

Sample Assignment # 1.1

1. Prove that, for sets A and B,
A=B if and only if $(A \cap \sim B) \cup (\sim A \cap B) = \emptyset$,
where $\sim S$ is the complement of S

Part 1) Prove if $A = B$, then $(A \cap \sim B) \cup (\sim A \cap B) = \emptyset$

Assume $A=B$ then $(A \cap \sim B) \cup (\sim A \cap B) = (A \cap \sim A) \cup (\sim A \cap A)$

Now, any set intersected with its complement must be empty by the definition of complement, so $(A \cap \sim A) = \emptyset$ and $(\sim A \cap A) = \emptyset$ and thus their union is also empty, proving that $A = B$ implies $(A \cap \sim B) \cup (\sim A \cap B) = \emptyset$.

Part 2) Prove if $(A \cap \sim B) \cup (\sim A \cap B) = \emptyset$, then $A = B$

Assume $(A \cap \sim B) \cup (\sim A \cap B) = \emptyset$ then, by definition of union, $(A \cap \sim B) = \emptyset$ and $(\sim A \cap B) = \emptyset$ else the union would have at least one element in it. This in turn implies that no element of A is in the complement of B and no element of B is in the complement of A. Thus, all elements of A are in B and all elements of B are in A. Stated more formally, $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$. But, mutual containment is the definition of set equality and so $A = B$.
proving that $(A \cap \sim B) \cup (\sim A \cap B) = \emptyset$ implies $A = B$.

Sample Assignment # 1.2

2. Prove, If S is any finite set with $|S| = n$, then $|S \times S \times S \times S| \leq |P(S)|$, for all $n \geq N$, where N is some constant, the minimum value of which you must discover and use as the basis for your proof.

Proof:

(This is the same as showing $n^4 \leq 2^n$, for all $n \geq N$. We shall show this is true when $N=16$.)

Basis: $16^4 = (2^4)^4 = 2^{16} \leq 2^{16}$. This proves the base case. Note: that $15^4 = 50625$ and $2^{15} = 32768$ and so $N=15$ fails.

I.H. Assume for some K , $K \geq 16$, $K^4 \leq 2^K$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{I.S.}(K+1) : (K+1)^4 &= K^4 + 4K^3 + 6K^2 + 4K + 1 \\ &\leq K^4 + 4K^3 + 6K^3 + 4K^3 + K^3 \text{ since } K \geq 1 \\ &= K^4 + 15K^3 \leq K^4 + K^4 \text{ since } K \geq 16 \\ &\leq 2^K + 2^K \text{ by IH} \\ &= 2^{K+1} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $(K+1)^4 \leq 2^{K+1}$ and the I.S. is proven.

Sample Assignment # 1.3

3. Consider the function $pair: \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ defined by $pair(x,y) = 2^x (2y + 1) - 1$

Show that $pair$ is a surjection (onto \mathcal{N}).

Note: It's actually a bijection (1-1 onto \mathcal{N}), but I am not asking you to show that.

Proof:

Case 1: All even numbers are in range.

Let $x=0$. Then $2^x (2y + 1) - 1 = 2y + 1 - 1 = 2y$ where $y \geq 0$

Since y ranges over the natural numbers, $2y$ ranges over all even numbers and case 1 is shown.

Case 2: All odd numbers are in range.

Let $x>0$. Odd numbers are all those of the form $2z-1$, $z>0$. That is, they have a non-trivial even factor and an odd factor that could be just 1.

Essentially, then, every odd number is 1 less than some non-zero even number. But, every non-zero even number has a factorization that is of the form $2^x (2y + 1)$, where $x>0$ and $y \geq 0$. This shows that $2^x (2y + 1) - 1$ ranges over all odd numbers, when $x>0$ and case 2 is shown.

Sample Assignment # 1.3

3. Consider the function $pair: \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ defined by $pair(x,y) = 2^x (2y + 1) - 1$. Show that $pair$ is a surjection (onto \mathcal{N}).

Note: It's actually a bijection (1-1 onto \mathcal{N}), but I am not asking you to show that.

Simpler Proof Informed by case 2 on previous page:

All natural numbers are in range of $2^x (2y + 1) - 1$.

We show this by proving that all positive natural numbers are in the range of $2^x (2y + 1)$. We note that every non-zero natural number has a unique factorization that is of the form $2^x (2y + 1)$, where the first term captures the number's even part (or $x=0$ if not even) and the second part captures its odd part. This shows that $2^x (2y + 1) - 1$ ranges over all natural numbers and so the range of $pair$ is the set of all natural numbers. Note, we actually show uniqueness here based on the unique prime factorization theorem and so $pair$ is not just a surjection; it is a bijection.