

Assignment due March 15th at 11:59 p.m.

Complete the following problems from Chapters 4, 5, and 6 of Book of Proof. Found at:  
<https://www.people.vcu.edu/~rhammack/BookOfProof/Main.pdf>

Prove each of the following statements:

**Problem 4.10** Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. If  $a|b$ , then  $a|(3b^3 - b^2 + 5b)$ .

**Problem 4.14** If  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $5n^2 + 3n + 7$  is odd.

**Problem 4.26** Every odd integer is a difference of two squares. Example:  $7 = 4^2 - 3^2$ .

**Problem 5.12** Suppose  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $a^2$  is not divisible by 4, then  $a$  is odd.

**Problem 5.28** If  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $4 \nmid (n^2 - 3)$ .

**Problem 6.8** Suppose  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ , then  $a$  or  $b$  is even

**Proposition** Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. If  $a|b$ , then  $a|(3b^3 - b^2 + 5b)$ .

*Proof.* we say  $a|b$  for some  $z \in \mathbb{Z}$  for  $b = az$

Therefore, we can write  $3b^3 - b^2 + 5b$  as  $3(az)^3 - (az)^2 + 5(az)$ .

Then factor out  $a$  to get  $a(3a^2b^3 - az^2 + 5z)$ .

now  $a$  is multiplied to some constant and the product is  $(3b^3 - b^2 + 5b)$

so the expression is true.

□

**Proposition** If  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $5n^2 + 3n + 7$  is odd

*Proof.* We say a number is odd if  $x=2k+1$  for some integer  $k$ .

assume 2 cases,  $n$  can be either even or odd.

firstly, if  $n$  is odd.

then we can say that  $5n^2$  can be written as  $5(2k+1)^2$

this can be rewritten to  $5(2k+1)(2k+1)$  then to

$20k^2 + 10k + 10K + 2(2) + 1$ , then  $2(10k^2 + 10k + 2) + 1$

if we let  $10k^2 + 10k + 2 = j$ , then  $5n^2$  is odd because it can be written as  $2j + 1$

next, look at  $3n$ , if  $n$  is odd, it can be written as  $3(2k+1)$

multiply out to get  $6k + 3$ , rewrite this to  $2(3k+1) + 1$

let  $3k + 1$  equal  $h$ , so  $3n$  is odd because it can be written as  $2h + 1$

Now that we know that  $5n^2$  and  $3n$  are both odd assuming that  $n$  is even

so adding these two terms together will result in a even number because

$(2j + 1) + (2h + 1)$  or  $2j + 2h + 2$ , which can be written as  $2(j + h)$  which is a even number.

Now lets assume that  $n$  is even. An even number can be written as  $2k$  for some interger  $k$ .

looking at  $5n^2$ , we can write it as  $5(2k)^2$ , or  $2(10k^2)$

this number is even because if we write  $10k^2$  as  $j$ , then it is  $2j$

also,  $3n$  is even because we can write it as  $3(2k)$ , or  $6k$

which can then be written as  $2(3k)$ , if we make  $3k$   $h$ , then it would be  $2h$

Now that they are both even if  $n$  is even, adding them together will also get a even number.

This is because,  $2j + 2h$ , can be written as  $2(j + h)$

now that we know adding the first two terms will result in an even number wether  $n$  is even or odd

we can prove 7 is odd because it can be written as  $2(3) + 1$ ,

we know the first 2 terms added together will be even, so lets write them as  $2j$ ,

so we have  $2j + 2(3) + 1$ , then a 2 can be factored out,  $2(j + 3) + 1$ .

Therefore,  $5n^2 + 3n + 7$  is odd if  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

□

**Proposition** Every odd integer is a difference of two squares.

*Proof.* An integer is odd if it equals  $2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ .

now, lets look at 2 consecutive integers squared, written as  $k$  and  $k+1$ .

$(k + 1)^2 - k^2$ , rewrite as  $k^2 + 2k + 1 - k^2$ . This is the same as  $2k + 1$

thus, any prime can equal the difference of two squares.

□

**Proposition** Suppose  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ . if  $a^2$  is not divisible by 4, then  $a$  is odd.

*Proof.* We say that  $a|b$  for some  $z \in \mathbb{Z}$  for  $b = az$

lets assume that  $a$  is even by way of contradicton.  $a = 2k$  by definition of an even number.

then  $a^2$  would be equal to  $4k^2$ .  $a^2$  is divisible by 4 because  $a^2 = 4z$ , with  $z = k^2$ .

So for  $a^2$  to be divisble by 4, it must be even.

□

**Proposition** If  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $4 \nmid (n^2 - 3)$

*Proof.* By way of contradiction, assume  $4|(n^2 - 3)$

we say that  $a|b$  for some  $z \in \mathbb{Z}$  for  $b = az$

so  $n^2 - 3 = 4z$ .

Then there are two cases to check,  $n$  is even or odd.

first, assume  $n$  is even.

so  $(2k)^2 - 3 = 4z$ , and rewrite it as  $4k^2 - 3 = 4z$  and then solve for  $z$ .

therefore  $z = k^2 - 3/4$ . this will not result in an integer

likewise, assume  $n$  is odd.

so  $(2k + 1)^2 - 3 = 4z$ , and rewrite it as  $4k^2 + 4k - 2 = 4z$  and then solve for  $z$ .

Therefore  $z = k^2 + 4k - \frac{1}{2}$ . This case will also not result in an integer.

□

**Proposiiton** Suppose  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ , then  $a$  or  $b$  is even

*Proof.* By way of contradiction, lets assume that both  $a$  and  $b$  are odd.

then we can write it as:  $(2k + 1)^2 + (2j + 1)^2 = c^2$

so  $4(k^2 + k + j^2 + j) + 2 = c^2$

then we know  $c$  can be either even or odd.

assuming  $c$  is even, we get :  $4h^2 = 4(k^2 + k + j^2 + j) + 2$

after dividing out the 4, there will be a fraction on one side.

now lets assume that  $c$  is odd.

so we get:  $4(h^2 + h) + 1 = 4(k^2 + k + j^2 + j) + 2 = c^2$

after dividing out the four, there will be unequal fractions on both sides.  
therefore it is not an integer for either case.

□