

Basic Exam in Set Theory
September 3, 2019

Note: You may request elaborations on notation but not hints.

Problem 1 (10 points)

Let κ be an uncountable regular cardinal. Let

$$hA_j \prec i$$

and

$$hB_j \prec i$$

be two sequences of subsets of κ such that

$$fA_j \prec g = fB_j \prec g:$$

Prove there exists a set C that is closed and unbounded in κ and

$$C \setminus \Delta \prec A = C \setminus \Delta \prec B :$$

Reminder about notation: Δ is the diagonal intersection operator.

Problem 2 (20 points)

Let κ be an uncountable cardinal. Prove the following are equivalent.

- (1) κ is a strongly inaccessible cardinal.
- (2) For every $0 < \lambda < \kappa$ and sequence $hA_j \prec i$ of subsets of κ , there exists $hB_j \prec i$ such that

Problem 3 (40 points)

Assume $V = L$. Let κ be an infinite cardinal and $\lambda = \kappa^+$. For each ordinal α such that $\kappa < \alpha < \lambda$, let $h(\alpha)$ be the least $\beta > \alpha$ such that

$$L \upharpoonright \beta \models \text{ZFC}$$

Problem 4 (10 points)

Let M be a transitive class model of ZFC and T be a tree on ω such that $T \not\subseteq M$. Prove that at least one of the following holds.

(1) $[T] \subseteq M$.

(2) There is a perfect subtree S of T such that $S \not\subseteq M$.

Additional instructions for Problem 4: You may use machinery from the proof the Cantor Perfect Set Theorem but you must explain your notation.

Your solution must be sufficiently attentive to the difference between truth in V and truth in M . If you are claiming a statement is absolute, then you need to be precise about which statement is absolute and why it is absolute, citing results from 21-602 when appropriate.

Problem 5 (10 points)

Let M be a transitive class model of ZFC. Let A and B be two structures of the same finite language, both of which belong to M . Assume that

$M \models$ The universe of A is countable.

Suppose that the universe of B is uncountable.