

Assignment #2

UW-Madison MATH 421

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Exercise #1: Prove the following theorem by cases.

Theorem. *If x is an integer, then $x^2 + 3x - 9$ is odd.*

Proof. Suppose x is an integer.

Consider the two parities of x .

Case 1. x is odd, by definition $x = 2n + 1$ for some integer n

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 + 3x - 9 &= (2n + 1)^2 + 3(2n + 1) - 9 \\&= 4n^2 + 4n + 1 + 6n + 3 - 9 \\&= 4n^2 + 10n - 5 \\&= 2 * 2n^2 + 2 * 5n + 2 * (-3) + 1 \\&= 2(2n^2 + 5n - 3) + 1\end{aligned}$$

is odd because $2n^2 + 5n - 3$ is an integer.

Case 2. x is even, by definition $x = 2m$ for some integer m

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 + 3x - 9 &= (2m)^2 + 3(2m) - 9 \\&= 4m^2 + 6m - 9 \\&= 2 * 2m^2 + 2 * 3m + 2 * (-5) + 1 \\&= 2(2m^2 + 3m - 5) + 1\end{aligned}$$

is odd because $2m^2 + 3m - 5$ is an integer.

□

Exercise #2: Prove the following theorem in two ways: by contrapositive and by contradiction.

Theorem. *Suppose x is an integer. If x^2 is even, then x is even.*

Proof by contrapositive. Suppose x is an integer.

Suppose x is odd, by definition $x = 2n + 1$ for some integer n

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 &= (2n + 1)^2 \\&= 4n^2 + 4n + 1 \\&= 2 * 2n^2 + 2 * 2n + 1 \\&= 2(2n^2 + 2n) + 1\end{aligned}$$

is odd because $2n^2 + 2n$ is an integer. Hence, x is odd $\implies x^2$ is odd. Likewise, the contrapositive, x^2 is even $\implies x$ is even.

□

Proof by contradiction. Suppose x is an integer.

Suppose x^2 is even $\not\Rightarrow$ x is even. Equivalently, x^2 is even \Rightarrow x is odd.

Suppose x^2 is even. By definition, $x^2 = 2n$ for some integer n , and $x = 2m + 1$ for some integer m . Then

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 &= 2n = (2m + 1)^2 \\ &= 2n = 4m^2 + 4m + 1 \\ &= 2n = 2 * 2m^2 + 2 * 2m + 1 \\ &= 2n = 2(2m^2 + 2m) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Which is impossible because n and $2m^2 + 2m$ are both integers. Hence x^2 is even \Rightarrow x is odd is a contradiction, and x^2 is even \Rightarrow x is even is true. □

Exercise #3: Prove the following theorem.

Theorem. *If the name of a month has 5 or more characters, then a 4-letter word can be formed using those characters.*

Proof. Consider the months with more than 5 characters. (Cases compacted for space)

JANUARY \rightarrow *JURY*
FEBRUARY \rightarrow *FEAR*
AUGUST \rightarrow *STAG*
SEPTEMBER \rightarrow *STEM*
OCTOBER \rightarrow *ROOT*
NOVEMBER \rightarrow *NORM*
DECEMBER \rightarrow *DEER*

Hence, every month with more than 5 characters has a corresponding 4-letter word formable from its characters. □

Exercise #4: Prove the following theorem.

Theorem. *For all numbers x and y , $(x + y)^2 = x^2 + y^2$ if and only if $x = 0$ or $y = 0$.*

Proof. Suppose x and y are numbers (\Rightarrow): Suppose $(x + y)^2 = x^2 + y^2$.

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y)^2 &= x^2 + xy + y^2 \\ x^2 + xy + y^2 &= x^2 + y^2 \Rightarrow xy = 0 \\ xy = 0 &\Rightarrow (x = 0 \vee y = 0) \\ \text{Therefore, } (x + y)^2 &= x^2 + y^2 \Rightarrow (x = 0 \vee y = 0) \end{aligned}$$

(\Leftarrow): Suppose $x = 0$ or $y = 0$.

Case 1. $x = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y)^2 &= (0 + y)^2 \\ &= y^2 \\ &= 0^2 + y^2 \\ &= x^2 + y^2 \end{aligned}$$

Case 2. $y = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}(x + y)^2 &= (x + 0)^2 \\ &= x^2 \\ &= x^2 + 0^2 \\ &= x^2 + y^2\end{aligned}$$

Hence, $(x + y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 \Leftrightarrow (x = 0 \vee y = 0)$

□

Exercise #5: Using only properties P1-P12 and noting every time you use one, prove the following theorem.

Theorem. Suppose a and b are numbers. If $ab = 1$, then $b = a^{-1}$.

Proof. Suppose a and b are numbers. Suppose $ab = 1$.

Notice that, because of the theorem proved in week 2, $a = 0 \vee b = 0 \Leftrightarrow ab = 0$. Equivalently, $a \neq 0 \wedge b \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow ab \neq 0$. Because $ab = 1 \neq 0$, $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$. This enables the use of P7 below.

$$\begin{array}{ll} & ab = 1 \\ & a^{-1} * a * b = a^{-1} * 1 \\ \text{By P5...} & (a^{-1} * a) * b = a^{-1} * 1 \\ \text{By P7...} & (1) * b = a^{-1} * 1 \\ \text{By P6...} & b = a^{-1}\end{array}$$

□

Exercise #6: Using only properties P1-P12 and noting every time you use one, prove the following theorem.

Theorem. Suppose a and b are numbers. If $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$, then $(ab)^{-1} = a^{-1}b^{-1}$.

Proof. Suppose a and b are numbers. Suppose $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$

Notice that, because of the theorem proved in week 2, $a = 0 \vee b = 0 \Leftrightarrow ab = 0$. Equivalently, $a \neq 0 \wedge b \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow ab \neq 0$. Because $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$, $ab \neq 0$. This enables the use of P7 below.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{By P7...} & (ab)^{-1} * (ab) = 1 \\ & (ab)^{-1} * (ab) * a^{-1} = 1 * a^{-1} \\ & (ab)^{-1} * (ab) * a^{-1} * b^{-1} = 1 * a^{-1} * b^{-1} \\ \text{By many P5s...} & (ab)^{-1} * (a * a^{-1}) * (b * b^{-1}) = 1 * (a^{-1} * b^{-1}) \\ \text{By P7...} & (ab)^{-1} * (1) * (1) = 1 * (a^{-1} * b^{-1}) \\ \text{By P6...} & (ab)^{-1} = a^{-1} * b^{-1}\end{array}$$

□

Exercise #7: Using only properties P1-P12 and noting every time you use one, prove the following theorem.

Theorem. Suppose a , b , and c are numbers. If $a < b$ and $0 < c$, then $ac < bc$.

Proof. Suppose a , b , and c are numbers. Suppose $a < b$ and $0 < c$.

Notice that by definition of inequalities, $a < b \iff b - a \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$, and $0 < c \iff c - 0 \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$.

By definition of subtraction... $c - 0 \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \implies c + (-0) \in \mathbb{R}_p \implies c + (0) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$

By P2... $c + 0 \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \implies c \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$

By P12... $c * (b - a) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$

By P9... $(c * b - c * a) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$

By P8... $(b * c - a * c) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$

By definition of inequalities... $ac < bc$

□

Exercise #8: Prove the following: if x and y are numbers, then

1. $|xy| = |x||y|$,
2. $|x - y| \leq |x| + |y|$,
3. $|x| - |y| \leq |x - y|$.

Hint: you can give a short proof of (2) and (3) by reducing to the triangle inequality. You do not have to reference properties P1-P12.

Proof of (1). Consider signs of x and y

Case 1. $x \geq 0, y \geq 0$, hence $xy \geq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} |xy| &= xy \\ &= |x||y| \end{aligned}$$

Case 2. $x \geq 0, y < 0$, hence $xy \leq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} |xy| &= -(x * y) \\ &= x * -y \\ &= |x||y| \end{aligned}$$

Case 3. $x < 0, y \geq 0$, hence $xy \leq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} |xy| &= -(x * y) \\ &= -x * y \\ &= |x||y| \end{aligned}$$

Case 4. $x < 0, y < 0$, hence $xy > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} |xy| &= x * y \\ &= -1 * -1 * x * y \\ &= -1 * x * -1 * y \\ &= -x * -y \\ &= |x||y| \end{aligned}$$

□

Proof of (2). Let $z = -y$, then z is a number. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |x - y| \leq |x| + |y| &\iff |x + z| \leq |x| + |-z| \\ &\iff |x + z| \leq |x| + |z| \end{aligned}$$

Hence $|x - y| \leq |x| + |y|$ is logically equivalent to the proven triangle inequality, □

Proof of (3). Suppose $|x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$

Let $z = y + x$, then $y = z - x$

$$\begin{aligned} |x + y| \leq |x| + |y| &\iff |z| \leq |x| + |z - x| \\ &\iff |z| - |x| \leq |x| + |z - x| - |x| \\ &\iff |z| - |x| \leq |z - x| \end{aligned}$$

□