

## Practice problems

**Question 1: Direct proofs**

Chapter 2.1

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Prove the following statements using a **direct proof**. Make sure to write the **final answer** in terms of the appropriate definition.

1. If  $n$  is even, then  $n^2 - n$  is even.
2. The product of two odd integers is always odd.

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**Question 2: Division theorem**

Chapter 2.2

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Fill in the blanks in the style of the **division theorem**.

For all integers  $a$  and  $b$  (with  $b > 0$ ), there is an integer  $q$  and an integer  $r$  such that:

1.  $a = b \cdot q + r$  and
2.  $0 \leq r < b$ .

1.  $20 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \cdot 6 + \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$
2.  $-13 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \cdot 6 + \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$
3.  $(3k^2 + 8) = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \cdot 3 + \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$

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**Question 3: Modulus**

Chapter 2.2

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Solve the following modulus problems

1.  $73 \bmod 6$
2.  $-15 \bmod 2$

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**Question 4: Proof by induction**

Chapter 2.3

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Show that the sequence defined by the recursive formula

$$a_k = a_{k-1} + 2, \text{ where } a_1 = 2, \text{ and for } k \geq 2$$

is equivalently described by the closed formula  $a_n = 2n$

**Question 5: Proof by induction** Chapter 2.3 10%

Use induction to prove that  $\sum_{i=1}^n (2i - 1) = n^2$  for each  $n \geq 1$

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**Question 6: Deriving a recursive formula from a sum** Chapter 2.4 10%

Consider the sum  $\sum_{i=1}^n (3i + 2)$

Use  $s_n$  to denote this sum. Find a recursive description of  $s_n$ .

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**Question 7: Proof by contradiction** Chapter 2.5 10%

Use **proof by contradiction** to prove the following statement:

If  $n^2 - 1$  is divisible by 5, then  $n$  is not divisible by 5.

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**Question 8: Numerical representations** Chapter 2.6 10%

Write the following numbers as the sum of multiples of powers of the base. *Do not simplify!*

1.  $(246)_{10} =$

2.  $(0100 \ 1001)_2 =$

3.  $(F00D)_{16} =$

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**Question 9: Binary  $\leftrightarrow$  Hexadecimal** Chapter 2.6 10%

HEX	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BINARY	0000	0001	0010	0011	0100	0101	0110	0111
HEX	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
BINARY	1000	1001	1010	1011	1100	1101	1110	1111

Using the table, convert directly between base-2 and base-16.

1. Convert ( 1111 0000 0000 1101 )<sub>2</sub> to base-16

2. Convert ( CAF3 )<sub>16</sub> to base-2

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**Question 10: Binary  $\leftrightarrow$  Decimal**

Chapter 2.6

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Using an algorithm, convert between base-2 and base-10.

1. Convert  $(75)_{10}$  to base-2
2. Convert  $(0101\ 1010)_2$  to base-10

**Answer key****Solution: Question 1**1. If  $n$  is even, then  $n^2 - n$  is even.

1.  $n = 2k$
2.  $n^2 - n \Rightarrow (2k)^2 - 2k$
3.  $4k^2 - 2k$
4.  $2(2k^2 - k)$

2. The product of two odd integers is always odd.

1. Integer 1:  $n = 2k + 1$       Integer 2:  $m = 2j + 1$ .
2.  $n \cdot m \Rightarrow (2k + 1)(2j + 1)$
3.  $4kj + 2k + 2j + 1$
4.  $2(2kj + k + j) + 1$

**Solution: Question 2**

1.  $20 = 3 \cdot 6 + 2$
2.  $-13 = -3 \cdot 6 + 5$
3.  $(3k^2 + 8) = (k^2 + 2) \cdot 3 + 2$

**Solution: Question 3**

1.  $73 \bmod 6 = 1$
2.  $-15 \bmod 2 = 1$

**Solution: Question 4**

1. Check first term:  
Recursive:  $a_1 = 2$       Closed:  $a_1 = 2(1)$
2. Find  $a_{m-1}$  with closed formula:  
 $a_{m-1} = 2(m-1) = 2m-2$
3. Plug  $a_{m-1}$  into the recursive formula:  
 $a_m = a_{m-1} + 2$   
 $a_m = 2m-2 + 2$   
 $a_m = 2m$
4. This matches the closed formula given, so we have proved it.

**Solution: Question 5**

1. Check first 3 terms:

(a)  $n = 1$ :

$$\text{Left-hand side: } \sum_{i=1}^1 (2i - 1) = (2(1) - 1) = 1$$

$$\text{Right-hand side: } 1^2 = 1 \quad \checkmark$$

(b)  $n = 2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Left-hand side: } \sum_{i=1}^2 (2i - 1) &= (2(1) - 1) + (2(2) - 1) \\ &= 1 + 3 = 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Right-hand side: } 2^2 = 4 \quad \checkmark$$

(c)  $n = 3$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Left-hand side: } \sum_{i=1}^3 (2i - 1) &= (2(1) - 1) + (2(2) - 1) + (2(3) - 1) \\ &= 1 + 3 + 5 = 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Right-hand side: } 3^2 = 9 \quad \checkmark$$

2. Rewrite the sum:

$$\sum_{i=1}^m (2i - 1) = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (2i - 1) + (2m - 1)$$

3. Find  $\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (2i - 1)$  using the proposition:

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

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (2i - 1) = (m - 1)^2$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (2i - 1) = m^2 - 2m + 1$$

4. Plug  $\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (2i - 1)$  into the sum from (2):

$$\sum_{i=1}^m (2i - 1) = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (2i - 1) + (2m - 1)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m (2i - 1) = m^2 - 2m + 1 + 2m - 1 \quad \sum_{i=1}^m (2i - 1) = m^2$$

5. This matches the original proposition, so we have proved it.

**Solution: Question 6**

1. Rewrite the sum:

$$\sum_{i=1}^m (3i + 2) = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (3i + 2) + 3m + 2$$
$$s_m = s_{m-1} + 3m + 2$$

2. Find  $s_1$ :

$$s_1 = \sum_{i=1}^1 (3i + 2) = 3(1) + 2 = 5$$

3. Write out together:

$$s_m = s_{m-1} + 3m + 2 \qquad s_1 = 5$$

**Solution: Question 7**

1. Hypothesis:  $n^2 - 1$  is divisible by 5.

Conclusion:  $n$  is not divisible by 5.

2. Negation:

$n^2 - 1$  is divisible by 5 and  $n$  IS divisible by 5.

3. Symbolically:

$$n^2 - 1 = 5k \qquad n = 5j$$

4. Equation:

$$(5j)^2 - 1 = 5k$$

5. Simplify until contradiction:

$$25j^2 - 5k = 1 \qquad \rightarrow 5(5j^2 - k) = 1 \qquad \rightarrow 5j^2 - k = \frac{1}{5}$$

**Solution: Question 8**

1.  $(246)_{10} = 2 \cdot 10^2 + 4 \cdot 10^1 + 6 \cdot 10^0$

2.  $(0100 \ 1001)_2 = 1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^0$

3.  $(F00D)_{16} = 15 \cdot 16^3 + 13 \cdot 16^0$

**Solution: Question 9**

1. Convert ( 1111 0000 0000 1101 )<sub>2</sub> to base-16  
= F 0 0 D
2. Convert ( CAF3 )<sub>16</sub> to base-2  
= 1100 1010 1111 0011

**Solution: Question 10**

1. Convert ( 75 )<sub>10</sub> to base-2
  - (a)  $75 / 2 = 37 \text{ r } 1$
  - (b)  $37 / 2 = 18 \text{ r } 1$
  - (c)  $18 / 2 = 9 \text{ r } 0$
  - (d)  $9 / 2 = 4 \text{ r } 1$
  - (e)  $4 / 2 = 2 \text{ r } 0$
  - (f)  $2 / 2 = 1 \text{ r } 0$
  - (g)  $1 / 2 = 0 \text{ r } 1$= 0100 1011
2. Convert ( 0101 1010 )<sub>2</sub> to base-10
  - (a)  $= 1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^1 = 90$