

Discrete Mathematics

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Preface

Mathematics possesses not only truth, but supreme beauty, a beauty cold and austere, like that of a sculpture, and capable of stern perfection, such as only great art can show.

—Bertrand Russell

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Proofs

What is a proof? A proof is a method for ascertaining the truth.

- Experimentation and Observation
- Sampling and counter-examples
- Judge, jury
- Word of god(religion)
- Word of your boss, or a client.
- The professor.
- Inner Conviction.
- I don't see why not.

What is a mathematical proof? A mathematical proof is a verification of a set of propositions by a chain of logical deductions from a set of axioms.

Def. A proposition is a statement that is either true or false.

ex. $2 + 3 = 5$

ex. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n^2 + n + 41$ is a prime number

Predicate in the above case is ($n^2 + n + 41$ is a prime number). The predicate is a proposition whose truth depends on the value of variable(s).