

# Homework №5

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## Section 3.2

23. Prove that if  $x$  and  $y$  are integers and  $xy - 1$  is even then  $x$  and  $y$  are odd.

Let's prove it by contrapositive. Contrapositive of the initial statement (which is equivalent to the initial statement) is:

If  $x$  is even or  $y$  is even, then  $xy - 1$  is odd.

If  $x$  is even or  $y$  is even,  $xy$  is even. Then we can write that  $xy = 2k$  where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then,  $xy - 1 = 2k - 1 = 2(k - 1) + 1$  where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now, let  $t = k - 1$  where  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$  and we get  $xy - 1 = 2t + 1$ . Thus,  $xy - 1$  is odd.

*Q.E.D.*

24. Prove that if  $x$  and  $y$  are real numbers whose mean is  $m$  then at least one of  $x$  and  $y$  is  $\geq m$ .

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $x$  and  $y$  are both  $< m$ . Then,

$$x < m$$

$$y < m$$

By adding the inequalities, we get:

$$x + y < 2m$$

And finally,

$$\frac{x + y}{2} < m$$

which contradicts the initial statement that the mean of  $x$  and  $y$  is  $m$ .

*Q.E.D.*

25. Suppose  $S$  is a set of 250 distinct real numbers whose mean is 4. Must there exist  $x \in S$  such that  $x > 4$ ? Be sure to prove your answer.

Yes. Let's prove it!

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that all elements of  $S$  are  $\leq 4$ . Then the sum of all the elements will be less  $\leq 1000$  with equality happening only when all the members of the set are equal to 4 which contradicts the initial statement that  $S$  is a set of 250 distinct elements. Thus, only one of the elements of  $S$  is allowed to be equal to 4. Finally, we get two cases:

1. All 250 elements of  $S$  are less than 4.
2. 249 elements of  $S$  are less than 4 and one is equal to 4.

If all 250 elements of  $S$  are less than 4, then their sum is less than  $4 \times 250 = 1000$  and their mean is less than  $1000/250 = 4$  which contradicts the initial statement that the mean of all elements of  $S$  is 4.

If 249 elements of  $S$  are less than 4 and one is equal to 4, then the sum of 249 elements which are less than 4 is less than  $249 \times 4 = 996$ . Then let this sum of 249 numbers be equal to  $996 - k$  where  $k > 0$ . Then the sum of all the elements including the one which equals 4 is:

$$996 - k + 4 = 1000 - k \text{ where } k > 0$$

Using the fact above, we get that the mean of all the elements of  $S$  is  $(1000 - k)/250$  where  $k > 0$ . And finally, we get:

$$\frac{1000 - k}{250} = 4 - \frac{k}{250} \text{ where } k > 0$$

And  $4 - \frac{k}{250}$  where  $k > 0$  is clearly less than 4 which contradicts the initial claim that the mean of all elements of  $S$  is 4.

*Q.E.D.*

26. Suppose  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ . Prove that at least one of  $a$  and  $b$  is even.

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that both  $a$  and  $b$  are odd. Then, we can write  $a = 2k - 1$  and  $b = 2l - 1$  where  $k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 + b^2 &= 4k^2 - 4k + 1 + 4l^2 - 4l + 1 = 4k^2 + 4l^2 - 4l - 4k + 2 = \\ &= 2 \times (2k^2 + 2l^2 - 2l - 2k + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Now, it's easy to see that  $a^2 + b^2$  is the multiplication of an even and odd integers (2 is even and  $2k^2 + 2l^2 - 2l - 2k + 1$  is odd).  $2k^2 + 2l^2 - 2l - 2k + 1$  is odd since  $2k^2 + 2l^2 - 2l - 2k + 1 = 2 \times (k^2 + l^2 - l - k) + 1$  and if we let  $t = k^2 + l^2 - l - k$  where  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$  (since  $k^2 + l^2 - l - k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ), then we have that  $2k^2 + 2l^2 - 2l - 2k + 1 = 2t + 1$  which is an even number plus one which is always odd. Finally, we conclude that 2 is only once in the number that is supposed to be a perfect square as  $2k^2 + 2l^2 - 2l - 2k + 1$  is odd and is not a multiple of 2 which means that  $a^2 + b^2$  is not a perfect square which contradicts the initial claim that the sum  $a^2 + b^2$  is the perfect square.

*Q.E.D.*

27. Prove that if  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , then  $x + y \geq 2\sqrt{xy}$ .

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $x + y < 2\sqrt{xy}$ . Then, since  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , we have:

$$x + y < 2\sqrt{xy} \quad (1)$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2xy < 4xy \quad (2)$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2xy - 4xy < 0 \quad (3)$$

$$x^2 + y^2 - 2xy < 0 \quad (4)$$

$$(x - y)^2 < 0 \quad (5)$$

Thus, we got that  $(x - y)^2 < 0$  which is false since the square of a number is always  $\geq 0$ . Finally, since by assuming that  $x + y < 2\sqrt{xy}$  where  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , we basically got the nonsensical inequality  $(x - y)^2 < 0$ , something has to be wrong with this assumption and we got that if  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , then  $x + y \geq 2\sqrt{xy}$

*Q.E.D.*

28. Prove that if  $n$  is an integer, there exist three consecutive integers that sum to  $n$  if and only if  $n$  is a multiple of 3.

Let's first prove that if  $n$  is not a multiple of 3, one cannot find three consecutive integers with the property that they sum to  $n$ .

(a) Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $n$  is not a multiple of 3. Then let's define three consecutive integers,  $m, m + 1$  and  $m + 2$ , where  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then we have:

$$m + m + 1 + m + 2 = 3m + 3 = 3 \times (m + 1)$$

Thus, we got that the sum of three consecutive integers is a multiple of 3 which contradicts the statement that  $n$  is not a multiple of 3.

Now, let's prove the second half of the problem. Let's show that if three consecutive integers sum to  $n$ , then  $n$  is a multiple of 3.

(b) Let  $m, m + 1, m + 2$  where  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  be three consecutive integers. We have:

$$n = m + m + 1 + m + 2 = 3m + 3 = 3 \times (m + 1)$$

Thus, we got that  $n$  is a multiple of 3 which proves the iff.

*Q.E.D.*

29. A subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  has the property that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  there exists  $y \in S$  such that  $|x - y| < 1$ . Prove that  $S$  is infinite.

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $S$  is finite. Inequality,  $|x - y| < 1$  can be transformed into the following system:

$$\begin{cases} x - y < 1 \\ x - y > -1 \end{cases}$$

And from the system above, we get the following system:

$$\begin{cases} y > x - 1 \\ y < x + 1 \end{cases}$$

Hence, we know that  $y$  is in the open interval  $(x - 1, x + 1)$ . Now, since we also know that  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , interval  $(x - 1, x + 1)$  has infinitely many elements in it which contradicts our assumption that  $S$  is finite.

*Q.E.D.*

30. A subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is called **non-differential** if for every  $x, y \in S$  we have  $x - y \notin S$ . Here are some statements about non-differential sets. Decide which statements are true and which are false, and provide a proof or counterexample for each as appropriate.

Before going right into the proof, note that in any set we can do self-subtraction (e.g, if the set is  $\{1, 3\}$ ), we can write  $1 - 1 = 0$ . HOWEVER, we are not going to consider those trivial cases. We are going to consider it if and only if element 0 is in the set (because all the self-subtractions are zero and it is only the case when the element 0 is in the set when such subtractions make sense in proving or disproving something).

- (a) Every non-differential set is finite.

This is false. Counterexample:

Let  $S = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, \dots\}$  thus,  $S$  is a set of all positive odd integers. Then we know that for every  $x, y$ ,  $x - y$  is even. But all the members of  $S$  are odd. Thus, For every  $x, y \in S$ ,  $x - y \notin S$  and  $S$  is an infinite set which also turns out to be non-differential and the initial statement is false.

- (b) The intersection of two non-differential sets is non-differential.

This is true. Let's prove it.

Let  $x, y \in A \cap B$ . Then, since  $x, y \in A$ ,  $x - y \notin A$  as well as  $x - y \notin A \cap B$ .

*Q.E.D.*

- (c) The union of two non-differential sets is non-differential.

This is false. Counterexample:

Let  $A = \{1, 3\}$  then  $A$  is non-differential since  $1 - 3 \notin A$  and  $3 - 1 \notin A$ . Now, let  $B = \{1, 4\}$ , then  $B$  is non-differential too as  $1 - 4 \notin B$  and  $4 - 1 \notin B$ . Finally, we get  $A \cup B = \{1, 3, 4\}$  which is NOT non-differential because  $4 - 3 = 1 \in A \cup B$ .

- (d) No non-differential set contains the element 0.

It's true.

For a set to be non-differential there should be no  $x, y$  such that  $x - y \in S$ . For the sake of contradiction, suppose that we have a non-differential set  $A$  such that  $0 \in A$ . If  $A$  has more than one elements, let the other element (any element which is not 0) be  $k$ . Then we get  $k - 0 = k \in A$  which contradicts

the initial statement that  $A$  is non-differential as we found two elements  $x = 0$  and  $y = k$  such that  $x - y \in A$ . If  $A$  has only one element which is 0, then it is NOT non-differential anyway, because  $0 - 0 = 0 \in A$ . Hence, no non-differential set contains element 0.

- (e) Every subset of a non-differential set is non-differential.

It's true.

Suppose we have two sets,  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $B \subseteq A$  and  $A$  is non-differential. Let  $x \in B$ , then we know that there exists no  $y$  in  $A$  such that  $x - y \in A$ . Since such  $y$  does not exist in  $A$ , it does not exist in  $B$  as well since it is the subset of  $A$ .

*Q.E.D.*

- (f) There is no non-differential set with exactly 5 elements.

It's false. Counterexample:

Let  $A = \{1, 3, 8, 19, 50\}$ , then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - 3 &= -2 \notin A \\ 3 - 1 &= 2 \notin A \\ 3 - 8 &= -5 \notin A \\ 8 - 3 &= 5 \notin A \\ 8 - 19 &= -11 \notin A \\ 19 - 8 &= 11 \notin A \\ 19 - 50 &= -31 \notin A \\ 50 - 19 &= 31 \notin A \end{aligned}$$

- (g) If  $S$  is non-differential, so is  $\mathbb{Z} - S$ .

It's false. Counterexample:

Let  $A = \{1, 3\}$ .  $A$  is non-differential since  $1 - 3 = -2 \notin A$  and  $3 - 1 = 2 \notin A$ . Then we know that  $\mathbb{Z} - A$  would include numbers 7, 8, 15. But  $15 - 8 = 7 \in \mathbb{Z} - A$  which is not non-differential.

- (h) If  $S$  is a non-differential set, then so is the  $S_{+3} = \{x + 3 \mid x \in S\}$ .

It's false. Counterexample:

Let  $A = \{1, 3, 8, 19, 50\}$ , then  $A$  is non-differential since:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - 3 &= -2 \notin A \\ 3 - 1 &= 2 \notin A \\ 3 - 8 &= -5 \notin A \\ 8 - 3 &= 5 \notin A \\ 8 - 19 &= -11 \notin A \\ 19 - 8 &= 11 \notin A \\ 19 - 50 &= -31 \notin A \\ 50 - 19 &= 31 \notin A \end{aligned}$$

$A_{+3} = \{4, 7, 11, 22, 53\}$ . Now, notice that  $22 - 11 = 11 \in A_{+3}$  thus, we found two elements  $x = 22$  and  $y = 11$  such that  $x - y \in A$  and so  $A$  is NOT non-differential. Thus, the initial statement is false.

31. A subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is called **cofinite** if  $\mathbb{R} - A$  is finite. Here are some statements about cofinite sets. Decide which statements are true and which are false, and provide a proof or counterexample for each as appropriate

Before jumping in the proofs, let's make a little note. If  $A$  is cofinite, it is some subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then, we can represent it as  $A = \mathbb{R} - F$  where  $F$  is some finite set.

Why finite?

If  $F$  be infinite, then  $\mathbb{R} - (\mathbb{R} - F) = F$  is also infinite and this contradicts the fact that  $A$  is cofinite. Thus, we know (and will use) the fact that any cofinite set  $A$  can be represented as  $\mathbb{R} - F$  where  $F$  is a finite set.

- (a) If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B$  is cofinite then  $A$  is cofinite.

It's false. Counterexample:

Let  $B = \mathbb{R} - \{0, 1\}$ . Then  $B$  is cofinite as  $\mathbb{R} - B = \{0, 1\}$ . Now let  $A = \{-1, -2\}$ , then  $A \subseteq B$ , however,  $\mathbb{R} - A$  is not finite as  $\mathbb{R}$  has an infinite number of elements and subtracting only a finite number of elements (2 elements) still leaves it will infinitely many.

- (b) There exist two cofinite sets  $A$  and  $B$  with the property that  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

It's false. Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $A$  and  $B$  are cofinite sets. Then we know that both  $A$  and  $B$  are of the form  $\mathbb{R} - F$  where  $F$  is some finite set (if  $F$  is infinite,  $\mathbb{R} - (\mathbb{R} - F) = F$  and the set is NOT cofinite). Let  $A = \mathbb{R} - C$  and  $B = \mathbb{R} - D$ . Then we know that both  $A$  and  $B$  contain sets  $\mathbb{R} - C - D$ . Thus  $\mathbb{R} - C - D \subseteq A \cap B$  which is never an  $\emptyset$  since sets  $C$  and  $D$  are finite and  $\mathbb{R} - C - D$  is infinite.

- (c) If  $A$  is cofinite, then  $A$  contains a positive integer.

It's true.

We know that  $\mathbb{R}$  contains all the positive integers. For  $A$  to be cofinite it  $\mathbb{R} - A$  should be finite thus, it should have a finite number of elements. If  $A$  has no positive integers, it means that  $\mathbb{R} - A$  is infinite since it contain at least all the positive integers. Thus,  $A$  is not cofinite and we've encountered a contradiction. And finally, the statement if  $A$  is cofinite, then  $A$  contains a positive integer is true.

- (d) The intersection of two cofinite sets is cofinite.

It's true.

Suppose  $A = \mathbb{R} - F$  and  $B = \mathbb{R} - G$  are cofinite sets ( $F$  and  $G$  are finite). Then, their intersection will be:

$$A \cap B = \mathbb{R} - F - G = \mathbb{R} - (F \cup G)$$

And we get:

$$\mathbb{R} - (\mathbb{R} - (F \cup G)) = F \cup G$$

Now, since  $F$  and  $G$  are finite,  $F \cup G$  is also finite and we proved that the intersection of the two cofinite sets is cofinite.

*Q.E.D.*

(e) The union of two cofinite sets is cofinite.

It's true. Suppose  $A = \mathbb{R} - F$  and  $B = \mathbb{R} - G$  are cofinite sets ( $F$  and  $G$  are finite). Then, their union will be:

$$A \cup B = (\mathbb{R} - F) \cup (\mathbb{R} - G) = \mathbb{R} - (F \cap G)$$

And then we get:

$$\mathbb{R} - (\mathbb{R} - (F \cap G)) = F \cap G$$

Now, since  $F$  and  $G$  are finite, so is  $F \cap G$  and the union of two cofinite sets is cofinite.

*Q.E.D.*

(f) If  $A$  and  $B$  are cofinite then  $A - B$  is finite.

It's true.

Suppose  $A = \mathbb{R} - F$  and  $B = \mathbb{R} - G$  are cofinite sets ( $F$  and  $G$  are finite). Then,  $A - B = (\mathbb{R} - F) - (\mathbb{R} - G) = G - F$ . Now, since  $F$  and  $G$  are finite,  $G - F$  is finite (even if  $F = G$ , empty set is considered finite with the cardinality zero).

*Q.E.D.*

(e) Every cofinite set is infinite.

It's true. Let  $A$  be a cofinite set. Then, we know that it is some subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  and we can write it as  $A = \mathbb{R} - F$  where  $F$  is some set. Then, we have:

$$\mathbb{R} - (\mathbb{R} - F) = F$$

Now, since  $A$  is cofinite, then  $F$  has to be finite by the definition of the cofinite set. Then we get that  $\mathbb{R} - F$  is infinite since  $F$  is finite and  $\mathbb{R}$  minus any finite set is always infinite.

*Q.E.D.*

32. We say that a subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is angled if for every  $x, y, z \in S$  we have  $x + y > z$ .

(a)

$$S = \{3\} \text{ since } 3 + 3 > 3$$

$$S = \{3, 4\} \text{ since } 3 + 4 > 3, 3 + 4 > 4, 3 + 3 > 3, \text{ and } 4 + 4 > 4$$

$$S = \{3, 4, 5\}$$

$$\text{since } 4 + 5 > 3, 3 + 5 > 4, 3 + 4 > 5, 3 + 3 > 3, 4 + 4 > 4, \\ \text{and } 5 + 5 > 5$$

(b)

$$S = \{3, 2, 7\} \text{ as } 3 + 2 < 7$$

$$S = \{12, -13, 29, 47\} \text{ as } 12 - 13 < 29$$

$$S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} \text{ as } 1 + 2 < 4$$

(c) Can 0 be an element of an angled set?

No.

If the set contains element 0, then  $0 + 0 = 0$  thus,  $0 + 0 \not> 0$  and the set is not angled.

(d) Prove or disprove: If  $S$  is angled and  $x \in S$  then  $x > 0$ .

It's true so let's prove it.

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $x \leq 0 \in S$  where  $S$  is angled. Then, we must have that  $x + x > 2x$ . But if  $x \leq 0$ ,  $x + x$  is always less than or equal to  $2x$ . Thus, we've encountered a contradiction and if  $S$  is angled and  $x \in S$  then  $x > 0$ .

*Q.E.D.*

(e) Prove or disprove: If  $S$  is angled then there exists  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that for every  $x \in S$  we have  $x < c$ .

It's true.

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that we cannot find  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that for every  $x \in S$  we have  $x < c$ . Then, it is clearly the case that  $S$  contains the biggest element of  $\mathbb{Z}$ . BUT, unfortunately, there is no "BIGGEST" element in  $\mathbb{Z}$  as if we pick some element  $x$  to be the biggest, we can always take  $x + 1$  which will be bigger than  $x$ . Thus, we've encountered a contradiction and if  $S$  is angled then there exists  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that for every  $x \in S$  we have  $x < c$ .

*Q.E.D.*

(f) Prove or disprove: There exists  $c \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that if  $S$  is angled and  $x \in S$  then we have  $x < c$ .

It's true.

In (d), we proved that if  $S$  is angled and  $x \in S$ , then  $x > 0$ . Let  $x$  be an element of  $S$ , then we can set  $c = x + 1$  ( $c$  is positive since  $x > 0$ ) which will be greater than  $x$ .

(g) Prove or disprove: Every angled set is finite.

It's true.

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $S$  is an infinite angled set. Then, for every  $x, y, z, x + y > z$ . We also know, from the previous proofs, that all elements of  $S$  are positive. Now, since all elements of  $S$  have to be positive and it's infinite, we know that there is no biggest element in the set. Then, if we take two fixed elements  $x$  and  $y$ , we can certainly find  $z$  (we can change  $z$  until we get the value bigger than  $x + y$ ). such that  $z \geq x + y$ , since the set is infinite and thus, we've encountered a contradiction. Hence, every angled set is finite.

(h) Prove or disprove: For every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  there exists an angled set  $S$  such that  $|S| = n$ .

It's true.

Let's construct a set in the following way:



$A = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n\}$  where  $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq a_3 \dots \leq a_n$  and  $a_1, a_2, a_3 \dots$  are consecutive positive integers.

Then, our primary concern is that  $2a_1 > a_n$ . If  $a_1, a_2, a_3 \dots$  are consecutive positive integers, then  $a_n = a_1 + n - 1$  and we have:

$$2a_1 > a_1 + n - 1$$

and finally, we get:

$$a_1 > n - 1$$

Thus, the set  $A = \{n, n + 1, n + 2, n + 3, n + 4, \dots, 2n\}$  is now angled because for every  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}, x + y > z$ .

*Q.E.D.*

33. Use quantifiers to precisely write down, in mathematical language, the definition given for  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n = X$  outlined in the video at the 4:00 minute mark.

This sum means that when we generate a list of numbers by cutting off the sums at finite points:

$$\begin{aligned} s_0 &= a_0 \\ s_1 &= a_0 + a_1 \\ s_2 &= a_0 + a_1 + a_2 \\ s_3 &= a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 \\ s_4 &= a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 \\ s_5 &= a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 \\ s_6 &= a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 + a_6 \\ s_7 &= a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 + a_6 + a_7 \\ s_8 &= a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 + a_6 + a_7 + a_8 \\ s_9 &= a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 + a_6 + a_7 + a_8 + a_9 \\ &\dots \end{aligned}$$

Then, these sums approach  $X$  in the sense that no matter how small is the distance, at some point down list, all the numbers start falling within this distance of  $X$ . Thus, the further we proceed with the list  $s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, s_6, s_7, s_8, s_9, s_{10}, s_{11} \dots$  the more these numbers approach  $X$  and the smaller the distance between  $X$  and the sum.

34. Explain why it makes sense, in a way, for  $1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots$  to equal  $1/2$ , as is suggested in the video at about 6:45. Is this what you learned in Calculus II?

We can cut the line of the length 1 in two pieces with proportions  $(1 - p)$  and  $p$ . Then, we can cut  $p$  in two with same proportions

$((1 - p)/p)$  and continue doing it infinite. Finally, we can sum up the pieces to get the equation:

$$(1 - p) + p(1 - p) + p^2(1 - p) + p^3(1 - p) + \dots = 1$$

Now, we can divide both sides by  $1 - p$  and we get:

$$1 + p + p^2 + p^3 + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - p}$$

If we plug in,  $p = -1$ , we get:

$$1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 \dots = \frac{1}{2}$$

which seems to be true. Unfortunately, it is not true. One can calculate the sum this way if and only if  $-1 < p < 1$  meaning that one cannot simply plug  $p = -1$  or  $p = 1$  and get the sum for the infinite geometric series. This sum is sometimes 1 and sometimes -1. That's what Calc II says.

35. In the sense of distance discussed at 12:45, how far apart are 5 and 13?  
How about -1 and -15?

5 and 13 are  $1/8$  apart from each other.

-1 and -15 are  $1/16$  apart from each other.

## Bookwork

1. Let  $a$  be an integer. Prove: If  $a^2$  is even, then  $a$  is even.

Let's prove the contrapositive. The contrapositive of the initial statement is: If  $a$  is not even,  $a^2$  is not even (where  $a$  is an integer). Then suppose an integer  $a$  is not even, thus is odd. Since  $a$  is odd, we can write  $a = 2k + 1$  where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  and we have:

$$a^2 = (2k + 1)^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 = 2(2k^2 + 2k) + 1$$

Now, let  $l = 2k^2 + 2k$  where  $l \in \mathbb{Z}$  (since  $2k^2 + 2k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ). And finally, we have:

$$a^2 = (2k+1)^2 = 4k^2+4k+1 = 2(2k^2+2k)+1 = 2l+1 \text{ where } l \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Thus, we got that  $a^2$  is of the form  $2l + 1$  which means that  $a^2$  is odd thus, not even.

*Q.E.D.*

- 5(a) Prove that  $\sqrt{3} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $\sqrt{3} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then, we can represent  $\sqrt{3}$  as  $\frac{a}{b}$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let's assume that  $a$  and  $b$  do not have any common factors and if they do, let's cancel them out and write already cancelled-out form. Thus, assume that the fraction  $\frac{a}{b}$  is already cancelled out and  $a$  and  $b$  do not have common factors. Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{a}{b} &= \sqrt{3} \\ \frac{a^2}{b^2} &= 3 \\ a^2 &= 3b^2\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we got that  $a^2$  is divisible by 3 which means that  $a$  is also divisible by 3. Now, let  $a = 3k$  where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . After substituting  $a$ , we get:

$$\begin{aligned}3b^2 &= (3k)^2 = 9k^2 \\ b^2 &= 3k^2\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we got that  $b^2$  is divisible by 3 which means that  $b$  is also divisible by 3. However, we assumed that  $a$  and  $b$  had no common factors and now, we encounter the contradiction.

*Q.E.D.*

- 6(d) Prove that  $r + \sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$  where  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $r + \sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Now, since  $r, r + \sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ , we can write  $r = \frac{a}{b}$  and  $r + \sqrt{2} = \frac{c}{d}$  where  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then we have:

$$\frac{a}{b} + \sqrt{2} = \frac{c}{d}$$

$$\frac{bc - ad}{bd} = \sqrt{2}$$

Now, let  $x = bc - ad$  and  $y = bd$  (where  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  as  $bc - ad, bd \in \mathbb{Z}$ ). And finally, we got that  $\frac{x}{y} = \sqrt{2}$  which is false since  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational and cannot be represented as a fraction of two even integers.

*Q.E.D.*

Proof that  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational:

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then, we can represent  $\sqrt{2}$  as  $\frac{a}{b}$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let's assume that  $a$  and  $b$  do not have any common factors and if they do, let's cancel them out and write already cancelled-out form. Thus, assume that the fraction  $\frac{a}{b}$  is already cancelled out and  $a$  and  $b$  do not have common factors. Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{a}{b} &= \sqrt{2} \\ \frac{a^2}{b^2} &= 2 \\ a^2 &= 2b^2\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we got that  $a^2$  is divisible by 3 which means that  $a$  is also divisible by 2. Now, let  $a = 2k$  where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . After substituting  $a$ , we get:

$$\begin{aligned}2b^2 &= (2k)^2 = 4k^2 \\ b^2 &= 2k^2\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we got that  $b^2$  is divisible by 2 which means that  $b$  is also divisible by 2. However, we assumed that  $a$  and  $b$  had no common factors and now, we encounter the contradiction.

*Q.E.D.*

9. Prove: If  $x$  is irrational, then  $\sqrt{x}$  is irrational.

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $x$  is irrational and  $\sqrt{x}$  is rational. Then we can represent  $\sqrt{x}$  as  $\frac{a}{b}$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and have no common factors. Then, by squaring both sides, we get:

$$\frac{a^2}{b^2} = x$$

This, now means that  $x$  can be represented as the fraction of two integers as if  $a, b$  are integers, so are  $a^2, b^2$  and we've encountered a contradiction. Thus, if  $x$  is irrational, then  $\sqrt{x}$  is irrational.

*Q.E.D.*

11. Prove:  $\sqrt[4]{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $\sqrt[4]{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then we can represent  $\sqrt[4]{2}$  as  $\frac{a}{b}$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and have no common factors. Then, by squaring both sides, we get:

$$\frac{a^2}{b^2} = \sqrt{2}$$

This, however, means that  $\sqrt{2}$  can be represented as a fraction of two integers (because  $a, b$  are integers, so are  $a^2, b^2$ ) which is clearly impossible since we've already proven that  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational, thus cannot be represented as a fraction of two integers. Hence, we've encountered a contradiction and  $\sqrt[4]{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

*Q.E.D.*