

## PSET 1 — 01/06/2024

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## Problems

## Problem 1.

Let  $A, B, C$  be subsets of a set  $S$ . Prove that

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

To show that the two sets are equal, we will show that each set is a subset of the other. That is, any arbitrary element in the first set must be in the second set, and vice versa.

(i) Let  $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$ . Then either  $x \in A$  or  $x \in (B \cap C)$ .

1. If  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in A \cup B$  and  $x \in A \cup C$ . Therefore,  $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ .

2. If  $x \in (B \cap C)$ , then  $x$  is in **both**  $B$  and  $C$ .

Therefore,  $x \in (A \cup B)$  and  $x \in (A \cup C)$ .

Therefore,  $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ .

(ii) Let  $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ .

Then  $x \in (A \cup B)$  and  $x \in (A \cup C)$ . Since  $x \in (A \cup B)$ , either  $x \in A$  or  $x \in B$ . Similarly, since  $x \in (A \cup C)$ , either  $x \in A$  or  $x \in C$ . Thus, either  $x \in A$  or  $x$  is in **both**  $B$  and  $C$ .

1. If  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$ .

2. If  $x$  is in **both**  $B$  and  $C$ , then  $x \in (B \cap C)$ , so  $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$ .

**Problem 2.**

If  $A, B, C$  are sets, show that

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

To show that the two sets are equal, we will show that each set is a subset of the other. That is, any arbitrary element in the first set must be in the second set, and vice versa.

(i) Let  $x \in (A \cup B) \setminus (A \cap B)$ . Then  $x \in (A \cup B)$  and  $x \notin (A \cap B)$ .

1. If  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in (A \setminus B)$ .

2. If  $x \in B$ , then  $x \in (B \setminus A)$ .

Therefore,  $x \in (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$ .

(ii) Let  $x \in (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$ . Then either  $x \in (A \setminus B)$  or  $x \in (B \setminus A)$ .

1. If  $x \in (A \setminus B)$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$ . Therefore,  $x \in (A \cup B)$  and  $x \notin (A \cap B)$ .

2. If  $x \in (B \setminus A)$ , then  $x \in B$  and  $x \notin A$ . Therefore,  $x \in (A \cup B)$  and  $x \notin (A \cap B)$ .

Therefore,  $x \in (A \cup B) \setminus (A \cap B)$ .