

1. Say whether the following is true or false and support your answer by a proof.

$$(\exists m \in \mathbb{N})(\exists n \in \mathbb{N})(3m + 5n = 12)$$

The statement is false!

Proof by contradiction:

Let $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ be the solution to $3m + 5n = 12$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} 3m &= 12 - 5n & | /4 \\ m &= 4 - \frac{5}{3}n \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow If n is not divisible by 3, then $m \notin \mathbb{N}$.

\Rightarrow n must be divisible by 3.

\Rightarrow For $n = 3$ (first natural number that is divisible by 3) $m \notin \mathbb{N}$. ($m = -1$) Clearly for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, divisible by 3 m is negative and thus $m \notin \mathbb{N}$.

In all cases $m \notin \mathbb{N}$ which is a contradiction to the assumption. So there are no $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, so that $3m + 5n = 12$.

2. Say whether the following is true or false and support your answer by a proof: The sum of any five consecutive integers is divisible by 5 (without remainder).

The statement is true:

Proof by induction:

Let $S(n) = n + (n+1) + (n+2) + (n+3) + (n+4)$

$n=1$: $S(1) = 1+2+3+4+5 = 15$, which is divisible by 5.

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ be arbitrary:

$$\begin{aligned} S(n+1) &= (n+1) + ((n+1)+1) + ((n+1)+2) + ((n+1)+3) + ((n+1)+4) \\ &= (n+1) + (n+2) + (n+3) + (n+4) + (n+5) \\ &= n + (n+1) + (n+2) + (n+3) + (n+4) + 5 \\ &= S(n) + 5 & | \text{ by induction hypothesis} \end{aligned}$$

$S(n)$ is by the induction hypothesis divisible by 5 and 5 is also divisible by 5, so $S(n+1)$ is divisible by 5.

3. Say whether the following is true or false and support your answer by a proof: For any integer n , the number $n^2 + n + 1$ is odd.

The statement is true.

Proof by contradiction:

Assume that $n^2 + n + 1$ is even. Then $n^2 + n = n*(n+1)$ is odd. For $n*(n+1)$ to be odd, both cases have to be odd. (Because every multiplication with an even number (divisible by 2) results in an even number. 2 is then a factor to the resulting number)

Assume n is odd, then $\exists k \in \mathbb{N}, n = k * 2 + 1 \Rightarrow n + 1 = k * 2 + 2$. So $n+1$ is divisible by 2 and thus even.

The case n is even is trivial.

So in all cases $n*(n+1)$ contains at least one even factor. And thus $n*(n+1)$ is even and n^2+n+1 is odd, which is a contradiction to the assumption.

4. Prove that every odd natural number is of one of the forms $4n + 1$ or $4n + 3$, where n is an integer.

Proof by contradiction:

Assume $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$, so that $4n+1$ is even (and thus also $4n+3$ is even)

$$\Rightarrow \exists k \in \mathbb{N} \mid 4n + 1 = 2k$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists k \in \mathbb{N} \mid 2n + 1/2 = k$$

$2n$ is by the definition of multiplication on natural numbers a natural number. But $1/2$ is not a natural number. This is a contradiction to the assumption. So every odd number is one of the forms $4n+1$ or $4n+3$.

5. Prove that for any integer n , at least one of the integers n , $n + 2$, $n + 4$ is divisible by 3.

Proof by contradiction:

Assume n , $n+2$, $n+4$ are not divisible by 3, then also $n*(n+2)*(n+4)$ must not be divisible by 3.

$$\begin{aligned} n*(n+2)*(n+4) &= (n^2 + 2n) * (n+4) \\ &= n^3 + 4n^2 + 2n^2 + 8n \\ &= n^3 + 6n^2 + 8n = n*(n^2+8) + 6n^2 \end{aligned}$$

$6n^2$ is always divisible by 3 so the term $n*(n^2+8)$ must not be divisible by 3.

Let n be not divisible by 3. (according to assumption) Then n is one of the form $3k+1$ or $3k+2$, for a specific $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Case $3k + 1$: $n^2+8 = (3k+1)^2 + 8 = 9k^2 + 6k + 1 + 8 = 3 * (3k^2 + 2k + 3)$, which is divisible by 3

Case $3k + 2$: $n^2+8 = (3k+2)^2 + 8 = 9k^2 + 12k + 4 + 8 = 3 * (3k^2 + 4k + 4)$, which is divisible by 3

So for all cases $n*(n^2+8)$ is divisible by 3, which contradicts the assumption. So one of n , $n+2$, $n+4$ is always divisible by 3.

6. A classic unsolved problem in number theory asks if there are infinitely many pairs of 'twin primes', pairs of primes separated by 2, such as 3 and 5, 11 and 13, or 71 and 73. Prove that the only prime triple (i.e. three primes, each 2 from the next) is 3, 5, 7.

Prime triples are from the form n , $n+2$, $n+4$ for specific $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Using the theorem proven in exercise 5, at least one of those 3 numbers must be divisible by 3. So the only prime triple can be the one that includes 3 (which is a prime), 3,5,7.

7. Prove that for any natural number n , $2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 2$

Proof by induction:

Let $S(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n 2^i$. By definition: $S(n) = 2^{n+1} - 2$

$$n=1: S(1) = 2^2 - 2 = 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ by given. } n+1: 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^{n+1} &= \sum_{i=1}^n 2^i + 2^{n+1} \\ &= 2^{n+1} - 2 + 2^{n+1} && | \text{ by induction hypothesis} \\ &= 2 * 2^{n+1} - 2 = 2^{n+2} - 2 \end{aligned}$$

Which is the definition of $S(n+1)$. Thus by induction $2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 2$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

8. Prove (from the definition of a limit of a sequence) that if the sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ tends to limit L as $n \rightarrow \infty$, then for any fixed number $M > 0$, the sequence $\{M a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ tends to the limit ML .

If $\{a_n\}$ tends to the limit L as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Then $\exists \epsilon \in \mathbb{R}$, so that $|a_n - L| < \epsilon$

$$= |M * a_n - M * L| < M * \epsilon \quad | * M \text{ (as } M > 0)$$

Let $\epsilon' = \frac{1}{M} * \epsilon$, then $|M * a_n - M * L| < \epsilon'$

So by the definition of limit and because ϵ' is arbitrary, $M a_n$ tends to $M L$ for $n \rightarrow \infty$.

9. Given an infinite collection A_n , $n = 1, 2, \dots$ of intervals of the real line, their intersection is defined to be $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \{x \mid (\forall n)(x \in A_n)\}$

Give an example of a family of intervals A_n , $n = 1, 2, \dots$, such that $A_{n+1} \subset A_n$ for all n and $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \emptyset$. Prove that your example has the stated property.

Let $A_n = \left(0, \frac{1}{n}\right)$.

Clearly all A_n have the same lower bound. For the upper bound $1/n > 1/(n+1)$ and thus the upper bound of $A_n >$ upper bound of A_{n+1} . $\rightarrow A_{n+1} \subset A_n$

As $A_{n+1} \subset A_n$, the intersection of both sets is always $\subset A_{n+1}$.

For $n \rightarrow \infty$, $\lim 1/n = 0 \rightarrow A_n = (0,0) = \emptyset$.

10. Give an example of a family of intervals A_n , $n = 1, 2, \dots$, such that $A_{n+1} \subset A_n$ for all n and $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ consists of a single real number. Prove that your example has the stated property.

Let $A_n = \left[0, \frac{1}{n}\right]$.

Clearly all A_n have the same lower bound. For the upper bound $1/n > 1/(n+1)$ and thus the upper bound of $A_n >$ upper bound of A_{n+1} . $\rightarrow A_{n+1} \subset A_n$

As $A_{n+1} \subset A_n$, the intersection of both sets is always $\subset A_{n+1}$.

For $n \rightarrow \infty$, $\lim 1/n = 0 \rightarrow A_n = [0,0] = 0$.