

# Lab01-Proof

CS363-Computability Theory, Xiaofeng Gao, Spring 2016

\* Please upload your assignment to TA's FTP. Contact [nongeeek.zv@gmail.com](mailto:nongeeek.zv@gmail.com) for any questions.

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1. Prove that for any integer  $n > 2$ , there is a prime  $p$  satisfying  $n < p < n!$ . (Hint: consider a prime factor  $p$  of  $n! - 1$  and use proof by contradiction)

**Proof:** Assume that for any integer  $n > 2$ , there is no prime  $p$  satisfying  $n < p < n!$ .

The adjacent two natural numbers are co-prime, so  $n!$  and  $n! - 1$  are co-prime.

Because  $n! = 1 * 2 * \dots * n - 1 * n$ , so  $1, 2, 3, \dots, n - 1, n$  are all factors of  $n!$ .

So  $1, 2, \dots, n$  all aren't factors of  $n! - 1$ .

So the prime factor of  $n! - 1$  is greater than  $n$ , which contradicts our assumption.

So we proof it by contradiction.

2. Use minimal counterexample principle to prove that: for every integer  $n > 17$ , there exist integers  $i_n \geq 0$  and  $j_n \geq 0$ , such that  $n = i_n * 4 + j_n * 7$ .

**Proof:** If  $n = i_n * 4 + j_n * 7$  is not true for every integer  $n > 17$ , then there are values of  $n$  for which  $n \neq i_n * 4 + j_n * 7$ , and there must be a smallest such value, say  $n = k$ .

Since  $18 = 1 * 4 + 2 * 7$ ,  $19 = 3 * 4 + 1 * 7$ ,  $20 = 5 * 4$ ,  $21 = 3 * 7$ ,  $22 = 2 * 4 + 2 * 7$ , we have  $k \geq 23$ ,  $k - 4 > 18$ .

Since  $k$  is the smallest value for which  $k \neq i_k * 4 + j_k * 7$ , so  $k - 4 = i_{k-4} * 4 + j_{k-4} * 7$  is true.

However, we have  $k = k - 4 + 4 = i_{k-4} * 4 + j_{k-4} * 7 + 4 = (i_{k-4} + 1) * 4 + j_{k-4} * 7$ , which derived a contradiction. So our original assumption is false.

3. Suppose  $a_0 = 1$ ,  $a_1 = 2$ ,  $a_2 = 3$ ,  $a_k = a_{k-1} + a_{k-2} + a_{k-3}$  for  $k \geq 3$ . Use strong principle of mathematical induction to prove that  $a_n \leq 2^n$  for all integers  $n \geq 0$ .

**Proof:** Obviously,  $a_0 \leq 2^0$ ,  $a_1 \leq 2^1$ ,  $a_2 \leq 2^2$ , and  $a_3 = a_0 + a_1 + a_2 = 1 + 2 + 3 = 6 < 2^3$ .

We assume that  $a_n < 2^n$  is true for every  $n$  satisfying  $n_0 \leq n \leq k$ ,  $k \geq 0$ .

Then,  $a_{k+1} = a_k + a_{k-1} + a_{k-2} \leq 2^k + 2^{k-1} + 2^{k-2} < 2^{k+1}$ .

So, we proof the original assumption.

4. Consider the following loop, written in pseudocode:

```
while B do
| S;
end
```

A condition  $P$  is called an invariant of the loop if whenever  $P$  and  $B$  are both true, and  $S$  is executed once,  $P$  is still true.

- (a) Prove that if  $P$  is an invariant of the loop, and  $P$  is true before the first iteration of the loop, then if the loop eventually terminates (i.e., after some number of iterations,  $B$  is false),  $P$  is still true.

**Proof:** Because  $P$  is an invariant of the loop. And  $P$  is true before the first iteration of the loop, so if  $B$  is true, then  $S$  is executed once,  $P$  is still true.

If  $B$  is false, then  $S$  cannot be executed, so  $P$  will maintain the value in the last iteration. So  $P$  is still true.

So we can proof that when the loop terminates,  $P$  is still true.

- (b) Suppose  $x$  and  $y$  are integer variables, and initially  $x \geq 0$  and  $y > 0$ . Consider the following program fragment:

```

 $q = 0;$ 
 $r = x;$ 
while  $r \geq y$  do
  |    $q = q + 1;$ 
  |    $r = r - y;$ 
end

```

By considering the condition  $(r \geq 0) \wedge (x = q \times y + r)$ , prove that when this loop terminates, the values of  $q$  and  $r$  will be the integer quotient and remainder, respectively, when  $x$  is divided by  $y$ ; in other words,  $x = q \times y + r$  and  $0 \leq r < y$ .

**Proof:** We claim that the loop invariant  $x$ :

$$x = qy + r$$

Because  $x = qy + r$ ,  $x \geq 0$ ,  $q = 0$ ,  $r = x$  before the loop executes. So  $x$  is true before the loop.

Then we assume that  $x$  is true before the loop is executed. Then, after the loop executes, we have the new values  $r_n = r - y$  and  $q_n = q + 1$ .

Since, by the condition of the loop we know that  $r \geq y$ , so we have that  $r_n = r - y \geq 0$ . Furthermore,  $x = qy + r = qy + r - y + y = (qy + y) + (r - y) = (q + 1)y + (r - y) = q_n y + r_n$ . Thus,  $x$  is still true after the loop executes. When the loop terminates, the condition of the loop is false, so that  $r < y$ . So,  $x = q * y + r$  and  $0 \leq r < y$ .  $s_1 = 1$