

MATH 210 Discrete Mathematics - Sessions #24 and #25

Overview of Set Theory

Undefined Terms:

objects – set, element
relation – set membership

Definitions:

special sets: universal set, empty set
special objects: ordered pair, ordered n-tuple
special relation: equality of ordered n-tuples
relations – subset, equality of sets
binary operations – intersection, union, difference or relative complement,
Cartesian product
unary operation – complement

Theorems:

For all A, B, C subsets of a universal set U ,

Some Subset Relations

1. $A \cap B \subseteq A$ and $A \cap B \subseteq B$ (Inclusion of Intersection)
2. $A \subseteq A \cup B$ and $B \subseteq A \cup B$ (Inclusion in Union)
3. If $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq C$ then $A \subseteq C$ (Transitivity of Subset Relation)

Set Identities

4. $A \cap B = B \cap A$ and $A \cup B = B \cup A$ (Commutative Laws)
5. $(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$ and
 $(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$ (Associative Laws)
6. $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ (Distributive Laws)
 $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
7. $A \cap U = A$ (Identity for \cap)
8. $(A^c)^c = A$ (Double Complement Law)
9. $A \cap A = A$ and $A \cup A = A$ (Idempotent Laws)
10. $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$ and
 $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$ (De Morgan's Laws)
11. $A \cup U = U$ (Universal bound for \cup)
12. $A \cup (A \cap B) = A$ and
 $A \cap (A \cup B) = A$ (Absorption Laws)
13. $A - B = A \cap B^c$ (Alternative Representation)

Some More Theorems

14. For any sets A and B, if $A \subseteq B$ then
 - (a) $A \cap B = A$ and (b) $A \cup B = B$.
15. If A is any set, $N \subseteq A$.
16. For any subset A of a universal set U,
 - a. $A \cup N = A$ (Identity for \cup)
 - b. $A \cap A^c = N$ and $A \cup A^c = U$
 - c. $A \cap N = N$ (Universal bound for \cap)
17. $U^c = N$ and $N^c = U$
18. For any sets A and B, $(A - B)$ and B are disjoint.
19. For all sets A and B, if $A \subseteq B$ then $\mathbf{P}(A) \subseteq \mathbf{P}(B)$.
20. For all in tegers $n \geq 0$ and sets X, if X has exactly n elements, then $\mathbf{P}(X)$ has exactly 2^n elements.

Boolean Algebras

A Boolean algebra $(S, =, +, *)$ is a set S together with an equality relation (=) and two binary operations (+ and *) such that the following properties hold:

For all a, b, c in S,

0. S is closed under both + and *
1. $a + b = b + a$ and $a * b = b * a$
2. $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$ and $(a * b) * c = a * (b * c)$
3. $a + (b * c) = (a + b) * (a + c)$ and $a * (b + c) = (a * b) + (a * c)$
4. There exists distinct elements i and e in S such that $a + i = a$ and $a * e = a$
5. For each a in S there exists an element a^{-1} such that $a * a^{-1} = e$ and $a + a^{-1} = i$.

Theorem. Suppose S is the set of all subsets of a nonempty set U, that is $S = \mathbf{P}(U)$, then $(S, =, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{1})$ is a Boolean algebra.