

1. Prove that $\mathcal{P}(\{1, 2, \dots, n\})$ has 2^n elements.

Proof. We use induction on n .

Base. $n=1$. We have to show $\mathcal{P}(\{1\})$ has $2^1 = 2$ elements.

$\mathcal{P}(\{1\}) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}\}$ which has 2 elements.

Inductive step. For any $k \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 1}$, we need to show

$$|\mathcal{P}(\{1, 2, \dots, k\})| = 2^k \implies |\mathcal{P}(\{1, 2, \dots, k+1\})| = 2^{k+1}.$$

We split the subsets of $\{1, 2, \dots, k+1\}$ into two groups:

Group 1. Those subsets X that do not contain $k+1$.

Group 2. Those subsets X that do contain $k+1$.

A subset X of $\{1, 2, \dots, k+1\}$ does NOT contain $k+1$ if and only if X is a subset of $\{1, \dots, k\}$. So by the induction hypothesis there are 2^k such subsets.

A subset X of $\{1, 2, \dots, k+1\}$ contains $k+1$ if and only if

$X = X' \cup \{k+1\}$ where X' is a subset of $\{1, 2, \dots, k\}$.

Notice that $X' = X \setminus \{k+1\}$. So again by the induction hypothesis there are 2^k such subsets.

So overall $\{1, 2, \dots, k+1\}$ has $2^k + 2^k = 2^{k+1}$ subsets.

2. List the elements of $X = \{A \subseteq \{1, 2, 3\} \mid |A| \text{ is even}\}$
and the elements of $Y = \{A \subseteq \{1, 2, 3\} \mid |A| \text{ is odd}\}$.

Solution. $\mathcal{P}(\{1, 2, 3\}) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{1, 2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$.

$$|\emptyset| = 0, \quad |\{1\}| = 1, \quad |\{2\}| = 1, \quad |\{1, 2\}| = 2,$$

$$|\{3\}| = 1, \quad |\{1, 3\}| = 2, \quad |\{2, 3\}| = 2, \quad |\{1, 2, 3\}| = 3$$

So $X = \{\emptyset, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2\}\}$ and

$$Y = \{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}.$$

Remark. Let $X_n = \{A \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \mid \text{the number of elements of } A \text{ is even}\}$,

$$Y_n = \{A \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \mid \text{the number of elements of } A \text{ is odd}\}.$$

Then $|X_n| = |Y_n|$. So combining by the 1st problem, $|X_n| = |Y_n| = 2^{n-1}$.

You can prove the above claim providing a "matching" between the elements of X_n and Y_n . Use problem 5 to show the following is a "matching" between elements of X_n and Y_n :

$$A \mapsto A \Delta \{1\}.$$

3. Find the truth-value of the following statements; justify your answer:

(a) There are no sets A and B such that

$$A \in B \wedge A \subseteq B.$$

$$(b) \{\emptyset\} \subseteq \{1, 2, \{\emptyset\}\}.$$

Solution (a) False. It is enough to find one example.

$$\text{Let } A = \{1\} \text{ and } B = \{1, \{1\}\}.$$

$$(b) \text{ False. } \emptyset \in \{\emptyset\} \wedge \emptyset \notin \{1, 2, \{\emptyset\}\}$$

$$\text{So } \{\emptyset\} \not\subseteq \{1, 2, \{\emptyset\}\}.$$

Remark. For part (a), A can be any set. Then

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A \in \{A\} \\ A \subseteq A \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} A \in \{A\} \cup A, \\ A \subseteq \{A\} \cup A. \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{Let } B = \{A\} \cup A. \text{ Then } A \in B \wedge A \subseteq B.$$

4. Prove that, for any two sets A and B ,

$$A \subseteq B \Leftrightarrow A = A \cap B$$

Proof. (\Rightarrow) We have to show $A = A \cap B$. So we need to show

$$A \subseteq A \cap B \quad \wedge \quad A \supseteq A \cap B.$$

$$\bullet \quad x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B \quad \text{since } A \subseteq B. \text{ So}$$

$$x \in A \Rightarrow x \in A \wedge x \in B$$

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

Therefore $A \subseteq A \cap B$. (I)

$$\bullet \quad x \in A \cap B \Rightarrow x \in A \wedge x \in B$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in A$$

Thus $A \cap B \subseteq A$. (II)

$$\cdot \textcircled{I}, \textcircled{II} \Rightarrow A = A \cap B.$$

(\Leftarrow)

$$x \in A \Rightarrow x \in A \cap B \quad \text{since } A = A \cap B$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in A \wedge x \in B$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in B$$

So $A \subseteq B$.

Remark. The same argument as above shows that we always

have $A \cap B \subseteq A$.

5. (a) Prove that $A \Delta A = \emptyset$ and $A \Delta \emptyset = A$

(b) Prove that $A \Delta B = A \Delta C \Rightarrow B = C$

Proof. (a) $A \Delta A = (A \setminus A) \cup (A \setminus A) = \emptyset \cup \emptyset = \emptyset$.

$$A \Delta \emptyset = (A \setminus \emptyset) \cup (\emptyset \setminus A) = A \cup \emptyset = A.$$

(b) $A \Delta B = A \Delta C \Rightarrow A \Delta (A \Delta B) = A \Delta (A \Delta C)$

$$\text{(by hint)} \Rightarrow (A \Delta A) \Delta B = (A \Delta A) \Delta C$$

$$\text{(part (a))} \Rightarrow \emptyset \Delta B = \emptyset \Delta C$$

$$\text{(part (a))} \Rightarrow B = C.$$

Remark. Part (a) shows \emptyset for Δ is similar to 0 for $+$, and A for A and Δ is similar to $-a$ for a and $+$. The

above argument is similar to the argument which says

$$a + b = a + c \Rightarrow b = c.$$

6 Use quifiers to write down that $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}$ | NOT hve

6. Use quantifiers to write down that $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ does NOT have a minimum.

Solution. In class we said A has minimum is equivalent to

$$\exists x \in A, \forall y \in A, x \leq y.$$

So its negation is

$$\forall x \in A, \exists y \in A, x > y.$$

(In plain English it says for any element of A there is a smaller one in A .)