

# CS250 homework 3

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Due: 7/16/19

1. Prove that  $n^2 \% 3 \neq 2$  for all integers  $n$ .

Remember  $n \% 3$  is the remainder of  $n/3$ , so it can only ever be 0, 1, or 2.

Proof by cases:

$x \in \mathbf{N}: 3 \mid x$  and  $x = 3k: k \in \mathbf{N}$  because of definition of divides

1. case 1:  $x^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 &= (3k)^2 \\&= 9k^2 \\&= 3(3k^2)\end{aligned}$$

$$3(3k^2) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

case 1 is true because of definition of modulus

2. case 2:  $(x+1)^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

$$\begin{aligned}(x+1)^2 &= x^2 + 2x + 1 \\&= 9k^2 + 6k + 1 \\&= 3(3k^2 + 2k) + 1\end{aligned}$$

$$3(3k^2 + 2k) \pmod{3} = 0$$

definition of modulus

$$1 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

case 2 is true through substitution

3. case 3:  $(x+2)^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

$$\begin{aligned}(x+2)^2 &= x^2 + 4x + 4 \\&= 9k^2 + 12k + 4 \\&= 3(3k^2 + 4k) + 4\end{aligned}$$

$$3(3k^2 + 4k) \pmod{3} = 0$$

definition of modulus

$$4 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

case 3 is true through substitution

These are all the cases we need to prove that  $x^2 \pmod{3} \in \{0, 1\}$ . To demonstrate this:

$$\begin{aligned}(x+3)^2 &= x^2 + 6x + 9 \\6x + 9 &= 3(2x + 3) \\3(2x + 3) \pmod{3} &= 0 \\(x+3)^2 &\equiv x^2 \pmod{3}\end{aligned}$$

2. Fermat's Last theorem is a famous theorem in Math that was unproven for 200 years. The theorem says for all  $n > 2, a, b, c \in \mathbf{N}, a^n + b^n \neq c^n$ . Or  $a^n + b^n = c^n$  has no integer solutions for  $n$  larger than 2. Use this theorem to prove that  $\sqrt[n]{2}$  is irrational for  $n$  larger than 2.

$$\forall n > 2, a, b, c \in \mathbf{N}.$$

$$a^n + b^n \neq c^n$$

$$\text{assume } \sqrt[n]{2} = \frac{p}{q} : p, q \in \mathbf{N}$$

$$2 = \frac{p^n}{q^n}$$

$$2q^n = p^n$$

$$q^n + q^n = p^n \text{ which is a contradiction with Fermat's. So our assumption must be false.}$$

3. (a) Prove that there is no smallest positive rational number greater than 0.  
Assume  $x$  is the smallest positive rational number greater than 0.

$$x \in \mathbf{Q}^+, p \in \mathbf{N}, q \in \mathbf{N}.$$

$$x = \frac{p}{q} \quad \text{definition of a rational number}$$

$$\frac{p}{q} > \frac{p}{q+1} \quad \text{by incrementing } q \text{ we create a smaller rational than } x, \text{ which is a contradiction}$$

- (b) Prove that for every positive real number greater than 0 there is a smaller positive rational number.  
(Hint: if  $r < 1$  then  $1/r > 1$ )  
Let  $x$  be a real number between 0 and 1.  
Let  $y$  be the ceiling of  $1/x$ .  
 $1/y > x$ .

- (c) Now Prove that there is no smallest positive real number greater than 0.  
Let  $x$  be the smallest positive real number greater than 0.  
Let  $y$  be  $x/2$ . This is a contradiction because  $y < x$ . There must be no smallest positive real number.

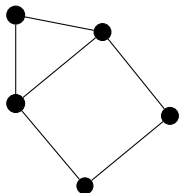
4. In a graph  $G$  we have a relation  $u \sim v$  if  $u$  and  $v$  have an edge between them.  
Is this relation reflexive, symmetric, antisymmetric, transitive.

This relation is not reflexive because a vertex is not required to have an edge to itself. For an undirected graph, it is symmetric (but not for a directed graph). An undirected graph cannot be antisymmetric (some directed graphs could possibly be antisymmetric). It is not transitive. If vertex  $A$  has an edge to  $B$  and  $B$  to  $C$ , there is a path from  $A$  to  $C$  (not an edge). A complete graph would be transitive.

5. remember a graph is a bunch of vertices connected by edges.  
A *path* is a sequence of vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots$  where there is an edge between every vertex.  
A *cycle* is a path that starts and ends at the same vertex.  
Prove that if a graph has no cycles, then there is at most one path between any two vertices.

Suppose there are two different paths between nodes  $a$  and  $b$  in the graph. Trace the paths simultaneously. When the paths separate and join again they create a cycle.

6. The degree of a vertex in a graph is the number of vertices it's connected to. so  $\deg(v) = |\{u : u \sim v\}|$   
For the following graph give the degree of each vertex.



7. Prove that for the vertices  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  in a graph that  $\deg(v_1) + \deg(v_2) + \dots + \deg(v_n) = 2 \cdot |E|$ .  
Every edge added to a graph has to connect two vertices. This means that the number of vertices will always be 2 times the total number of edges.