

EXAM 1
Math 2513
10/14/20

Name:

PROBLEM 1. (10 points) Here is a purported proof that the integer 2 is smaller than the integer 1. Find any incorrect conclusions that are made in the “proof” and carefully explain what makes them invalid.

Claimed Proof: Let a and b be integers and assume that $a < b$. It follows that $a^2 < b^2$ and this inequality can then be rewritten as

$$0 < b^2 - a^2 = (b - a)(b + a).$$

Dividing both sides of this inequality by the positive number $b - a$ shows that $b + a > 0$. Subtracting a from both sides of the equation gives $-a < b$. Now imagine choosing $a = -2$ and $b = 1$. Since $-2 < 1$ the argument above shows that $-(-2) = -a < b = 1$. Therefore $2 < 1$. \square

PROBLEM 2. (30 points) Give an element-wise proof of:

Proposition: For all sets A , B and C , $A \cap (B \cup C) \subseteq (A \cap B) \cup C$.

PROBLEM 3. (20 points) Let A , B and C be sets.

- (a) Give a counterexample showing that $(A \cup B) - C$ need not be a subset of $(A - B) \cup C$.
- (b) If A , B and C are sets where $(A \cup B) - C$ is a subset of $(A - B) \cup C$ what does that say about the relationship between the three sets?

PROBLEM 4. (15 points) In this problem B and C are sets. Use an element-wise approach to prove the proposition that “If $B \subseteq C$ then $B - C = \emptyset$.”

PROBLEM 5. (10 points) Consider the statement:

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N}, \exists n \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } m^2 + n^2 \text{ is odd}$$

- (a) Write the statement as a concise English sentence.
- (b) Write the negation of the statement as a concise English sentence.
- (c) Verify that the statement is true.

PROBLEM 6. (15 points) We say that an sg-path in the integer grid has property G provided that there are no two successive U’s in the RU-string associated with the path.

- (a) List the RU-strings for all of the sg-paths from $(0, 0)$ to $(2, 2)$ that have property G.
- (b) There are 120 sg-paths from $(0, 0)$ to $(3, 7)$. How many of them have property G? Explain.
- (c) There are 120 sg-paths from $(0, 0)$ to $(7, 3)$. How many of them pass through the grid point $(2, 2)$ and have property G? Explain.
- (d) How many of the sg-paths from $(0, 0)$ to $(7, 3)$ have property G?

