

# MATH 15910 - Problem Set 1

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## 1

To show that if  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are sets and  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C$ , then  $A \subset C$ , first suppose that  $x \in A$ .  $A \subset B$  means that if  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in B$ . Similarly,  $B \subset C$  means that if  $x \in B$ , then  $x \in C$ . Thus, if  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in C$ , so  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C$  mean that  $A \subset C$ .

## 2

### 2.1

To show  $A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$ , we must show that  $A \cup (B \cup C) \subset (A \cup B) \cup C$  and  $(A \cup B) \cup C \subset A \cup (B \cup C)$ . Starting with the former, assume  $x \in A \cup (B \cup C)$ , which means that  $x \in A$  or  $x \in (B \cup C)$ . This is equivalent to  $x \in A$  or  $(x \in B$  or  $x \in C)$ , which means  $x \in A$  or  $x \in B$  or  $x \in C$ . This is the same as  $(x \in A$  or  $x \in B)$  or  $x \in C$ , which means  $x \in (A \cup B)$  or  $x \in C$ , so  $x \in (A \cup B) \cup C$ . Thus, we have shown that if  $x \in A \cup (B \cup C)$ , then  $x \in (A \cup B) \cup C$ , or that  $A \cup (B \cup C) \subset (A \cup B) \cup C$ .

For the latter, assume  $x \in (A \cup B) \cup C$ , which means that  $x \in (A \cup B)$  or  $x \in C$ . This is equivalent to  $(x \in A$  or  $x \in B)$  or  $x \in C$ , which means  $x \in A$  or  $x \in B$  or  $x \in C$ . This is the same as  $x \in A$  or  $(x \in B$  or  $x \in C)$ , which means  $x \in A$  or  $x \in (B \cup C)$ , so  $x \in A \cup (B \cup C)$ . Thus, we have shown that if  $x \in (A \cup B) \cup C$ , then  $x \in A \cup (B \cup C)$ , or that  $(A \cup B) \cup C \subset A \cup (B \cup C)$ .

By showing that these sets are subsets of each other, we have proven that  $A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$ .

### 2.2

To show  $A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$ , we must show that  $A \cap (B \cap C) \subset (A \cap B) \cap C$  and  $(A \cap B) \cap C \subset A \cap (B \cap C)$ . Starting with the former, assume  $x \in A \cap (B \cap C)$ , which means that  $x \in A$  and  $x \in (B \cap C)$ . This is equivalent to  $x \in A$  and  $(x \in B$  and  $x \in C)$ , which means  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$  and  $x \in C$ . This is the same as  $(x \in A$  and  $x \in B)$  and  $x \in C$ , which means  $x \in (A \cap B)$  and  $x \in C$ , so  $x \in (A \cap B) \cap C$ . Thus, we have

shown that if  $x \in A \cap (B \cap C)$ , then  $x \in (A \cap B) \cap C$ , or that  $A \cap (B \cap C) \subset (A \cap B) \cap C$ .

For the latter, assume  $x \in (A \cap B) \cap C$ , which means that  $x \in (A \cap B)$  and  $x \in C$ . This is equivalent to  $(x \in A \text{ and } x \in B)$  and  $x \in C$ , which means  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$  and  $x \in C$ . This is the same as  $x \in A$  and  $(x \in B \text{ or } x \in C)$ , which means  $x \in A$  and  $x \in (B \cap C)$ , so  $x \in A \cap (B \cap C)$ . Thus, we have shown that if  $x \in (A \cap B) \cap C$ , then  $x \in A \cap (B \cap C)$ , or that  $(A \cap B) \cap C \subset A \cap (B \cap C)$ .

By showing that these sets are subsets of each other, we have proven that  $A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$ .

### 2.3

To show  $A \Delta (B \Delta C) = (A \Delta B) \Delta C$ , we must show that  $A \Delta (B \Delta C) \subset (A \Delta B) \Delta C$  and  $A \Delta (B \Delta C) \supset (A \Delta B) \Delta C$ . Each statement implies the next.

Statement 1. Before starting, we will demonstrate a set equality that justifies the equality shown (used later in proof). Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be sets. By distributing the  $\cap$  in  $(X^C \cup Y) \cap (X \cup Y^C)$ , we get that it is equivalent to  $(X^C \cap (X \cup Y^C)) \cup (Y \cap (X \cup Y^C))$ . Again, distributing the  $\cap$ , we get that is is equivalent to  $(X^C \cap X) \cup (X^C \cap Y^C) \cup (Y \cap X) \cup (Y \cap Y^C)$ . This simplifies to  $(X \cap Y) \cup (X^C \cup Y^C)$ .

Starting with the former, assume  $x \in A \Delta (B \Delta C)$ .  
Definition of  $\Delta$ :  $x \in (A \cap (B \Delta C)^C) \cup (A^C \cap (B \Delta C))$   
Definition of  $\Delta$ :  $x \in (A \cap ((B \cap C^C) \cup (B^C \cap C))^C) \cup (A^C \cap ((B \cap C^C) \cup (B^C \cap C)))$   
De Morgan's Law:  $x \in (A \cap ((B \cap C^C)^C \cap (B^C \cap C)^C)) \cup (A^C \cap ((B \cap C^C) \cup (B^C \cap C)))$   
De Morgan's Law:  $x \in (A \cap ((B^C \cup C) \cap (B \cup C^C))) \cup (A^C \cap ((B \cap C^C) \cup (B^C \cap C)))$   
Statement 1 (from above):  $x \in (A \cap ((B \cap C) \cup (B^C \cap C^C))) \cup (A^C \cap ((B \cap C^C) \cup (B^C \cap C)))$   
Distribute  $\cap$  over  $\cup$ :  $x \in ((A \cap (B \cap C)) \cup (A \cap (B^C \cap C^C))) \cup ((A^C \cap (B \cap C^C)) \cup (A^C \cap (B^C \cap C)))$   
Simplify:  $x \in (A \cap B \cap C) \cup (A \cap B^C \cap C^C) \cup (A^C \cap B \cap C^C) \cup (A^C \cap B^C \cap C)$   
Rearrange:  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cap C^C) \cup ((A^C \cap B) \cap C^C)) \cup (((A \cap B) \cap C) \cup ((A^C \cap B^C) \cap C))$   
Un-distribute  $\cap$  over  $\cup$ :  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B)) \cap C^C) \cup (((A \cap B) \cup (A^C \cap B^C)) \cap C)$   
Statement 1 (from above):  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B)) \cap C^C) \cup (((A^C \cup B) \cap (A \cup B^C)) \cap C)$   
De Morgan's Law:  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B)) \cap C^C) \cup (((A \cap B^C)^C \cap (A^C \cap B)^C) \cap C)$   
De Morgan's Law:  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B)) \cap C^C) \cup (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B))^C \cap C)$   
Definition of  $\Delta$ :  $x \in (A \Delta B) \cap C^C \cup ((A \Delta B)^C \cap C)$   
Definition of  $\Delta$ :  $x \in (A \Delta B) \Delta C$

Thus,  $A \Delta (B \Delta C) \subset (A \Delta B) \Delta C$ .

For the latter, assume  $x \in (A \Delta B) \Delta C$ .

Definition of  $\Delta$ :  $x \in ((A \Delta B) \cap C^C) \cup ((A \Delta B)^C \cap C)$   
Definition of  $\Delta$ :  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B)) \cap C^C) \cup (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B))^C \cap C)$   
De Morgan's Law:  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B)) \cap C^C) \cup (((A \cap B^C)^C \cap (A^C \cap B)^C) \cap C)$   
De Morgan's Law:  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B)) \cap C^C) \cup (((A^C \cup B) \cap (A \cup B^C)) \cap C)$   
Statement 1 (from above):  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cup (A^C \cap B)) \cap C^C) \cup (((A \cap B) \cup (A^C \cap B^C)) \cap C)$   
Distribute  $\cap$  over  $\cup$ :  $x \in (((A \cap B^C) \cap C^C) \cup ((A^C \cap B) \cap C^C)) \cup (((A \cap B) \cap C) \cup ((A^C \cap B^C) \cap C))$   
Simplify:  $x \in (A \cap B^C \cap C^C) \cup (A^C \cap B \cap C^C) \cup (A \cap B \cap C) \cup (A^C \cap B^C \cap C)$   
Rearrange:  $x \in ((A \cap (B \cap C)) \cup (A \cap (B^C \cap C^C))) \cup ((A^C \cap (B \cap C)) \cup (A^C \cap (B^C \cap C)))$   
Un-distribute  $\cap$  over  $\cup$ :  $x \in (A \cap ((B \cap C) \cup (B^C \cap C^C))) \cup (A^C \cap ((B \cap C) \cup (B^C \cap C)))$   
Statement 1 (from above):  $x \in (A \cap ((B^C \cup C) \cap (B \cup C^C))) \cup (A^C \cap ((B \cap C) \cup (B^C \cap C)))$   
De Morgan's Law:  $x \in (A \cap ((B \cap C^C)^C \cap (B^C \cap C)^C)) \cup (A^C \cap ((B \cap C^C) \cup (B^C \cap C)))$   
De Morgan's Law:  $x \in (A \cap ((B \cap C^C) \cup (B^C \cap C))^C) \cup (A^C \cap ((B \cap C^C) \cup (B^C \cap C)))$   
Definition of  $\Delta$ :  $x \in (A \cap (B \Delta C)^C) \cup (A^C \cap (B \Delta C))$   
Definition of  $\Delta$ :  $x \in A \Delta (B \Delta C)$ .

Thus,  $A \Delta (B \Delta C) \subset (A \Delta B) \Delta C$ .

By showing that these sets are subsets of each other, we have proven that  $A \Delta (B \Delta C) = (A \Delta B) \Delta C$ .

## 2.4

To show  $A \cup \emptyset = A$ , we must show that  $A \cup \emptyset \subset A$  and  $A \subset A \cup \emptyset$ . Starting with the former, assume  $x \in A \cup \emptyset$ , then  $x \in A$  or  $x \in \emptyset$ . The empty set cannot contain any elements, so the element  $x \notin \emptyset$ . This means that if  $x \in A \cup \emptyset$ , then  $x \in A$ , so  $A \cup \emptyset \subset A$ .

For the latter, assume  $x \in A$ . The set  $A \cup \emptyset$  contains all elements in  $A$  and  $\emptyset$ . This means that if  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in A \cup \emptyset$ , so  $A \subset A \cup \emptyset$ .

By showing that these sets are subsets of each other, we have proven that  $A \cup \emptyset = A$ .

## 2.5

To show that if  $A \cap B = X$ , then  $A = X$  and  $B = X$ , assume  $x \in X$ . Since  $X = A \cap B$ ,  $x \in (A \cap B)$ , meaning  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ . So, if  $x \in X$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ . This means that  $X \subset A$  and  $X \subset B$ . From the problem statement, we know that  $A$  and  $B$  are subsets of  $X$ , so  $A \subset X$  and  $B \subset X$ . Thus, since  $X \subset A$  and  $A \subset X$ ,  $A = X$ . Similarly, since  $X \subset B$  and  $B \subset X$ ,  $B = X$ .

## 2.6

To show that if  $A \Delta B = \emptyset$ , then  $A = B$ , we use the definition of  $\Delta$  to show that  $A \Delta B = (A - B) \cup (B - A)$ . By definition, this is equivalent to  $(A \cap B^C) \cup (B \cap A^C)$ . We are given that  $A \Delta B = \emptyset$ , meaning both  $A \cap B^C = \emptyset$  and  $B \cap A^C = \emptyset$ . For  $A \cap B^C = \emptyset$ , no element can exist in  $A$  and not exist in  $B$ , so  $A \subset B$ . Similarly, for  $B \cap A^C = \emptyset$ , no element can exist in  $B$  and not exist in  $A$ , so  $B \subset A$ . If  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$ , then  $A = B$ . Thus, we have shown that if  $A \Delta B = \emptyset$ , then  $A = B$ .

## 2.7

To show that  $(A \cap B)^C = A^C \cup B^C$ , we must show that  $(A \cap B)^C \subset A^C \cup B^C$  and  $A^C \cup B^C \subset (A \cap B)^C$ . Starting with the former, assume  $x \in (A \cap B)^C$ , then  $x \in X$  and  $x \notin (A \cap B)$ , which is equivalent to  $x \in X$  and  $(x \notin A \text{ or } x \notin B)$ . This means that  $(x \in X \text{ and } x \notin A)$  or  $(x \in X \text{ and } x \notin B)$ , so  $x \in A^C$  or  $x \in B^C$ , which is equivalent to  $x \in (A^C \cup B^C)$ . Thus, we have shown that if  $(A \cap B)^C$ , then  $A^C \cup B^C$ , or that  $(A \cap B)^C \subset A^C \cup B^C$ .

For the latter, assume  $x \in (A^C \cup B^C)$ , then  $x \in X$  and  $x \in (A^C \cup B^C)$ , which is equivalent to  $x \in X$  and  $(x \in A^C \text{ or } x \in B^C)$ . This means that  $x \notin A$  or  $x \notin B$ , so  $x \notin (A \cap B)$ , which is equivalent to  $x \in (A \cap B)^C$ . Thus, we have shown that if  $x \in (A^C \cup B^C)$ , then  $(A \cap B)^C$ , or that  $x \in (A^C \cup B^C) \subset (A \cap B)^C$ .

By showing that these sets are subsets of each other, we have proven that  $(A \cap B)^C = A^C \cup B^C$ .

## 3

To show that  $A \times B = B \times A$  iff  $A = B$ , we need to show if  $A \times B = B \times A$ , then  $A = B$  and if  $A = B$ , then  $A \times B = B \times A$ .

Starting with the former, assume  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . Then,  $(a, b) \in A \times B$ . The two Cartesian products are equal, so  $(a, b) \in B \times A$ . This means that  $a \in B$  and  $b \in A$ . Thus, if  $a \in A$ , then  $a \in B$ , which means  $A \subset B$ . Similarly, if  $b \in B$ , then  $b \in A$ , which means  $B \subset A$ . Because  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$ , that means if  $A \times B = B \times A$ , then  $A = B$ .

For the latter, we know  $A = B$ . This means  $A \times B = A \times A$ . Similarly,  $B \times A = A \times A$ . Because both  $A \times B$  and  $B \times A$  are equivalent to  $A \times A$ ,  $A \times B = B \times A$ . Thus, if  $A = B$ , then  $A \times B = B \times A$ .

By showing that if  $A \times B = B \times A$ , then  $A = B$  and if  $A = B$ , then  $A \times B = B \times A$ , we have proven that  $A \times B = B \times A$  iff  $A = B$ .

## 4

To prove an equivalence relation, we must check 3 conditions.

- Reflexive: For any  $x \in X$ ,  $(x, x) \in R$  must be true. This is true because the arbitrary book  $x$  in the set  $X$  has the same author first name as itself. Thus,  $(x, x)$  must exist in the relation.
- Symmetric: For  $x \in X$  and  $y \in X$ , where  $(x, y) \in R$ ,  $(y, x) \in R$  must be true. This is true because if the arbitrary book  $x$  in the set  $X$  and arbitrary book  $y$  in the set  $X$  have the same author first name, they would still have the same author first name if the order of the books were switched. Thus,  $(y, x)$  must exist in the relation.
- Transitive: For  $x \in X$ ,  $y \in X$ , and  $z \in X$ , where  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $(y, z) \in R$ ,  $(x, z) \in R$  must be true. This is true because if the arbitrary book  $x$  in the set  $X$  and arbitrary book  $y$  in the set  $X$  have the same author first name, and book  $y$  and arbitrary book  $z$  in the set  $X$  have the same author first name, then book  $x$  and  $z$  must also have the same author first name. Thus,  $(x, z)$  must exist in the relation.