

INGENIØRHØJSKOLEN ÅRHUS

DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

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## Hand in 3

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# Problems

## 1 Which of the following sets are well-ordered? (Why/why not?)

- a.  $S = x \in \mathbb{Q} : x \geq -10$
- b.  $S = -2, -1, 0, 1, 2$
- c.  $S = x \in \mathbb{Q} : -1 \leq x \leq 1$
- d.  $S = p : p \text{ is prime} = 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, \dots$

First we look at the definition:

A set is well-ordered if every nonempty subset has a least element.

Then we look at the sets:

- a. S is not well-ordered set because we can make a subset that doesn't contain a least element. e.g.  $x > -10$ .
- b. S is a well-ordered set because we can always produce a least element from the subsets of S.
- c. S is not a well-ordered set because we can make a subset that doesn't contain a least element. e.g.  $0 < x \leq 1$ .
- d. S is a well-ordered set because we can always produce a least element from the subsets of S.

## 2 Use mathematical induction to prove that $1 + 5 + 9 + \dots + (4n - 3) = 2n^2 - n$ for every positive integer n.

We have  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

We start by establishing the base case:

$$(4n - 3) = 2n^2 - n \Rightarrow (4 * 1 - 3) = 2 * 1^2 - 1 \quad (1)$$

## 3 Prove that $2^n > n^3$ for every integer $n \geq 10$

Note: you will need to really work with inequalities.

## 4 Use the method for minimum counterexample to prove that $3 \mid (2^{2n} - 1)$ for every positive integer n.

## 5 Use the Strong Principle of Mathematical Induction to prove the following:

Let  $S = i \in \mathbb{Z} : i \geq 2$  and let P be a subset of S with the properties that  $2, 3 \in P$  and if  $n \in S$ , then either  $n \in P$  or  $n = ab$ , where  $a, b \in S$ . Then every element of S either belongs to P or it can be expressed as a product of elements of P.

Note: read Theorem 11.17, though the proof of 11.17 is not the proof of this question.

**6 Use the Strong Principle of Mathematical Induction to prove that for each integer  $n \geq 12$ , there are non-negative integers  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $n = 3a + 7b$ .**

Note: this uses generalized strong induction and minimum counterexamples.