

COMSATS UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABAD

Assignment . 4 Discrete Structures

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Q1: Solution: $1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$

Step 1 (Basis): $P(0) = 1$

Step 2 (Inductive): For the inductive hypothesis, we assume that $P(k)$ is true for an arbitrary nonnegative integer k . That is, we assume that

$$1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^k = 2^{k+1} - 1.$$

To carry out the inductive step using this assumption, we must show that when we assume that $P(k)$ is true, then $P(k+1)$ is also true. That is, we must show that

$$1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^k + 2^{k+1} = 2^{(k+1)+1} - 1 = 2^{k+2} - 1$$

assuming the inductive hypothesis $P(k)$. Under the assumption of $P(k)$, we see that

$$1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^k + 2^{k+1} = (1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^k) + 2^{k+1} \text{ IH} = (2^{k+1} - 1) + 2^{k+1} = 2 \cdot 2^{k+1} - 1 = 2^{k+2} - 1$$

Q2: Solution:

Because $\sqrt{2} = a/b$, when both sides of this equation are squared, it follows that $2 = a^2/b^2$. Hence, $2b^2 = a^2$. By the definition of an even integer it follows that a^2 is even. We next use the fact that if a^2 is even.

Furthermore, because a is even, by the definition of an even integer, $a = 2c$ for some integer c . Thus, $2b^2 = 4c^2$. Dividing both sides of this equation by 2 gives $b^2 = 2c^2$. By the definition of even, this means that b^2 is even. Again using the fact that if the square of an integer is even, then the integer itself must be even, we conclude that b must be even as well.

We have now shown that the assumption of $\neg p$ leads to the equation $\sqrt{2} = a/b$, where a and b have no common factors, but both a and b are even, that is, 2 divides both a and b . Note that the statement that $\sqrt{2} = a/b$, where a and b have no common factors, means, in particular, that 2 does not divide both a and b . Because our assumption of $\neg p$ leads to the contradiction that 2 divides

both a and b and 2 does not divide both a and b , $\neg p$ must be false. That is, the statement p , “ $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational,” is true. We have proved that $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.

Q3: Solution:

$$p(E | F) = \frac{p(E \cap F)}{p(F)}.$$

Because $E \cap F = \{0000, 0001, 0010, 0011, 0100\}$, we see that $p(E \cap F) = 5/16$.

Because there are eight bit strings of length four that start with a 0, we have $p(F) = 8/16 = 1/2$.

Consequently, $p(E | F) = \frac{5/16}{1/2} = \frac{5}{8}$
