

This week's homework builds off some comments in class about **how to prove two sets are equals**. Since **two sets are equal if and only if they are subsets of each other**, to prove that  $A=B$  once can prove that **every element of  $A$  is also an element of  $B$ , and vice versa**. Writing down proofs of that type takes a bit of practice, and Section 5.2 of the book does a really good job of talking through all the ways that can look like (and introduces a few new set words while we're at it, e.g., the "choose an element method" and "disjoint sets"). So the homework this week is relatively short with the hope that you'll *really* read Section 5.2 carefully, and then focus any extra time on your next papers.

0) Read Section 5.2 (Proving Set Relationships)

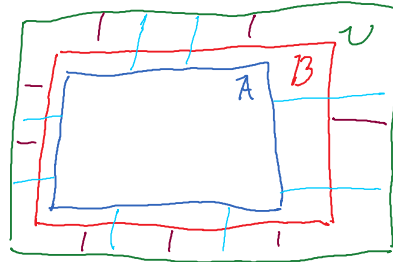
1) 5.2, # 8, 9, 14, 17.

8. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be subsets of some universal set  $U$ . From Proposition 5.10, we know that if  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $B^c \subseteq A^c$ . Now prove the following proposition:

For all sets  $A$  and  $B$  that are subsets of some universal set  $U$ ,  $A \subseteq B$  if and only if  $B^c \subseteq A^c$ .

We must prove both that,  $\forall (A, B) \subseteq U$ ,  
Both  $(A \subseteq B) \rightarrow (B^c \subseteq A^c)$  &  
 $(B^c \subseteq A^c) \rightarrow (A \subseteq B)$

The first statement is given.



$$\begin{aligned} U^c &= \emptyset \\ B^c &= U - B \\ A^c &= U - A \end{aligned}$$

Consider  $B^c \subseteq A^c$ ; Let  $\dot{B} = B^c$  &  $\dot{A} = A^c$

Now  $\dot{B} \subseteq \dot{A}$ . From the given statement,  $\dot{A}^c \subseteq \dot{B}^c$   
resubstituting;  $(A^c)^c \subseteq (B^c)^c$ . ANY  $(X^c)^c = X$

Therefore  $A \subseteq B$  proving  $(B^c \subseteq A^c) \rightarrow (A \subseteq B)$

Because it is given  $(A \subseteq B) \rightarrow (B^c \subseteq A^c)$ ; we have  
proven  $(A \subseteq B) \leftrightarrow (B^c \subseteq A^c)$ .  $\square$

9. Is the following proposition true or false? Justify your conclusion with a proof or a counterexample.

For all sets  $A$  and  $B$  that are subsets of some universal set  $U$ , the sets  $A \cap B$  and  $A - B$  are disjoint.

disjoint  $\hat{=}$   $X \cap Y = \emptyset$

Let  $(A \cap B) = X$  &  $(A - B) = Y$

We will prove by Contradiction

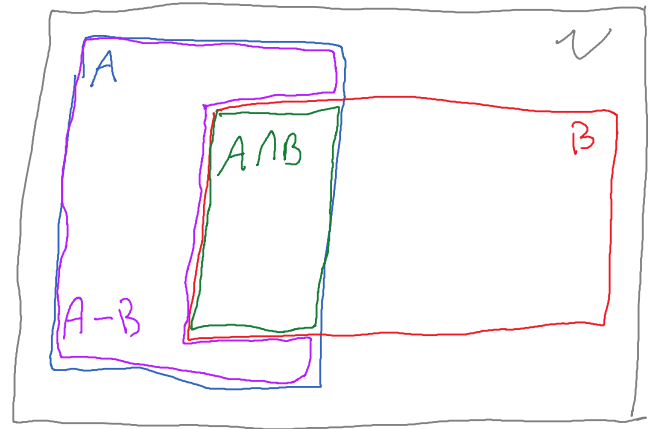
Assume  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$  thus, some

$z \in X, Y, X \cap Y, (A \cap B), (A - B)$

if  $z \in (A \cap B), z \in A, B, (A \cap B)$

But as  $z \in A, B$   $z \notin (A - B)$ . This is a Contradiction, implying that  $\neg(X \cap Y \neq \emptyset)$ ; Therefore  $X \cap Y = \emptyset$ , meaning they are disjoint!

As  $X = A \cap B$  &  $Y = A - B$ ,  $A \cap B$  &  $A - B$  are disjoint.



#### 14. Prove the following proposition:

For all sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  that are subsets of some universal set, if  $A \cap B = A \cap C$  and  $A^c \cap B = A^c \cap C$ , then  $B = C$ .

assume  $B \neq C$

we will prove by Contrapositive

Therefore as  $B \neq C$ , either  $(A \cap B) \neq (A \cap C)$  or  $(A^c \cap B) \neq (A^c \cap C)$

since  $B \neq C, \exists \beta \in B \mid \beta \notin C$

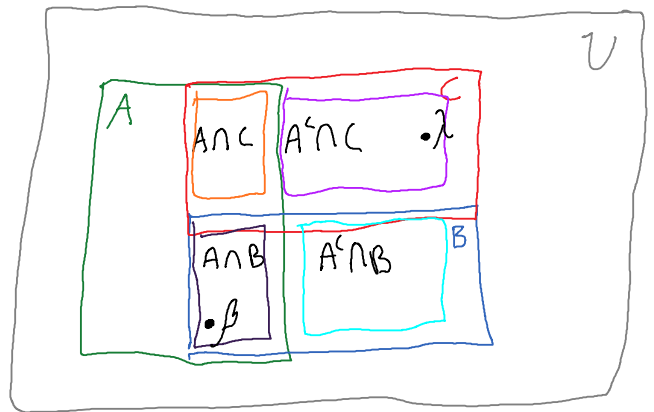
Letting  $\beta \in A$ , it is clear  $(A \cap B) \neq (A \cap C)$

as  $\beta \in (A \cap B)$  &  $\beta \notin (A \cap C)$ . we also know  $\beta \notin A^c$  as  $\beta \in A$ .

since  $B \neq C, \exists \lambda \in C \mid \lambda \notin B$ . Letting  $\lambda \in A^c$ , we now have  $\lambda \in (A^c \cap C)$  &  $\lambda \notin (A^c \cap B)$ , therefore  $(A^c \cap B) \neq (A^c \cap C)$

It is now proven that there exists some sets  $A, B, C, \subseteq U$  such that

$$(A \cap B) \neq (A \cap C) \vee (A^c \cap B) \neq (A^c \cap C)$$



17 12 noon p.

$$(B \neq C) \rightarrow ((A \cap B) \neq (A \cap C) \vee (A^c \cap B) \neq (A^c \cap C))$$

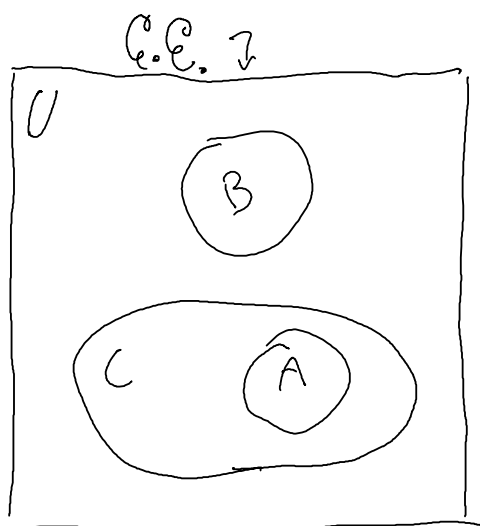
This is logically equivalent to the original proposition.  $\square$

## 17. Evaluation of Proofs

See the instructions for Exercise (19) on page 100 from Section 3.1.

- (a) Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be subsets of some universal set. If  $A \not\subseteq B$  and  $B \not\subseteq C$ , then  $A \not\subseteq C$ .

**Proof.** We assume that  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are subsets of some universal set and that  $A \not\subseteq B$  and  $B \not\subseteq C$ . This means that there exists an element  $x$  in  $A$  that is not in  $B$  and there exists an element  $x$  that is in  $B$  and not in  $C$ . Therefore,  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin C$ , and we have proved that  $A \not\subseteq C$ .  $\blacksquare$



FALSE PROPOSITION | The Error in this proof is assuming that because an element is not in  $B$ , then contradicting and saying it is.

$$x \in A \Rightarrow x \notin B \quad \& \quad x \in B \Rightarrow x \notin C.$$

But  $x \notin C$  does not imply  $x \in B$ .

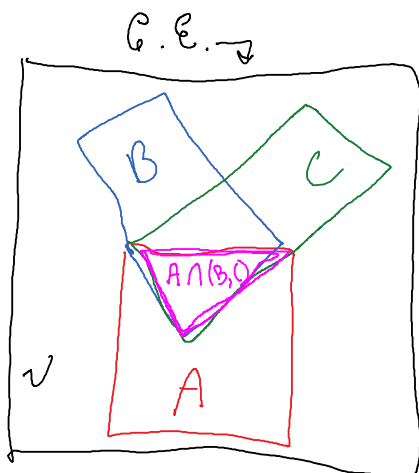
Counter  
Example  
Aside

- (b) Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be subsets of some universal set. If  $A \cap B = A \cap C$ , then  $B = C$ .

**Proof.** We assume that  $A \cap B = A \cap C$  and will prove that  $B = C$ . We will first prove that  $B \subseteq C$ .

So let  $x \in B$ . If  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in A \cap B$ , and hence,  $x \in A \cap C$ . From this we can conclude that  $x \in C$ . If  $x \notin A$ , then  $x \notin A \cap B$ , and hence,  $x \notin A \cap C$ . However, since  $x \notin A$ , we may conclude that  $x \in C$ . Therefore,  $B \subseteq C$ .

The proof that  $C \subseteq B$  may be done in a similar manner. Hence,  $B = C$ . ■

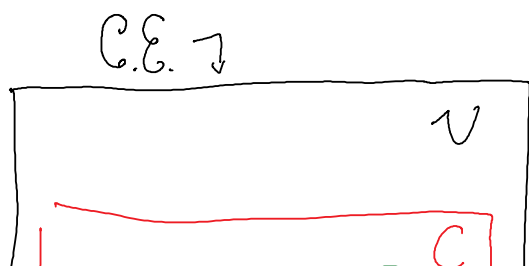


False Proposition | This proof is assuming  $B \subseteq C$  in order to claim  $x \in A \cap C$ , you could not know this unless you knew  $x \in A, C$ .

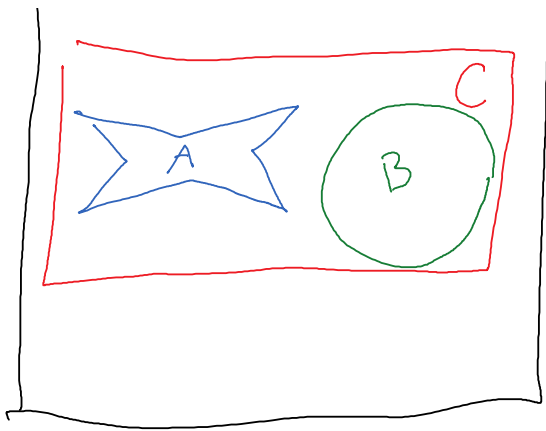
Counter  
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- (c) Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be subsets of some universal set. If  $A \not\subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq C$ , then  $A \not\subseteq C$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $A \not\subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq C$ . Since  $A \not\subseteq B$ , there exists an element  $x$  such that  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$ . Since  $B \subseteq C$ , we may conclude that  $x \notin C$ . Hence,  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin C$ , and we have proved that  $A \not\subseteq C$ . ■



False Proposition | The Error in this proof is that the author forgot a set  $B$  can be smaller than another set  $C$ . I.e.  $B \subseteq C$  but  $C \not\subseteq B$ . In



set  $B$  can be smaller than another set  $C$  while still being a subset. In order to claim  $x \notin C$  as they did,  $B$  must be equal to  $C$ , or  $A \subseteq C$  must be given.

Counter  
Example  
Aside