# MATHD022: Discrete Mathematics

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# 1. The Language of Mathematics

#### 1.1 Variables

**Definition** A **variable** is a symbol that is used as a placeholder when:

- The quantity has one of more values, but is not known.
  - For example:  $2x^2 x = 7$
- The quantity represents **any element** from a given set.
  - For example: The reciporical of any non-zero integer n is  $\frac{1}{n}$ .

Writing Sentences using Variables We can rewrite the following sentences using variables:

- Is there an integer n that has a remainder of 2 when it is divided by 5?
  - Is there an integer n such that n%5 = 2?
- The cube root of any negative real number is negative.
  - For any real number s, if s < 0, then  $\sqrt[3]{s} < 0$ .

#### Types of Statements

- A universal statement is a statement that is true always true.
  - For example: All positive numbers are greater than 0.
- A **conditional statement** is a statement that is true if a certain condition is met.
  - For example: If 378 is divisible by 18, then 378 is divisible by 6.
- A universal conditional statement is a statement that is both conditional and universal.

- For example: For all animals a, if a is a dog, then a is a mammal.
- As a universal statement: For all dogs a, a is a mammal.
- As a conditional statement: If a is a dog, then a is a mammal.
- An **existential statement** gives a property that is true for at least one thing.
  - There is a prime number that is even.
- A universal existential statement is a statement where the first part is universal and the second part is existential.
  - Every real number has an additive inverse.
  - For all real numbers r, there is an additive inverse -r.
  - For all real numbers r, there is a real number s such that r+s=0.
- An **existential universal statement** is a statement where the first part is existential and the second part is universal.
  - There is a positive integer that is less than or equal to every positive integer.
  - There is a positive integer m such that every positive integer is greater than or equal to m.
  - There is a positive integer m with the property that for all positive integers  $n, m \le n$ .

#### 1.2 Sets

**Definition** A **set** is a collection of objects.

#### Notation

- $x \in S$ : x is an element of S.
- $x \notin S$ : x is not an element of S.
- $S = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ : is set roster notation.

**Axion of Extension** A set is determined by what its elements are. Orders of elements or repeated elements can't be determine the set. For example:  $\{1, 2, 3\} = \{3, 2, 2, 1, 2, 3, 1\}$ . There are 3 elements in both sets.

#### **Common Sets**

- $\mathbb{R}$ : the set of all real numbers.
- $\mathbb{Z}$ :  $\{\ldots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots\}$  the set of all integers.
- $\mathbb{N}$ :  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  the set of all natural numbers.
- $\mathbb{Q}$ : the set of all rational numbers.
- $\emptyset = \{\}$ : the empty set, or null set.

The null set is a subset of every set.

**Set Builder Notation** Let S denote a set and let  $x \in S$  be and element in S. P(x) is a property that some elements of S satisfy.

$$A = \{x \in S | P(x)\}$$

A constains elements in S such that (-) P(x) is true.

#### Subsets

**Definition** Let A and B be sets. A is a **subset** ( $\subseteq$ ) of B if every element of A is also an element of B.

**Proper Subsets** Let A and B be sets. A is a **proper subset** ( $\subset$ ) of B if every element of A is also an element of B, and there is at least one element in B that is not in A.

**Example** Let  $A = \mathbb{Z}^+, B = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} | 0 \le n \le 100\}, and C = \{100, 200, 300, 400, 500\}.$ 

- $B \subseteq A$  is false.
- $C \subset A$  is true.
- $C \subseteq B$  is false.
- $C \subseteq C$  is true.

Cartesian Product of sets Let A and B be sets. The Cartesian product of A and B, denoted  $A \times B$ , is the set of all ordered pairs (a, b) such that  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ .

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) | a \in A, b \in B\}$$

**Example** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and B = u, v.

$$A \times B = \{(1, u), (1, v), (2, u), (2, v), (3, u), (3, v)\}$$
  
$$A \times A = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3)\}$$

#### 1.3 Relations and Functions

**Relations** Let A and B be sets. A **relation** from A to B is a subset of the Cartesian product  $A \times B$ .

$$R \subseteq A \times B$$

- If  $(x,y) \in R$ , we say that x is related to y by R, denoted as xRy.
- A is in the domain of R
- B is the codomain of R

**Example** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $B = \{1, 2\}$  and define a relation R from A to B as follows:

$$(x,y) \in R \iff \frac{x+y}{2} \in \mathbb{Z}$$
 $R = \{(1,1), (1,2), (2,1), (2,2), (3,1)\}$ 
Domain of  $R = \{1,2,3\}$ 
Codomain of  $R = \{1,2\}$ 

#### **Functions**

**Definition** Let A and B be two sets. A function F from A to B is a relation with domain A and co-domain B that satisfies the following properties:

- For every element  $x \in A$ , there is an element  $y \in B$  such  $(x,y) \in F$
- For every element  $x \in A$ ,

**Example** Let  $A = \{2, 4, 6\}$  and  $B = \{1, 3, 5\}$ . Which of the relations defined below are functions from A to B?

- $R = \{(2,5), (4,1), (4,3), (6,5)\}$ 
  - Not a function because 4 is related to 1 and 3. This is not a many-to-one relationship.
- For all  $(x.y) \in A \times B, (x,y) \in S \iff y = x+1$ 
  - $S = \{(2,3), (4,5)\}$  is a function from A to B.
- $T = \{(2,5), (4,1), (6,1)\}$ 
  - $-\ T$  is a function from A to B as A has a many-to-one relationshop with B.

# Equivalent Functions

Let A and B be two sets. Two functions f and g from A to B:

$$f = g \iff f(x) = g(x) \quad \forall \quad x \in A$$

# 2. The Logic of Compound Statements

## 2.1 Logical Form and Equivalence

### Arguments

**Definition** An arguement is a sequence of statements aimed at demonstrating the truth of an assertion.

- The assertion at the end of the sequence is called the conclusion.
- The statements that support the conclusion are called premises.
- If the premises are true, the conclusion must also be true.

#### Example

- If student A is a math major or student A is a computer science major,
- Then student A will take Discrete Math.

# Logical Statements

**Definition** A logical statement is a declarative sentence that is either true or false, but not both.

- Not p:  $\neg p$
- p and/but q:  $p \wedge q$
- p or q:  $p \lor q$
- Neither p nor q:  $\neg p \land \neg q$

**Example** h = healthy, w = wealthy, s = wise

- John is healthy and wealthy but not wise.
  - $(h \wedge w) \wedge \neg s$
- John is neither wealthy nor wise, but he is healthy
  - $(\neg w \wedge \neg s) \wedge h$

# Equivalent Statements

**Definition** Two logical statements are equivalent if they have the same truth tables, denoted:

$$p \equiv q$$

**De Morgan's Laws** The negation  $(\neg)$  of an and statement is logically equivalent to the or statement of the negations. Similarly, the negation of an or statement is logically equivalent to the and statement of the negations.

- $\bullet \ \neg (p \land q) \equiv \neg p \lor \neg q$
- $\neg (p \lor q) \equiv \neg p \land \neg q$

#### Tautological and Condtradictory Statements

- A tautological statement is a statement that is always true.
- A contradictory statement is a statement that is always false.

#### 2.2 Conditional Statements

**Definition** A Conditional statement is in the form "If p, then q" and is denoted as  $p \implies q$  This is read as p implies q.

- $\bullet$  p is the **hypothesis** of the statement.
- $\bullet$  q is the **conclusion** of the statement.

#### Order of Operations

- (): parentheses
- ¬: negation
- \langle \tau \cdots \
- $\Longrightarrow$ : implication

## **Equivalent of Conditional Statements**

$$p \implies q \equiv \neg p \lor q$$
$$\neg (p \implies q) \equiv p \land \neg q$$

**Example** Find the negation of the following statement: "If my car is in the repair shop then I cannot go to class".

- Hypothesis (p): "My car is in the repair shop"
- Conclusion (q): "I cannot go to class"
- Convert:  $p \implies q \equiv \neg p \lor q$
- Negation:  $\neg(p \implies q) \equiv \neg(\neg p \lor q) \equiv p \land \neg q$
- Convert back: "My car is in the repair shop and I can go to class"

**Negation vs Inverse** The negation of a statement is NOT the same as the inverse of the statement.

• Negation:  $\neg(p \implies q)$ 

• Inverse:  $\neg p \implies \neg q$ 

**Example** If p is a square, then p is a rectangle.

• Hypothesis (p): "p is a square"

• Conclusion (q): "p is a rectangle"

• Negation:  $\neg(p \implies q) \equiv p \land \neg q$ 

• Convert back: "p is a square and p is not a rectangle"

• Inverse:  $\neg p \implies \neg q \equiv p \vee \neg q$ 

• Convert: "If p is not a square, then p is not a rectangle"

### More statement types

• Contrapositive of  $p \implies q \equiv \neg q \implies \neg p$ 

• Converse of  $p \implies q \equiv q \implies p$ 

• Inverse of  $p \implies q \equiv \neg p \implies \neg q$ 

**Example** If today is Easter then tomorrow is Monday.

 $\bullet$  Hypothesis (p): "Today is Easter"

• Conclusion (q): "Tomorrow is Monday"

• Convert:  $p \implies q$ 

• Contrapositive:  $\neg q \implies \neg p \equiv \text{If tomorrow is not Monday, then today is not Easter}$ 

• Converse:  $q \implies p \equiv \text{If tomorrow}$  is Monday, then today is Easter

• Inverse:  $\neg p \implies \neg q \equiv \text{If today is not Easter}$ , then tomorrow is not Monday

**Biconditional Statements** A biconditional statement is in the form "p if and only if q" and is denoted as  $p \iff q$ . This is read as p if and only if q.

$$p \iff q \equiv (p \implies q) \land (q \implies p) \tag{1}$$

Sufficient and Necessary Conditions If r and s are statements:

- r is a sufficient condition for s if  $r \implies s$ .
- r is a necessary condition for s if  $s \implies r$  or  $s \implies r$ .
- r is a necessary and sufficient condition for s if  $r \iff s$ .

# 2.3 Valid and Invalid Arguments

**Definition** An **argument** is a sequence of statements, and an **argument** form is a sequence of statement form.

- The final statement or statement form is called the **conclusion**. The symbol ∴ (therefore) is used to denote the conclusion.
- All the preceding statements or statement forms are called **premises**, or assumptions or hypotheses.
- An argument form is **valid** means if all premises are true, then the conclusion must also be true.

**Example** Determine whether the following argument form is valid or invalid:

$$\begin{array}{c} p \implies q \vee \neg r \\ q \implies p \wedge r \\ \therefore p \implies r \end{array}$$

| p | q | r | $p \implies (q \vee \neg r)$ | $q \implies (p \wedge r)$ | $p \implies r$ | Valid?  |
|---|---|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------|
| T | Т | Т | Т                            | T                         | Τ              | Valid   |
| T | Т | F | F                            | m T                       | F              | Invalid |
| T | F | Т | ${ m T}$                     | F                         | ${ m T}$       | Invalid |
| T | F | F | F                            | F                         | F              | Invalid |
| F | Т | Т | ${ m T}$                     | F                         | ${ m T}$       | Invalid |
| F | Т | F | T                            | F                         | ${ m T}$       | Invalid |
| F | F | Т | T                            | F                         | ${ m T}$       | Invalid |
| F | F | F | Т                            | F                         | ${ m T}$       | Invalid |

Therefore the argument form is invalid.

# Syllogisms

**Definition** An argument form with two premisies are called syllogism. The firest and second premises are called the major premise and minor premise respectively.

**Modus Ponens** Modus Ponens is a valid argument form that can be expressed as:

$$\begin{array}{c} p \implies q \\ p \\ \vdots q \end{array}$$

This means that if  $p \implies q$  (if p then q) is true, and p is true, then we can conclude that q must also be true.

**Example** If there are more pigeons than there are pigeonholes, then at least two pigeons roost in the same hole.

There are more pigeons than there are pigeonholes.

∴ At least two pigeons roost in the same hole.

**Modus Tollens** Modus Tollens is a valid argument form that can be expressed as:

$$\begin{array}{c}
p \implies q \\
\neg q \\
\therefore \neg p
\end{array}$$

This means that if  $p \implies q$  (if p then q) is true, and q is false, then we can conclude that p must also be false.

Rules of Inference A rule of inference is a form of argument that is valid. Both modus ponens and modus tollens are rules of inference. The following are additional examples of rules of inference:

|                |   | V-27001 - CC   V-070 | The second second second  |
|----------------|---|----------------------|---|
| Modus Ponens   | $p \rightarrow q$ $p$ $\therefore q$                                    | Elimination          | a. $p \lor q$ b. $p \lor q$ $\sim q \qquad \sim p$ $\therefore p \qquad \therefore q$ |
| Modus Tollens  | $ \begin{array}{c} p \to q \\ \sim q \\ \therefore \sim p \end{array} $ | Transitivity         | $p \to q$ $q \to r$ $\therefore p \to r$  |
| Generalization | a. $p$ b. $q$ $\therefore p \lor q$ $\therefore p \lor q$               | -                    | $p \lor q \\ p \to r$   |
| Specialization | a. $p \wedge q$ b. $p \wedge q$ $\therefore p$                          |                      | <i>q</i> → <i>r</i><br>∴ <i>r</i>   |
| Conjunction    | p<br>q<br>∴p∧q  | Contradiction Rule   | $\sim p \rightarrow c$ (contradiction $\therefore p$                                  |

Prove by Detachment Prove by contrapositive Disjunctive of syllogism Law of Syllogism

# Contradictions

**Definition** A contradiction is a statement that is always false.

$$\neg p \implies c$$
$$\therefore p$$

**2 column rule** The 2 column rule is a way to prove by contradiction. For example with knights and knaves. Knights always tell the truth and knaves always lie:

- A says B is a knight
- B says A and I are of opposite types

# Suppose A is a knight:

| What A says must be true          | By the definition of a knight     |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| B is a knight                     | by given (what A says)            |
| What B says must be true          | By the definition of a knight     |
| A and B are of opposite types     | by given (what B says)            |
| Contradiction                     | A is not a knight or A is a knave |
| The supposition is false          | by rule of contradiction          |
| A is not a knight or A is a knave | by negation of supposition.       |

# 3. The Logic of Quantified Statements

# 3.1 Predicates and Quantified Statements (Part 1)

#### **Predicates**

**Definition** A predicate is a sentence that contains a finite number of variables and becomes a statement when specific values are substituted for the variables. For example: "P(x): x is a positive integer" is a predicate. The statement P(3) is true, while P(-2) is false.

**Domain of a Predicate** The Domain of a predicate is the set of all values that can be substituted for the variable.

**Example** Let P(x) be the predicate " $x^2 > x$ ." The domain of P(x) is  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$P(\frac{1}{2}): (\frac{1}{2})^2 > \frac{1}{2}$$
 = False  
 $P(-\frac{1}{2}): (-\frac{1}{2})^2 > -\frac{1}{2}$  = True  
 $P(2): 2^2 > 2$  = True

#### Truth Sets

**Definition** If P(x) is a predicate with domain D, the truth set of P(x) is the set of all elements in D for which P(x) is true when they are substituted for x. The truth set of P(x) is denoted by:

$$\{x\in D\ni P(x)\}\subseteq D$$

**Example** Let P(x) be the predicate " $n^2 \le 30$ " with domain  $\mathbb{Z}$ . The truth set of P(x) is:

$${x \in \mathbb{Z} \ni P(x)} = {-5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5}$$

### Quantified Statements

**Definition** A quantified statement is a statement that contains a quantifier. The two most common quantifiers are:

- Universal Quantifier  $\forall$  (for all)
- Existential Quantifier ∃ (there exists)

**Universal Statements** Let P(x) be a predicate with domain D. A universal statement is a statement of the form " $\forall x \in D, P(x)$ " which is read as "for all x in D, P(x) is true."

- It is defined to be true if and only if P(x) is true for all x in D.
- It is defined to be false if and only if P(x) is false for at least one x in D.
- The value of x for which P(x) is false is called a counterexample.

**Example** Let  $D = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , and show that the statement " $\forall x \in D, x^2 \ge x$ " is true.

$$1^2 \ge 1$$
 is true  $2^2 \ge 2$  is true  $3^2 \ge 3$  is true  $\therefore \forall x \in D, x^2 \ge x$  is true.

**Existential Statements** Let P(x) be a predicate with domain D. An existential statement is a statement of the form " $\exists x \in D \ni P(x)$ " which is read as "there exists an x in D such that P(x) is true."

- It is defined to be true if and only if P(x) is true for at least one x in D.
- It is defined to be false if and only if P(x) is false for all x in D.
- The value of x for which P(x) is true is called a witness.

**Example** Show that the statement " $\exists x \in \mathbb{Z} \ni \frac{1}{x} = x$ " is true.

$$x = 1 : \frac{1}{1} = 1$$
 is true  
 $\therefore \exists x \in \mathbb{Z} \ni \frac{1}{x} = x$  is true.

**Universal Conditional Statements** A universal conditional statement is a statement of the form " $\forall x \in D, P(x) \implies Q(x)$ " which is read as "for all x in D, if P(x) is true, then Q(x) is true."

# 3.2 Predicates and Quantified Statements (Part 2)

Negations of Quantified Statements

Negation of a Universal Statement

$$\neg(\forall x \in D, P(x)) \equiv \exists x \in D \ni \neg P(x)$$

Negation of an Existential Statement

$$\neg(\exists x \in D \ni P(x)) \equiv \forall x \in D, \neg P(x)$$

Negation of a Universal Conditional Statement

$$\neg(\forall x \in D, P(x) \implies Q(x)) \equiv \exists x \in D \ni P(x) \land \neg Q(x)$$

Consider the statement:  $\forall x \in D, P(x) \implies Q(x)$ .

It's contrapositive is:  $\forall x \in D, \neg Q(x) \implies \neg P(x)$ 

It's converse is:  $\forall x \in D, Q(x) \implies P(x)$ 

It's inverse is:  $\forall x \in D, \neg P(x) \implies \neg Q(x)$ 

# 3.3 Statements with Multiple Quantifiers

Consider the statement:  $\forall x \in D, \exists y \in E \ni P(x,y)$ . To show the truth of the statement, we must show that for every x in D, there exists a y in D such that P(x,y) is true.

**Example** Let  $D = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and P(x, y) be the predicate "x + y = 4". Show that the statement  $\forall x \in D, \exists y \in D \ni P(x, y)$  is true.

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 1: & \exists y \in D \ni 1 + y = 4 \implies y = 3 \\ x &= 2: & \exists y \in D \ni 2 + y = 4 \implies y = 2 \\ x &= 3: & \exists y \in D \ni 3 + y = 4 \implies y = 1 \\ & \therefore & \forall x \in D, \exists y \in D \ni P(x,y) \text{ is true.} \end{aligned}$$

Consider the statement:  $\exists x \in D \ni \forall y \in D, P(x, y)$ . To show the truth of the statement, we must show that there exists an x in D such that for every y in D, P(x, y) is true.

**Example** Let  $D = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and P(x, y) be the predicate "x + y = 4". Show that the statement  $\exists x \in D \ni \forall y \in P, P(x, y)$  is false.

$$x = 1: \quad \forall y \in D, 1 + y = 4 \implies y = 3$$
  
 $x = 2: \quad \forall y \in D, 2 + y = 4 \implies y = 2$   
 $x = 3: \quad \forall y \in D, 3 + y = 4 \implies y = 1$   
 $\therefore \quad \exists x \in D \ni \forall y \in D, P(x, y) \text{ is false.}$ 

**Negation of Multiply-Quantified Statements** 

$$\neg(\forall x \in D, \exists y \in E \ni P(x,y)) \equiv \exists x \in D \ni \forall y \in E, \neg P(x,y))$$
$$\neg(\exists x \in D, \ni \forall y \in E, P(x,y)) \equiv \forall x \in D, \exists y \in E \ni \neg P(x,y)$$

# 3.4 Arguments with Quantified Statements

# Universal Model Ponens (Direct Proof)

$$\forall x, P(x) \implies Q(x)$$
 If  $x$  makes  $P(x)$  true, then  $x$  makes  $Q(x)$  true.

 $P(a)$  Input  $a$  makes  $P(a)$  true.

$$\therefore$$
  $Q(a)$  Therefore  $a$  makes  $Q(a)$  true.

**Example** Let P(x) be the predicate "x is a prime number" and Q(x) be the predicate "x is an odd number".

$$\forall x, P(x) \implies Q(x)$$
 If  $x$  is a prime number, then  $x$  is an odd number.  $P(3)$  3 is a prime number, therefore 3 is an odd number.

Universal Modus Tollens (Prove by Contradiction)

$$\forall x, P(x) \implies Q(x)$$
 If  $x$  makes  $P(x)$  true, then  $x$  makes  $Q(x)$  true.  $\neg Q(a)$  Input  $a$  makes  $Q(a)$  false.  $\therefore \neg P(a)$  Therefore  $a$  does not make  $P(a)$  true.

**Example** Consider the statement "All irrational numbers are real numbers.":

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}, x \in \mathbb{R} \qquad \text{If $x$ is an irrational number, then $x$ is a real number.}$$
 
$$\frac{1}{0} \notin \mathbb{R}$$
 
$$\frac{1}{0} \text{ is not a real number,}$$
 
$$\therefore \quad \frac{1}{0} \notin \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$$
 therefore  $\frac{1}{0}$  is not an irrational number.

#### Converse and Inverse Errors

#### Converse Error

$$\forall x, P(x) \implies Q(x)$$
  $Q(a) : P(a)$ (Invalid Arguement)

# Inverse Error

$$\forall x, P(x) \implies Q(x) \qquad \neg P(a) :. \quad \neg Q(a) \text{(Invalid Arguement)}$$

# 4. Elementary Number Theory and Methods of Proof

# 4.1 Direct Proof and Counterexample (Part 1)

**Definitions** Let P(n) be the predicate "n is an even number".

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}, P(n) \iff \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} \ni n = 2k.$$
$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}, \neg P(n) \iff \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} \ni n = 2k + 1.$$

Example Is -301 even or odd?

$$-301 = 2k + 1$$
 for  $k = -151$ 

**Example** If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , is  $6a^2b$  even?

$$\exists a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \ni 6a^2b = 2(k) + 1$$
  
 $6a^2b = 2(3a^2b) \text{ for } k = 3a^2b$   
 $6a^2b \text{ is even.}$ 

**Prime and Composite Number Definition** Let P(n) be the predicate "n is a prime number".

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}, P(n) \iff \forall r, s \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}, n = rs \implies r = n \lor s = n$$
  
$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}, \neg P(n) \iff \exists r, s \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1} \ni n = rs \land 1 < r < n \land 1 < s < n$$

Constructive Proof of Existential Statement

$$\exists x in D \ni Q(x)$$

- Find an x in D that makes !(x) true.
- Give a set of directions for finding such an x in D

**Example** Prove there is and even integer n such that n can be written in two ways as a sum of two prime numbers.

Let 
$$n = 10$$
,  
 $10 = 3 + 7$   
 $10 = 5 + 5$ 

 $\therefore$  the statement is true.

# Disproving Universal Statement by Counterexample

$$\forall x in D, P(x) \implies Q(x)$$

• Find an x in D that makes P(x) true, but Q(x) false.

Method of Exhaustion of Proving Universal Statement

$$\forall x in D, P(x) \implies Q(x)$$

• Check all x in D to make sure that when P(x) is true, Q(x) is false.

#### Direct Proof of Universal Statement

$$\forall x \in D, P(x) \implies Q(x)$$

- Suppose x is an arbitrary element in D for which the hypothesis P(x) is true.
- Using definitions or previously established results and rules to conclude Q(x) is true.

**Example** Prove the statement "the sum of any two even integers is even."

Suppose a and b are two even integers

$$\therefore a = 2k, \exists k_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\therefore b = 2k, \exists k_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\therefore a+b=2k_1+2k_2$$

$$\therefore a + b = 2(k_1 + k_2)$$

$$\therefore$$
  $a+b$  is even