

**1. Basic set definitions.** Given sets  $A$  and  $B$ , and a universe  $U$  that contains all sets in question, we define:

- (a)  $A \cup B = \{x \in U : x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}.$
- (b)  $A \cap B = \{x \in U : x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}.$
- (c)  $A - B = \{x \in A : x \notin B\}.$
- (d)  $A \times B = \{\text{ordered pairs } (x, y) : x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}.$
- (e)  $\overline{A} = U - A.$
- (f)  $\mathcal{P}(A) = \{\text{all subsets of } A\}.$
- (g)  $|P(A)| = 2^{|A|}$  for any set  $A$ .
- (h) The statement  $A \subseteq B$  is equivalent to the statement  $x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B$ .

**2. Intersection and union of indexed sets.** Given an indexing set  $I$  and a set  $A_\alpha$  for each  $\alpha \in I$ , and a universe  $U$ , we define

- (a)  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha = \{x \in U : x \in A_\alpha \text{ for some } \alpha \in I\}.$
- (b)  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha = \{x \in U : x \in A_\alpha \text{ for all } \alpha \in I\}.$

**3. Proof templates.**

- (a)  $P \Rightarrow Q$ , direct proof.

**Theorem.**  $P \Rightarrow Q$ .

**Proof.** Assume  $P$ . [Now do what you need to conclude:] Therefore,  $Q$ .

So  $P \Rightarrow Q$ .  $\square$

- (b)  $P \Rightarrow Q$ , contrapositive proof.

**Theorem.**  $P \Rightarrow Q$ .

**Proof.** Assume  $\sim Q$ . [Now do what you need to conclude:] Therefore,  $\sim P$ .

So  $P \Rightarrow Q$ .  $\square$

- (c)  $P \Leftrightarrow Q$ .

**Theorem.**  $P \Leftrightarrow Q$ .

**Proof.** Assume  $P$ . [Now do what you need to conclude:] Therefore,  $Q$ .

So  $P \Rightarrow Q$ .

Next, assume  $Q$ . [Now do what you need to conclude:] Therefore,  $P$ .

So  $Q \Rightarrow P$ .

Therefore,  $P \Leftrightarrow Q$ .  $\square$

(d)  $A \subseteq B$ .

**Theorem.**  $A \subseteq B$ .

**Proof.** Assume  $x \in A$ . [Now do what you need to conclude:] Therefore,  $x \in B$ .

So  $A \subseteq B$ .  $\square$

(e)  $A = B$ .

**Theorem.**  $A = B$ .

**Proof.** Assume  $x \in A$ . [Now do what you need to conclude:] Therefore,  $x \in B$ .

So  $A \subseteq B$ .

Now assume  $x \in B$ . [Now do what you need to conclude:] Therefore,  $x \in A$ .

So  $B \subseteq A$ .

Therefore,  $A = B$ .  $\square$

(f) Proof by counterexample. To prove that a statement is false, you need only find one instance where the statement fails.

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#### 4. Some special sets.

(a)  $\mathbb{Z} = \{\text{integers}\} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

(b)  $\mathbb{N} = \{\text{natural numbers}\} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .

(c)  $\mathbb{R} = \{\text{real numbers}\} = (-\infty, \infty)$ .

(d)  $\mathbb{Q} = \{\text{rational numbers}\} = \{\text{fractions } m/n : m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } n \neq 0\}$ .

(e) Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We write  $a + b\mathbb{Z}$  for the set  $\{a + bm : m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

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#### 5. Facts about integers.

(a) Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We say  $a$  divides  $b$ , written  $a|b$ , if  $b = na$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(b) (Division algorithm.) Given integers  $a$  and  $b$  with  $b > 0$ , there exist unique integers  $q$  and  $r$  for which  $a = qb + r$  and  $0 \leq r < b$ .