

MATH 109, MATHEMATICAL REASONING,  
MIDTERM EXAM NUMBER 1

Monday, January 27th, 2020, 11-11:50am, APM B402A

- *Your Name:* SOLUTIONS
- *ID Number:*
- *Section:*

C01 (4:00 PM) C02 (5:00 PM)

Problem #	Points (out of 10)
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
Total (out of 50):	

**Problem 1.** Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 10\}$  be the set consisting of all the positive integers less than or equal to 10.

- (a) Give its cardinality  $|X|$ .
- (b) How many subsets does  $X$  have?
- (c) Let  $A = \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ . List all the elements of its complement  $\bar{A}$  in  $X$ .

(a) The cardinality of a finite set is the number of elements. Therefore  $|X| = \underline{10}$ .

(b) This is the cardinality of the power set  $\mathcal{P}(X)$ , which is  $|\mathcal{P}(X)| = 2^{10} = \underline{1024}$ .

(c)  $\bar{A}$  consists of those  $x \in X$  which are not in  $A$  :

$$\bar{A} = \{1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10\}.$$

**Problem 2.** Keep the set  $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 10\}$  and the subset  $A = \{2, 3, 5, 7\}$  introduced in Problem 1. Furthermore let  $B = \{1, 3, 7, 9\}$ .

- (a) List all elements of their union  $A \cup B$  and of their intersection  $A \cap B$ .
- (b) List all elements of the two differences  $A - B$  and  $B - A$ .
- (c) Are  $A$  and  $B$  disjoint subsets?

(a)  $A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$  and  $A \cap B = \{3, 7\}$ .

(b)  $A - B = \{2, 5\}$  and  $B - A = \{1, 9\}$ .

(c) Being disjoint means  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

We found in (a) that  $A \cap B = \{3, 7\}$ ,

so no, they're not disjoint subsets.

**Problem 3.** Consider the sequence  $A_1, A_2, A_3 \dots$  of intervals in  $\mathbb{R}$  defined by  $A_n = [0, \frac{1}{n}]$ . (Both endpoints 0 and  $\frac{1}{n}$  are included.)

(a) Which of the following statements are true, and which are false? Justify your answers.

(1)  $A_{2020} \subseteq A_{2019}$

(2)  $\frac{1}{2019} \in A_{2020}$

(b) Find their union  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$  and intersection  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ .

(c) Do the sets  $A_n - A_{n+1}$  form a partition of  $(0, 1]$  where  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ?

(a) For simplicity we replace 2019 by any  $n \geq 1$ .

(1)  $A_{n+1} \subseteq A_n$  is true:  $0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n+1}$  implies

$0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n}$  since  $\frac{1}{n+1} < \frac{1}{n}$ .

(2) we have a decreasing sequence of intervals:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A_1 & \supseteq & A_2 & \supseteq & A_3 & \supseteq & \dots \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \\ [0, 1] & & [0, \frac{1}{2}] & & [0, \frac{1}{3}] & & \text{etc.} \end{array}$$

(2)  $\frac{1}{n} \in A_{n+1}$  is false:  $0 \leq \frac{1}{n}$  is ok, but the other inequality  $\frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{1}{n+1}$  fails.

(b) Union: Since  $A_n \subseteq A_1$  for all  $n \geq 1$  (as obs. in (1) above) every element of  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$  lies in  $A_1$ .  
 → and vice versa, obviously.

So,

$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \underline{[0, 1]}.$$

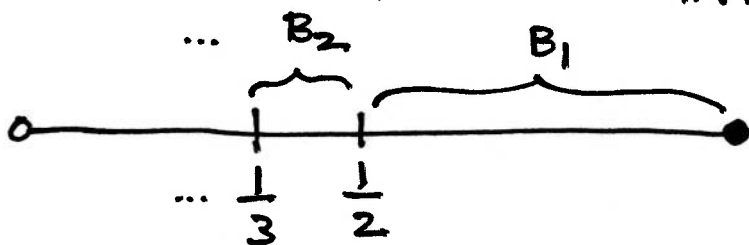
continued →

Intersection: Clearly  $0 \in A_n$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , so at least  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$  contains 0. Claim 0 is the only element, i.e., that

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \underline{\{0\}}$$

Why? Suppose  $x$  is in the LHS, meaning  $0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . For the sake of contradiction, suppose  $x \neq 0$ . Then  $x$  is positive, and we may pick a large enough  $N$  for which  $\frac{1}{N} < x$  (just take any integer  $N$  larger than  $\frac{1}{x}$ ). This is a contradiction: If  $\frac{1}{N} < x$  we cannot have  $x$  in  $A_N = [0, \frac{1}{N}]$ .

(c) Note first that  $B_n := A_n - A_{n+1} = (\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}]$ .



$$B_1 = (\frac{1}{2}, 1]$$

$$B_2 = (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}]$$

$$B_3 = (\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{3}]$$

...

The subsets  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  are clearly pairwise disjoint (cf. picture) and

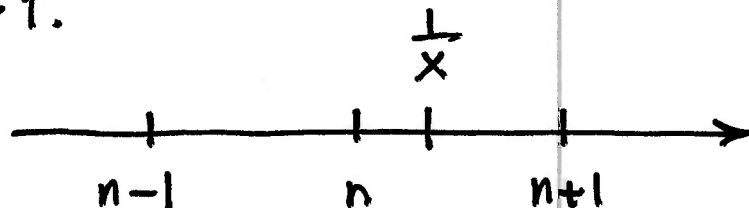
$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \stackrel{?}{=} (0, 1]$$

continued →

$\subseteq$ : Indeed every  $B_n = \left(\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}\right] \subseteq (0, 1]$ .

$\supseteq$ : Suppose  $0 < x \leq 1$ . Consider the number  $\frac{1}{x} \in \mathbb{R}$  which is  $\geq 1$ .

Pick the  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ :



$$n \leq \frac{1}{x} < n+1$$

— this amounts to:

( $n$  is the "floor" of  $\frac{1}{x}$ )

$\sim$  delete digits.

$$\frac{1}{n+1} < x \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

In other words  $x \in \left(\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}\right] = B_n \checkmark$

• CONCLUSION:

— So yes, the collection of intervals  $A_n - A_{n+1}$  does form a partition of  $(0, 1]$ .

Problem 4. For each of the mathematical statements below, indicate whether it is true or false. Justify your answers.

- TRUE (a)  $\forall a \in \mathbb{R} \exists b \in \mathbb{N} : a < b$   
 TRUE (b)  $\exists a \in \mathbb{R} \forall b \in \mathbb{N} : a < b$   
 FALSE (c)  $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} : (n > 0) \vee (n < 0)$   
 FALSE (d)  $\exists r \in \mathbb{Q} : (r < 0) \wedge (r > 0)$   
 FALSE (e)  $x \in \mathbb{Q} \implies x + \sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$

(a) Says "for every real number  $a$ , there's a natural number  $b$  which is larger than  $a$ "

True: If  $n$  is the floor of  $a$ , we may take  $b$  to be any positive integer  $\geq n+1$ .



(b) Says "there's a real number  $a$  which is smaller than any natural number  $b$ ".

True: May take  $a = 0$  (or any real number  $< 1$ .)

(c) Says "every integer  $n$  is either positive or negative".

False:  $n = 0$  is a counterexample.

(d) Says "there's some fraction  $r$  which is both negative and positive".

False: No number is both negative and positive.

continued →

(e) Says "if  $x$  is a fraction, then so is  $x + \sqrt{2}$ ".

False:  $x=0$  is a fraction, but  $0 + \sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2}$  isn't.

(as shown in class)



Problem 5. Recall that  $\mathbb{Z}$  is partitioned into three subsets of numbers:

$$A = \{3n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} \quad B = \{3n + 1 : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} \quad C = \{3n + 2 : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

(a) Which of these three subsets contains the number 1000?

(b) Verify the following two implications.

(i)  $(x \in B) \wedge (y \in B) \implies xy \in B.$

(ii)  $(x \in C) \wedge (y \in C) \implies xy \in B.$

(a)  $1000 = 999 + 1 = 3 \cdot 333 + 1 \in \underline{B}$  (take  $n = 333$ ).

(b)(i)  $x, y \in B$  so we may write  $x = 3m + 1$  and  $y = 3n + 1$  for suitable  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then:

$$xy = (3m + 1) \cdot (3n + 1) = 9mn + 3m + 3n + 1 =$$

↖ distributive laws.

$$3(\underbrace{3mn + m + n}_{\text{some integer}}) + 1 \quad \text{is of the form required to be in } B.$$

- This shows  $xy \in B$ .

(ii) When  $x, y \in C$  write  $x = 3m + 2$  and  $y = 3n + 2$ .

Now,

$$xy = (3m + 2)(3n + 2) = 9mn + 6m + 6n + 4 =$$

$$3(\underbrace{3mn + 2m + 2n + 1}_{\text{some integer}}) + 1 \quad \text{is visibly in the Subset } B.$$