

$A \subseteq B$  proofs.

Recall: to say that  $A \subseteq B$  is to say that, if  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in B$ . That is:  $A \subseteq B$  is equivalent to

$$x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B.$$

That is, an " $A \subseteq B$ " statement is a kind of " $P \Rightarrow Q$ " statement.

 $A \subseteq B$  proof template:

Theorem.  $A \subseteq B$ .

Proof.

Assume  $x \in A$ .

[Then do what works to show that:]

Therefore,  $x \in B$ .

So  $A \subseteq B$ .

□

Examples.Theorem 1.

$$3 + 12\mathbb{Z} \subseteq 3 + 6\mathbb{Z}.$$

Proof.

Let  $x \in 3 + 12\mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $x = 3 + 12k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . But  $12 = 6 \cdot 2$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 3 + (6 \cdot 2)k \\ &= 3 + 6 \cdot (2k) \\ &= 3 + 6m, \end{aligned}$$

where  $m = 2k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So  $x \in 3 + 6\mathbb{Z}$ .

$$\text{So } 3 + 12\mathbb{Z} \subseteq 3 + 6\mathbb{Z}.$$

□

Theorem 2.

For any sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ ,

$$A \cap B \subseteq (A \cup C) \cap B.$$

Proof.

Let  $x \in A \cap B$ . Then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ . But since  $x \in A$ , certainly  $x \in A$  or  $x \in C$ , so  $x \in A \cup C$ , by definition of union.

So  $x \in A \cup C$  and  $x \in B$ . But then, by definition of intersection,  $x \in (A \cup C) \cap B$ .

$$\text{So } A \cap B \subseteq (A \cup C) \cap B.$$

□

Theorem 3.

For any sets  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$ , if  $X \subseteq Z$  and  $Y \subseteq Z$ , then  $X \cup Y \subseteq Z$ .

Proof.

Let  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$  be sets; assume  $X \subseteq Z$  and  $Y \subseteq Z$ .

Now assume  $x \in X \cup Y$ . Then  $x \in X$  or  $x \in Y$ . We consider these cases separately:

1. If  $x \in X$  then, since  $X \subseteq Z$ , we have  $x \in Z$ .

2. If  $x \in Y$  then, since  $Y \subseteq Z$ , we have  $x \in Z$ .

So in all cases,  $x \in Z$ . So  $X \cup Y \subseteq Z$ . □

On Friday, we showed that, for any sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$A - B \subseteq (A \cup B) - (A \cap B).$$

Switching the roles of  $A$  and  $B$ , we can conclude that

$$B - A \subseteq (A \cup B) - (A \cap B).$$

From Theorem 3, it then follows that

Theorem 4.

For any sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$(A - B) \cup (B - A) \subseteq (A \cup B) - (A \cap B).$$

COOL FACT: the " $\subseteq$ " in Theorem 4 may be reversed:

Theorem 5. For any sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$(A \cup B) - (A \cap B) \subseteq (A - B) \cup (B - A).$$

Proof: later.

Now, two sets  $X, Y$  are said to be equal if  $X \subseteq Y$  and  $Y \subseteq X$ . So, by Theorems 4 and 5 together, we can conclude:

Theorem 6.

For any sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$(A - B) \cup (B - A) = (A \cup B) - (A \cap B).$$