

Homework 3

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Extra Credit 1. *Show that if $a \in \mathbb{Z}$, then a is either even, or odd, but not both.*

Proof:

Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that a is even and odd.

Since a is even then 2 divides a by definition 2.

Let $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ so $2 \cdot c = a$ by definition 1.

Since a is odd then 2 divides $a - 1$ by definition 2.

Let $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ so $2 \cdot d = a - 1$ by definition 1.

So $2 \cdot d + 1 = a$.

Then $2 \cdot d + 1 = 2 \cdot c$.

Then $1 = 2 \cdot c - 2 \cdot d = 2(c - d)$.

Then $1 = 2(c - d)$.

We have reached a contradiction since $c - d$ will be an integer, however there exists no integer that is the product of 2 dividing 1. So a must either be even, or odd, but not both.

1. Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$.

(a) Prove that if a is even, then 4 divides a^2 .

Proof:

If a is even.

Then 2 divides a .

Then $2 \cdot c = a$.

Then $a(2 \cdot c) = a \cdot a$.

Then $(2 \cdot c)(2 \cdot c) = a^2$.

Then $4c^2 = a^2$.

Then $4d = a^2$ where $c^2 = d$ and $d \in \mathbb{Z}$.

So by definition 1, 4 divides a^2 .

Thus if a is even, 4 divides a^2 .

Corollary: If 4 divides some $a \in \mathbb{Z}$, then 2 divides a , thus if a is even, 2 divides a^2 and is even.

(b) Prove that if a is odd, then a^2 is odd.

Proof:

If a is odd.

Then 2 divides $a - 1$.

Then $2 \cdot c = a - 1$.

Then $2 \cdot c + 1 = a$.
 Then $a(2 \cdot c + 1) = a \cdot a$.
 Then $(2 \cdot c + 1)(2 \cdot c + 1) = a^2$.
 Then $4c^2 + 4c + 1 = a^2$.
 Then $2(2c^2 + 2c) + 1 = a^2$.
 Then $2 \cdot d + 1 = a^2$ where $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $2c^2 + 2c = d$.
 Then $2 \cdot d = a^2 - 1$.
 So by definition 1, 2 divides $a^2 - 1$.
 Thus if a is odd, a^2 is odd.

- (c) Explain why parts (a) and (b) prove that an integer a is even if and only if a^2 is even.

Explanation:

Both part a and b show that if a is even then a^2 is even, and if a is odd then a^2 is odd. Since this was proved directly we can see the other side of the if statement holds up too hence proving the iff statement.

2. Suppose that there exists integers a and b such that $(a/b)^2 = 2$.

- (a) Explain why this implies there exists integers a', b' such that $(a'/b')^2 = 2$ and a', b' have no common divisors (i.e., there are no integers $d > 1$ such that d divides both a and b).

Proof:

Let $d \in \mathbb{Z} > 1$ where d represents all common divisors of both a and b .

$$a = a' \cdot d \text{ and } b = b' \cdot d.$$

$$\text{Then } a/b = (a' \cdot d)/(b' \cdot d) = a'/b'.$$

So in the case of $(a/b)^2 = (a'/b')^2 = 2$ and $(a'/b')^2$ has no common divisors other than 1.

- (b) Explain why at most one of a' and b' is even. If a' is even and b' is even then they both have 2 as a common divisor. Thus only 1 can be even.

- (c) Explain why a' must be even.

$$(a'/b')^2 = 2.$$

$$(a'/b')(a'/b') = 2.$$

$$(a')(a'/b') = 2b'.$$

$$(a')(a') = 2b'b'.$$

$$a'^2 = 2b'^2.$$

2 divides a'^2 so it must be even. So a' is even.

- (d) Explain why part (c) implies that b' must be even as well.

If a'^2 is even by (1a), 4 divides a'^2 .

$$4 \cdot c = a'^2.$$

$$4 \cdot c = 2b'^2.$$

$$2 \cdot c = b'^2.$$

So 2 divides b'^2 so it must be even. So then b' is even.

- (e) Explain the contradiction between parts (b), (c), and (d).
We have a contradiction because in part (c) and (d) both a' and b' are even and in part (b) we know only one can be even.
- (f) Explain why this implies there is no rational number r satisfying $r^2 = 2$ (that is, $\sqrt{2}$ is not rational).
By representing $(a/b)^2 = 2$ as $(a'/b')^2 = 2$ where a'/b' is an irreducible rational number we get the contradiction shown in part (e).
Thus we cannot make the assumption that a/b is a rational number, implying there is no rational number r satisfying $r^2 = 2$.
3. Prove that A has a least upper bound in R .
Let $A := \{x \in R \mid x^2 < 2\}$.
Let $x = 1$ then $1^2 = 1 < 2$ so $1 \in A$.
So A is non empty.
Let $x > 2$ then $x^2 > 2^2$ so $x^2 > 4 > 2$.
So A has a least upper bound in R .
We will denote it as α .
4. Define α as above. In this problem we will show that $2 \leq \alpha^2$ by contradiction.
Suppose that $\alpha^2 < 2$, and define:

$$h = \frac{(2 - \alpha^2)}{2(2\alpha + 1)}$$

- (a) Explain why $0 < \alpha$ and use this to show $0 < h < 1$.
The lub(A) is α and $x \in A$ such that $x > 0$ so $0 < x < \alpha$.
Since $\alpha^2 < 2$ then $0 < 2 - \alpha^2$ so h is positive.
 $h = \frac{1}{2\alpha+1}(1 - \frac{\alpha^2}{2})$.
Since $\frac{\alpha^2}{2} < 1$ then $1 - \frac{\alpha^2}{2} < 1$ and $\frac{1}{2\alpha+1} < 1$.
So $h < 1$.
Thus $0 < h < 1$.
- (b) Show that $(\alpha + h)^2 < \alpha^2 + 2\alpha h + h = \alpha^2 + h(2\alpha + 1)$.
We know $0 < \alpha^2 < 2$ and $0 < h < 1$.
 $(\alpha + h)^2 = \alpha^2 + 2\alpha h + h^2$.
Let $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $h = 1/k$ and $h^2 = 1/k^2$.
 $k^2 > k$ so $1/k^2 < 1/k$.
So $h^2 < h$.
Then $(\alpha + h)^2 < \alpha^2 + 2\alpha h + h = \alpha^2 + h(2\alpha + 1)$.
- (c) Show that the previous part implies that $(\alpha + h)^2 < \frac{(2+\alpha^2)}{2} < 2$.
 $h = \frac{(2-\alpha^2)}{2(2\alpha+1)}$
 $h(2\alpha + 1) = \frac{(2-\alpha^2)}{2}$
 $\alpha^2 + h(2\alpha + 1) = \frac{(2+\alpha^2)}{2}$
So $(\alpha + h)^2 < \frac{(2+\alpha^2)}{2}$.

Since $\alpha^2 < 2$ then $\frac{(\alpha^2)}{2} < 1$ so $1 + \frac{(\alpha^2)}{2} < 2$.

$$1 + \frac{(\alpha^2)}{2} = \frac{2+\alpha^2}{2} < 2.$$

Thus $(\alpha + h)^2 < \frac{(2+\alpha^2)}{2} < 2$.

- (d) Explain why $\alpha + h \in A$ and $\alpha < \alpha + h$.

We showed $(\alpha + h)^2 < 2$ thus every element squared that is less than 2 is in the set A . Thus $\alpha + h \in A$.

We showed since $0 < \alpha$ and $0 < h$ then $\alpha < \alpha + h$.

- (e) Explain why (d) is a contradiction.

We started by assuming α was $\text{lub}(A)$ which meant there was no $a \in A$ such that $\alpha < a$. Then by assuming $\alpha^2 < 2$ we found an element $a \in A$ that showed $\alpha < a$ this is a contradiction so $\alpha^2 \geq 2$.

5. Now we will finish the proof that $\alpha^2 = 2$.

Working by contradiction again, suppose that $\alpha^2 \neq 2$. By the previous problem, we must have $2 < \alpha^2$. Define

$$k = \frac{\alpha^2 - 2}{4\alpha}$$

- (a) Show that $\alpha - k < \alpha$.

$$\alpha^2 > 2 \text{ so } \alpha^2 - 2 > 0.$$

$$\alpha > 0 \text{ so } 4\alpha > 0.$$

$$\text{So } k > 0.$$

$$\text{Then } \alpha - k < \alpha.$$

- (b) Show that $\alpha^2 - 2\alpha k < (\alpha - k)^2$.

$$(\alpha - k)^2 = \alpha^2 - 2\alpha k + k^2.$$

$$\text{Since } k > 0 \text{ then } k^2 > 0.$$

$$\text{So } \alpha^2 - 2\alpha k + k^2 > \alpha^2 - 2\alpha k + k^2 - k^2.$$

$$\text{So } \alpha^2 - 2\alpha k + k^2 = (\alpha - k)^2 > \alpha^2 - 2\alpha k.$$

$$\text{Thus } \alpha^2 - 2\alpha k < (\alpha - k)^2.$$

- (c) Show that the previous part implies that $2 < \frac{\alpha^2+2}{2} < (\alpha - k)^2$.

$$\alpha^2 - 2\alpha k < (\alpha - k)^2.$$

$$\alpha^2 - 2\alpha\left(\frac{\alpha^2-2}{4\alpha}\right) < (\alpha - k)^2.$$

$$\alpha^2 - \frac{\alpha^2-2}{2} < (\alpha - k)^2.$$

$$\frac{\alpha^2+2}{2} < (\alpha - k)^2.$$

$$\alpha^2 > 2 \text{ so } \frac{\alpha^2}{2} > 1 \text{ so } \frac{\alpha^2}{2} + 1 > 2.$$

$$\text{So } 2 < \frac{\alpha^2+2}{2} < (\alpha - k)^2.$$

- (d) By part (c), we have $2 < (\alpha - k)^2$. Use this to show that $\alpha - k$ is an upper bound for A .

$$2 < (\alpha - k)^2.$$

Then $\alpha - k \in A$ and it is an upper bound.

Thus $\alpha < \alpha - k$.

(e) Explain why parts (a) and (d) give a contradiction to the definition of α .

Part (a) says $\alpha - k < \alpha$.

Part (d) contradicts this by saying $\alpha < \alpha - k$.

So $\alpha \not< 2$ and $\alpha \not> 2$ so $\alpha = 2$.

Thus $\text{lub}(A)$ is $\alpha = 2$.

6. In this problem, we will prove the following theorem.

Theorem 1 (Archimedean Property). Suppose that $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and that $x > 0$. Then there exists an integer $n > 0$ such that $y < nx$.

We will prove the statement by contradiction. Let $A = \{nx | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$, and suppose that A is bounded above by y .

(a) Let $\alpha = \text{lub}(A)$. Show that, for any $r < \alpha$, there exists some $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $r < nx$. (If $r < \alpha$, can r be an upper bound for A ? What does that mean?)

$\alpha = \text{lub}(A)$

$r \in A$ and $r < \alpha$

Let $r = kx$ where $k \in \mathbb{N}$

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $n = k + 1$

Then $r < (k + 1)x$

Then $r < nx$

So if $r < \alpha$, then r cannot be an upper bound for A since α is the $\text{lub}(A)$.

(b) Explain why there exists some $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\alpha - x < mx$.

We know if α is the $\text{lub}(A)$ then $\alpha - x \in A$.

We know for $r \in A$ there exists $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $r < mx$

So $\alpha - x < mx$

(c) Explain why the previous part implies $\alpha < (m + 1)x$.

$\alpha - x < mx$

$\alpha < mx + x$

$\alpha < (m + 1)x$

(d) Explain why this gives a contradiction and why this contradiction proves the Archimedean Property.

$(m + 1)x = nx$

$nx \in A$ so $nx > \alpha$

Hence we have a contradiction as no element in A can be larger than α the $\text{lub}(A)$. So there exists no $\text{lub}(A)$. Any multiple n of some x will always have a larger number. Hence in \mathbb{R} there will always exist a multiple n of some x that will be larger than some multiple m of x .