

SET THEORY LAWS

Set Identities

Identity	Name
$A \cup \emptyset = A$ $A \cap U = A$	Identity laws
$A \cup U = U$ $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$	Domination laws
$A \cup A = A$ $A \cap A = A$	Idempotent laws
$\overline{\overline{A}} = A$	Double Complement laws

Set Identities

Identity	Name
$A \cup B = B \cup A$ $A \cap B = B \cap A$	Commutative laws
$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap C$ $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup C$	Associative laws
$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$	Distributive laws
$\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$ $\overline{A \cap B} = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}$	De Morgan's laws

Set Identities

Identity	Name
$A \cup (A \cap B) = A$ $A \cap (A \cup B) = A$	Absorption laws
$A - B = A \cap \overline{B}$	Alternate Representation for set difference

In above image, bar sign means complement

- **If $A = \{1, 3, 5\}$, $B = \{3, 5, 6\}$ and $C = \{1, 3, 7\}$**

(i) Verify that $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

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

(distributive law)

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

Solution

$$\text{L.H.S.} = A \cup (B \cap C)$$

$$B \cap C = \{3\}$$

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = \{1, 3, 5\} \cup \{3\} = \{1, 3, 5\} \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

$$\text{R.H.S.} = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

$$A \cup B = \{1, 3, 5, 6\}$$

$$A \cup C = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$$

$$(A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) = \{1, 3, 5, 6\} \cap \{1, 3, 5, 7\} = \{1, 3, 5\} \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

From (1) and (2), we conclude that;

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = A \cup B \cap (A \cup C) [\textit{verified}]$$

$$\textbf{(ii) } A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

$$\text{L.H.S.} = A \cap (B \cup C)$$

$$B \cup C = \{1, 3, 5, 6, 7\}$$

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = \{1, 3, 5\} \cap \{1, 3, 5, 6, 7\} = \{1, 3, 5\} \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

$$\text{R.H.S.} = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

$$A \cap B = \{3, 5\}$$

$$A \cap C = \{1, 3\}$$

$$(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C) = \{3, 5\} \cup \{1, 3\} = \{1, 3, 5\} \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

From (1) and (2), we conclude that;

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C) [\textit{verified}]$$

- **Let $A = \{a, b, d, e\}$, $B = \{b, c, e, f\}$ and $C = \{d, e, f, g\}$**

$$\textbf{(i) Verify } A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

$$\textbf{(ii) Verify } A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

Solution:

$$\textbf{(i) } A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

$$\text{L.H.S.} = A \cap (B \cup C)$$

$$B \cup C = \{b, c, d, e, f, g\}$$

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = \{b, d, e\} \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

$$\text{R.H.S.} = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

$$A \cap B = \{b, e\}$$

$$A \cap C = \{d, e\}$$

$$(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C) = \{b, d, e\} \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

From (1) and (2), we conclude that;

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C) [\text{verified}]$$

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

$$\text{L.H.S.} = A \cup (B \cap C)$$

$$B \cap C = \{e, f\}$$

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = \{a, b, d, e, f\} \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

$$\text{R.H.S.} = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

$$A \cup B = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$$

$$A \cup C = \{a, b, d, e, f, g\}$$

$$(A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) = \{a, b, d, e, f\} \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

From (1) and (2), we conclude that;

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = A \cup B \cap (A \cup C) [\text{verified}]$$

- **If universal set $U = \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}$, $A = \{1,3\}$ and $B = \{4,5,6\}$ then prove De morgan's law of intersection.**

Solution:

De morgan's law of intersection states that,

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

$(A \cap B)' = (\{1,3\} \cap \{4,5,6\})' = (\text{NULL})' = \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}$ (As complement of empty set is the universal set)

$$A' \cup B'$$
$$= (\{1,3\})' \cup (\{4,5,6\})'$$

$$= \{2,4,5,6\} \cup \{1,2,3\} = \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}$$

Hence, it is proved that $(A \cap B)' = \{1,2,3,4,5,6\} = A' \cup B'$