

# Mathematical Proof: Problem Set 3

Koichiro Takahashi

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## Problem.1

(a)

Some element of  $U$  cannot be expressed as  $x + y$ , where any  $x \in S$  and any  $y \in T$ .

(b)

For some  $x \in S$  and  $y \in S$ ,  $xy \notin S$ .

(c)

For some element  $x \in S$ , there is not an element  $y \in T$  such that  $y > x$ .

## Problem.2

(a)

$$x^2 - x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x(x - 1) = 0 \quad \therefore x = 0, 1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

Thus the truth value is  $T$ .

(b)

$$1 + 1 \geq 2, \text{ and for any other } n \in \mathbb{N}, n + 1 \geq 1 + 1 \geq 2.$$

Thus the truth value is  $T$ .

(c)

$$\text{Counterexample: } x = -1 \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \sqrt{(-1)^2} = 1 \neq -1$$

Thus the truth value is  $F$ .

(d)

$$3x^2 - 27 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 = 9 \therefore x = \pm 3 \in \mathbb{Q}$$

Thus the truth value is  $T$ .

(e)

$$\text{Example: } x = 3 \in \mathbb{R}, y = 2 \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow 3 + 2 + 3 = 8$$

Thus the truth value is  $T$ .

(f)

$$x^2 + y^2 = 9 \Leftrightarrow x^2 = 9 - y^2$$

Therefore, for given  $y > 3$ ,  $x^2 = 9 - y^2 < 0$  and there is no such  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $x^2 < 0$ . Thus the truth value is  $F$ .

(g) The same argument is applicable as in (f), since  $x$  and  $y$  is defined over the same domain and the open sentence  $x^2 + y^2 = 9$  is symmetric under exchange of variables  $x$  and  $y$ . Thus the truth value is  $F$ .

## Problem.3

My answer is only (d). The below is the reasoning for each question.

The De Morgan's law,

$$\sim (P(x) \wedge Q(x)) \equiv (\sim P(x)) \vee (\sim Q(x)), \sim (P(x) \vee Q(x)) \equiv (\sim P(x)) \wedge (\sim Q(x))$$

Also, we know that

$$\sim (P(x) \Rightarrow Q(x)) \equiv P(x) \wedge (\sim Q(x))$$

Therefore,

$$\sim ((\sim P(x)) \Rightarrow Q(x)) \equiv (\sim P(x)) \wedge (\sim Q(x))$$

Considering the result above, here we define the statement  $K$  as follows:

$$K : \exists x \in S, (\sim P(x)) \wedge (\sim Q(x))$$

Suppose the quantified statement  $R$ , and we define the compound statement  $K'$  as follows:

$$K' : R \Rightarrow K$$

For each statement  $R$ , if we could sufficiently show that  $K'$  is always true, the answer is YES. However, if we could find the counterexample of the statement  $K'$ , or could not sufficiently show that  $K'$  is always true, the answer is NO.

(a) By the De Morgan's law,

$$\sim (P(x) \wedge Q(x)) \equiv (\sim P(x)) \vee (\sim Q(x))$$

Therefore, here we define the statement  $R$  as follows:

$$R : \forall x \in S, (\sim P(x)) \vee (\sim Q(x))$$

Therefore,  $K'$  is not necessarily true, since either  $\sim P(x)$  or  $\sim Q(x)$  could be false. So the answer is NO.

(b) Here, we define the statement  $R$  as follows:

$$R : \forall x \in S, P(x)$$

The answer is obviously NO because  $\forall x \in S, P(x)$  does not satisfy  $(\sim P(x)) \wedge (\sim Q(x))$ , thus  $K'$  is false.

(c) Here, we define the statement  $R$  as follows:

$$R : \forall x \in S, Q(x)$$

The answer is obviously NO because  $\forall x \in S, Q(x)$  does not satisfy  $(\sim P(x)) \wedge (\sim Q(x))$ , thus  $K'$  is false.

(d) By the De Morgan's law,

$$\sim (P(x) \vee Q(x)) \equiv (\sim P(x)) \wedge (\sim Q(x))$$

Therefore, here we define the statement  $R$  as follows:

$$R : \exists x \in S, (\sim P(x)) \wedge (\sim Q(x))$$

The statement  $R$  is identical to the statement  $K$ , so  $K'$  is always true. Thus, the answer is YES.

(e) By the De Morgan's law,

$$\sim (P(x) \wedge (\sim Q(x))) \equiv (\sim P(x)) \vee (Q(x))$$

Therefore, here we define the statement  $R$  as follows:

$$R : \forall x \in S, (\sim P(x)) \vee (Q(x))$$

Therefore,  $K'$  is not necessarily true, since either  $\sim P(x)$  or  $\sim Q(x)$  could be false. So the answer is NO.

## Problem.4

Proof: Assume  $a, b$ , and  $c$  are odd integers such that  $a + b + c = 0$ .

By definition,

$$\exists k, l, m \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } a = 2k + 1, b = 2l + 1, c = 2m + 1$$

Therefore,

$$a + b + c = (2k + 1) + (2l + 1) + (2m + 1) = 2(k + l + m + 1) + 1$$

Thus,

$$\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } a + b + c = 2n + 1 \neq 0$$

which contradicts the assumption. So  $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}, a + b + c = 0$  is false, therefore the implication is true. ■ (vacuous proof)

## Problem.5

Proof: Assume  $x$  is an even integer, by definition,

$$\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } x = 2k$$

Therefore,

$$7x - 3 = 7 \cdot 2k - 3 = 2(7k - 2) + 1$$

Thus,

$$\exists l \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } 7x - 3 = 2l + 1$$

and  $7x - 3$  is an odd integer.

For the converse, prove by contrapositive. Assume  $x$  is an odd integer, by definition,

$$\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } x = 2k + 1$$

Therefore,

$$7x - 3 = 7(2k + 1) - 3 = 14k + 4 = 2(7k + 2)$$

Thus,

$$\exists l \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } 7x - 3 = 2l$$

and  $7x - 3$  is an even integer.

From the above, the statement is true. ■

## Problem.6

Proof: Let  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Assume  $3x - 1$  is even, by definition,

$$\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } 3x - 1 = 2k$$

Therefore,

$$5x + 2 = (3x - 1) + 2(x + 1) + 1 = 2k + 2(x + 1) + 1 = 2(k + x + 1) + 1$$

Thus,

$$\exists l \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } 5x + 2 = 2l + 1$$

and  $5x + 2$  is odd.

Next, assume  $5x + 2$  is odd, by definition,

$$\exists m \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } 5x + 2 = 2m + 1$$

Therefore,

$$3x - 1 = (5x + 2) - 2x - 3 = (2m + 1) + 2(-x - 2) + 1 = 2(m - x - 1)$$

Thus,

$$\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } 3x - 1 = 2n$$

and  $3x - 1$  is even.

From the above, the statement is true. ■

## Problem.7

Recall  $\mathbb{E}, \mathbb{O}$  are sets of even and odd integers respectively.

First, we prove a lemma below.

Lemma 1: Let  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $x^2 \in \mathbb{E} \Rightarrow x \in \mathbb{E}$

Proof: We prove by contrapositive. Let  $x \in \mathbb{O}$ . By definition,

$$\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } x = 2k + 1$$

Therefore,

$$x^2 = (2k + 1)^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 = 2(2k^2 + 2k) + 1 \in \mathbb{O} \quad \blacksquare$$

Next we prove another lemma below.

Lemma 2: Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2 \Rightarrow (abc)^2 \in \mathbb{E}$

Proof: Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Assume  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ .

Since  $a$  and  $b$  are symmetric variable in this statement, and also since  $\{\mathbb{E}, \mathbb{O}\}$  is a partition of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , we proceed by three cases, according to whether  $a$  and  $b$  are even or odd.

Case 1:  $a, b \in \mathbb{E}$ .

By definition,

$$\exists k, l \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } a = 2k, b = 2l$$

Therefore, by the assumption

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 = (2k)^2 + (2l)^2 = 4(k^2 + l^2) \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Rightarrow (abc)^2 = a^2 b^2 c^2 = 2(2a^2 b^2 (k^2 + l^2)) \in \mathbb{E}.$$

Case 2:  $a, b \in \mathbb{O}$ . By definition,

$$\exists k, l \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } a = 2k + 1, b = 2l + 1$$

Therefore, by the assumption

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 = (2k + 1)^2 + (2l + 1)^2 = 4(k^2 + l^2) + 4(k + l) + 2 = 2(2(k^2 + l^2) + 2(k + l) + 1) \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Rightarrow (abc)^2 = a^2 b^2 c^2 = 2(a^2 b^2 (2(k^2 + l^2) + 2(k + l) + 1)) \in \mathbb{E}.$$

Case 3:  $a \in \mathbb{E}, b \in \mathbb{O}$ . By definition,

$$\exists k, l \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } a = 2k, b = 2l + 1$$

Therefore, by the assumption

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 = (2k)^2 + (2l + 1)^2 = 4(k^2 + l^2) + 4l + 1 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Rightarrow (abc)^2 = a^2 b^2 c^2 = (2k)^2 b^2 c^2 = 2(2k^2 b^2 c^2) \in \mathbb{E}. \blacksquare$$

From the Lemma 1 and Lemma 2 above, we immediately prove the statement:

$$\text{Let } a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}. a^2 + b^2 = c^2 \Rightarrow abc \in \mathbb{E}$$

Proof: Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Assume  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ .

By using the Lemma 2,  $(abc)^2 \in \mathbb{E}$ . By using the Lemma 1,  $abc \in \mathbb{E}$ .  $\blacksquare$

## Problem.8

*Proof:* Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$  be the sides of a triangle  $\mathcal{T}$  where  $a \leq b \leq c$ . Assume  $\mathcal{T}$  is a right triangle.

By  $a \leq b \leq c$  and the Pythagorean theorem,

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} 3(abc)^2 - (c^6 - a^6 - b^6) &= 3a^2b^2(a^2 + b^2) - ((a^2 + b^2)^3 - a^6 - b^6) \\ &= 3a^4b^2 + 3a^2b^4 + -(a^6 + 3a^4b^2 + 3a^2b^4 + b^6 - a^6 - b^6) \\ &= 3a^4b^2 + 3a^2b^4 + -3a^4b^2 - 3a^2b^4 \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore (abc)^2 = \frac{c^6 - a^6 - b^6}{3} \quad \blacksquare$$