

Problem 1 (10 pts)

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Prove or disprove $a \mid b^2 \Rightarrow a \mid b$

Counter Example:

$a = 8, b = 4$.

$8 \mid 16$ – Yes, this is true.

$8 \mid 4$ – This can't possibly be true, because a number cannot evenly divide into a number smaller than it.

Problem 2 (10 pts)

Let $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$, where $12 \mid (7x + 3y)$ and $12 \mid (2z)$. Prove that $12 \mid (-10x + 6y - 10z + 48)$.

Since $12 \mid (7x + 3y)$, we know that $12 = m(7x+3y)$, for some integer m . Since $12 \mid (2z)$, we know that $12 = n(2z)$, for some integer n .

So, we can effectively split the equation we want to prove into two parts, then fill in $12c$ everywhere $7x+3y$ or $2z$ occurs.

$$\begin{aligned} -10x + 6y &= (7x+3y) + (7x+3y) + 24x \\ &= (12c) + (12c) + 24 \\ &= 12(c+c+24) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $12 \mid -10x + 6y$.

$$\begin{aligned} -10z + 48 &= -5(2z) + 48 \\ &= -5(12c) + 48 \\ &= 12(-5c + 4) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $12 \mid -10z + 48$.

Finally, based on Theorem 4.1.1, and definition of divisibility if $a \mid b$ and $a \mid c$, then $a \mid b+c$. So $12 \mid (-10x + 6y - 10z + 48)$

Problem 3 (20 pts)

The n^{th} triangle number is given by the equation:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i$$

Prove that the n^{th} triangle number is odd if $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ or $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$.

Hint: Use the following identity to aid in your proof:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

We know that since n is logically equivalent to 1, when modded by 4, we get the equation $n = 4x+1$. Likewise, n could also be equal to $n = 4x + 2$.

Now, let's plug in n for both scenarios.

Left:

$$(4x+1)(4x+2) / 2$$

$$\text{This is equal to } 16x^2 + 12x + 2 / 2 = 8x^2 + 6x + 1$$

$$\text{Now let's factor out a 2. } 2(4x^2 + 3x) + 1.$$

Since the entire equation can be created by multiplying by 2, but with an extra plus 1 at the end, the number must be odd.

Right:

$$(4x+2)(4x+3) / 2 = (16x^2 + 20x + 6) / 2$$

$$= 8x^2 + 10x + 3 = 8x^2 + 10x + 2 + 1$$

$$= 2(4x^2 + 5x + 1) + 1.$$

Since the entire equation can be created by multiplying by 2, but with an extra plus 1 at the end, the number must be odd, and the statement holds.

Problem 4 (10 pts)

Prove or disprove that $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ is a perfect square if and only if all the exponents in n 's prime factorization are even.

Note: An integer n is a perfect square if and only if $n = v^2$ for some $v \in \mathbb{Z}$.

By the definition of a perfect square, $n = v^2$.

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Check 3,7,10

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We want to prove if all exponents in n 's prime factorization are even, then n is a perfect square.

If all of n 's exponents are even, n can be written such that $n = x^{2k}$, or $n = (x^k)^2$.

Since, the number can be expressed as a number squared, I know that if x is a perfect square, it's exponents must be even, by definition of perfect square.

We also want to prove that n is a perfect square if it's exponents are all even.

Let us plug in both odd powers and even powers to see if this holds true.

$$n = v^{2k}$$

$$n = (v^k)^2$$

Thus, if the exponents are even, the number can be expressed as a number squared, and thus it must be a perfect square.

Now for the odd numbers:

$$n = v^{2k+1}$$

This can be expressed as $n = (v^k)^2(v)$.

This means that no matter what odd number we plug in, there will always be an extra variable hanging off of the end, so we cannot express n as a number squared, therefore all odd numbered powers cannot be perfect squares.

Problem 5 (10 pts)

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Prove or disprove that if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ then a cannot divide b .

Let $a = 1$, and $b = 1$. Since $\gcd(1, 1) = 1$, and 1 divides into 1, this must be false.

B can actually be any number in this case, because 1 divides into any number. Thus, the above statement is false.

Problem 6 (10 pts)

Let $a, b \in \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x > 1\}$. Prove or disprove that if $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ then a cannot divide b .

If the \gcd of two numbers $= 1$, by definition, this means that the largest integer d such that $d \mid a$ and $d \mid b$, is called the greatest common divisor of a and b is equal to 1. This means that a and b are relatively prime, and since neither value can be one, they cannot divide into each other.

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Mathematically, according to Euclid's algorithm, you can do the following:

$$\text{Gcd}(a,b) = b\%a.$$

By definition of modulus division, if you divide out one number by another, then grab the remainder, the number you divided out cannot possibly be the remainder.

Problem 7 (15 pts)

Prove or disprove for an arbitrary prime number p there exists some composite number q where $\text{gcd}(p, p + q) > 1$.

Since 1 is prime, let $p = 1$, let $q =$ any composite number.

Well, the $\text{gcd}(1, \text{any composite number}) = 1$, since that is the only prime factor that both of them share. Thus, this statement must be false.

Problem 8 (10 pts)

Find the smallest integer that is divisible by all numbers in the set $\{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid 1 \leq x \leq 10\}$. Show how you derived your result.

The set: $\{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10\}$

Let's prime factorize each composite number, and we shall leave the others since they are prime.

Prime factorized set: $\{1,2,3,2^2,5,3^1 2^1, 7, 2^3, 3^2, 2^1 5^1\}$

Thus, we need a minimum of $2^3 (3^2) 5(7) = \mathbf{2520}$

I was able to do this because I know that the number must contain at least the factors in each of the sets, for 1, it has at least one 1, for 4, it has at least 2^2 , etc etc.

Problem 9 (10 pts)

Say we have the number $n = 2,246,142,360$ and know that the number $n = \text{lcm}(a, b)$.

We also know $a = 68,064,920$. How many possible values of b exist if b is a positive integer?

(Hint: All of n 's prime factors are ≤ 41)

9.

$$n = 2,246,142,360 = (2^3)(3^1)(5^1)(7^3)(11^3)(41)$$

$$a = 68,064,920 = (2^3)(5)(7^3)(11^2)(41)$$

To get LCM(a, b), pick the greater power of each. B is a max of $(3^1)(11^3)$

There are two powers for three (0 and 1) and 4 powers for 11 (0,1,2,3).

Thus, there are $2 * 4$ possibilities = 8 possibilities.

Problem 10 (15 pts)

Prove for all integers $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ and $a \geq b$, that $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a - b, b)$.

Bezout's theorem states that $ax + by = \gcd(a, b)$.

Let's plug this in.

I'm going to change the y to a z to make things simpler for the top equation.

$$\gcd(a, b) = ax + bz$$

$$\gcd(a-b, b) = (a-b)x + by.$$

$$\text{This equals } ax - bx + by$$

$$= ax + b(y-x)$$

Now, since we have our two equations:

$$\gcd(a, b) = ax + bz, \quad \gcd(a-b, b) = ax + b(y-x).$$

Let's divide the \gcd 's on both sides.

$$1 = (ax + by) / \gcd(a, b) \quad 1 = ((a-b)x + by) / \gcd(a-b, b).$$

Now let's substitute $z = y-x$. Since we know these are equal to 1, we can set them equal.

$$(ax + b(y-x)) / \gcd(a, b) = (a-b)x + by / \gcd(a-b, b).$$

$$(ax - bx + by) / \gcd(a, b) = ax - bx + by / \gcd(a-b, b).$$

Thus, since both of the numerators are equal, the denominators must also be equal, and $\gcd(a, b)$ must equal $\gcd(a-b, b)$.

Q.E.D