

Problem 11.

Use an element argument to prove each statement.

Assume that all sets are subsets of universal set U .

For all sets A, B , and C ,

$$A \cap (B \setminus C) \subseteq (A \cap B) \setminus (A \cap C).$$

Proof. Let A, B and C be sets. Let $x \in A \cap (B \setminus C)$.

Then by definition of intersection, $x \in A$ and $x \in (B \setminus C)$.

$x \in (B \setminus C)$ so $x \in B$ and $x \notin C$ by definition of set difference.

Since $x \in A$ and $x \in B$, $x \in (A \cap B)$ by definition of intersection.

$x \notin (A \cap C)$ since $x \in A$ and $x \notin C$.

Since $x \in (A \cap B)$ and $x \notin (A \cap C)$ by definition of set difference.

Hence $x \in (A \cap B) \setminus (A \cap C)$

$\therefore A \cap (B \setminus C) \subseteq (A \cap B) \setminus (A \cap C)$. ■

Problem 29.

Use the element method for proving a set equals the empty set to prove each statement.

Assume that all sets are subsets of a universal set U .

For all sets A, B , and C ,

$$(A \setminus C) \cap (B \setminus C) \cap (A \setminus B) = \emptyset$$

Proof. (by contradiction): Let A, B and C be sets.

Suppose not. That is, suppose $\exists x \in (A \setminus C) \cap (B \setminus C) \cap (A \setminus B)$

Then $x \in (A \setminus C)$ and $x \in (B \setminus C)$ and $x \in (A \setminus B)$ by definition of intersection.

So $x \in A$ and $x \in B$ and $x \notin C$ and $x \notin B$ by definition of set difference.

$\therefore x \in B$ and $x \notin B$, which is a contradiction.

So $(A \setminus C) \cap (B \setminus C) \cap (A \setminus B) = \emptyset$

$\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$ ■