

# Discrete Math — Homework 4 Solutions

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## Q1

Given three sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ , please prove the following statements.

Let  $p$  be " $x \in A$ ",  $q$  be " $x \in B$ ",  $r$  be " $x \in C$ ".

(a)  $(A \cap B) \subseteq A$

**Proof:** According to the definition,  $\forall x \in A \cap B (x \in A)$ , and thus we have  $(A \cap B) \subseteq A$ .  $\square$

(b)  $A \cap (B - A) = \emptyset$

**Proof:** For all  $x \in A \cap (B - A)$ , by definition, we have  $(x \in A) \wedge (x \notin A)$ , so there doesn't exist such  $x$ . Therefore,  $A \cap (B - A) = \emptyset$ .  $\square$

(c)  $A \cup (B - A) = A \cup B$

**Proof:**  $A \cup (B - A) = \{x \mid p \vee (q \wedge \neg p)\} = \{x \mid (p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee \neg p)\} = \{x \mid p \vee q\} = A \cup B$ .  $\square$

(d)  $A - B = A \cap \overline{B}$

**Proof:**  $A - B = \{x \mid p \wedge \neg q\} = A \cap \overline{B}$ .  $\square$

(e)  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap \overline{B}) = A$

**Proof:**  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap \overline{B}) = \{x \mid (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge \neg q)\} = \{x \mid p \wedge (q \vee \neg q)\} = \{x \mid p\} = A$ .  $\square$

(f)  $\overline{A \cap B \cap C} = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B} \cup \overline{C}$

**Proof:**  $\overline{A \cap B \cap C} = \{x \mid \neg(p \wedge q \wedge r)\} = \{x \mid \neg p \vee \neg q \vee \neg r\} = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B} \cup \overline{C}$ .  $\square$

## Q2

Show the following Cartesian products are not the same.

(a)  $A \times B$  and  $B \times A$ , unless  $A = B$ .

Let  $A = \{1\}$ ,  $B = \{2\}$ . Then  $A \times B = \{(1, 2)\} \neq \{(2, 1)\} = B \times A$ .

(b)  $A \times B \times C$  and  $(A \times B) \times C$ . Let  $A = \{1\}$ ,  $B = \{2\}$ ,  $C = \{3\}$ . Then  $A \times B \times C = \{(1, 2, 3)\} \neq \{((1, 2), 3)\} = (A \times B) \times C$ .

**Q3**

Determine whether the function  $f: \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is onto if

- (a)  $f(m, n) = m + n$  is onto.
- (b)  $f(m, n) = m^2 + n^2$  is **not** onto.
- (c)  $f(m, n) = m$  is onto.
- (d)  $f(m, n) = |n|$  is **not** onto.
- (e)  $f(m, n) = m - n$  is onto.

**Q4**

If  $f$  and  $f \circ g$  are onto, does it follow that  $g$  is onto?

**No.**

**Proof:** Let  $f: V \rightarrow W$ .

$f$  is onto means  $\text{Im } f = f(V) = R$ .  $f \circ g$  is onto means  $\text{Im } f \mid \text{Im } g = R$ . (the vertical bar here means restrict the domain of  $f$  within the image of  $g$ )

Once  $V \subseteq \text{Im } g$ , then we can ensure that  $f \circ g$  is onto. So to construct a counterexample, we just need to set  $g$  as a function such that  $V \subseteq \text{Im } g \subset \text{co-domain of } g$ .  $\square$

**Q5**

Let  $S$  be a subset of a universal set  $U$ . The characteristic function  $f_S$  of  $S$  is the function from  $U$  to  $\{0, 1\}$  such that  $f_S(x) = 1$  if  $x$  belongs to  $S$  and  $f_S(x) = 0$  if  $x$  does not belong to  $S$ . Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets.

(a)  $f_{A \cap B}(x) = f_A(x) \cdot f_B(x)$

**Proof:**

LHS,  $f_{A \cap B}(x) = 1$  iff.  $x \in A \cap B \iff x \in A \wedge x \in B$ .

RHS,  $f_A(x) \cdot f_B(x) = 1$  iff.  $f_A = 1 \wedge f_B = 1 \iff x \in A \wedge x \in B$ .

Thus, the 2 expressions are equivalent.  $\square$

(b)  $f_{A \cup B}(x) = f_A(x) + f_B(x) - f_A(x) \cdot f_B(x)$

**Proof:** Proving  $f_{A \cup B}(x) = f_A(x) + f_B(x) - f_A(x) \cdot f_B(x)$  is proving  $f_{A \cup B}(x) + f_{A \cap B}(x) = f_A(x) + f_B(x)$ . We prove by cases:

I.  $x \notin A \wedge x \notin B$ . LHS=0=RHS.

II.  $x$  in either set. LHS=1=RHS.

III.  $x$  in both set. LHS=2=RHS.

Thus, the equation was verified.  $\square$

(c)  $f_{\bar{A}}(x) = 1 - f_A(x)$

**Proof:** We prove by cases:

I.  $x \in A$ . LHS=0=RHS.

II.  $x \notin A$ . LHS=1=RHS.

Thus, the equation was verified.  $\square$

## Q6

Show that the function  $f(x) = ax + b$  from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  is invertible, where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants, with  $a \neq 0$ , and find the inverse of  $f$ .

**Solution:**

First show  $f$  is injection.  $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{R}, f(m) = f(n) \implies am + b = an + b \implies m = n$ .

Then show  $f$  is surjection.  $\forall y_0 \in \mathbb{R}, \exists x_0 = \frac{1}{a}(y_0 - b)$  s.t.  $f(x_0) = y_0$ .

So,  $f$  is bijection, and thus,  $f$  is invertible.  $f^{-1} = \frac{1}{a}(x - b)$ .

## Q7

Prove or disprove each of these statements about the floor and ceiling functions.

(a)  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \lceil \lfloor x \rfloor \rceil = \lfloor x \rfloor$

**Proof:** Write  $x = n + \epsilon, n \in \mathbb{Z}, \epsilon \in [0, 1)$ .  $\lceil \lfloor x \rfloor \rceil = \lceil n \rceil = n = \lfloor x \rfloor$ .  $\square$

(b)  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \lfloor 2x \rfloor = 2 \lfloor x \rfloor$

**False.**  $x = 2.5$  is a counterexample.

(c)  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}, \lceil xy \rceil = \lceil x \rceil \lceil y \rceil$

**False.**  $x = y = 9.9$  is a counterexample.

(d)  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \lceil \frac{x}{2} \rceil = \lfloor \frac{x+1}{2} \rfloor$

**False.**  $x = 6.2$  is a counterexample.

## Q8

Please formulate the following problem as a formal mathematical problem via using indicator functions:

Input: Universal set  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ . Subsets  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m \subseteq U$ .

Goal: Find  $k$  subsets that maximizes their total coverage, i.e., set  $\bigcup_{i \in k} S_i$  contains the most elements of  $U$ .

**Solution:** Let  $\lambda \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\delta_i = \begin{cases} 0, & i \notin \lambda \\ 1, & i \in \lambda \end{cases}$ ,  $S = \bigcup_{i \in \lambda} S_i$ ,  $I_S(u_i) = \begin{cases} 0, & u_i \notin S \\ 1, & u_i \in S \end{cases}$

Objective:  $\max \sum_{i=1}^n I_S(u_i)$  s.t.  $\sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i = 9$ .

## Q9

Determine whether each of these sets is countable or uncountable. For those that are countably infinite, exhibit a one-to-one correspondence between the set of positive integers and that set.

- (a) all bit strings not containing the bit 0.

**Countably infinite.**  $f: \text{bit strings} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $str \mapsto \text{length of } str$ .

- (b) the integers that are multiples of 7.

**Countably infinite.** Let  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x \mapsto \frac{x}{7}$ ,  $g: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $x \mapsto \begin{cases} 2x, & x \geq 0 \\ 2|x| - 1, & x < 0 \end{cases}$ . And  $g \circ f$  is what we want.

- (c) the irrational numbers between 0 and 1.

**Uncountable.**

- (d) the real numbers between 0 and  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Uncountable.**

## Q10

Give an example of two uncountable sets  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $A \cap B$  is

- (a) finite. Let  $A = (0, 1]$ ,  $B = [1, 2]$ .  
 (b) countably infinite. Let  $A = \mathbb{Z} \cup (0, 1)$ ,  $B = \mathbb{Z} \cup (1, 2)$ .  
 (c) uncountable. Let  $A = B = (0, 1)$ .

## Q11

Explain why the set  $A$  is countable if and only if  $|A| \leq |\mathbb{Z}^+|$ .

**Solution:**

If  $A$  is countable, it is trivial that there exists an injection from  $A$  to  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ , so  $|A| \leq |\mathbb{Z}^+|$ .

Then for the other case  $|A| \leq |\mathbb{Z}^+|$ . If  $|A| < |\mathbb{Z}^+| = \aleph_0$ , then  $A$  is finite, so it is countable. If  $|A| = |\mathbb{Z}^+| \iff (|A| \leq |\mathbb{Z}^+|) \wedge (|A| \geq |\mathbb{Z}^+|)$ , and each term ensure a injection. So according to Schröder–Bernstein theorem, there exist a bijection from  $A$  to  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ , and thus  $A$  is countable.

**Q12**

Show that if  $A$  and  $B$  are sets,  $A$  is uncountable, and  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $B$  is uncountable.

**Proof:**

Use contradiction. Assume  $B$  is countable, then  $|B| \leq |\mathbb{Z}^+|$ , there we ensure an injection  $f$  from  $B$  to  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ . And  $A \subseteq B$ , thus we ensure an injection  $g$  from  $A$  to  $B$ . Then  $f \circ g$  is an injection from  $A$  to  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ . Therefore,  $|A| \leq |\mathbb{Z}^+|$ , which means  $A$  is countable. This contradicts with “ $A$  is uncountable”. So,  $B$  is uncountable.  $\square$

**Q13**

Show that if  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are sets such that  $|A| \leq |B|$  and  $|B| \leq |C|$ , then  $|A| \leq |C|$ .

**Proof:**

Since,  $|A| \leq |B|$ , we ensure an injection  $f: A \rightarrow B$ . Similarly, we ensure an injection  $g: B \rightarrow C$ . Then,  $g \circ f$  is an injection from  $A$  to  $C$ . Therefore,  $|A| \leq |C|$ .  $\square$

**Q14**

Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ ,

(a) Find  $A^T$ ,  $A^{-1}$ , and  $A^3$ .

$$A^T = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, A^{-1} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, A^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 18 \\ 9 & 37 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(b) Find  $(A^{-1})^3$  and  $(A^3)^{-1}$ .

$$(A^{-1})^3 = (A^3)^{-1} = \frac{1}{125} \begin{pmatrix} -37 & 18 \\ 9 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Q15**

Suppose that  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  where  $n$  is a positive integer. Show that  $A + A^T$  is symmetric.

**Proof:**  $(A + A^T)^T = A^T + (A^T)^T = A + A^T$ .  $\square$

**Q16**

Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find  $A \wedge B$ ,  $A \vee B$ , and  $A \odot B$ .

**Solution:**

$$A \wedge B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, A \vee B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, A \odot B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Q17**

Let  $A$  be a zero-one matrix. Show that

(a)  $A \vee A = A$

For every entry  $a_{ij}$  of matrix  $A$ ,  $a_{ij} \vee a_{ij} = a_{ij}$ . Thus,  $A \vee A = A$ .

(b)  $A \wedge A = A$

For every entry  $a_{ij}$  of matrix  $A$ ,  $a_{ij} \wedge a_{ij} = a_{ij}$ . Thus,  $A \wedge A = A$ .

**Q18**

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  zero-one matrix. Let  $I$  be the  $n \times n$  identity matrix. Show that  $A \odot I = I \odot A = A$ .

**Proof:**

Denote  $A[i, j]$  as the entry of matrix  $A$  at  $i$ th row and  $j$ th column.

$(A \odot I)[i, j] = \bigvee_{k=1}^n (A[i, k] \wedge I[k, j]) = A[i, j]$  since  $I[i, j] = 1 \iff i = j$ . So, we have  $A \odot I = A$ .

Similarly,  $(I \odot A)[i, j] = \bigvee_{k=1}^n (I[i, k] \wedge A[k, j]) = A[i, j]$ . Thus,  $I \odot A = A$ .

To sum up, we have  $A \odot I = I \odot A = A$ .  $\square$