

# Problem Set 1

Due: **10:00pm, Friday, 24 January**

This assignment is designed to develop your skills with formal definitions and to provide some practice with inductive reasoning. Write your answers in the `ps1.tex` LaTeX template. You will submit your solutions in GradeScope as a PDF file with your answers to the questions in this template.

**Collaboration Policy:** You may discuss the problems with anyone you want. You are permitted to use any resources you find for this assignment **other than solutions from previous/concurrent CS3120 courses**. You should write up your own solutions and understand everything in them, and submit only your own work. You should note in the *Collaborators and Resources* box below the people you collaborated with and any external resources you used (you do not need to list resources you used for help with LaTeX).

**Collaborators and Resources:** TODO: replace this with your collaborators and resources (if you did not have any, replace this with *None*)

To do this assignment:

1. Visit <https://www.overleaf.com> and register for an Overleaf account (if you don't already have one). UVA has a site license to Overleaf, so if you register with your `@virginia.edu` email address you will have full access to all the Overleaf features for free.
2. After logging in, open this read-only Overleaf project located at <https://www.overleaf.com/read/qjncgcjmvgw#6a8554>, then select the "Menu" button at the top-left, and then select "Copy Project". You will have an opportunity to rename the project, and then Overleaf will create a new copy of the project which you can edit.
3. Open your copy of the project and in the left side of the browser, you should see a file directory containing `ps1.tex`. Click on `ps1.tex` to see the LaTeX source for this file, and enter your solutions in the marked places. (You will also see the `uvatoc.sty` file, a "style" file that defines some useful macros. You are welcome to look at this file but should not need to modify it.)
4. The first thing you should do in `ps1.tex` is set up your name as the author of the submission by replacing the line, `\submitter{TODO: your name}`, with your name and UVA id, e.g., `\submitter{Haolin Liu (srs8rh)}`.
5. Write insightful and clear answers to all of the questions in the marked spaces provided.
6. Before submitting your `ps1.pdf` file, also remember to:
  - List your collaborators and resources, replacing the TODO in `\collaborators{TODO: replace ...}` with your collaborators and resources. (Remember to update this before submitting if you work with more people.)
  - Replace the second line in `ps1.tex`, `\usepackage{uvatoc}` with `\usepackage[response]{uvatoc}` so the directions do not appear in your final PDF.

**Problem 1** *Induction Practice:* Prove that for any natural number  $n \geq 1$ ,  $2^n < \binom{2n}{n}$ .

Note: For this problem (and any other problems where we don't explicitly state that you should use a particular definition), you can use the intuitive informal definition of natural numbers, and assume all of the familiar operations are defined and behave as expected.

**Answer:**

**Problem 2** *Higher Induction Practice:* Prove that any binary tree of height  $h$  has at most  $2^{h-1}$  leaves.

Note: We haven't defined a *binary tree* (and the book doesn't). An adequate answer to this question will use the informal understanding of a binary tree which we expect you have entering this class, but an excellent answer will include a definition of a binary tree and connect your proof to that definition.

**Answer:**

**Problem 3** *Addition is Commutative:* For this problem, we will use the successor definition of Natural Numbers (from Class 2) as follows.

**Definition 1 (Natural Numbers)** We define the *Natural Numbers* as:

1.  $0$  is a Natural Number.
2. If  $n$  is a Natural Number,  $S(n)$  is a Natural Number.

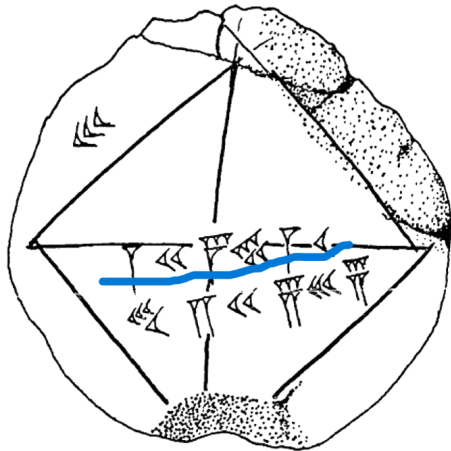
We will use this definition of addition:

**Definition 2 (Sum)** The *sum* of two Natural Numbers  $a$  and  $b$  (denoted as  $a + b$ ) is defined as:

1. If  $a$  is  $0$ , then  $a + b$  is  $b$ .
2. Otherwise,  $a$  is  $S(p)$  for some Natural Number  $p$ , and  $a + b$  is  $S(p + b)$ .

Prove that addition as defined above is *commutative*: for all Natural Numbers  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $a + b$  is equal to  $b + a$ . (we defined equality for our Natural Number representation in Class 2).

**Answer:**

**Problem 4** *Babylonian Pebble.*

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In Class 2, we mentioned that on the above pebble, the middle Babylonian number (with blue underline) is an approximation of  $\sqrt{2} \approx 1.414213$ .

1. Interpret and calculate the other two numbers on the pebble.
2. Explain the potential meaning of this pebble.

Clearly, the Babylonian can not tell us their real purpose, and we modern people can only guess with proper evidence. It is not hard to search for an answer. Please write down your answer before searching! That would be more fun.

**Answer:**

**Problem 5** *Claim: All cows have the same number of spots.*

From our experience (from farms or videos or other), the claim is false.<sup>1</sup> However, here is a proof by induction.

*Proof.*

1. Predicate  $P(n)$ : any  $n + 1$  cows have the same number of spots.
2. Base case,  $P(0)$ : any 1 cow have the same number of spots. This holds because there is only 1 cow, and its number of spots is the same.
3. Inductive case, let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
  - (a) By induction hypothesis, suppose  $P(n)$  holds. That is, any  $n + 1$  cows have the same number of spots.
  - (b) Consider any  $n + 2$  cows. Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{n+2}$  be (the names of) the cows.
  - (c) By  $P(n)$ , the first  $n + 1$  cows,  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{n+1}$ , have the same number of spots. Let  $x$  be the number.
  - (d) By  $P(n)$ , the last  $n + 1$  cows,  $c_2, \dots, c_{n+2}$ , have the same number of spots. Let  $y$  be the number.
  - (e) Let  $z$  be the number of spots of the cow  $c_2$ .
  - (f) We have  $x = z$  because  $c_2$  is in the first  $n + 1$ .
  - (g) We have  $y = z$  because  $c_2$  is in the last  $n + 1$ .
  - (h) By  $x = y = z$ , all  $n + 2$  cows have the same number of spots. That is,  $P(n + 1)$  holds.

□

Please briefly explain why the proof is wrong (maybe by pointing out some incorrect steps). Notice there are many concepts and symbols that are not defined in class, such as  $x = z$  and  $y = z$  implies  $x = y = z$ . Please interpret them as standard math concepts you learned from other courses, such as DMT1.

**Answer:**

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<sup>1</sup><https://thedairyalliance.com/blog/udderly-unusual-cow-facts>

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This is the end of the problems for PS1. Remember to follow the last step in the directions on the first page to prepare your PDF for submission.