

Week 3 Quiz

1.) Use proof by contradiction to show that the set of prime numbers is infinite.

**Proof(by contradiction):**

Suppose not. That is, suppose that the set of prime numbers is finite. This statement implies that there is a largest prime number. Let the list of all prime numbers be represented by  $p_1, p_2, p_3, \dots, p_k$  where  $p_k$  is the largest prime number.

Multiplying all the primes together can be represented by  $p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdot p_3 \cdot \dots \cdot p_k$

Let  $m = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdot p_3 \cdot \dots \cdot p_k + 1$

$m$  cannot be evenly divided by any of these prime numbers. For example,

$$\frac{m}{p_1} = p_2 \cdot p_3 \cdot \dots \cdot p_k + \frac{1}{p_1}$$

Thus,  $\frac{1}{p_1}$  does not evenly divide, which implies  $m$  is a prime number bigger than  $p_k$ . This is true for  $p_2$  and so on as well. Therefore, because  $m$  is not divisible by any of  $p_1$  through  $p_k$ , and  $m$  is bigger than  $p_k$  we have a contradiction [what we needed to show.]

2.) Suppose  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $a^3$  is even, then  $a$  is even. Use proof by contradiction.

Let  $P = "a^3 \text{ is even}"$ , and  $Q = "a \text{ is even}"$ . Assume for the sake of contradiction  $\sim(P \rightarrow Q)$  or  $P \wedge \sim Q$  meaning that  $a^3$  is even and  $a$  is not even, which makes  $a$  odd.

By definition of even,  $a^3 = 2k$  for some integer  $k$ , and by definition of odd,  $a = 2j + 1$  for some integer  $j$ .  $a$  is an integer because it is the product and sum of integers.

By substitution,

$$a^3 = (2j + 1)^3 = (2j + 1)(2j + 1)(2j + 1)$$

By definition in Example 4.2.3, an odd integer times another odd integer is odd. The odd result multiplied by another odd integer is still odd. Thus,

$(2j + 1)(2j + 1)(2j + 1)$  is odd, which contradicts our assumption that  $a^3$  is even. [Hence the supposition is false and the theorem is true.]

3.) Let  $A = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x = 10a + 7 \text{ for some integer } a\}$   
and  $B = \{y \in \mathbb{Z} \mid y = 10b - 3 \text{ for some integer } b\}$ .

Prove or disprove that  $B \subseteq A$

Suppose  $m$  is a particular but arbitrarily chosen element of  $B$ . [We must show that  $x \in A$ . By definition of  $A$ , this means we must show that  $m = 10 \times (\text{some integer}) + 7$ .] By definition of  $B$ , there is an integer such that  $m = 10b - 3$ . [Given that  $m = 10b - 3$ , can  $m$  also be expressed as  $10 \times (\text{some integer}) + 7$ ? I.e., is there an integer, say  $a$  such that  $10b - 3 = 10a + 7$ ? Solve for  $a$  to obtain  $a = \frac{10b-10}{10} = b - 1$ . Check to see if this works.] Let  $a = b - 1$ . [First check that  $a$  is an integer.] Then  $a$  is an integer because it is the difference of integers. [Then check that  $m = 10a + 7$ .]

Also  $10a + 7 = 10(b - 1) + 7 = 10b - 10 + 7 = 10b - 3 = m$ .

Thus, by definition of  $A$ ,  $m$  is an element of  $A$  [which is what was to be shown.]

4.) False

5.) False

6.) False

7.) True

8.)  $A = \{-6, -4, -1, 0\}$

$$\mathcal{P}(A) = \left\{ \emptyset, \{-6\}, \{-4\}, \{-1\}, \{0\}, \{-6, -4\}, \{-6, -1\}, \{-6, 0\}, \{-4, -1\}, \{-4, 0\}, \{-1, 0\}, \{-6, -4, -1\}, \{-6, -4, 0\}, \{-6, -1, 0\}, \{-4, -1, 0\}, \{-6, -4, -1, 0\} \right\}$$

9.) Let,  $A = \{\{1\}\}$ ,  $B = \{1, \{2\}\}$  and  $C = \{\{1, 2\}\}$ . Find  $(A \times B) \times C$ .

$$(A \times B) \times C = \{((\{1\}, 1), \{1, 2\}), ((\{1\}, \{2\}), \{1, 2\})\}$$