

Five points for every problem.

1. For $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, let $S_\alpha = (-\alpha, \alpha)$. Prove that

$$\bigcap_{\alpha \in (0,1)} S_\alpha = \{0\} \quad \text{and} \quad \bigcup_{\alpha \in (0,1)} S_\alpha = (-1, 1).$$

Hint: To prove $\bigcap_{\alpha \in (0,1)} S_\alpha = \{0\}$, first argue that $0 \in S_\alpha$ for every $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ to conclude that $0 \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in (0,1)} S_\alpha$. Next, show that if $x \in \mathbf{R}$ and $x \neq 0$, then there is $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ such that $x \notin S_\alpha$ to conclude that $x \notin \bigcap_{\alpha \in (0,1)} S_\alpha$.

2. Let A, B be sets. Use the fact that $A - B = A \cap \overline{B}$ and the Distributive Law to prove

$$A = (A - B) \cup (A \cap B).$$

[Hint: Use the fact that $A - B = A \cap \overline{B}$, and the distributive law.]

3. For any three sets A, B, C , show that $(A \times C) - (B \times C) = (A - B) \times C$.
4. Prove that if $a, b, c, d \in \mathbf{R}$, then $(ab + cd)^2 \leq (a^2 + c^2)(b^2 + d^2)$.
5. Prove that if $x, y, z \in \mathbf{R}$, then $|x - z| \leq |x - y| + |y - z|$.

Hint: Let $a = x - y$ and $b = y - z$. Consider the four cases according to a and b are positive or non-positive.

Recall If two integers x, y have the same remainder when they are divided by the positive integer $n \geq 2$, we write $x \equiv y \pmod{n}$.

6. Let $n \in \mathbf{Z}$. Prove that

$$2n^2 + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3},$$

i.e., $3 \mid (2n^2 + 1)$ if and only if $3 \nmid n$.

7. Let $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}$ satisfy $a^2 + 2b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$. Prove that

$$(i) \ a \equiv b \equiv 0 \pmod{3}, \quad \text{or} \quad (ii) \ a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3} \text{ and } b \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}.$$

8. Prove that if $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ is such that $n \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$, then $n^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$.