Abbot Chapter 1 Section 1

Heman Gandhi 2024-10-22

Exercise 1.2.1-a

This follows the exercise_1_2_1 section in Lean, so might be overly detailed. I'm also pretentiously going to use lemmas that correspond to the Lean theorems.

Lemma. *First, we show that for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we know that there is an $x \in \mathbb{N}$ so that $3x = n$, $3x+1 = n$, or $3x+2 = n$.*

Proof. We proceed by induction, showing that $3 \cdot 0 = 0$, then if the statement holds for n, we proceed by cases and show that for the same x we reached for n, we either have $3x+1 = n+1$, $3x+2 = n+1$, or $3(x+1) = n+1$. □

Lemma. *If $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $3 \nmid n$ if and only if for some $x \in \mathbb{N}$, $3x+1 = n$ or $3x+2 = n$.*

Proof. We can prove the forward direction by the above statement: since $3x = n$ would contradict the assumption that $3 \nmid n$.

The reverse direction is simplest by contradiction: if we have the x with remainder 1 or 2, we cannot find some y so that $3y = n$, since we'd form the equation $3(y-x) = r$ for r being 1 or 2, which is absurd since 3 cannot divide a non-zero number less than itself. □

For the final lemma: we show that

Lemma. *For $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ if $3 \mid ab$, $3 \mid a$ or $3 \mid b$.*

Proof. We show the contrapositive: assuming $3 \nmid a$ and $3 \nmid b$, we have $3x_a + r_a = a$ and $3x_b + r_b = b$ for $x_a, x_b \in \mathbb{N}$ and $r_a, r_b \in \{1, 2\}$ from the forward direction of the above. We compute ab with the above in all four cases:

1. if $r_a, r_b = 1$, then $ab = 9x_ax_b + 3x_a + 3x_b + 1 = 3(3x_ax_b + x_a + x_b) + 1$;
2. if $r_a = 1, r_b = 2$, then $ab = 9x_ax_b + 6x_a + 3x_b + 1 = 3(3x_ax_b + 2x_a + x_b) + 2$;
3. if $r_a = 2, r_b = 1$, then $ab = 9x_ax_b + 3x_a + 6x_b + 1 = 3(3x_ax_b + x_a + 2x_b) + 2$;
4. if $r_a, r_b = 2$, then $ab = 9x_ax_b + 6x_a + 6x_b + 4 = 3(3x_ax_b + 2x_a + 2x_b + 1) + 1$.

In all the cases, we can express $ab = 3y + r$ for $y \in \mathbb{N}$ and $r \in \{1, 2\}$ and apply the backwards direction of the lemma above to conclude $3 \nmid ab$, showing the contrapositive. □

Lemma. *$\sqrt{3}$ is irrational.*

Proof. For contradiction, let $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\frac{a^2}{b^2} = 3$. Without loss of generality, we can assume that a and b don't share factors. Rewriting this as $a^2 = 3b^2$, we see that $3 \mid a^2$, so the above gives us that $3 \mid a$. Hence, we write $a = 3d$, so $a^2 = 9d^2 = 3b^2$, which means that $b^2 = 3d^2$, so $3 \mid b$. This contradicts the assumption that a and b don't share factors. □