

# SOLUTIONS To HW3

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# Solution To Question 1

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**Theorem:** If  $n$  and  $m$  are odd integers, then  $n \cdot m$  is odd.

## (a) Proof

Let  $n$  and  $m$  be odd integers. Then  $n = 2k + 1$  and  $m = 2j + 1$ . Plugging into the expression  $n \cdot m$  gives

$$n \cdot m = (2k + 1)(2j + 1) = 2(j \cdot k + j + k) + 1.$$

Since  $k$  and  $j$  are integers,  $j \cdot k + j + k$  is also an integer. Then  $n \cdot m$  equals two times an integer plus one, therefore  $n \cdot m$  is odd.

## Analysis:

The purple sentence is not complete. It should be: Since  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n = 2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ . Since  $m$  is an odd integer, then  $m = 2j + 1$  for some integer  $j$ . Moreover, the red formulas are not correct. They should be:  $n \cdot m = (2k + 1)(2j + 1) = 2(2j \cdot k + j + k) + 1$ . and  $2j \cdot k + j + k$

## (b) Proof

Let  $n$  and  $m$  be odd integers. Since  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n = 2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ . Since  $m$  is an odd integer, then  $m = 2j + 1$  for some integer  $j$ . Plugging  $2k + 1$  for  $n$  and  $2j + 1$  for  $m$  into the expression  $n \cdot m$  gives

$$n \cdot m = (2k + 1)(2j + 1).$$

Since  $n \cdot m$  is equal to two times an integer plus one, then  $n \cdot m$  is an odd integer.

## Analysis:

This proof is missing the critical step of expanding the red formula and showing how it simplifies to  $2 \times (\text{integer}) + 1$ . Essential intermediate steps are skipped. It should be:  $n \cdot m = (2k + 1)(2j + 1) = 2(2j \cdot k + j + k) + 1$ . Since  $k$  and  $j$  are integers,  $2j \cdot k + j + k$  is also an integer. Then  $n \cdot m$  equals two times an integer plus one

## (c) Proof

Let  $n$  and  $m$  be odd integers. Since  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n = 2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ . Since  $m$  is an odd integer, then  $m = 2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ . Plugging into the expression  $n \cdot m$  gives

$$n \cdot m = (2k + 1)(2k + 1) = 2(2k^2 + 2k) + 1.$$

Since  $k$  is an integer,  $2k^2 + 2k + 1$  is also an integer. Since  $n \cdot m$  is equal to two times an integer plus one, then  $n \cdot m$  is an odd integer.

## Analysis:

This proof incorrectly assumes that  $m$  can be represented by the same variable as  $n$ . (the red part) This is incorrect because  $n$  and  $m$  are independent odd integers and should be expressed with different variables. Also, the purple part (if we accept the former error, it should be:  $2k^2 + 2k$ ) will not make any sense even if we replace one  $k$  with another variable.

## Solution To Question 2

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**Theorem:** For all non-zero integers,  $x, y, z$ , if  $x$  does not divide  $yz$ , then  $x$  does not divide  $y$ .

### (a) Proof and Analysis

We prove this by contrapositive. Let  $x, y, z$  be non-zero integers. We assume that  $x$  does divide  $y$ . Then  $y = kx$  (Skipped essential application of definition. Should be: Since  $x$  divides  $y$ , then there is an integer  $k$ , s.t.  $y = kx$ ). So,

$$zy = z(kx) = (kz)x$$

Since  $z, k$  are integers,  $kz$  is also an integer. So,  $x$  divides  $zy$ .

### (b) Proof and Analysis

We prove this by contrapositive. Let  $x, y, z$  be non-zero integers. We assume that  $x$  does divide  $y$ . So,  $y = kx$  for some integer  $k$ . (Skipped Essential Steps Here: Multiply both side by  $z$ , we have  $zy = z(kx) = (zk)x$ . Since  $z, k$  are integers, thus  $zk$  is an integer as well.) Since  $zk$  is also an integer, we conclude that  $x$  divides  $zy$ , thus proving the theorem.

### (c) Proof and Analysis

We prove this by contrapositive. Let  $x, y, z$  be non-zero integers. Assume that  $x$  divides  $y$ . So,  $x = ky$  (Error: should be  $y = kx$ ) for some integer  $k$ . Therefore,  $x$  divides  $yz$  if and only if  $ky = ayz$  (Error:  $akx = yz$  and we have  $a = z$  as a witness) for some integer  $a$ . ~~We divide this out to get  $a = \frac{k}{z}$ .~~ (Error: I don't get the point of writing this because it does not make any sense. Maybe this is a witness but, since the former step is wrong, it will not make sense.) Since  $k, z$  are both integers,  $kz$  is also an integer, thus proving that  $x$  divides  $yz$ .

## Solution To Question 3

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**Statement:** The sum of any two integers is odd if and only if at least one of them is odd.

### (a) Define predicates and write the symbolic form

Let:

- $Q(x)$ :  $x$  is odd.

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \forall y \in \mathbb{Z} (Q(x+y) \leftrightarrow (Q(x) \vee Q(y)))$$

### (b) Disprove the statement

We can use a counterexample to disprove the statement: Let  $x = 3$  and  $y = 5$ , then both  $Q(x)$  and  $Q(y)$  are **True**, thus  $Q(x) \vee Q(y)$  is **True**. However,  $x + y = 3 + 5 = 8$ , which is an even number, thus  $Q(x+y)$  is **False**.

$\therefore$  We **disprove**  $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \forall y \in \mathbb{Z} (Q(x+y) \leftrightarrow (Q(x) \vee Q(y)))$ .

## Solution To Question 4

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**Statement:** If  $x$  and  $y$  are integers such that  $x + y \geq 5$ , then  $x > 2$  or  $y > 2$ .

### (a) Symbolic Form with quantifiers

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \forall y \in \mathbb{Z} ((x + y \geq 5) \rightarrow (x > 2) \vee (y > 2))$$

### (b) Proof by contrapositive

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be integers. We assume that it is not true that  $x$  is less than 2 or  $y$  is less than 2 and we want to prove that  $x + y$  is less than 5. Using De Morgan's Law, we have the assumption equivalent to  $x \leq 2$  and  $y \leq 2$ . Adding the inequalities gives  $x + y \leq 4$ . Thus  $x + y < 5$ .

$\therefore$  The statement is proved.

## Solution To Question 5

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**Statement:** The average of two odd integers is an integer.

### (a) Symbolic Form with quantifiers

Let:

- $Q(x)$ :  $x$  is odd.

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \forall y \in \mathbb{Z} (Q(x) \wedge Q(y) \rightarrow \frac{x+y}{2} \in \mathbb{Z})$$

### Direct Proof

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be integers. Since  $x, y$  are odd,  $x = 2m + 1$  for some integer  $m$  and  $y = 2n + 1$  for some integer  $n$ . Plugging in these 2 equations into  $\frac{x+y}{2}$  gives

$$\frac{x+y}{2} = \frac{2m+1+2n+1}{2} = \frac{2(m+n+1)}{2} = m+n+1$$

Since  $m$  and  $n$  are integers,  $m+n+1$  is an integer as well.

$\therefore \frac{x+y}{2}$  is an integer.

## Solution To Question 6

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**Statement:** For any three consecutive integers, their product is divisible by 6.

### (a) Symbolic Form using quantifiers

Let:

- $D(a, b)$ :  $a$  divides  $b$ .
- $S(x)$ :  $x \cdot (x + 1) \cdot (x + 2)$ .

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \quad D(6, S(x))$$

### (b) Direct Proof

**Proof:**

Assume  $x$  is an integer. Consider three consecutive integers  $x$ ,  $x + 1$ , and  $x + 2$ .

To prove that  $x(x + 1)(x + 2)$  is divisible by 6, we need to show it is divisible by both 2 and 3.

#### Divisibility by 2:

Let  $x$  be an integer. Whenever a number is divided 2 we will get the remainder is 0 or 1. Therefore,  $x = 2q$  or  $x = 2q + 1$  for some integer  $q$ . If  $x = 2q$ , then  $x$  and  $x + 2 = 2q + 2 = 2(q + 1)$  are divisible by 2. If  $x = 2q + 1$ , then  $x + 1 = 2q + 2 = 2(q + 1)$  is divisible by 2. Thus  $x(x + 1)(x + 2)$  is divisible by 2.

#### Divisibility by 3:

Similarly, let  $x$  be an integer. Whenever a number is divided by 3 the remainder obtained is either 0 or 1 or 2. Therefore,  $x = 3m$  or  $x = 3m + 1$  or  $x = 3m + 2$  for some integer  $m$ . If  $x = 3m$ , then  $x$  is divisible by 3. If  $x = 3m + 1$ , then  $x + 2 = 3m + 3 = 3(m + 1)$  is divisible by 3. If  $x = 3m + 2$ , then  $x + 1 = 3m + 3 = 3(m + 1)$  is divisible by 3. Therefore,  $x(x + 1)(x + 2)$  is divisible by 3.

#### Divisibility by 6:

Since  $x(x + 1)(x + 2)$  is divisible by both 2 and 3, thus it is divisible by the least common multiple of 2 and 3. Since 2 is not a factor of 3, their least common multiple is  $2 \times 3 = 6$ . Therefore, it's divisible by 6.

$$\therefore \forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \quad D(6, S(x))$$

## Solution To Question 7

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**Basis Step:** The string  $()$  is in  $S$ .

**Recursive Steps:**

- (a) If  $x \in S$ , then  $(x) \in S$ .
- (b) If  $x \in S$  and  $y \in S$ , then  $xy \in S$ , where  $xy$  means the concatenation of  $x$  and  $y$ .

**Prove:** For any string  $x \in S$ , the number of left parentheses in  $x$  is equal to the number of right parentheses in  $x$ .

Let  $L[x]$  return the number of left parentheses in  $x$ .

Let  $R[x]$  return the number of right parentheses in  $x$ .

**Theorem:**  $\forall s \in S (L[s] = R[s])$

PROOF BY INDUCTION:

**Base Case:**  $s = ()$ .  $L[()] = R[()] = 1$ .

**Inductive Step:** Assuming that  $x \in S$  and  $y \in S$ , then  $L[x] = R[x]$  and  $L[y] = R[y]$ . Then we consider the following two cases depending on which was the last recursive rule.

**Case 1:**  $s = (x)$ , where  $x \in S$ .

We assume that  $L[x] = R[x]$  and prove that  $L[s] = R[s]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} L[s] &= L[(x)] \quad (\text{Since } s = (x)) \\ &= 1 + L[x] \quad (\text{Since } (x) \text{ has one more } ( \text{ than } x) \\ &= 1 + R[x] \quad (\text{By the inductive hypothesis}) \\ &= R[(x)] \quad (\text{Since } (x) \text{ has one more } ) \text{ than } x) \\ &= R[s] \quad (\text{Since } s = (x)) \end{aligned}$$

**Case 2:**  $s = xy$ , where  $x \in S$  and  $y \in S$ .

We assume the inductive hypothesis and prove that  $L[s] = R[s]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} L[s] &= L[xy] \quad (\text{Since } s = xy) \\ &= L[x] + L[y] \\ &= R[x] + R[y] \quad (\text{By the inductive hypothesis}) \\ &= R[xy] \\ &= R[s] \quad (\text{Since } s = xy) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $L[s] = R[s]$ .

## Solution To Question 8

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(a) Calculate  $removeTail(append((2, (3, [])), 1))$

$$\begin{aligned} & removeTail(append((2, (3, [])), 1)) \\ = & removeTail((2, append((3, []), 1))) \quad (\text{By Recursive Step of } append : n = 2, l = (3, []), m = 1) \\ = & removeTail((2, 3, append([], 1))) \quad (\text{By Recursive Step of } append : n = 3, l = [], m = 1) \\ = & removeTail((2, 3, 1, [])) \quad (\text{By Basis Step of } append, m = 1) \\ = & removeTail((2, removeTail((3, 1, [])))) \quad (\text{By Recursive Step of } removeTail : m = (2, 3, 1, [])) \\ = & (2, 3, removeTail((1, []))) \quad (\text{By Recursive Step of } removeTail : m = (3, 1, [])) \\ = & (2, (3, [])) \quad (\text{By Basis Step of } removeTail : m = []) \end{aligned}$$

(b) Calculate  $prepend(remove((1, (2, (2, (3, [])))), 2), 3)$

$$\begin{aligned} & prepend(remove((1, (2, (2, (3, [])))), 2), 3) \quad (\text{Base statement}) \\ = & prepend((1, remove((2, (2, (3, []))), 2), 3) \quad (\text{By recursive step of } remove, m = (2, (2, (3, [])))) \\ = & prepend((1, (2, (3, []))), 3) \quad (\text{By base step of } remove, m = (2, (3, []))) \\ = & (3, (1, (2, (3, [])))) \quad (\text{By base step of } prepend, m = (3, (1, (2, (3, []))))) \end{aligned}$$

## Solution To Question 9

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(a) Demonstrate that this attempted proof is invalid by providing and justifying a counterexample (disproving the statement)

**Solutions: Proof by counterexample.**

Take  $x = 1$  and  $l' = (2, [])$  so that  $append(removeTail((1, (2, []))), 1) = (1, (2, []))$ .

Applying definitions, we have:

$$LHS = append((1, []), 1) = (1, (1, [])) \neq (1, (2, [])) = RHS$$

$$LHS \neq RHS$$

(b) Explain why the attempted proof is invalid by identifying in which step(s) a definition or proof strategy is used incorrectly, and describing how the definition or proof strategy was misused.

This proof assumes that the tail element of list  $L$  and the element  $n$  have the same value. In fact, this statement holds true only when the element being removed is the same as the one being appended. To establish a statement independent of the specific condition where the removed element matches the appended one, we reverse the order of operations between  $append$  and  $removeTail$ . This ensures that  $removeTail$  effectively eliminates whatever  $append$  introduces, thereby preserving any element  $l$  for all values of  $n$ .

## Solution To Question 10

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(a) Prove or disprove the following statement:

$$\forall l \in L \forall m \in \mathbb{N} (\text{prepend}(\text{remove}(l, m), m) = l).$$

**Solutions:** Disproof by counterexample.

Take  $l = (1, (2, (3, [])))$  and  $m = 4$ , the statement evaluates to:

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \text{prepend}(\text{remove}((1, (2, (3, []))), 4), 4) \\ &= \text{prepend}((1, (2, (3, []))), 4) \\ &= (4, (1, (2, (3, [])))) \\ &\neq (1, (2, (3, []))) = l \\ LHS &\neq RHS \end{aligned}$$

(b) Prove or disprove the following statement:

$$\exists l \in L \exists m \in \mathbb{N} (\text{prepend}(\text{remove}(l, m), m) = l).$$

**Answer:** Unlike the previous question that used two  $\forall$  quantifiers, this question uses two  $\exists$  quantifiers. Already, this statement looks like it has better chances of being true. Let's try to prove the statement with existential generalization. For  $l = [1, 2, 3]$  and  $m = 1$ , the statement equals:

**Solutions:** Proof by existential generalization, proof by witness.

Take  $l = (1, (2, (3, [])))$  and  $m = 1$ , the statement evaluates to:

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \text{prepend}(\text{remove}((1, (2, (3, []))), 1), 1) \\ &= \text{prepend}((2, (3, [])), 1) \\ &= (1, (2, (3, []))) \\ &= (1, (2, (3, []))) = l \\ LHS &= RHS \end{aligned}$$

This expression is true, proving there exists some values  $l$  and  $m$  that cause the expression  $(\text{prepend}(\text{remove}(l, m), m) = l)$  to be true. This proves the original statement through existential generalization. Interestingly, the proposition within the quantifiers will evaluate to true so long as  $m$  equals the first (head) element of  $l$ .