

Last time:

- existence proofs
  - constructive or nonconstructive

Today:

- proofs involving sets
  - set containment ( $\subseteq$ ) or equality ( $=$ )

Recall:

- If  $A, B$  are sets, then  $A \subseteq B$  iff every elt in  $A$  is in  $B$ .  
"if  $x \in A$  then  $x \in B$  (for  $x \in U$ )"
  - Two sets  $A, B$  are equal iff  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ .  
↓  
the universe

## 1. Set containments and equalities

Ex. (8.5) Prove that  $\{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid 18 \mid x\} \subseteq \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid 6 \mid x\}$ .

Pf.: Let  $y \in \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid 18 \mid x\}$ . Then  $18 \mid y$ , so  $y = 18k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Thus,  $y = 18k = (6 \cdot 3) \cdot k = 6 \cdot (3k)$  where  $3k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

So  $6 \mid y$ , hence  $y \in \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid 6 \mid x\}$ , and we are done.

Ex. (8.7) Show that  $\{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} : x \equiv y \pmod{6} \} \subseteq \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} : x \equiv y \pmod{3} \}$ .

Pf.: Let  $(x, y) \in$  LHS. Then  $x \equiv y \pmod{6}$ , so  $6 \mid x - y$ .

Since  $3 \mid 6$ , it follows that  $3 \mid x - y$ , so  $x \equiv y \pmod{3}$ .

It follows that  $(x, y) \in$  RHS, so  $\text{LHS} \subseteq \text{RHS}$ .  $\square$

(8.8) Prove that  $A, B$  are sets, then  $\mathcal{P}(A) \cup \mathcal{P}(B) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(A \cup B)$ .

Pf: Take an (arbitrary) elt / set  $X \in \mathcal{P}(A) \cup \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

Then  $X \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  or  $X \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

• if  $X \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ , then  $X \subseteq A$ . Since  $X \subseteq A$  and  $A \subseteq A \cup B$ , we have  $X \subseteq A \cup B$ .

• Similarly, if  $X \in \mathcal{P}(B)$  then we also have  $X \subseteq A \cup B$ .

So in all cases we have  $X \subseteq A \cup B$ , so  $X \in \mathcal{P}(A \cup B)$ .

Therefore  $\mathcal{P}(A) \cup \mathcal{P}(B) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(A \cup B)$ .  $\square$

(8.9) Let  $A, B$  be sets. If  $\mathcal{P}(A) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(B)$ , then  $A \subseteq B$ .

Pf: Suppose  $\mathcal{P}(A) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(B)$ . We will show  $A \subseteq B$  by showing that every elt  $x \in A$  is also an elt in  $B$ .

Let  $x \in A$ . Then  $\{x\} \subseteq A$ , hence  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

Since  $\mathcal{P}(A) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(B)$  by assumption, it follows that  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

Thus, we have  $\{x\} \subseteq B$ . It follows that  $x \in B$ .

It follows that  $A \subseteq B$ , so we are done.  $\square$



(8.10) Prove that  $\underbrace{\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : 35 | n\}}_A = \underbrace{\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : 5 | n\} \cap \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : 7 | n\}}_B$ .

Pf: Let  $A$  and  $B$  denote the sets on the left and right of the equality, respectively.

( $A \subseteq B$ ) Suppose  $k \in A$ . Then  $35 | k$

• Since  $5 | 35$  and  $35 | k$ , we have  $5 | k$ , so  $k \in \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : 5 | n\}$ .

• similarly, since  $7 | 35$ , we have  $7 | k$ , so  $k \in \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : 7 | n\}$ .

It follows that  $k \in B$ , hence  $A \subseteq B$ .

( $B \subseteq A$ ): Suppose  $k \in B$ . Then  $5 | k$  and  $7 | k$ . It follows that in the unique

prime decomp. of  $k$  we have  $k = 5 \cdot 7 \cdot \dots = 35 \cdot \dots$ ,

so  $35 | k$ . Thus, we have  $k \in A$ , so  $B \subseteq A$ . (other primes)

We conclude that  $A = B$ , as desired.  $\square$

(8-11) Suppose  $A, B, C$  are sets, with  $C \neq \emptyset$ . Prove that if  $A \times C = B \times C$ , then  $A = B$ .

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they would be  $\emptyset$   
(and equal) if  $C = \emptyset$ .

Pf: Suppose  $A \times C = B \times C$ . We will prove  $A = B$  by proving  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ .

( $A \subseteq B$ ) Let  $a \in A$ . Since  $C \neq \emptyset$ , we may pick an elt  $c \in C$ .

Then  $(a, c) \in A \times C$ . Since  $A \times C = B \times C$ , it follows that  $(a, c) \in B \times C$ .

It further follows that  $a \in B$ . Therefore  $A \subseteq B$ .

( $B \subseteq A$ ) Similarly, we have  $B \subseteq A$ .

It follows that  $A = B$ .

(8.13.) Let  $A, B, C$  be sets. Show that  $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ .

Pf 1: Do the  $\subseteq, \supseteq$  proof.

Pf 2: Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= \{ (x, y) \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B \cap C \} \\ &= \{ (x, y) \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B \text{ and } y \in C \} \\ &= \{ (x, y) \mid (x \in A \text{ and } y \in B) \text{ and } (x \in A \text{ and } y \in C) \} \\ &= \{ (x, y) \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B \} \cap \{ (x, y) \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in C \} \\ &= (A \times B) \cap (A \times C) = \text{RHS}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

## 2. Disproofs / True/False problems

To disprove a universal statement " $\forall x \in S, p(x)$ ", it suffices to find one counterexample, i.e., one example s.t.  $p(x)$  does not hold.

E.g. Statement: Every prime number is odd.

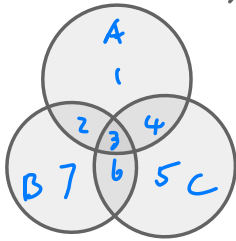
The statement is false because 2 is a counterexample: it is prime but not odd.

Statement: If  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  then  $n^2 - n + 1$  is prime.

It's false  $\swarrow$  since for  $n = 1 \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have  $n^2 - n + 1 = 1^2 - 1 + 1 = 1$ , which is not prime.

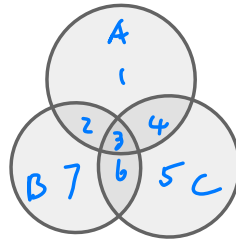
Eg. T/F?  $\forall$  sets  $A, B, C$ , we have  $A - (B \cap C) \stackrel{(*)}{=} (A - B) \cap (A - C)$ ?

Analysis: As before, we study  $(*)$  via Venn diagrams first.



$$B \cap C : 3, 6$$

$$A - B \cap C : 1, 2, 4.$$



$$A - B : 1, 4$$

$$A - C : 1, 2$$

$$\} \Rightarrow (A - B) \cap (A - C) : 1$$

$(*)$  should fail whenever there is an elt in region 2 or region 4.

Soln: The statement is false. Here's one counter-example: let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ,  $B = \{2, 3, 6, 7\}$  and  $C = \{3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . Then  $A - (B \cap C) = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} - \{3, 6\} = \{1, 2, 4\}$  while  $(A - B) \cap (A - C) = \{1, 4\} \cap \{1, 2\} = \{1\}$ , so  $A - (B \cap C) \neq (A - B) \cap (A - C)$ .  $\square$

To disprove an existential claim " $\exists x \in U, p(x)$ ", we need to show

that  $p(x)$  must fail for all  $x \in U$  (so it's not enough to find one example  $x$  for which  $p(x)$  fails).

E.g. "There is a real number  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $x^4 < x < x^2$ ."

The statement is false, since there is no real number  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  w/

$x^4 < x < x^2$ : Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Suppose  $x^4 < x$ , then since  $x^4 \geq 0$ , we must have  $x > 0$ .  
*We'll prove this by contradiction.*

Now, since  $x < x^2$  and  $x > 0$ , we have  $1/x > 0$  and  $x < x^2$ . So

$$x \cdot \frac{1}{x} < x^2 \cdot \frac{1}{x}, \text{ i.e., } 1 < x.$$

But then  $x^3 > 1$ , hence  $x^4 = x \cdot x^3 > x$ , a contradiction.

It follows that we can't have both  $x^4 < x$  and  $x < x^2$ .  $\square$