

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
MATHEMATICS SOCIETY

PAST YEAR PAPER SOLUTIONS
with credits to Associate Professor Victor Tan

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MA1100 Fundamental Concepts of Mathematics
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Question 1

(a) Case 1: Let $n = 3k$ for certain $k \in \mathbb{N}$. So,

$$\begin{aligned} n^3 + 2n &= (3k)^3 + 2(3k) \\ &= 3(9k^3 + 2k) \end{aligned}$$

By closure properties, since $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $9k^3 + 2k$ is an integer, and hence, $n^3 + 2n$ is divisible by 3.

Case 2: Let $n = 3k + 1$ for certain $k \in \mathbb{N}$. So,

$$\begin{aligned} n^3 + 2n &= (3k + 1)^3 + 2(3k + 1) \\ &= (27k^3 + 27k^2 + 9k + 1) + (6k + 2) \\ &= 27k^3 + 27k^2 + 15k + 3 \\ &= 3(9k^3 + 9k^2 + 5k + 1) \end{aligned}$$

So, $n^3 + 2n$ is divisible by 3.

Case 3: Let $n = 3k + 2$ for certain $k \in \mathbb{N}$. So,

$$\begin{aligned} n^3 + 2n &= (3k + 2)^3 + 2(3k + 2) \\ &= (27k^3 + 3(3k)^2(2) + 3(3k)2^2 + 2^3) + (6k + 4) \\ &= 27k^3 + 54k^2 + 42k + 12 \\ &= 3(9k^3 + 18k^2 + 14k + 4) \end{aligned}$$

So, $n^3 + 2n$ is divisible by 3.

Combining the 3 cases, $n^3 + 2n$ is divisible by 3 for all natural number n .

(b) For base case $n = 1, n^3 + 2n = 3$, which is divisible by 3.

So, the statement S is true for $n = 1$.

Assume that the statement S is true for $n = k$, and $k \in \mathbb{N}$. ie. $k^3 + 2k = 3M$ for some $M \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (k + 1)^3 + 2(k + 1) &= k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k + 1 + 2k + 2 \\ &= k^3 + 2k + (3k^2 + 3k + 3) \\ &= 3(M + k^2 + k + 1) \end{aligned}$$

So, $n^3 + 2n$ is divisible by 3 for $n = k + 1$. Hence, by the Principle of Mathematical Induction, $n^3 + 2n$ is divisible by 3 for all natural number n .

Question 2

- (a) The relation R is not reflexive. Counter-example: $0 \not\sim 0$, since $|0 - 0| = 0 \leq 3$
 R is symmetric.
 If $a \sim b$, ie $|a - b| > 3$, then $|b - a| = |a - b| > 3$,
 hence, $b \sim a$, R is symmetric.
 R is not transitive.
 Counter-example: $a = 0, b = 10, c = 0$. $|a - b| = |b - c| = 10 > 3$, but $|a - c| = 0 \leq 3$.
 So, $0 \sim 10, 10 \sim 0$, but $0 \not\sim 0$
- (b) If we use $0, 1, \dots, 11$ to represent the equivalent classes in \mathbb{Z}_{12} , then
 $[a]_{12} \cdot [b]_{12} = [0]_{12} \leftrightarrow ab$ is certain integer multiple of 12.
 When $a=0$, any value of b (from 0 to 11) will satisfy the above property.
 When $a=1$, only when $b=0$ (when chosen from 0 to 11) will satisfy the above property.
 The rest are similar. The combinations satisfying the property is shown in the table below:

$a \cdot b$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0											
2	0						0					
3	0				0				0			
4	0			0			0			0		
5	0											
6	0		0		0		0		0		0	
7	0											
8	0			0			0			0		
9	0				0				0			
10	0						0					
11	0											

Note: In exam, you're only needed to LIST the possible pairs. No justification required.

Question 3

- (i) Counter-example: $f(2)=f(-2)=0$, but $2 \neq -2$
- (ii) Choose $A = [0, \infty)$, $B = [-4, \infty)$.
 To show $\hat{f} : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [-4, \infty)$ is a injection:
 If $\hat{f}(a) = \hat{f}(b)$, $a^2 - 4 = b^2 - 4$, $a^2 = b^2$
 So $a = b$ ($a = -b$ is not possible if $a, b \in [0, \infty)$), hence injective.

To show the range of \hat{f} with domain $[0, \infty)$ is $[-4, \infty)$,
 $\forall y \in [-4, \infty)$, we can find $x = \sqrt{y+4} \geq 0$, such that $\hat{f}(x) = y$
 And for $y < -4$, there are no $x \in \mathbb{R}$, such that $f(x) = y$ (or else $x^2 < 0$)

Reason for choosing $A = [0, \infty)$:

From the graph of f , we notice that f is symmetric about $x = 0$. For $\hat{f} : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to be injective, 0 must not be an interior point of A . thus we can choose either $[0, \infty)$ or $(-\infty, 0]$.
 i.e. A is not the form $(-\alpha, \beta)$, $[-\alpha, \beta)$, $(-\alpha, \beta]$, $[-\alpha, \beta]$ for positive (or infinite) α, β , or else
 $\hat{f}(-\gamma) = \hat{f}(\gamma)$, $\gamma = \min\{\frac{\alpha}{2}, \frac{\beta}{2}, 1\}$

Note: We can choose $A = (-\infty, 0]$ instead.

Reason for choosing $B = [-4, \infty)$:

It is not possible to have $x \in B$, with $x < -4$ (or else \hat{f} is not surjective)

Opting out any element in $[-4, \infty)$ out of B would mean that some of the elements in $[0, \infty)$ would not have an image to map onto, and hence \hat{f} would not be a function.

(iii) $\hat{f}(\hat{f}^{-1}(y)) = y$ for all $y \in B$.

$$(\hat{f}^{-1}(y))^2 - 4 = y,$$

$$\hat{f}^{-1}(y) = \sqrt{y+4} \text{ (Take positive square root)}$$

(iv) Counter-example: $g \circ f(2) = g(f(2)) = g(0) = g(f(-2)) = g \circ f(-2)$

(v) Let $h(x) = 2^{1/4}$ for all real x .

$$\text{So, } f \circ h(x) = f(h(x)) = f(2^{1/4}) = \sqrt{2} - 4 \text{ for all real } x.$$

So, the range = $\{\sqrt{2} - 4\}$ contains irrational points only.

Question 4

(a) (i)

$$262 = 2 \cdot 124 + 14$$

$$124 = 8 \cdot 14 + 12$$

$$14 = 1 \cdot 12 + 2$$

$$12 = 6 \cdot 2 + 0$$

So, $\gcd(124, 262) = 2$.

(ii)

$$2 = 14 - 12$$

$$= 14 - (124 - 8 \cdot 14)$$

$$= 9 \cdot 14 - 124$$

$$= 9 \cdot (262 - 2 \cdot 124) - 124$$

$$= 9 \cdot 262 - 19 \cdot 124$$

So, let $x=-19, y=9$ (Other choices of x, y are also possible)

(b) (i) $a_1 = 2, b_1 = 4, c_1 = 6$

$$\gcd(2, 4) = \gcd(2, 6) = \gcd(2, 24) = 2$$

(ii) $a_2 = 4, b_2 = 2, c_2 = 6$

$$\gcd(4, 2) = \gcd(4, 6) = 2, \text{ and } \gcd(4, 12) = 4$$

(iii) Given $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a, c) = 2$,

So a, b, c are divisible by 2. a, bc are both divisible by 2.

Hence, $\gcd(a, bc)$ must be certain multiple of 2 (even number).

$$\text{As } \gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a, c) = 2,$$

We can write 2 in terms of linear combination of (a, b) and (a, c) .

ie. for suitable $K_1, K_2, L_1, L_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\begin{cases} K_1a + K_2b &= 2 \\ L_1a + L_2c &= 2 \end{cases}$$

By multiplying the 2 equations, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 4 &= K_1L_1a^2 + K_1L_2ac + K_2L_1ab + K_2L_2bc \\ &= (K_1L_1a + K_1L_2c + K_2L_1b)a + (K_2L_2)bc \end{aligned}$$

So, 4 is a linear combination of (a, bc) . Hence, $\gcd(a, bc) \leq 4$.

Since we know that $\gcd(a, bc)$ is even (in above), $\gcd(a, bc)$ must be either 2 or 4.

Question 5

(a) 1, 3, 4, 7, 11, 18, 29, 47, 76, 123

(b) Fibonacci Sequence: 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13,

$L_2 = 3 = 1 + 2 = F_1 + F_3$, $L_3 = 4 = 1 + 3 = F_2 + F_4$. Base cases, $n=2$ and 3 , are true.

Assume that $L_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n+1}$ is true for $n = k, k \in \mathbb{N}, k \geq 3$, then:

$$\begin{aligned} L_{k+1} &= L_k + L_{k-1} \\ &= (F_{k+1} + F_{k-1}) + (F_k + F_{k-2}) \\ &= F_{k+2} + F_k \\ &= F_{(k+1)+1} + F_{(k+1)-1} \end{aligned}$$

So, by Strong Principle of Mathematical Induction, $L_n = F_{n+1} + F_{n-1}$ for all natural $n > 1$

(c) The problem comes from the inductive step used on case $n = 2$ and $n = 3$.

Note that L_2 and F_2 are not defined in terms of L_0, L_1, F_0 , or F_1 (in fact, L_0 and F_0 is not defined at all)

So, the inductive step CANNOT be used to prove the case $n = 2$ (and in fact, by checking the definition of L_2, F_2 , we know $L_2 > F_2$, and the statement is false)

For us to use the inductive step to prove case $n = 3$, we need the statement be true for $n = 1$, and $n = 2$.

But since the statement is false for case $n = 2$, the inductive step fails to provide us the truth of the statement for case $n = 3$.

And since the truth of the statement for case $n = 3$ is unknown, the inductive fails to prove the case $n = 4$, and $n = 5$, and so on.

Question 6

(a) (i) $[1]_4 = \{1, 5, 9\}, [2]_4 = \{2, 6, 10\},$
 $[3]_4 = \{3, 7\}, [4]_4 = \{4, 8\}.$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{card}(R) &= \text{card}([1] \times [1]) + \text{card}([2] \times [2]) + \text{card}([3] \times [3]) + \text{card}([4] \times [4]) \\ &= 3^2 + 3^2 + 2^2 + 2^2 = 26 \end{aligned}$$

(b) (i) We can count the number of partitions using the table below, which is 52. So, the number of equivalence relations is 52.

partition	type	number of ways
$\{\{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{e\}\}$	11111	1
$\{\{a, b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{e\}\}$	2111	10
$\{\{a, b\}, \{c, d\}, \{e\}\}$	221	15
$\{\{a, b, c\}, \{d\}, \{e\}\}$	311	10
$\{\{a, b, c\}, \{d, e\}\}$	32	10
$\{\{a, b, c, d\}, \{e\}\}$	41	5
$\{\{a, b, c, d, e\}\}$	5	1
sum		52

Note: We can also use the property of the Bell numbers, with $B_5 = 52$

(ii) $S = \{(a, a), (a, d), (d, a), (d, d), (b, b), (c, c), (c, e), (e, c), (e, e)\}$

(Since d is in the same equivalence class with a ,

and e is neither in the equivalence class including a and b . By referring to the table above, the only possible “case” will be the “221” case)

Question 7

(a) Prove by contradiction.

Suppose (for a contradiction) that n is a positive odd integer of the form $4k + 3$, and n does not have prime factor of the form $4k + 3$.

Case 1: n has at least one even prime factor,

ie. of the form $4k + 2$ or $4k$, then n is an even number (product of even number to any natural number is even), and so n can take the form $4k$ or $4k + 2$ (even), but not $4k + 3$ (odd). Hence, a contradiction.

Case 2: n has no prime factors of the form $4k$, or $4k + 2$,

And by the assumption, no prime factors of n can take the form $4k + 3$

Hence, all of the prime factors of n (assume to be a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j) take the form $4k+1$.

$$\begin{aligned} n = a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_j &\equiv 1 \cdot 1 \cdot \dots \cdot 1 \pmod{4} \\ &\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \end{aligned}$$

So, n is not of the form $4k+3$.

Conclusion: Either case, there is a contradiction.

Hence, if n is a positive odd integer of the form $4k + 3$, then n does not have prime factor of this form as well.

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{p-1} + 2^p + \dots + 2^{2p-2} &= 2^{p-1} \cdot (1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^{p-1}) \\ &= 2^{p-1} \cdot (2^p - 1) \text{ (Geometric Sum)} \end{aligned}$$

Given $2^p - 1$ is prime, so the proper divisor of $2^{p-1} + 2^p + \dots + 2^{2p-2}$ include:

Those without $2^p - 1$, ie. $1, 2, 4, \dots, 2^{p-1}$,

and those with $(2^p - 1)$, ie. $2^p - 1, (2^p - 1) \cdot 2, \dots, (2^p - 1) \cdot 2^{p-2}$

$$\begin{aligned} &(1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^{p-1}) + ((2^p - 1) + (2^p - 1) \cdot 2 + \dots + (2^p - 1) \cdot 2^{p-2}) \\ &= (2^p - 1) + (2^p - 1)(2^{p-1} - 1) \\ &= (2^p - 1)(1 + 2^{p-1} - 1) \\ &= (2^p - 1)(2^{p-1}) \end{aligned}$$

So, $2^{p-1} + 2^p + \dots + 2^{2p-2}$ is a perfect number.

Question 8

- (a) Define: $S_2 = \{2^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$
 $S_3 = \{3^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

 $S_p = \{p^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ for prime numbers p .
 $S_0 = \{x : x = 1 \text{ or } x \neq k^n \forall k, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

Note that these sets form a partition of \mathbb{N} .

(All other elements not in the form k^n will be assigned to S_0 , and S_2, S_3, S_5, \dots are disjoint due to properties of prime numbers.)

As there are infinitely many prime numbers, there are infinitely many sets S_p , where p is prime. And each of S_2, S_3, S_5, \dots contains infinitely many elements (exists a bijection from \mathbb{N} to each of them)

We can try to prove S_0 also contains infinitely many elements. (See Notes)

Alternatively, let $R_2 = S_2 \cup S_0$, and let $C = \{R_2, S_3, S_5, S_7, S_{11}, \dots\}$

This partition C would satisfy the required condition.

Note: Consider $K_0 \subset S_0$, $K_0 = \{2 \times 3, 2 \times 3^2, 2 \times 3^3, \dots\}$, K_0 is infinite and hence S_0 is infinite.

- (b) Functions maps each value in the domain to a specific value in the codomain.

Let $f_{(m,n)}$ be the function which $f_{(m,n)}(0) = m, f_{(m,n)}(1) = n$,
 then $A = \{f_{(m,n)} : (m,n) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}\}$

There exists a bijection ϕ between A and $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$.

e.g. $\phi : A \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}, \phi(f_{(m,n)}) = (m,n)$

and $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ is countable.

So, A is countable.

Note: We only concern ourselves with the value of the function on $\{0, 1\}$.

The value of the function outside these 2 points are ignored.

For example, $f(x) = 0$ and $g(x) = x(x-1)$ are considered the same function under domain $\{0, 1\}$

To show ϕ is bijective,

Note that for every $(x,y) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$, consider $f_{(x,y)}(\alpha) = x + (y-x)(\alpha)$, so that $f_{(x,y)}(0) = x, f_{(x,y)}(1) = y$. $\phi(f_{(x,y)}) = (x,y)$ So, ϕ is surjective.

If $(x_1, y_1) = \phi(f_{(x_1, y_1)}) = \phi(f_{(x_2, y_2)}) = (x_2, y_2)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} f_{(x_1, y_1)}(0) &= x_1 = x_2 = f_{(x_2, y_2)}(0), \\ f_{(x_1, y_1)}(1) &= y_1 = y_2 = f_{(x_2, y_2)}(1) \end{aligned}$$

Hence $f_{(x_1, y_1)} = f_{(x_2, y_2)}$ (Under the domain $\{0, 1\}$), ϕ is injective

Question 9

(a) Define $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^+$ by

$$f([a, b]) = \frac{a}{b},$$

To show that the function is well defined, suppose $(x_1, y_1) \sim (x_2, y_2)$,

$$x_1 y_2 = x_2 y_1. \quad \frac{x_1}{y_1} = \frac{x_2}{y_2}.$$

$$\text{So } f([x_1, y_1]) = f([x_2, y_2]),$$

To show that it is injective, if $f([a, b]) = f([c, d])$

$$\text{then } \frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}, \rightarrow ad = bc \text{ (for } b, d \in \mathbb{N})$$

$$\text{hence } [a, b] = [c, d]$$

To show that it is surjective, for all positive rational number q , we can write

$$q = \frac{m}{n} \text{ with } \gcd(m, n) = 1,$$

$$\text{then } f([m, n]) = \frac{m}{n} = q.$$

Hence, this function f is bijective.

(b) f is a bijection from C to $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$, a countable set.

So, C is a countably infinite set. (From result of (a))

Let $S = \{(x, y) \in C \mid \gcd(x, y) = u > 1\}$, let

$$x = u \times x_1, \quad y = u \times y_1, \quad x \times y_1 = x_1 \times u \times y_1 = x_1 \times y$$

So $[(x, y)] = [(x_1, y_1)]$, with $\gcd(x_1, y_1) = 1$. As $(x_1, y_1), (2 \times x_1, 2 \times y_1), (3 \times x_1, 3 \times y_1), \dots, \in S$ define

$$\phi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow [x_1, y_1], \quad n \mapsto (nx, ny)$$

ϕ is a bijection from $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow [x_1, y_1]$. So, S is countably infinite.

Conclusion: S and C are both countably infinite. $|S| = |C|$