

Example of a Double Inclusion Proof

1. Let

$$A = \{m \in \mathbb{Z} \mid m = 2a \text{ for some } a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

$$B = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid n = 2b - 2 \text{ for some } b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

Show $A = B$

Lemma 1: $A \subseteq B$

Proof.

Let $x \in A$. Then $x = 2a$ for some $a \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Let $b = a + 1$ (note that $b \in \mathbb{Z}$)

Subtracting 1 from both sides we have $a = b - 1$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 2a \\ &= 2(b - 1) \\ &= 2b - 2 \end{aligned}$$

Hence $x \in B$

Since every element in A is a element in B , $A \subseteq B$.

□

Lemma 2: $B \subseteq A$

Proof.

Let $y \in B$. Then $y = 2b - 2$ for some $b \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Let $a = b - 1$ (note that $a \in \mathbb{Z}$)

Adding 1 to both sides we have $b = a + 1$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} y &= 2b - 2 \\ &= 2(a + 1) - 2 \\ &= 2a + 2 - 2 \\ &= 2a \end{aligned}$$

Hence $x \in A$

Since every element in B is a element in A , $B \subseteq A$.

□

Claim: $A = B$

Proof.

By Lemma 1, $A \subseteq B$

By Lemma 2, $B \subseteq A$

$\therefore A = B$

□