

Math 109 Homework 1

Problem 1 (Eccles I.4, p.53). Prove the following statements concerning positive integers a , b , and c .

- (i) $(a \text{ divides } b) \text{ and } (a \text{ divides } c) \implies a \text{ divides } (b + c)$.
- (ii) $(a \text{ divides } b) \text{ or } (b \text{ divides } c) \implies a \text{ divides } bc$.

Solution. (i)

We assume the hypothesis $(a \text{ divides } b)$ and $(a \text{ divides } c)$ to be true and deduce the validity of the conclusion $a \text{ divides } (b + c)$ to be true.

Using *definition 2.2.1*, b is a multiple of a for certain integers q ($b = aq$) and c is a multiple of a for some integer p ($c = ap$).

Hence $b + c = aq + ap$ which $= a(q + p)$ using the distributivity operation. Since $b + c$ can be seen as a multiple of a , it is divisible by a . Also q and p are both integers, the addition of integers results in an integer.

Thus if $(a \text{ divides } b)$ and $(a \text{ divides } c)$ then $a \text{ divides } (b + c)$. \square

(ii)

Suppose $(a \text{ divides } b)$ or $(a \text{ divides } c)$ to be true and deduce $a \text{ divides } bc$ to be true. Since the hypothesis uses the 'or' connective, we would prove the argument to be true in two cases.

First, since $a \text{ divides } b$, b would be a multiple a of a certain integer q ($b = aq$). Thus if $b = aq$, then $a \text{ divides } (aq)c$, $a \text{ divides } a(qc)$. Therefore $a \text{ divides } bc$, since the product of two integers q and c is an integer.

Second, since $a \text{ divides } c$, c is a multiple of a for a certain integer q ($c = aq$). Thus if $c = aq$, $a \text{ divides } b(aq)$, $a \text{ divides } a(bq)$. Therefore $a \text{ divides } bc$, since the product of two integers b and q is an integer.

Therefore, if $(a \text{ divides } b)$ or $(a \text{ divides } c)$ then $a \text{ divides } bc$. \square

Problem 2 (Eccles I.6, p. 54). Use the properties of addition and multiplication of real numbers given in Properties 2.3.1 to deduce that, for all real numbers a and b ,

- (i) $a \times 0 = 0 = 0 \times a$,
- (ii) $(-a)b = -ab = a(-b)$,
- (iii) $(-a)(-b) = ab$.

Solution. (i)

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &= 0 + 0 (\text{zero law}) \\
 a \times 0 &= a \times (0 + 0) \\
 a \times 0 &= a \times 0 + a \times 0 (\text{distributive property}) \\
 a \times 0 - a \times 0 &= a \times 0 \\
 0 &= a \times 0 \\
 0 &= 0 \times a (\text{commutative property})
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore it is proven, $a \times 0 = 0 = 0 \times a$ is a true statement. \square

(answer derived from Sangil Kim, traded homework 2 question 3 part i for this.)

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Let } a + (-a) &= 0 (\text{subtraction property}) \\
 b(a + (-a)) &= b(0) \\
 ab + (-a)b &= 0 (\text{distribution property}) \\
 ab + (-a)b - ab &= 0 - ab \\
 (-a)b &= -ab
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore it is proven, $(-a)b = -ab = a(-b)$. \square

(iii)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Let } a + (-a) &= 0 (\text{subtraction law}) \\
 a(-b) + (-a)(-b) &= 0 (\text{distribution law}) \\
 -(ab) + (-a)(-b) &= 0 (\text{associativity law}) \\
 -(ab) + (-a)(-b) + ab &= 0 + ab \\
 (-a)(-b) &= ab
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, it is proven $(-a)(-b) = ab$. \square

Problem 3 (Eccles I.10, p. 54). What is wrong with the following proof that 1 is the largest integer?

Let n be the largest integer. Then, since 1 is an integer we must have $1 \leq n$. On the other hand, since n^2 is also an integer we must have $n^2 \leq n$ from which it follows that $n \leq 1$. Thus, since $1 \leq n$ and $n \leq 1$ we must have $n = 1$. Thus 1 is the largest integer as claimed.

What does this argument prove?

Solution. Looking at the proof, we find that the hypothesis is false since there cannot be a largest integer and hence the conclusion that 1 is the largest integer is false even though the proof is valid (proof by contradiction that there is no largest integer).

Therefore, this argument does not prove anything. \square

Problem 4 (Eccles I.19, p. 56). Prove that

$$\prod_{i=2}^n \left(1 - \frac{1}{i^2}\right) = \frac{n+1}{2n}$$

for integers $n \geq 2$.

Solution. *Proof* We use induction on n .

Base case:

$$\text{for } n = 2, \prod_{i=2}^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{i^2}\right) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^2}\right) = \frac{3}{4}$$

and

$$\frac{n+1}{2n} = \frac{2+1}{2 \cdot 2} = \frac{3}{4}$$

and so the result holds.

Inductive step:

Suppose as inductive hypothesis that

$$\prod_{i=2}^n \left(1 - \frac{1}{i^2}\right) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^2}\right) = \frac{3}{4} \text{ for integers } n \leq 2.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{i=2}^{n+1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{i^2}\right) &= \prod_{i=2}^n \left(1 - \frac{1}{i^2}\right) * \prod_{i=n+1}^{n+1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{i^2}\right) \\ &= \frac{n+1}{2n} * \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1^2}\right) \\ &= \frac{n+1}{2n} * \frac{(n+1^2) - 1}{(n+1^2)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2n} * \frac{n^2 + 2n + 1 - 1}{n+1} \\ &= \frac{1}{2n} * \frac{n(n+2)}{n+1} \\ &= \frac{n+2}{2(n+1)} \\ &= \frac{n+(1+1)}{2(n+1)} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)+1}{2n+2} \end{aligned}$$

As required to prove the result for $n+1$.

Hence the result holds for all $n \leq 2$. \square

Problem 5 (Eccles I.21, p. 56). Suppose that x is a real number such that $x + 1/x$ is an integer. Prove by induction on n that $x^n + 1/x^n$ is an integer for all positive integers n . [For the inductive step consider $(x^k + 1/x^k)(x + 1/x)$.]

Solution. Proof We use strong induction on n to prove that the statement produces an integer.

Base case:

Since $x^1 + \frac{1}{x^1}$ is assumed to be an integer, case is proved.

Inductive step:

Now suppose as an inductive hypothesis that $x^k + \frac{1}{x^k}$ is an integer for all $k = 1, \dots, n$.

Then,

$$(x^n + \frac{1}{x^n})(x + \frac{1}{x}) = x^{n+1} + \frac{1}{x^{n+1}} + x^{n-1} + \frac{1}{x^{n-1}}$$

Since $x^k + \frac{1}{x^k}$ is an integer for all $k = 1, \dots, n$, $x^{n-1} + \frac{1}{x^{n-1}}$ and hence $x^{n+1} + \frac{1}{x^{n+1}}$ are integers.

Therefore, by strong induction, $x^n + \frac{1}{x^n}$ is an integer for all positive integers n . \square

Problem 6 (Eccles I.25, p. 57). Let u_n be the n th Fibonacci number (Definition 5.4.2). Prove, by *induction on n* (without using the Binet formula Proposition 5.4.3), that

$$u_{m+n} = u_{m-1}u_n + u_mu_{n+1}$$

for all positive integers m and n .

Deduce, again using induction on n , that u_m divides u_{mn} .

Solution. Base case:

$U_1 = 1, U_2 = 1, U_3 = 2$ let $n = 1$

$$U_{m+1} = U_{m-1}U_1 + U_{m-1}U_{1+1}$$

$$U_{m+1} = U_{m-1} + U_m$$

therefore case $n=1$ is proved true
using $n=2$,

$$\begin{aligned}U_{m+2} &= U_{m-1}U_2 + U_mU_3 \\U_{m+2} &= U_{m-1}(1) + U_m(2) \\U_{m+2} &= U_{m-1} + U_m + U_m \\U_{m+2} &= U_{m+1} + U_m\end{aligned}$$

Since $n=1$ and $n=2$ are proven true, base case is proved.

Inductive step:

suppose the formula holds true for all positive integers n and thus serves as our induction hypothesis. Then using the *Fibonacci definition*, we find the $n + 1$ case

$$\begin{aligned}U_{m+(n+1)} &= U_{(m+n)+1} = U_{(m+n)-1} + U_{m+n} \\&= (U_{m-1}U_{n-1} + U_nU_n) + (U_{m-1}U_n + U_mU_{n+1}) \\&= U_{m-1}U_{n+1} + U_mU_{n+2}\end{aligned}$$

as required to prove the formula for $n = k + 1$

Conclusion: Hence by induction, the following formula holds for all positive integers m and n . \square

(understanding and solution courtesy of Arden and Matthew)

Base case for u_m divides u_{mn} :

let $n=1$

$$u_m \text{ divides } u_{m(1)} = u_m \text{ divides } u_m = 1$$

since solution is an integer 1, u_m divides u_{mn} . Thus base case is proved.

Inductive step for u_m divides u_{mn} :

$$\begin{aligned}
 U_{m(n+1)} = U_{m+mn} &= U_{m-1}U_{mn} + U_m(U_{mn+1}) \\
 &= U_{m-1}(U_{mn+1}) - U_{m-1}(U_{mn-1}) + U_m(U_{mn+1}) \\
 &= U_{mn+1}(U_{m-1} + U_m) - U_{m-1}(U_{mn-1}) \\
 &= U_{m+1}(U_{mn+1}) - U_{m-1}(U_{mn-1}) \\
 &= U_{m+1}(U_{mn+1}) - (U_{m+1} - U_m)(U_{mn+1} - U_{mn}) \\
 &= U_{m+1}(U_{mn+1}) - (U_{m+1}U_{mn+1} - U_{m+1}U_{mn} - U_mU_{mn+1} + U_mU_{mn}) \\
 &= U_{m+1}U_{mn} + U_mU_{mn+1} - U_mU_{mn}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore it is proven by strong induction that $U_{m(n+1)}$ is divisible by U_m . \square
(from Sangil Kim)