

80% - Exams (mid-sem, end-sem)

20% - Assignments

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Mathematical Proofs

"Facts"

Axioms

Natural numbers (\mathbb{N})

0, 1, 2, 3, ...

Peano's axioms define what \mathbb{N} is.

(1) Statement: There is ^{at least one} natural number that is divisible by only 1 and itself.

2

✓ "witness"

(True)

(2) Statement: Every prime number is odd. (False)

2 is a prime number that is not odd.

"2" is a "counterexample".

"Negation" of (1) is: $\neg(1) =$

"There are no natural numbers that are divisible by only 1 and itself."

$\neg(2)$: There is a prime number that is not odd.

"Law of the excluded middle". \leftarrow

"Foundations of mathematics"

\hookrightarrow Logic, set theory.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [S_1 \wedge S_2] & \text{--- F} & \neg[S_1 \wedge S_2] \\ \uparrow & \text{and} & \downarrow \\ \text{F} & & \text{F} \end{array} \quad \underline{\underline{[\neg S_1 \vee \neg S_2]}}$$

S_1 - this shirt is white

S_2 - this shirt is sleeveless

$S_1 \wedge S_2$ - this shirt is both white and sleeveless

$$\neg(S_1 \wedge S_2) = \neg S_1 \vee \neg S_2$$

De Morgan's Law

(3) "Every number ^{is} either prime or divisible by 2 or 3." - False

25 is a counterexample.

(4) "Prime numbers are infinite."

Proof: Suppose there are only a finite number of prime numbers.

$\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\} \rightarrow$ Can this be an empty set? No. from (1).

set of all prime numbers

$$p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_k$$

$$n = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdot p_3 \cdot \dots \cdot p_k$$

n is divisible by each of p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k

$$n+1$$

None of p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k divides $(n+1)$.

$(n+1)$ is greater than each one of p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k .

$(n+1)$ is not one of p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k .

So $(n+1)$ is composite.

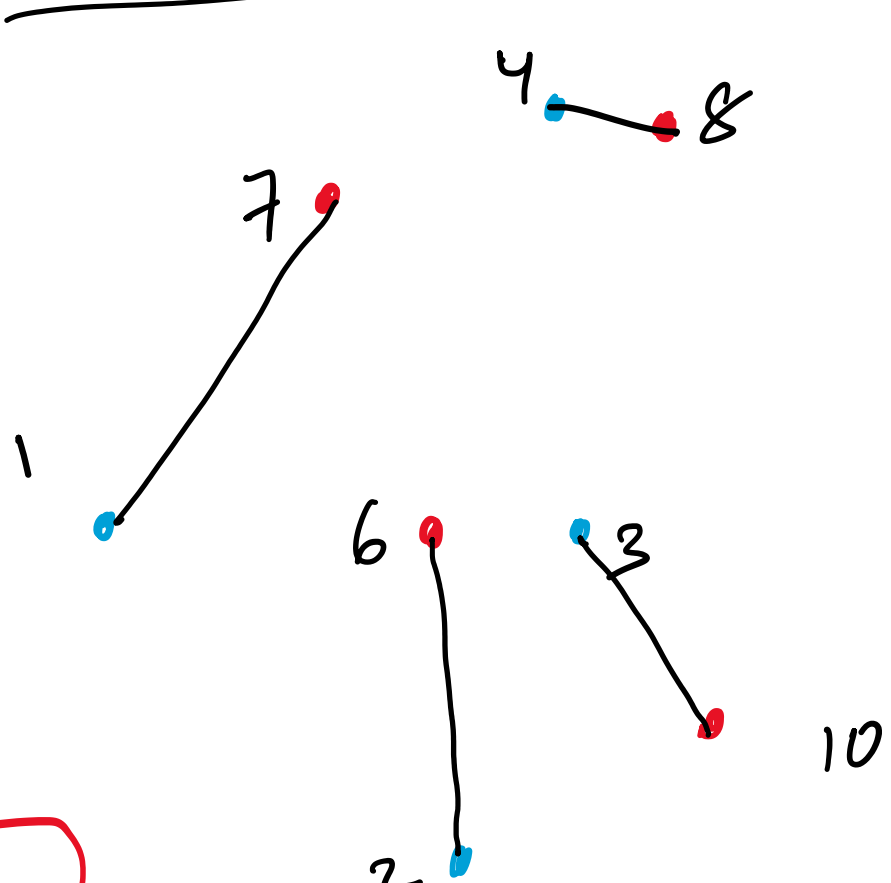
So there is a prime number that divides $n+1$.

At least one among p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k divides $(n+1)$.

"Contradiction."

Our assumption that there are only a finite number of prime numbers is false.

So (4) is true.



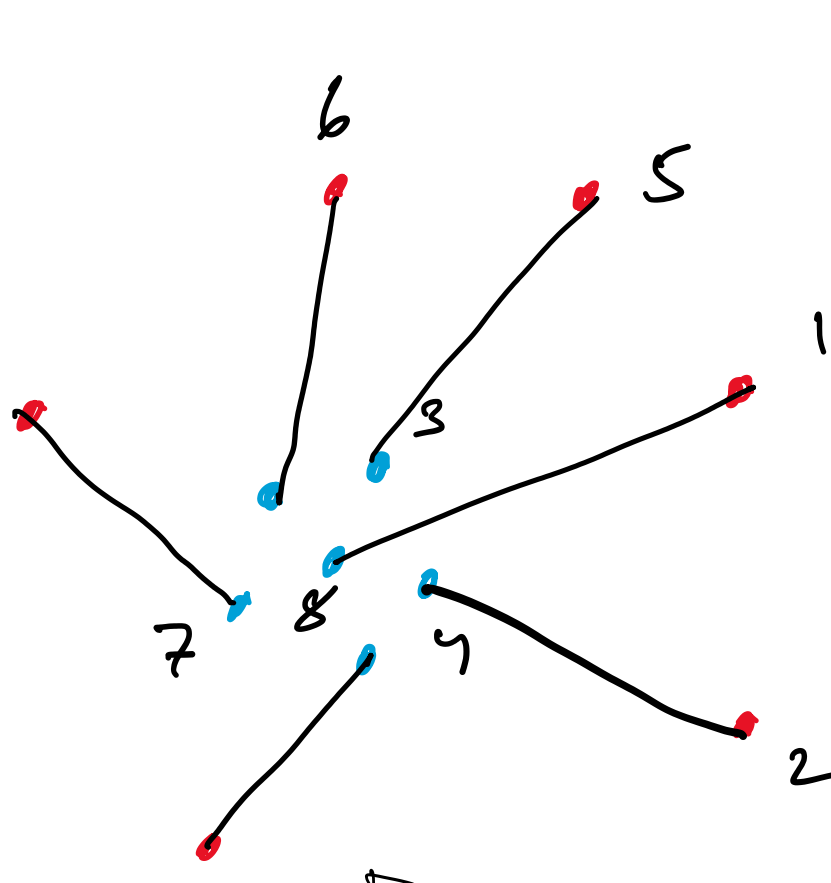
Assume:

No three points are "collinear"

\downarrow
lie on a straight line

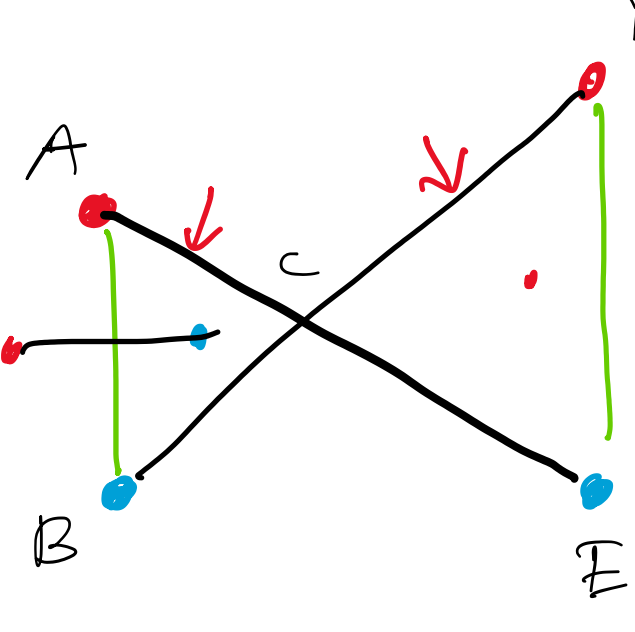
"The points are in general position"

"Given n red points and n blue points in gen. pos. One can pair each red point with a blue point in such a way that if a straight line segment is drawn between the two points in each pair, then no two line segments cross."



$S =$ Sum of the lengths of all line segments

The value of S strictly decreases when you "swap" two line segments.



$$AB < AC + BC$$

$$DE < CD + CE$$

$$AB + DE < (AC + CE) + (BC + CD)$$

$$AB + DE < AE + BD$$



Suppose that there are n points in the plane ($n \geq 2$), not all of them are collinear.

Then there is a straight line that passes through exactly two of the n points.