

3. 'Subtraction' formalized. For this problem, m and n are natural numbers with $m < n$.

- a) Assume there is some natural number k such that $m + k = n$. Prove that k must be unique. (In this case, we formally denote such a unique k as the difference of n and m , and we denote it by $n - m$.)

proof. Assume k is not unique. which $m + k_1 = n$, $m + k_2 = n$, $k_1 \neq k_2$
 Subtracting $(m + k_1) - (m + k_2) = n - n$. gives. $k_1 - k_2 = 0$. which means k_1 and k_2 have no difference, meaning they are the same.

In the following two parts, we want to prove such a k must exist. (Remember, this question is an existential question, so we can apply WOP to it.)

- b) Define the set $S = \{w \in \mathbb{N} : n \leq m + w\}$, and show that S is non-empty.

Take $w = (n - m + 1)$. gives.

$n \leq m + (n - m + 1)$. Since $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, subtracting m and n .

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq 1.$$

Thus, $w \in S$ and S is non-empty.

- c) By the WOP the set S has a least element, call it k . Prove that $n = m + k$. (Hint: divide into two cases, $k = 1$, and $k = s + 1$ for some natural number s .)

proof. From b). we have $S = \{w \in \mathbb{N} : n \leq m + w\}$.

Let $k = s_{\min}$, $s_{\min} \in S$, which is the smallest element of S .

Since $k \in S$, $n \leq m + k$. and we want to show $n = m + k$.

Thus, we need to show $n < m + k$ is impossible.

Assume for contradiction, $n < m + k$ is possible.

① $k = 1$.

Since $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m < n$. the least difference is 1. which.

$$m + 1 \leq n.$$

From assumption for contradiction, $n < m + k$, which gives.

$$n < m + 1.$$

Thus, $m + 1 \leq n < m + 1$, contradicts. which $m + 1 < m + 1$ is impossible.

② $k = s + 1$, where $s \in \mathbb{N}$.

Since $s \in \mathbb{N}$, $s \geq 0$, gives. $s + 1 \geq 1$. gives.

$$m + 1 \leq m + (s + 1) \leq n.$$

From assumption for contradiction, $n < m + k$, which gives.

$$n < m + (s + 1).$$

Thus, $m + (s + 1) \leq n < m + (s + 1)$. contradicts which $m + (s + 1) < m + (s + 1)$ is impossible.

Therefore, we've prove $n < m + k$ is impossible. and $k \in S$, which $n \leq m + k$. gives.

$$n = m + k.$$

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