

CS-225: Quiz 3 Solution keys

Question 1:

Suppose $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. Use proof by contradiction to show that if a is rational and ab is irrational, then b is irrational.

Answer:

Let “ $P = a$ is rational”, “ $Q = ab$ is irrational” and “ $R = b$ is irrational”. Suppose that $(P \wedge Q) \rightarrow R$, by contradiction let's assume that $(P \wedge Q) \rightarrow \neg R$ also holds. As a and b are rational numbers then they can be written as the ratio of two integers, $a = m/n$ and $b = r/s$, where $n \neq 0$ and $s \neq 0$. Replacing a and b with their values in ab we get,

$$ab = m/n * (r/s) = mr/ns$$

As m, n, r, s all are integers and mr and ns are also integers. It shows that ab can be represented as a ratio of two integers, which means ab is rational. This leads to a contradiction of our original assumption of ab being irrational. That means the assumption $(P \wedge Q) \rightarrow \neg R$ is false and the original assumption is true.

Question 2:

Suppose $a \in \mathbb{Z}$. If a^2 is even, then a is even. Use proof by contradiction.

Answer:

For the sake of contradiction, suppose a^2 is even and a is not even. Then a^2 is even, and a is odd. Since a is odd, there is an integer c for which $a = 2c + 1$. Then $a^2 = (2c + 1)^2 = 4c^2 + 4c + 1 = 2(2c^2 + 2c) + 1$, so a^2 is odd. Thus a^2 is even and a^2 is not even, a contradiction.

Question 3:

Let $A = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x = 5a + 2 \text{ for some integer } a\}$ and $B = \{y \in \mathbb{Z} \mid y = 10b - 3 \text{ for some integer } b\}$.

Prove or disprove that $B \subseteq A$.

By definition of subset, $B \subseteq A$ if every element of B is also an element of A . We say that δ is an arbitrary element of B . Thus we know that $\delta = 10b - 3$ where b is an integer. We want to check if δ is also be an element of A . That is, we want to see if $\delta = 5a + 2$.

So we set the two equations equal to each other:

$$10b - 3 = 5a + 2$$

Solve for a :

$$5a = 10b - 3 - 2$$

$$5a = 10b - 5$$

$$a = 2b - 1$$

Now we can see that a is an integer as it is the result of subtracting integers. Now we need to see if we substitute in the expression for a (a member of A), if it is still a member of B .

Take the equation for A and substitute in the expression for a .

$$\delta = 5(2b - 1) + 2$$

$$\delta = 10b - 5 + 2$$

$$\delta = 10b - 3$$

This is our equation for B , so we know that δ is a member of both B and A .

We may say that B is a subset of A .

Thus, $B \subseteq A$. Q.E.D.

Question 4:

True or false: $\{\varnothing\} = \varnothing$

Answer: False, the first one is a set containing \varnothing , which is different from \varnothing .

Question 5:

True or false: $Z^+ \cap Z^- = Z$

Answer: False, The intersection of Z^+ and Z^- is \varnothing .

Question 6:

True or false: $\{8\} \in \{6, 8, 10\}$

Answer: False, the set $\{8\}$ is not an element of the set containing the numbers 6, 8 and 10.

Question 7:

True or false: $\{2, 4\} \subseteq \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \text{ is even}\}$

Answer: True, every element in the set $\{2, 4\}$ is an element of the set $\{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \text{ is even}\}$.

Question 8:

Find the power set of A , where $A = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x \text{ is an integer} \mid -3 < x < 3\}$.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) = \{ & \varnothing, \{-2\}, \{-1\}, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{-2, -1\}, \{-2, 0\}, \{-2, 1\}, \{-2, 2\}, \{-1, 0\}, \{-1, 1\}, \{-1, 2\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \\ & \{1, 2\}, \{-2, -1, 0\}, \{-2, -1, 1\}, \{-2, -1, 2\}, \{-2, 0, 1\}, \{-2, 0, 2\}, \{-2, 1, 2\}, \{-1, 0, 1\}, \{-1, 0, 2\}, \{-1, 1, 2\}, \{0, 1, 2\}, \\ & \{-2, -1, 0, 1\}, \{-2, -1, 0, 2\}, \{-2, -1, 1, 2\}, \{-2, 0, 1, 2\}, \{-1, 0, 1, 2\}, \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\} \} \end{aligned}$$

Question 9:

Let, $A = \{3n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid -1 \leq n \leq 2, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$, $B = \{1, 2\}$ and $C = \{\{1, 2\}\}$. Find $A \times (B \times C)$.

Answer:

$$A = \{3n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid -1 \leq n \leq 2, n \in \mathbb{Z}\} \dots n = -1, 0, 1, 2 \dots A = \{-3, 0, 3, 6\}$$

$$(B \times C) = \{(1, \{1, 2\}), (2, \{1, 2\})\}$$

$$A \times (B \times C) = \{(-3, (1, \{1, 2\})), (-3, (2, \{1, 2\})), (0, (1, \{1, 2\})), (0, (2, \{1, 2\})), (3, (1, \{1, 2\})), (3, (2, \{1, 2\})), (6, (1, \{1, 2\})), (6, (2, \{1, 2\}))\}$$