

Proving Set Identities

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Let X be the universe. Prove that $A \cup (B \setminus A) = A \cup B$.

By the Set Difference Law, we have that $A \cup (B \setminus A) = A \cup (B \cap A^c)$. By the Commutative Law, we obtain $A \cup (A^c \cap B)$. By the Distributive Law, we obtain $(A \cup A^c) \cap (A \cup B)$. By the Complement Law, we obtain $X \cap (A \cup B)$. By the Identity Law, we obtain $A \cup B$ as desired.

Let X be the universe. Prove that $(A \setminus B) \setminus C = A \setminus (B \cup C)$.

By the Set Difference Law, we have that $(A \setminus B) \setminus C = (A \cap B^c) \setminus C = (A \cap B^c) \cap C^c$. By the Associative Law, we obtain $A \cap (B^c \cap C^c)$. By DeMorgan's Law, we obtain $A \cap (B \cup C)^c$. By the Set Difference Law, we obtain $A \setminus (B \cup C)$.

Let X be the universe. Prove that $(B^c \cup (B^c \setminus A))^c = B$.

By the Set Difference Law, we have that $(B^c \cup (B^c \setminus A))^c = (B^c \cup (B^c \cap A^c))^c$. By the DeMorgan's Law, we obtain $(B^c \cup (B \cup A))^c = B \cap (B \cup A)$. By Absorption Law, we obtain B as desired.

Let X be the universe. Prove that $A \setminus (A \setminus B) = A \cap B$.

By the Set Difference Law, we have that $A \setminus (A \setminus B) = A \setminus (A \cap B^c) = A \cap A \cap B^c$. By DeMorgan's Law, we obtain $A \cap (A^c \cup B)$. By the Distributive Law, we obtain $(A \cap A^c) \cup (A \cap B)$. By the Complement Law, we obtain $\emptyset \cup (A \cap B)$. By the Identity Law, we obtain $A \cap B$ as desired.

Let X be the universe. Prove that $(A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A) = (A \cup B) \setminus (A \cap B)$.

By the Set Difference Law, we have that $(A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A) = (A \cap B^c) \cup (B \cap A^c)$. By Distributive Law, we obtain $((A \cap B^c) \cup B) \cap ((A \cap B^c) \cup A^c) = ((A \cup B) \cap (B \cup B^c)) \cap ((A \cup A^c) \cap (B^c \cup A^c))$. By the Complement Law, we obtain $((A \cup B) \cap X) \cap (X \cap (B^c \cup A^c))$. By the Commutative Law and DeMorgan's Law, we obtain $((A \cup B) \cap X) \cap (X \cap A \cap B^c)$. By the Identity Law, we obtain $(A \cup B) \cap (A \cap B^c)$. By Set Difference Law, we obtain $(A \cup B) \setminus (A \cap B)$ as desired.