

Mathematics 300 Test 2

Name: _____

You are to use your own calculator, no sharing.

Show your work to get credit.

1. (15 points) (a) If a and b are integers define what it means for a to divide b . (In symbols $a \mid b$.)

There exists an integer c where $ac = b$.

- (b) Prove that if $a \mid b$ that $2a^2 \mid (6ab + 4b^3)$.

Proof: Assume $a \mid b$.

So $ac = b$ for some $c \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\text{Thus } 6ab + 4b^3 = 6a^2c + 4(ac)^3 = 6a^2c + 4a^3c^3 = 2a^2(3c + 2c^3).$$

$$\text{So } 6ab + 4b^3 = 2a^2(d) \text{ for some } d \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow 3c + 2c^3 = d.$$

Therefore $2a^2 \mid (6ab + 4b^3)$.

2. (15 points) (a) Let n be a positive integer and a and b any integers. Define $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$.

If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$, then $n \mid (a-b)$. This means that a and b have the same remainder when divided by n .

- (b) Prove that if $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $b \equiv c \pmod{n}$, then $a \equiv c \pmod{n}$.

Proof: Assume $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $b \equiv c \pmod{n}$.

So $n \mid (a-b)$ and $n \mid (b-c)$.

Thus $a-b = nd$ and $b-c = ne$ for some $d, e \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\text{So } (a-b) + (b-c) = nd + ne = n(d+e).$$

Thus $a-c = nf$ for some $f \in \mathbb{Z} = d+e$.

So $n \mid (a-c)$, therefore $a \equiv c \pmod{n}$.

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3. (20 points) (a) Define what it means for the real number r to be a *rational number*.

r is a rational number when $r = \frac{a}{b}$ where a, b are integers. ✓

(b) Prove that if x is an integer and $3 \mid x^2$, then $3 \mid x$.

We will prove by ^{positive} contradiction \Rightarrow If $3 \nmid x$ then $3 \nmid x^2$.

Assume $3 \nmid x$. There are two cases.

Case 1. $x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

$$x^2 \equiv (1)^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \therefore 3 \nmid x^2$$

Case 2. $x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

$$x^2 \equiv (2)^2 \equiv 4 \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \therefore 3 \nmid x^2$$

Therefore, in all cases, $3 \nmid x^2$. ✓

(c) Prove that $\sqrt{3}$ is not a rational number.

Towards a contradiction, assume $\sqrt{3}$ is rational. Then $\sqrt{3} = \frac{a}{b}$

for some integers a and b , $\frac{a}{b}$ is in lowest terms, and $b \neq 0$.

So $b\sqrt{3} = a$ $3b^2 = a^2$. As shown in part b, since $3 \mid a^2$, $3 \mid a$.

So $a = 3c$ for some integer c . So $3b^2 = (3c)^2$. Thus $3b^2 = 9c^2$

$b^2 = 3c^2$. Also as shown in part b, since $3 \mid b^2$, $3 \mid b$. So $b = 3d$ (20)

for some integer d . Therefore $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{3c}{3d}$. This shows that the

fraction is not in lowest terms, a contradiction. ✓

good
job

6. (10 points) Let x be an integer. Show that $x^3 + 6$ is even if and only if x is even.

Two statements to prove.

Case 1: $x^3 + 6$ is even $\Rightarrow x$ is even.

proof by contrapositive: x is odd $\Rightarrow x^3 + 6$ is odd.

If x is odd, $x \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$. So, $x^3 + 6 \equiv 1^3 + 6 \pmod{2}$

$\equiv 7 \pmod{2} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$. So, $x^3 + 6$ is odd. ✓

Case 2: x is even $\Rightarrow x^3 + 6$ is even.

If x is even, $x \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$. So, $x^3 + 6 \equiv 0^3 + 6 \pmod{2}$

$\equiv 6 \pmod{2} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$. Thus $x^3 + 6$ is even. ✓

Therefore, since both cases hold true,

$x^3 + 6$ is even if and only if x is even. ✓

7. (10 points) Show that for any real number x , that $(x+1)^3 = x^3 + 1^3$ if and only if $x = 0$ or $x = -1$. Two cases to prove.

Case 1: $(x+1)^3 = x^3 + 1^3$ if $x = 0$ or $x = -1$.

So, $x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1 = x^3 + 1$ which means $3x^2 + 3x = 0$.

Therefore $x(3x+3) = 0$ means $x = 0$, or $3x+3 = 0$, and $3x = -3$, so $x = -1$. Thus $x = 0$ or $x = -1$. ✓

Case 2: If $x = 0$ or $x = -1$, then $(x+1)^3 = x^3 + 1^3$. ✓

For $x = 0$, we have $(0+1)^3 = 0^3 + 1^3$. So, $1^3 = 1^3$. ✓

For $x = -1$, we have $(-1+1)^3 = (-1)^3 + 1^3$, which means

$0 = -1 + 1$, and so $0 = 0$. Therefore, for $x = 0$ or $x = -1$,

$(x+1)^3 = x^3 + 1^3$.

Since both cases hold true, $(x+1)^3 = x^3 + 1^3$ if and

only if $x = 0$ or $x = -1$. ✓

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8. (10 points) Show that for all integers x that $x^3 \equiv x \pmod{3}$.

Proof: Assume $x \in \mathbb{Z}$.

There are 3 cases, $x \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$, $x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, and $x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$.

Case 1: $x \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$.

$$\text{So } x^3 \equiv 0^3 = 0 \pmod{3}.$$

Case 2: $x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$.

$$\text{So } x^3 \equiv 1^3 = 1 \pmod{3}.$$

Case 3: $x \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$.

$$\text{So } x^3 \equiv 2^3 = 8 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}.$$

Therefore for all cases $x^3 \equiv x \pmod{3}$.

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