



test2-300-8

4. [6 marks] Number theory.

(a) [3 marks] Prove the following statement:

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{Z}^+, \forall c \in \mathbb{Z}, c \equiv c \pmod{m}$$

Your proof must use the definitions of modular equivalence and divisibility, and may **not** use any theorems found on the Reference Sheets, nor any other theorems/properties of divisibility or modular equivalence.

We have left space for rough work here, but please write your formal proof in the box below.

Proof.

Definition of modular equivalence:  $a \equiv b \pmod{m} \Leftrightarrow m \mid a-b \Leftrightarrow m \mid b-a$

Definition of divisibility:  $d \mid m \Leftrightarrow \exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, m = kd$  (where  $d, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ )

Let  $m$  be an arbitrary positive integer

Let  $c$  be an arbitrary integer

Want to show:  $c \equiv c \pmod{m}$  equivalent to  $m \mid c-c$  or  $m \mid 0$   
(Using definition of modular equivalence)

Now  $m \mid 0$  is equivalent to  $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, 0 = k(m)$ , here  $m, 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$

Take  $k$  to be  $0$ , which  $\in \mathbb{Z}$

Thus  $0 = 0(m) \Rightarrow 0 = 0$ , which is a fact

Therefore  $m \mid 0$  and thus  $c \equiv c \pmod{m}$ .

Hence Proved.



(b) [3 marks] Prove the following statement:

$$\forall n, m, d \in \mathbb{Z}, ((n \neq 0 \vee m \neq 0) \wedge d \mid m \wedge d \mid n) \Rightarrow d \mid \gcd(n, m)$$

Your proof **may** use any definitions and theorems provided on the Reference Sheets, but no other theorems/properties of divisibility or modular equivalence.

We have left space for rough work here, but please write your formal proof in the box below.

Proof.

Let  $n, m, d \in \mathbb{Z}$

what to show:  $((n \neq 0 \vee m \neq 0) \wedge d \mid m \wedge d \mid n) \Rightarrow d \mid \gcd(n, m)$

Assume that  $(n \neq 0 \vee m \neq 0) \wedge d \mid m \wedge d \mid n$

Since  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and at least one of them is non zero, using GCD characterization Theorem,  $\gcd(n, m)$  is the smallest positive integer that is a linear combination of  $n$  and  $m$ . Equivalently  $\exists b, a \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$\gcd(n, m) = bn + am$$

Since  $d, n, m, b, a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $d \mid m$  and  $d \mid n$ , using Divisibility of Linear Combinations Theorem  $d \mid bn + am$ . Equivalently  $d \mid \gcd(n, m)$ .

Hence proved.

