

- 1 Prove  $x$  is even if and only if  $x^2$  is even.
- 2 Prove the following statement is false: If  $a - b > 0$ , where  $a, b$  are real, then  $a^2 - b^2 > 0$
- 3 Prove the following statement is false: There are no prime numbers divisible by 7
- 4 Prove the following statement is false:  $\exists$  a real number  $x$ ,  $-x^2 + 2x - 2 \geq 0$
- 5 Prove the following statement is false: There is a Pythagorean Triad where the two smallest numbers are even and the largest number is odd.
- 6 Prove or disprove the following statement: The sum of the squares of three consecutive even numbers is divisible by 4
- 7 Prove or disprove the following statement:  $\exists$  a real number  $n$  such that  $3^n + 4^n < 5^n$

## MEDIUM

- 8 Prove for integral  $x$ ,  $x^2$  is divisible by 9 if and only if  $x$  is a multiple of 3.
- 9 Prove that if  $m, n$  are integers that  $m^2 - n^2$  is even iff at least one of the sum and difference of  $m$  and  $n$  are even.
- 10 Prove the following statement is false:  $|2x + 5| \leq 9 \Rightarrow |x| \leq 4$
- 11 Prove or disprove that if  $x$  and  $y$  are irrational and  $x \neq y$ , then  $xy$  is irrational.
- 12 Prove that a number is divisible by 6 if and only if it is divisible by 2 and 3.
- 13 Prove that the sum of two integers is even if and only if they have the same parity (both odd or both even).

## CHALLENGING

- 14 Prove that a number is divisible by 4 if and only if the last two digits are a multiple of 4.
- 15 Prove that a three digit number is divisible by 9 if and only if the sum of its digits is divisible by 9.

- 1 If  $x$  is even, let  $x = 2k$  for integral  $k$ .  
 $x^2 = (2k)^2$   
 $= 4k^2$   
 $= 2(2k^2)$   
 $= 2p$  for integral  $p$   
 $\therefore$  if  $x$  is even then  $x^2$  is even

Conversely, we will show that if  $x^2$  is even then  $x$  is even using proof by contrapositive.

Suppose  $x$  is odd

Let  $x = 2k + 1$  for integral  $k$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 &= (2k + 1)^2 \\ &= 4k^2 + 4k + 1 \\ &= 2(2k^2 + 2k) + 1 \\ &= 2p + 1 \text{ for integral } p \text{ since } k \text{ is integral} \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  if  $x$  is odd  $x^2$  is odd, hence if  $x^2$  is even then  $x$  is even by contrapositive.

$\therefore x$  is even if and only if  $x^2$  is even  $\square$

- 2 Let  $a = -2$   $b = -3$   
 $\therefore a - b = -2 - (-3) = 1 > 0$   
 $(-2)^2 - (-3)^2 < 0$ , so the statement is false.

- 3 7 is prime and it is divisible by 7, so the statement is false.

- 4  $a < 0$   
 $\Delta = 2^2 - 4(-1)(-2) < 0$   
 The quadratic is negative definite, so the statement is false.

- 5 Here we will use a proof by contradiction to prove it is false for all real numbers.

Let the triad of odd numbers be  $a, b$  and  $c$ , such that  $a = 2i$ ,  
 $b = 2j$  and  $c = 2k + 1$  for  $i, j, k$  integral.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore (2i)^2 + (2j)^2 &= (2k + 1)^2 \\ 4i^2 + 4j^2 &= 4k^2 + 4k + 1 \\ 4(i^2 + j^2) &= 4(k^2 + k) + 1 \\ 4m &= 4n + 1 \text{ for integral } m, n \text{ since } i, j, k \text{ are integral} \end{aligned}$$

Now the LHS is a multiple of 4 yet the RHS isn't so we have a contradiction, so there is no Pythagorean Triad where the two smallest numbers are even and the largest number is odd.

- 6 Let the three consecutive even numbers be  $2k, 2k + 2$  and  $2k + 4$  for integral  $k$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (2k)^2 + (2k + 2)^2 + (2k + 4)^2 \\ &= 4k^2 + 4k^2 + 8k + 4 + 4k^2 + 16k + 16 \\ &= 12k^2 + 24k + 20 \\ &= 4(3k^2 + 6k + 5) \\ &= 4p \text{ for integral } p \text{ since } k \text{ is integral} \end{aligned}$$

The statement is true.

7 Let  $n = 3$   $3^3 + 4^3 = 27 + 64 = 91 < 5^3$   
The statement is true.

8 Prove that if  $x^2$  is divisible by 9 then  $x$  is a multiple of 3 by contrapositive

Suppose  $x$  is not a multiple of 3

Let  $x = 3k + j$  for integral  $k$  and  $j = 1, 2$

$$\therefore x^2 = (3k + j)^2$$

$$= 9k^2 + 6jk + j^2$$

$$= 3(3k^2 + 2k) + j^2$$

$$= 3p + 1 \text{ or } 3p + 4 \text{ for integral } p \text{ since } k \text{ is integral, which are not multiples of 9}$$

$\therefore$  if  $x$  is not a multiple of 3 then  $x^2$  is not a multiple of 9

$\therefore$  if  $x^2$  is a multiple of 9 then  $x$  is a multiple of 3 by contrapositive.

Conversely, if  $x$  is a multiple of 3 let  $x = 3j$  for integral  $j$

$$x^2 = (3j)^2$$

$$= 9j^2$$

$$= 9p \text{ for integral } p \text{ since } j \text{ is integral}$$

$\therefore x^2$  is divisible by 9.

$\therefore x^2$  is divisible by 9 if and only if  $x$  is a multiple of 3  $\square$

9 If  $m^2 - n^2$  is even then  $(m + n)(m - n)$  is even, using the difference of two squares.

$\therefore$  At least one of  $m + n$  and  $m - n$  is even, since two odd numbers have an odd product,

$\therefore$  If  $m^2 - n^2$  is even at least one of the sum and difference of  $m$  and  $n$  are even.

Conversely, if at least one of  $m + n$  and  $m - n$  are even then  $(m + n)(m - n)$  is even, since the product of two even numbers or an even and an odd number is even.

$\therefore m^2 - n^2$  is even, using the difference of two squares.

$\therefore$  If at least one of the sum and difference of  $m$  and  $n$  are even then  $m^2 - n^2$  is even.

$\therefore m^2 - n^2$  is even iff at least one of the sum and difference of  $m$  and  $n$  are even.  $\square$

10 Let  $x = -6$

$|2(-6) + 5| = 7 \leq 9$  yet  $|-6| > 4$ , so the statement is false.

11 Let  $x = \sqrt{2}, y = 2\sqrt{2} \therefore xy = 2 \times 2 = 4$

$\therefore$  the statement is false.

12 Let  $x$  be divisible by 6

$\therefore x = 6m$  for integral  $m$

$\therefore x = 2 \times 3 \times m$

$\therefore$  if a number is divisible by 6 then it is divisible by 2 and 3.

Conversely, we will use contrapositive to show that if a number is not divisible by 6 then it is not divisible by 2 and 3.

Let  $x = 6m + k$  where  $k$  is not a multiple of 6

$$= 2 \times 3 \times \left(m + \frac{k}{6}\right)$$

$$\neq 2 \times 3 \times p \text{ for integral } p \text{ since } k \text{ is not a multiple of 6}$$

$\therefore$  if a number is not divisible by 6 it is not divisible by 2 and 3.

$\therefore$  if a number is divisible by 2 and 3 then it is divisible by 6

$\therefore$  a number is divisible by 6 if and only if it is divisible by 2 and 3

- 13** Let  $a = 2m + j, b = 2n + j$  for integral  $m, n$  and  $j = 0, 1$   
 $a + b = 2m + 2n + 2j$   
 $= 2(m + n + j)$   
 $= 2p$  for integral  $p$   
 $\therefore a + b$  is even if  $a, b$  have the same parity  
 Conversely, we will show by contradiction that if two numbers have the same parity then their sum must be even.  
 Suppose  $a, b$  have opposite parity and their sum is even (\*)  
 Let  $a = 2m + j, b = 2n + k$  for integral  $m, n$  and  $j, k = 0, 1$  and  $j \neq k$   
 $a + b = 2m + 2n + j + k$   
 $= 2(m + n) + 1$   
 $= 2p + 1$  for integral  $p$   
 $\therefore a + b$  is odd #  
 This contradicts (\*) as  $a + b$  cannot be odd and even.  
 $\therefore$  if two numbers have the same parity then their sum must be even.  
 $\therefore$  the sum of two integers is even if and only if they have the same parity (both odd or both even)
- 14** Let the number be  $x = 100a + 10b + c$  where  $a, b, c$  are positive integers and  $b, c \leq 9$   
 If the last two digits are a multiple of 4 then  $10b + c = 4m$  for integral  $m$   
 $\therefore x = 4(25a) + 4m$   
 $= 4(25a + m)$   
 $= 4p$  for integral  $p$  since  $a, m$  are integral  
 $\therefore$  if the last two digits are a multiple of 4 then the number is divisible by 4.  
 Conversely, we will show by contrapositive that if a number is divisible by 4 then the last two digits are a multiple of 4.  
 If the last two digits are not a multiple of 4 then  $10b + c = 4m + k$  for integral  $m, k$  with  $k$  not a multiple of 4.  
 $\therefore x = 4(25a) + 4m + k$   
 $= 4(25a + m) + k$   
 $\neq 4p$  for integral  $p$  since  $a, m$  are integral and  $k$  is not a multiple of 4  
 $\therefore$  if the last two digits are not a multiple of 4 then the number is not divisible by 4.  
 $\therefore$  if the number is divisible by 4 then the last two digits are a multiple of 4  
 $\therefore$  a number is divisible by 4 if and only if the last two digits are a multiple of 4.
- 15** Let the number be  $x = 100a + 10b + c$  where  $a, b, c$  are positive integers and  $a, b, c \leq 9$   
 If the sum of the digits is divisible by 9 then  $a + b + c = 9m$  for integral  $m$   
 $\therefore x = 100a + 10b + c$   
 $= 99a + a + 9b + b + c$   
 $= 9(11a + b) + a + b + c$   
 $= 9p + 9m$  for integral  $p$  since  $a, b$  are integral  
 $= 9q$  for integral  $q$  since  $p, m$  are integral  
 $\therefore$  if the sum of the digits is divisible by 9 then the three digit number is divisible by 9  
 Conversely, we will show by contrapositive that if the three digit number is divisible by 9 then the sum of the digits is 9.  
 Suppose the sum of the digits is not divisible by 9 then  $a + b + c = 9m + k$  for integral  $m$ , and  $k$  not a multiple of 9  
 $\therefore x = 100a + 10b + c$   
 $= 99a + a + 9b + b + c$   
 $= 9(11a + b) + a + b + c$   
 $= 9p + 9m + k$  for integral  $p$  since  $a, b$  are integral  
 $\neq 9q$  for integral  $q$  since  $p, m$  are integral and  $k$  is not a multiple of 9  
 $\therefore$  if the sum of the digits is not divisible by 9 then the three digit number is not divisible by 9  
 $\therefore$  if the three digit sum is divisible by 9 then the sum of the digits is divisible by 9  
 $\therefore$  a three digit number is divisible by 9 if and only if the sum of its digits is divisible by 9.