

Prove the following propositions. Format your proof so each step of the proof is on its own line; each line should still be a complete sentence.

Proposition 1. Suppose $a, b, p \in \mathbb{Z}$ and p is prime. Prove that if $p|ab$, then $p|a$ or $p|b$. (Suggestion: Use the Proposition on page 152.)

Proof.

Suppose $p \nmid a$ and $p \nmid b$.

Then p is not a prime factor of a or b .

ab is simply adding the multiplicities of each prime factor of a and of b together.

p 's multiplicity in a is 0, same with b .

Because $0 + 0 = 0$, p 's multiplicity in ab is 0.

So, $p \nmid ab$. □

Proposition 2. If A , B , and C are sets, then $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$.

Proof.

Suppose A , B , and C are sets.

Consider the following sequence of equalities:

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = \{x : (x \in A) \cup (B \cap C)\} \quad (\text{definition of set})$$

$$= \{x : (x \in A)\} \cup \{x : x \in B \wedge x \in C\} \quad (\text{definition of intersection})$$

$$= \{x : (x \in A) \vee (x \in B \wedge x \in C)\} \quad (\text{definition of union})$$

$$= \{x : (x \in A \vee x \in B) \wedge (x \in A \vee x \in C)\} \quad (\text{logical 'or' distributive property})$$

$$= \{x : (x \in A \vee x \in B)\} \cap \{x : (x \in A \vee x \in C)\} \quad (\text{definition of intersection})$$

$$= (A \cup B) \cap \{x : (x \in A \vee x \in C)\} \quad (\text{definition of union})$$

$$= (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \quad (\text{definition of union})$$

□

Problem 3. Determine whether the following statement is true. If it is true, prove it; if it is false, give a disproof.

If $X \subseteq A \cup B$, then $X \subseteq A$ or $X \subseteq B$.

Solution.

Suppose $A = \{1\}$, $B = \{2\}$, and $X = \{1, 2\}$.

Then $A \cup B = \{1, 2\}$.

So, $X = A \cup B$.

Thus, $X \subseteq A \cup B$.

But also, $X \not\subseteq A$ and $X \not\subseteq B$.

□