

Principles of Mathematical Analysis

Chapter 2

Bennett Rennie
barennier@gmail.com

May 15, 2016

Exercise 2.1. Prove that the empty set is a subset of every set.

Proof. I will do this in a bit of an unconventional way, as the normal way is too easy. One can see from Remarks (2.11) that $A \cap B \subset A$ and $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$. If one lets $B = \emptyset$, then this gives us $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset \subset A$. \square

Exercise 2.4. Is the set of all irrational real numbers countable?

Proof. No. Suppose the set of all irrational real numbers were countable. Then, by Thm (2.12), $\mathbb{Q} \cup (\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{R}$ would be countable. However, this is a contradiction, as \mathbb{R} is not countable by Corollary of Thm (2.43). \square