

### Propositions, predicates, proofs.

1. Consider the set of  $n$  propositions in which the  $i$ th proposition is "Exactly  $i$  of these propositions are false". What can you conclude about the truth values of these propositions. What happens if "Exactly  $i$ " is replaced by "at least  $i$ "?
2. Express the following statement as a formal proposition:  
 "For any two numbers  $x, y$ , there exists a number  $\gcd(x, y)$  such that  $\gcd(x, y)$  divides  $x$ ,  $\gcd(x, y)$  divides  $y$ , and for any number  $d$  such that  $d$  divides  $x$  and  $d$  divides  $y$ ,  $d$  also divides  $\gcd(x, y)$ ".  
 Prove this proposition assuming that for any two numbers  $a, b$  there exists a unique  $q$  and  $r$  such that  $a = qb + r$ , where  $0 \leq r < b$ .
3. Consider the statement  $x$  is a friend of  $y$ , where  $x, y$  are variables whose values are students in this class. Two students  $a, b$  in the class can communicate with each other if there exists a finite sequence of students  $a = s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k = b$  such that  $s_i$  is a friend of  $s_{i+1}$  for all  $1 \leq i < k$ . Express the statement "Any two students in the class can communicate with each other" formally. Hint: For some statements, using only fixed predicates is not enough. We may need to allow predicates that are variable, and use the existential and/or universal quantifiers for them. Such statements are said to be of the second order. Can you express the statement in this problem without using variable predicates? Note that a predicate can only involve a fixed number of variables.
4. Prove that for any odd number  $x$ ,  $x^2 - 1$  is divisible by 8.
5. Prove that a number is divisible by 9 if and only if the sum of the digits in the decimal representation of the number is divisible by 9. How would you generalize this statement for divisibility by any number  $k$ ?
6. Prove that if a prime  $p$  divides  $ab$ , then either  $p$  divides  $a$  or  $p$  divides  $b$ . What is the converse of this statement? Is it true?
7. Prove that if  $n$  is prime then  $n$  divides  $\binom{n}{k}$ , for all  $1 \leq k < n$ . Is the converse of this statement true? ( $\binom{n}{k}$  is the binomial coefficient  $n$  choose  $k$ ).