

Definitions

- (1) $a|b \iff \exists c \in \mathbb{Z} \implies b = ca$
- (2) $a \% b = r \iff \frac{a}{b}$ has remainder r
- (3) $a \equiv b \pmod{n} \iff n|b - a$

Theorem 4.1: if n is even then n^2 is even. (source: lecture)

1. Prove that $n^2 \not\equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$

Proof.

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}, 2|n \implies 2|n^2 \text{ by theorem 4.1}$$

$$2|n^2 = 2 \pmod{0} \not\equiv 2 \pmod{3} \quad \blacksquare$$

2. Fermat's Last theorem is a famous theorem in Math that was unproven for 200 years. The theorem says $\forall n > 2, a, b, c \in \mathbb{N} \implies a^n + b^n \neq c^n$. Another way to state this is $a^n + b^n = c^n$ has no integer solutions for n larger than 2. Use this theorem to prove that $\sqrt[n]{2}$ is irrational for n larger than 2.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[n]{2} \in \mathbb{Q} &\implies \exists a, b \in \mathbb{Z} : \gcd(a, b) = 1 \\ &\implies \sqrt[n]{2} = \frac{a}{b} \implies a^n = 2b^n \\ &\implies a^n = b^n + b^n \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Note: this is essentially zscoder's proof. No real credit here; I couldn't figure it out myself at first. It's pretty simple though, so I couldn't formulate something else that was better without adding unnecessary steps (originally completed in hw3).

3. Prove $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z} : a|b \wedge a|c \implies a|bx + cy \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} b &= qa, \quad c = qa \quad \text{by definition 1} \\ \implies a|qax + qay &= a|a(qx + qy) = a|qa \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

4. Prove $\forall n, a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, n|a - b \iff a \% n = b \% n$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} a \% n = b \% n &\iff \exists q \in \mathbb{Z} : \frac{a}{n} = \frac{qb}{n} \\ &\implies a = qb \\ &\implies n|qb - b = n|b(q - 1) \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Proof by contradiction.

$$\begin{aligned} a \% n \neq b \% n &\implies \exists q \notin \mathbb{Z} : \frac{a}{n} = \frac{qb}{n} \\ &\implies a \neq qb \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if $a \% n = b \% n$ then one integer is guaranteed to be a multiple of the other, which must be true for $a - b$ to be divisible by n . Alternatively, a contradiction arises because every integer should be able to be represented as a multiple of some other integer.

5. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Prove that

$$a \sim b \iff a \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

is an equivalence relation for any n .

6. The greatest common divisor of natural numbers a, b ; $\gcd(a, b)$, is the largest number δ such that $\delta|a \wedge \delta|b$

(a) Let $\delta = \gcd(b, a \% b)$, prove that $\delta|a \wedge \delta|b$

(b) Use part (a) to show that $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a \% b)$

7. We defined the identity function

$\text{id} : A \rightarrow A$, $\text{id}(x) = x$, has property: $\forall f : A \rightarrow A$, $\text{id} \circ f = f \circ \text{id} = f$

Prove that id is the only function that can have this property.