the fact that  $x \in \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(N_0 - \frac{1}{m}, N_0 + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ . Therefore,  $x \notin \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(N_0 - \frac{1}{m}, N_0 + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ . As this was the only  $N \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $x \in \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(N - \frac{1}{m}, N + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ , it must be that  $x \notin \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(n - \frac{1}{m}, n + \frac{1}{m}\right)$ . But then  $x \in \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \bigcap_{m \geq 1} \left(n - \frac{1}{m}, n + \frac{1}{m}\right)$  if and only if  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ , as desired.