

# CS-225: Discrete Structures in CS

## Initial- Post Wk 3 & 4 Problem Sets #7 and #11

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### Question

Prove the following statement (using either direct or indirect proof method):

For every real number  $x$ , if  $x^5 - 4x^4 + 3x^3 - x^2 + 3x - 4 \geq 0$ , then  $x \geq 0$ .

### Answer

[PROOF BY CONTRAPOSITIVE]

Contrapositive of the given statement:

For any real number  $x$ , if  $x < 0$  then  $x^5 - 4x^4 + 3x^3 - x^2 + 3x - 4 < 0$ .

Suppositions:

$x$  is a real number and  $x < 0$ .

Goal:

Prove that  $x^5 - 4x^4 + 3x^3 - x^2 + 3x - 4 < 0$ .

Deductions:

(i)  $r^p > 0$  where  $r$  is some non-zero real number and  $p$  is some even integer.

- Let  $r$  be some non-zero real number.
- Let  $p$  be an even integer.
- Since  $p$  is even, it can be represented as  $p = 2n$  where  $n$  is some integer.
- $r^p = r^{2n} = (r^n)^2$ .

- $(r^n)^2 > 0$  because the square of any non-zero number is positive.
- By equality,  $r^p > 0$  because  $(r^n)^2 > 0$ .
- Hence,  $r^p > 0$  where  $r$  is some real number and  $p$  is some even integer.

(ii)  $s^q < 0$  where  $s$  is some negative real number and  $q$  is some odd integer.

- Let  $s$  be some negative real number.
- Let  $q$  be some odd integer.
- Since  $q$  is odd, it can be represented as  $q = 2m + 1$  where  $m$  is some integer.
- $s^q = s^{2m+1} = (s^m)^2$ .
- $(s^m)^2 > 0$  because the square of a non-zero real number is positive.
- $s(s^m)^2 < 0$  because it is the product of some positive real number  $(s^m)^2$  and some negative real number  $s$ .
- By equality,  $s^q < 0$  because  $s(s^m)^2 < 0$ .

(iii)  $3x < 0$

- The product of a positive real number and a negative real number is a negative real number.

(iv)  $-x^2 < 0$

- $x^2 > 0$  because the exponent is an even integer. See Deduction (i).
- Then  $-x^2 < 0$  because it is the opposite sign of a positive number.

(v)  $3x^3 < 0$

- $x^3 < 0$  because the exponent is a negative integer. See Deduction (ii).
- Then  $3x^3 < 0$  because it is the product of a positive and negative number.

(vi)  $-4x^4 < 0$

- $x^4 > 0$  because the exponent is an even integer. See Deduction (i).
- Then  $-4x^4 < 0$  because it is the product of a positive and negative number.

(vii)  $x^5 < 0$

- $x^5 < 0$  because the exponent is a negative integer. See Deduction (ii).

By Deductions (iii) through (vii), every individual expression in  $x^5 - 4x^4 + 3x^3 - x^2 + 3x - 4$  is less than 0. Then by closure,  $x^5 - 4x^4 + 3x^3 - x^2 + 3x - 4 < 0$ .

Conclusion:

$$x^5 - 4x^4 + 3x^3 - x^2 + 3x - 4 < 0.$$

## 11

### Question

a) Find  $\bigcup_{i=1}^4 A_i$  and  $\bigcap_{i=1}^4 A_i$  if for every positive integer  $i$ .

- $A_i = \{i, i+1, i+2, \dots\}$ . Are  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4$  mutually disjoint? Justify your answer.
- $A_i = \{0, i\}$ . Are  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4$  mutually disjoint? Justify your answer.
- $A_i = (0, i)$ , that is, the set of real numbers  $x$  with  $0 < x < i$ . Are  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4$  mutually disjoint? Justify your answer.
- $A_i = (0, \infty)$ , that is, the set of real numbers  $x$  with  $x > i$ . Are  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4$  mutually disjoint? Justify your answer.

b) Let  $R$ ,  $S$ , and  $T$ , be defined as follows:

$$R = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x \text{ is divisible by } 2\}$$

$$S = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x \text{ is divisible by } 6\}$$

$$T = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x \text{ is divisible by } 5\}$$

Prove or disprove each of the following statements.

- $R \subseteq T$
- $T \subseteq R$
- $T \subseteq S$

**Answer**

**a - I)**

$$\begin{aligned}\bigcup_{i=1}^4 A_i &= \bigcup_{i=1}^4 \{i, i+1, i+2, \dots\} \\ &= \{1, 1+1, 1+2, \dots\} \cup \{2, 2+1, 2+2, \dots\} \cup \{3, 3+1, 3+2, \dots\} \cup \{4, 4+1, 4+2, \dots\} \\ &= \{1, 2, 3, \dots\} \cup \{2, 3, 4, \dots\} \cup \{3, 4, 5, \dots\} \cup \{4, 5, 6, \dots\} \\ &= \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, \dots\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bigcap_{i=1}^4 A_i &= \bigcap_{i=1}^4 \{i, i+1, i+2, \dots\} \\ &= \{1, 1+1, 1+2, \dots\} \cap \{2, 2+1, 2+2, \dots\} \cap \{3, 3+1, 3+2, \dots\} \cap \{4, 4+1, 4+2, \dots\} \\ &= \{1, 2, 3, \dots\} \cap \{2, 3, 4, \dots\} \cap \{3, 4, 5, \dots\} \cap \{4, 5, 6, \dots\} \\ &= \{4, 5, 6, \dots\}\end{aligned}$$

No, the sets  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$ , and  $A_4$  are not mutually disjoint. This is because they all share the elements all integers that are greater than or equal to 4.

**a - II)**

$$\begin{aligned}\bigcup_{i=1}^4 A_i &= \bigcup_{i=1}^4 \{0, i\} \\ &= \{0, 1\} \cup \{0, 2\} \cup \{0, 3\} \cup \{0, 4\} \\ &= \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bigcap_{i=1}^4 A_i &= \bigcap_{i=1}^4 \{0, i\} \\ &= \{0, 1\} \cap \{0, 2\} \cap \{0, 3\} \cap \{0, 4\} \\ &= \{0\}\end{aligned}$$

No, the sets  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$ , and  $A_4$  are not mutually disjoint. This is because they all share the element 0.

**a - III)**

$$\begin{aligned}\bigcup_{i=1}^4 A_i &= \bigcup_{i=1}^4 (0, i) \\ &= (0, 1) \cup (0, 2) \cup (0, 3) \cup (0, 4) \\ &= (0, 4)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bigcap_{i=1}^4 A_i &= \bigcap_{i=1}^4 (0, i) \\ &= (0, 1) \cap (0, 2) \cap (0, 3) \cap (0, 4) \\ &= (0, 1)\end{aligned}$$

No, the sets  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$ , and  $A_4$  are not mutually disjoint. This is because they all share the set of numbers **within the range**  $(0, 1)$ .

**a - IV)**

$$\begin{aligned}\bigcup_{i=1}^4 A_i &= \bigcup_{i=1}^4 (i, \infty) \\ &= (1, \infty) \cup (2, \infty) \cup (3, \infty) \cup (4, \infty) \\ &= (1, \infty)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bigcap_{i=1}^4 A_i &= \bigcap_{i=1}^4 (i, \infty) \\ &= (1, \infty) \cap (2, \infty) \cap (3, \infty) \cap (4, \infty) \\ &= (4, \infty)\end{aligned}$$

No, the sets  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$ , and  $A_4$  are not mutually disjoint. This is because they all share the set of numbers **within the range**  $(4, \infty)$ .

**b - I)**

[DISPROOF BY COUNTEREXAMPLE]

Suppositions:

**Suppose not. Let's assume  $R \subseteq T$ .**

Goal:

**We must arrive at a contradiction.**

Deductions:

$4 \in R$  but  $4 \notin T$

- $4 \in R$  because 4 is divisible by 2.
- $4 \notin T$  because 4 is not divisible by 8.
- Hence,  $4 \in R$  but  $4 \notin T$ .

By definition of subset,  $R \not\subseteq T$  since there exists an element in  $R$  that is not in  $T$ .

Conclusion:

$R \not\subseteq T$

**b - II)**

[ELEMENTAL PROOF]

Suppositions:

Let  $x$  be a particular but arbitrarily chosen element of  $T$ .

Goal:

Prove  $T \subseteq R$ .

Deductions:

$x \in R$

- By definition of divisibility,  $x = 8n$  where  $n$  is some integer. This is because  $x$  is divisible by 8.
- Let  $m = 4n$ .
- By closure,  $m$  is some integer because it is the product of two integers.
- Then through substitution,  $x = 8n = 2(4n) = 2m$ .
- By definition of divisibility,  $x$  is divisible by 2 because  $x = 2m$ .
- Therefore,  $x \in R$ .

By definition of subset,  $T \subseteq R$  because the arbitrarily but particular element  $x$  of  $T$  is in  $R$ .

Conclusion:

$T \subseteq R$

**b - III)**

[ELEMENTAL PROOF]

Suppositions:

Suppose not. Let's assume  $S \subseteq T$ .

Goal:

We must arrive at a contradiction.

Deductions:

$12 \in S$  but  $12 \notin T$

- $12 \in S$  because 12 is divisible by 6.
- $12 \notin T$  because 12 is not divisible by 8.
- Hence,  $12 \in S$  but  $12 \notin T$ .

By definition of subset,  $S \not\subseteq T$  since there exists an element in  $S$  that is not in  $T$ .

Conclusion:

$S \not\subseteq T$