

Ex: Suppose $A, B \neq \emptyset$.

Prove that $A \times B = B \times A \Leftrightarrow A = B$

Proof: (\Rightarrow) Assume $A \times B = B \times A$
WTS $A = B$

(i) Show $A \subseteq B$

Let $a \in A \neq \emptyset$

Now $B \neq \emptyset \therefore \exists b \in B$

\therefore By defn, $(a, b) \in A \times B = B \times A$

$\therefore (a, b) \in B \times A$

$\Rightarrow a \in B$ and $b \in A$

$\therefore a \in B$

(ii) Show $B \subseteq A$

Similar to (i)

(\Leftarrow) Assume $A=B$

WTS $A \times B = B \times A$

(i) Show $A \times B \subseteq B \times A$

Let $(i) \in A \times B$

Now $(i) = (a, b)$ where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$

But $A=B$

$\therefore a \in A=B$ and $b \in B=A$

$\therefore a \in B$ and $b \in A$

$\Rightarrow (a, b) \in B \times A$ (by def'n)

$\therefore (i) \in B \times A$

(ii) Show $B \times A \subseteq A \times B$

Similar to (i)

Different method for (\Leftarrow)

$$\text{WTS } A=B \Rightarrow A \times B = B \times A$$

$$\text{L.H.S. } \underline{A} \times B$$

$$= \underline{B} \times \boxed{B} \quad \text{since } A=B$$

$$= B \times \boxed{A} \quad \text{since } A=B$$

$$= \text{R.H.S.}$$

