

Lec 09

Divisibility

" $(m|n)$ "

Definition: for $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, we say m divides n , IF $\exists K \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $n = Km$

Examples:

① Claim: $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}, 1|a$

Proof: Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\text{Then } a = \underbrace{a}_{\in \mathbb{Z}} \cdot 1 \quad \square$$

② Claim: $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}, -1|a$

Proof: Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\text{Then } a = \underbrace{(-a)}_{\in \mathbb{Z}} (-1) \quad \square$$

③ Claim: $0|0$

$$\text{Proof: } 0 = \underbrace{1}_{\in \mathbb{Z}} \cdot 0 \quad \square$$

Warning: " $a|b$ " is NOT the same as " $\frac{b}{a}$ "

It is OK to write $0|0$ but NOT OK to write $\frac{0}{0}$

④ Claim: $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ if } 0|a \text{ then } a=0$

Proof: Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ and assume $0|a$
Then $\exists K \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $a = K \cdot 0 = 0 \quad \square$

⑤ Proposition: **Transitivity of Divisibility (TO)**
 $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ IF $a|b$ and $b|c$ then $a|c$

Proof: Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ and assume that $a|b$ and $b|c$

Then $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $b = ka$ and $\exists l \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $c = lb$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Since, } c &= lb \\ c &= l(ka) \\ c &= \underbrace{(lk)}_{\in \mathbb{Z}} a\end{aligned} \quad \square$$

⑥ Claim 1: $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$, IF $a|b$ and $a|c$ then $a|bc$

Proof: Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ and assume $a|b$ and $a|c$

Then $\exists k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $b = ka$ and $c = la$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{So, } bc &= ka(la) \\ bc &= \underbrace{(kla)}_{\in \mathbb{Z}} a\end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Claim 2: The Converse, $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ IF $a|bc$ then $a|b$ and $a|c$

Disproof: Take $a=2$, $b=3$, $c=4$

Then $a|bc$ (because $2|12$) but $a \nmid b$

⑦ Proposition: **Divisibility of Integer Combinations**
 $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ IF $a|b$ and $a|c$ then $(\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z})$
 $a|bx+cy$

Proof: Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ and assume $a|b$ and $a|c$

Then $\exists k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $b=ka$ and $c=la$

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$, Consider $bx+cy$

$$\begin{aligned} bx+cy &= kax + lay \\ &= \underbrace{(kx+ly)}_{\in \mathbb{Z}} a \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Proposition: **The Converse**

$\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$, if $a|bx+cy \forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ then
 $a|b$ and $a|c$

Proof: Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$, assume $a|bx+cy$
 $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$

In particular, IF $x=1$ and $y=0$,

$$\text{then } a|b \cdot 1 + c \cdot 0 \Leftrightarrow a|b$$

and similarly, IF $x=0$ and $y=1$,

$$\text{then } a|b \cdot 0 + c \cdot 1 \Leftrightarrow a|c$$

The following modification is false

$\forall a, b, c, x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$, IF $a|bx+cy$, then $a|b$ and $a|c$

Disproof: Take $a=2, x=y=0, b=3, c=2$

Then $a|bx+cy$ but $a \nmid b$

Proof by Contrapositive

Since an implication is logically equivalent to its contrapositive, to prove the implication we can instead prove the contrapositive

$$A \Rightarrow B \quad \text{contrapositive} \quad \neg B \Rightarrow \neg A$$

Examples:

① Claim: $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}$ If $x^2 - 6x + 8$ is odd then x is odd

$$\equiv \forall x \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ If NOT } (x \text{ is odd}) \text{ then NOT } (x^2 - 6x + 8)$$

$$\equiv \forall x \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ If } x \text{ is even then } x^2 - 6x + 8 \text{ is even}$$

Proof: Let $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ and assume that x is even

$$\text{Then } \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} \quad x = 2k$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } x^2 - 6x + 8 &= (2k)^2 - 6(2k) + 8 \\ &= 4k^2 - 12k + 8 \\ &= 2 \underbrace{(2k^2 - 6k + 4)}_{\in \mathbb{Z}} \end{aligned}$$

So $x^2 - 6x + 8$ is even \square

② Claim: $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ If $x^2 - x - 2 > 0$ then
 $x > 2$ or $x < -1$

$\equiv \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$, If $x \leq 2$ and $x \geq -1$ then $x^2 - x - 2 \leq 0$

Proof: Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ assume $-1 \leq x \leq 2$

$$\text{Then } x^2 - x + 2 = (x-2)(x+1)$$

$$\text{Now } -1 \leq x \Leftrightarrow x+1 \geq 0$$

$$\text{and } x \leq 2 \Leftrightarrow x-2 \leq 0$$

$$\text{So } x^2 - x + 2 = \underbrace{(x-2)}_{\leq 0} \underbrace{(x+1)}_{\geq 0} \leq 0 \quad \square$$

Alternative Proof: We can prove the statement

$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$, If $x^2 - x - 2 > 0$ then $x > 2$ or $x < -1$

Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and assume $x^2 - x - 2 > 0$ consider two cases: If $x > 2$ or if $x \leq 2$

In the first case we're done!

In the second case we must prove that $x < -1$

So let's assume $x^2 - x - 2 > 0$ and $x \leq 2$

$$\text{Then } \underbrace{x^2 - x - 2}_{> 0} = \underbrace{(x-2)}_{\leq 0} \underbrace{(x+1)}_{\text{must be } < 0} \\ \equiv x+1 < 0 \equiv x < -1 \quad \square$$

Observation: The previous proof

Used the equivalence

$$A \Rightarrow B \vee C \equiv (A \wedge \neg B) \Rightarrow C$$

This is sometimes called "proof by elimination"