

1. Chapter 1, # 1: Prove that for all sets  $A, B, C$ , the formula

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

is true.

*Proof:* It suffices to show that  $A \cup (B \cap C) \subseteq (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$  and  $(A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \subseteq A \cup (B \cap C)$ . Assume that  $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$ , thus either  $x \in A$  or  $x \in B \cap C$ . If  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in A \cup B$  and  $x \in A \cup C$ , therefore  $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ . Now suppose that  $x \in B \cap C$ . Then  $x \in B$  and  $x \in C$ , and so both  $x \in A \cup B$  and  $x \in A \cup C$ , hence  $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ . Therefore  $A \cup (B \cap C) \subseteq (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ .

Now we show that  $(A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \subseteq A \cup (B \cap C)$ . Assume that  $x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ . Then  $x \in A \cup B$  and  $x \in A \cup C$ . If  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$ , so assume that  $x \notin A$ .

Claim:  $x \in B \cap C$

Proof of claim: Suppose that  $x \notin B \cap C$ . Then  $x \notin B$  and  $x \notin C$ . Since  $x \notin A$ , it follows that both  $x \notin A \cup B$  and  $x \notin A \cup C$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $x \in B \cap C$ .

Since  $x \in B \cap C$ , it follows that  $x \in A \cup (B \cap C)$ . Therefore  $(A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \subseteq A \cup (B \cap C)$ . Therefore we have shown that  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ , completing the proof. ■

2. Chapter 1, # 2:

- (a) Prove that  $(A^c)^c = A$ .

*Proof:* Let  $A^c$  denote the complement of  $A$  in  $X$ , i.e.  $A^c = X \setminus A$ . We shall show that  $(A^c)^c \subseteq A$  and  $A \subseteq (A^c)^c$ . Let  $x \in (A^c)^c$ . Then  $x \in X \setminus A^c$ . But  $X \setminus A^c = X \setminus (X \setminus A)$ .

Claim:  $X \setminus (X \setminus A) = A$

Proof of claim: If  $z \in X \setminus (X \setminus A)$ , then  $z$  is in the set of elements that are not in  $X \setminus A$ . Those elements are exactly the ones in  $A$ , by definition. Conversely, if  $z \in A$ , then  $z \notin X \setminus A$ , and so  $z$  is not removed when forming  $X \setminus (X \setminus A)$ , showing that  $A \subseteq X \setminus (X \setminus A)$ . Thus  $X \setminus (X \setminus A) = A$ .

Since  $x \in X \setminus (X \setminus A)$ , we see from the claim that  $x \in A$ . Thus we have shown that  $(A^c)^c \subseteq A$ .

Now let  $x \in A$ . Then  $x \notin X \setminus A$ . Therefore  $x \in X \setminus (X \setminus A)$ . Since  $X \setminus (X \setminus A) = X \setminus A^c = (A^c)^c$ , we see that  $A \subseteq (A^c)^c$ . Therefore  $(A^c)^c = A$ , completing the proof. ■

- (b) Prove **deMorgan's law**: Prove

$$(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c \tag{1}$$

and derive from it the law

$$(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c. \quad (2)$$

*Solution:* First let us prove (1). Let  $x \in (A \cap B)^c$ . Then  $x \in X \setminus (A \cap B)$ . This means that  $x \notin A \cap B$ . Without loss of generality, assume that  $x \notin A$ . Then  $x \in A^c$ , and so  $x \in A^c \cup B^c$ .

Now let  $x \in A^c \cup B^c$ . Then  $x \in A^c$  or  $x \in B^c$ . Without loss of generality, assume that  $x \in A^c$ . Then  $x \notin A$ , so  $x \notin A \cap B$ . Thus  $x \in (A \cap B)^c$ . Completing the proof. ■

To derive (2) from (1), replace  $A$  with  $A^c$  and  $B$  with  $B^c$  in (1) to get

$$(A^c \cap B^c)^c = (A^c)^c \cup (B^c)^c. \quad (3)$$

On the right-hand-side note that by part (a), we know  $(A^c)^c = A$  and  $(B^c)^c = B$ , so we get

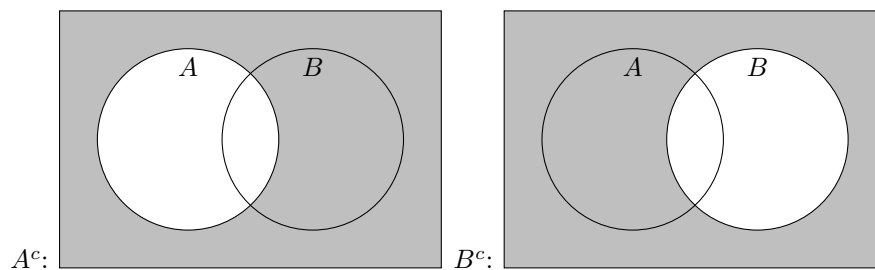
$$(A^c \cap B^c)^c = A \cup B.$$

Taking the complement of each side and applying part (a) to the left-hand side yields the desired result:

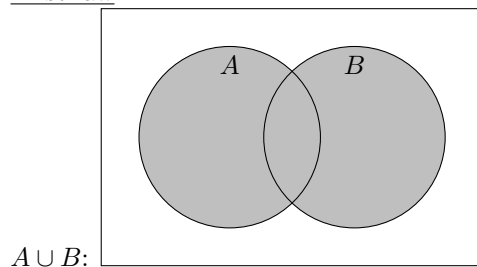
$$A^c \cap B^c = (A \cup B)^c.$$

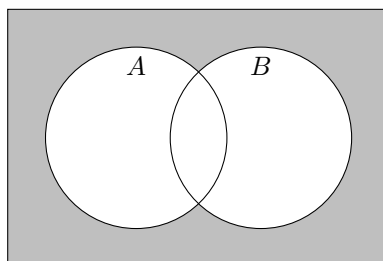
(c) Draw Venn diagrams to illustrate the two laws.

*Solution:*



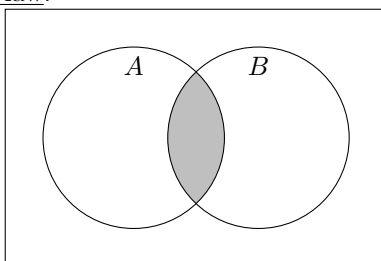
First law:



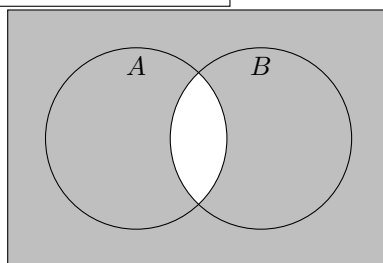


$$(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c:$$

Second law:



$$A \cap B:$$



$$(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c:$$

- (d) Generalize these laws to more than two sets.

*Solution:* Suppose we have three sets  $A, B, C$  and we want to look at  $(A \cap B \cap C)^c$ . Write  $X = B \cap C$ , and observe

$$(A \cap B \cap C)^c = (A \cap X)^c \stackrel{(1)}{=} A^c \cap X^c = A^c \cap (B \cap C)^c \stackrel{(1)}{=} A^c \cap B^c \cap C^c.$$

This leads us to a conjecture:

Conjecture: The following formula holds for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ :

$$(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n)^c = A_1^c \cup A_2^c \cup \dots \cup A_n^c.$$

*Proof:* The case  $n = 1$  holds trivially. The case  $n = 2$  was proven in part (b). The case  $n = 3$  was proven in the beginning of part (d). Assume the formula holds for  $n = N$ . We now prove it holds for  $n = N + 1$ :

Claim: If for all sets,  $A_1, \dots, A_N$ ,

$$(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_N)^c = A_1^c \cup \dots \cup A_N^c,$$

then for any additional set  $A_{N+1}$ ,

$$(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_N \cap A_{N+1})^c = A_1^c \cup \dots \cup A_N^c \cup A_{N+1}^c.$$

*Proof of claim:* Define  $\tilde{A}_N = A_N \cap A_{N+1}$ . Then we see using the hypothesis of this claim that

$$(A_1 \cap \dots \cap \tilde{A}_N)^c = A_1^c \cup \dots \cup \tilde{A}_N^c = A_1^c \cup \dots \cup (A_N \cup A_{N+1})^c,$$

and so from the  $n = 2$  case of the conjecture (proved earlier), we may conclude

$$(A_1 \cap \dots \cap \tilde{A}_N)^c = A_1^c \cup \dots \cup A_N^c \cup A_{N+1}^c,$$

completing the proof of the claim.

Since this claim holds and the base cases  $n = 1$ ,  $n = 2$ , and  $n = 3$  hold, we have shown via induction that the conjecture holds. ■

3. Chapter 1, # 6: Why is the square of an odd integer odd and the square of an even integer even? What is the situation for higher powers?

*Solution:* Recall that any positive natural number has a unique prime factorization  $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_i^{e_i}$ , where the  $p_1, \dots, p_i$  are prime numbers with exponents  $e_1, \dots, e_i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since 2 is prime and being even means being divisible by 2, a number is even if and only if one of its prime factors  $p_1, \dots, p_i$  is equal to 2.

If  $n$  is an odd integer, then when writing  $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_i^{e_i}$ , we observe that  $p_1 \neq 2$  and  $p_2 \neq 2$  and  $\dots$  and  $p_i \neq 2$  (otherwise  $n$  would be even). Now consider the square of  $n$ :

$$n^2 = (p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_i^{e_i})^2 = (p_1^{e_1})^2 (p_2^{e_2})^2 \dots (p_i^{e_i})^2 = p_1^{2e_1} p_2^{2e_2} \dots p_i^{2e_i}.$$

We see that the only prime factors of  $n^2$  are the same ones that are factors of  $n$ . Since 2 was not a factor of  $n$ , it follows that 2 is not a factor of  $n^2$ .

A similar argument shows that the square of an even must be even. This same argument holds for higher powers because

$$n^\ell = (p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_i^{e_i})^\ell = p_1^{\ell e_1} p_2^{\ell e_2} \dots p_i^{\ell e_i}.$$

4. In this problem, there is a known subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  called  $\mathcal{C}$  which has an upper bound. The set  $C$  is defined by

$$C = \{a \in \mathbb{Q} : \text{for some cut } A|B \in \mathcal{C}, a \in A\}$$

and the set  $D$  is defined by

$$D = \mathbb{Q} \setminus C.$$

- (a) Claim 1:  $C|D$  is a cut.

*Solution:* We must argue that

- a.)  $C \cup D = \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $C \neq \emptyset$ ,  $D \neq \emptyset$ , and  $C \cap D = \emptyset$ ,

- b.) if  $c \in C$  and  $d \in D$ , then  $c < d$ , and  
c.)  $C$  contains no largest element.

By definition,  $C \subset \mathbb{Q}$  and  $C \cap D = \emptyset$ . To prove a.), it follows from the definition of  $D$  that  $C \cup D = \mathbb{Q}$ . We know that  $C \neq \emptyset$  and  $D \neq \emptyset$  because  $C$  is bounded above.

To prove b.), suppose there is a  $c \in C$  and a  $d \in D$  with  $d \leq c$ . Let  $c = C_1|C_2$  and  $d = D_1|D_2$ . Then we may conclude that  $D_1 \subseteq C_1$ . But we cannot have  $D_1 = C_1$ , because it would follow that  $D_2 = C_2$  and hence  $c = d$  which contradicts the fact that  $C \cap D = \emptyset$ . If  $D_1 \subsetneq C_1$ , then by the definition of  $C$ ,  $d \in C$ . But this cannot happen because  $D = \mathbb{Q} \setminus C$ . Hence we have shown that  $D_1 \not\subseteq C_1$  and thus it is not true that  $d \leq c$ . Therefore b.) holds.

To prove c.), suppose that  $C$  does contain a largest element – call it  $\tilde{c}$ . Since  $\tilde{c} \in \mathbb{Q}$  we can express it as  $\frac{p}{q}$  for  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $q \neq 0$ . By the definition of  $C$ , there is some cut  $A|B \in \mathcal{C}$  for which  $\frac{p}{q} \in A$ .

Claim:  $A|B = \tilde{c}$

Proof: Since  $\frac{p}{q} \in A$ , it follows that  $\tilde{c} \leq A|B$ . Now we show that  $A|B \leq \tilde{c}$ . Suppose that  $A|B > \tilde{c}$ . Then if we write  $\tilde{c} = \tilde{C}|\tilde{D}$ , it follows that  $\tilde{C} \subsetneq A$ . But this means there is some larger  $\hat{c} = \hat{C}|\hat{D} \in A$  with  $\tilde{C} \subsetneq \hat{C} \subseteq A$ . But this means that  $\hat{c} \in C$  is a larger element of  $C$  than  $\tilde{c}$ , a contradiction to  $\tilde{c}$  being the largest. Therefore  $A|B \leq \tilde{c}$  and since we proved earlier that  $\tilde{c} \leq A|B$ , we may conclude that  $A|B = \tilde{c}$ .

So we see that may write the real number  $\tilde{c}$  as the cut

$$\tilde{c} = A|B = \left(-\infty, \frac{p}{q}\right) \cap \mathbb{Q} \left| \left[\frac{p}{q}, \infty\right) \cap \mathbb{Q}.$$

From this we observe that  $\tilde{c} \notin A$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $\tilde{c}$  cannot exist, i.e.  $C$  has no largest element.

Therefore a.), b.), and c.) hold and we may conclude that  $C|D$  is a cut. ■

5. Claim 2:  $C|D$  is an upper bound for  $\mathcal{C}$

Proof: Let  $E|F \in \mathcal{C}$ . We will show that  $E|F \leq C|D$ . Since  $E|F \in \mathcal{C}$ , we know by the definition of  $C$  that for all  $a \in E$ ,  $a \in C$ , hence  $E \subseteq C$ . Therefore  $E|F \leq C|D$ . ■