

If you are/were a WPI undergrad, what was your first math course at WPI? _____

Show all work needed to reach your answers. You may use any theorem we discussed in class, but cite by name any theorem you use.

1. (20 points) If A and B are sets, please show that $C(A \cup B) \subset C(A) \cap C(B)$ (the other containment direction is also true, but not part of this question).

Suppose that $x \in C(A \cup B)$. Then $x \notin A \cup B$, and thus $x \notin A$ and $x \notin B$. So $x \in C(A)$ and $x \in C(B) \Rightarrow x \in C(A) \cap C(B)$. Hence $C(A \cup B) \subset C(A) \cap C(B)$.

2. (20 points) If $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{Q}$, show in detail that their product is rational: $x_1 x_2 \in \mathbb{Q}$.

Suppose that $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{Q}$. Then $\exists p_1, p_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $x_1 = \frac{p_1}{q_1}$ and $x_2 = \frac{p_2}{q_2}$. So using the field properties, one finds that

$$x_1 \cdot x_2 = \left(\frac{p_1}{q_1}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{p_2}{q_2}\right) = \left(p_1 \cdot \frac{1}{q_1}\right) \cdot \left(p_2 \cdot \frac{1}{q_2}\right) = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdot \frac{1}{q_1} \cdot \frac{1}{q_2} = \frac{p_1 p_2}{q_1 q_2}$$

Since both $\mathbb{Z}$ and $\mathbb{Z}^+$ are closed under multiplication, $p_1 p_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $q_1 q_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Thus $x_1 x_2$ is indeed the quotient of integers and therefore rational.

3. (25 points) For which $x \in \mathbb{R}$ is $x + 2 < \frac{1}{|x|}$? Please show all needed steps, and give your final answer as the union of intervals.

⁽⁺¹⁾ Because of the $|x|$ in the denominator, $x \neq 0$.

Case 1: ⁽⁺¹⁾ For $x > 0$, $x + 2 < \frac{1}{x}$ ⁽⁺¹⁾ $\Leftrightarrow$ $x^2 + 2x - 1 < 0$, ⁽⁺¹⁾

Now by the quadratic ⁽⁺¹⁾ formula, the roots of $x^2 + 2x - 1 = 0$ are $x_{\pm} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4+4}}{2} = -1 \pm \sqrt{2}$. ⁽⁺²⁾ Thus $(x + 1 - \sqrt{2})(x + 1 + \sqrt{2}) < 0$, and this inequality implies $-1 - \sqrt{2} < x < -1 + \sqrt{2}$. ⁽⁺²⁾ But for this case, $x > 0$ so ⁽⁺¹⁾ $0 < x < -1 + \sqrt{2}$.

Case 2: ⁽⁺¹⁾ For $x < 0$, $x + 2 < \frac{1}{-x}$ ⁽⁺¹⁾ $\Leftrightarrow$ $-x^2 - 2x < 1$ ⁽⁺²⁾ (recall that $-x > 0$). ⁽⁺¹⁾

So $x^2 + 2x + 1 > 0$, ⁽⁺¹⁾ and therefore $(x + 1)^2 > 0$. ⁽⁺²⁾ This inequality is always satisfied, except at $x = -1$. ⁽⁺²⁾ Hence in this case, $-\infty < x < -1$ ⁽⁺¹⁾ or $-1 < x < 0$. ⁽⁺²⁾

Combining these cases

Solution: $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, 0) \cup (0, -1 + \sqrt{2})$ ⁽⁺²⁾

3 points each

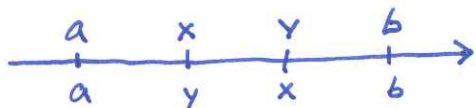
4. (15 points) Please fill in the blanks.

Suppose $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a function. Then $f(x)$ is defined for all $x \in X$, and f maps X onto $f(X)$. Also if $y \in \text{Range}(f)$, then there exists $x \in X$ such that $y = f(x)$. And if $A \subset X$, then $f^{-1}(f(A)) \supseteq A$. Finally f^{-1} is itself a function iff f is one-to-one.

5. (10 points) Please show that if $a, b, x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, and $a < x < b$, $a < y < b$, then $|y - x| < b - a$.

Since $a < x$, $-x < -a$. Since $y < b$, one can add the inequalities: $y - x < b - a$. Similarly $x < b \Rightarrow -b < -x$, and $-b < -x$ combines with $a < y$ to yield $-(b - a) < y - x$. Thus $-(b - a) < y - x < b - a$ which implies that

$$|y - x| < b - a$$



There were a variety of answers to this one, many of them correct or basically correct. The key point was to give an exact proof.

6. (10 points) Suppose $S \subset \mathbb{R}$ is a nonempty set that is bounded above. Can S have more than one least upper bound? Please explain in detail why or why not.

The $\text{lub}(S)$ is unique. If it was not, then let a_1 and a_2 both be least upper bounds for S . Then both a_1 and a_2 must be bounds for S , and since a_1 is a $\text{lub}(S)$, then $a_1 \leq a_2$. But the other direction also works: a_2 is a bound and a_2 is a $\text{lub}(S)$, so $a_2 \leq a_1$. All of this implies that $a_1 = a_2$ and thus there is indeed only one $\text{lub}(S)$.

Again, there were a variety of answers, but the correct ones all hinged on a_1 and a_2 both being bounds and $\text{lub}(S)$. Full credit required.