

1. (15 points) Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers.

(10) a) Prove that if 7 divides  $16b$ , then 7 divides  $b$ . (Hint: use the fundamental theorem of arithmetic.)  
By the fundamental theorem,  $b$  can be written as a product of primes, and there is only one way to do this (apart from changing the order of the primes). Then  $16b$  can be written as  $2^4$  times the primes which are factors of  $b$ . Since 7 divides  $16b$ , then 7 is one of the prime factors of  $16b$ , and since  $7 \neq 2$ , then 7 must be one of the prime factors of  $b$ . So 7 divides  $b$ .

(5) b) Prove, by counterexample, that the statement "if 14 divides  $16b$ , then 14 divides  $b$ " is false.

Let  $b=7$ . Then  $16b = 16 \cdot 7 = 8 \cdot 2 \cdot 7 = 8 \cdot 14$ , so 14 divides  $16b$ . But  $14 \nmid 7$  (because any number which divides 7 must be less than or equal to 7). So  $14 \nmid b$ .

2. (10 points) Decide whether the following statement is true or false. If it is true, give a proof. If it is false, give a counterexample.

$$\text{For all real numbers } a \text{ and } b, |a| - |b| = |a - b|.$$

The statement is false. Let  $a=1$  and  $b=-1$ . Then  $|a| - |b| = |1| - |-1| = 1 - 1 = 0$ , but  $|a - b| = |1 - (-1)| = |2| = 2$ . So there exist  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $|a| - |b| \neq |a - b|$ .

3. (15 points) Suppose  $x$  is a real number. Prove that if  $x$  is not an integer, then

$$[-x] = -[x] - 1.$$

Suppose  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x$  is not an integer.

Let  $n = \lfloor x \rfloor$ . By definition,  $n$  is an integer such that

$n \leq x < n+1$ . Then by the properties of inequalities, it follows that  $-n \geq -x > -(n+1)$ . So

$$-n \geq -x > -n-1, \text{ or}$$

$$-n-1 < -x \leq -n.$$

Since  $-n-1 < -x$ , then  $-n-1 \leq -x$ , and since  $x$  is not an integer,  $x \neq -n$ , therefore  $-x \leq -n$  implies  $-x < -n$ . So

$$-n-1 \leq -x < -n. \text{ Hence, by definition, } [-x] = -n-1. \text{ So } [-x] = -[x] - 1.$$

4. (15 points) Use the Euclidean algorithm to find the greatest common divisor of 427 and 154. Show all work!

①  $154 \overline{) 427} \begin{array}{r} 2 \\ 308 \\ \hline 119 \end{array}$ , so  $427 = 2 \cdot 154 + 119$

↓

②  $119 \overline{) 154} \begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 119 \\ \hline 35 \end{array}$ , so  $154 = 1 \cdot 119 + 35$

↓

③  $35 \overline{) 119} \begin{array}{r} 3 \\ 105 \\ \hline 14 \end{array}$ , so  $119 = 3 \cdot 35 + 14$

④  $14 \overline{) 35} \begin{array}{r} 2 \\ 28 \\ \hline 7 \end{array}$ , so  $35 = 2 \cdot 14 + 7$

⑤  $14 = 2 \cdot 7 + 0$ .

Since the remainder of the last step is zero, then 7 is the greatest common divisor of 427 and 154.

5. (15 points) Prove the following statement by proving its contrapositive:

For all integers  $n$ , if  $n \bmod 4 = 2$  or  $n \bmod 4 = 3$ , then  $n$  is not a perfect square.

Suppose  $n$  is an integer and  $n$  is a perfect square. Then there exists an integer  $k$  such that  $n = k^2$ .

By the quotient-remainder theorem, either  $k$  is odd or  $k$  is even.

Case 1: Suppose  $k$  is even. Then there exists an integer  $l$  such that  $k = 2l$ . So  $n = k^2 = (2l)^2 = 4l^2$ . So  $n$  is divisible by 4, or  $n \bmod 4 = 0$ . So  $n \bmod 4 \neq 2$  and  $n \bmod 4 \neq 3$ .

Case 2: Suppose  $k$  is odd. Then there exists an integer  $l$  such that  $k = 2l + 1$ . So  $n = k^2 = (2l + 1)^2 = 4l^2 + 4l + 1$ . So  $n = 4(l^2 + l) + 1$ . Since  $l^2 + l$  is an integer, this implies that  $n \bmod 4 = 1$ . So  $n \bmod 4 \neq 2$  and  $n \bmod 4 \neq 3$ .

Thus, in all cases, we've proved that if  $n$  is a perfect square then  $n \bmod 4 \neq 2$  and  $n \bmod 4 \neq 3$ , which is the contrapositive of the desired conclusion. //

6. (15 points) Use induction to prove that for all integers  $n \geq 3$ ,

$$n! \geq 3^{n-2}$$

For  $n \geq 3$ ,

Let  $P(n)$  be the statement that  $n! \geq 3^{n-2}$ . (2)

We'll prove  $P(n)$  by induction for  $n \geq 3$ . (1)

Basis step:  $P(3)$  says that  $3! \geq 3^{3-2}$ , which is true because

$$3! = 6 \text{ and } 3^{3-2} = 3^1 = 3, \text{ and } 6 \geq 3. \quad (2)$$

Inductive step: Let  $k \geq 3$  be an integer such that  $k! \geq 3^{k-2}$ . (2)

Then  $(k+1)! = k! (k+1)$  (by the recursive definition of factorial) (2)

$$\leq 3^{k-2} \cdot (k+1) \quad (2) \text{ (by the inductive hypothesis)}$$

$$\leq 3^{k-2} \cdot 3 \quad (2) \text{ (we have } k+1 \geq 3 \text{ since } k \geq 3)$$

$$= 3^{k-1} = 3^{(k+1)-2}. \quad (2) \text{ So } (k+1)! \geq 3^{(k+1)-2}, \text{ so}$$

$P(k+1)$  is true. //

7. (15 points) Use induction to prove that for all integers  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{n}{n+1} \quad (2)$$

For  $n \geq 1$ , let  $P(n)$  be the statement that the desired equality holds for this value of  $n$ . We'll prove  $P(n)$  by induction. (1)

Basis step: When  $n=1$ , we have  $\sum_{i=1}^1 \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{1}{1(1+1)} = \frac{1}{2}$  and (2)

$\frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{1}{1+1} = \frac{1}{2}$ , so the desired equality holds, so  $P(1)$  is true. (2)

Inductive step: Let  $k$  be an integer and suppose  $P(k)$  is true. (2)

Then  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i(i+1)} + \frac{1}{(k+1)(k+2)}$  (2) (by the recursive definition of summation)

$$= \frac{k}{k+1} + \frac{1}{(k+1)(k+2)} \quad (2) \text{ (by the inductive hypothesis)}$$

$$= \frac{k(k+2)}{(k+1)(k+2)} + \frac{1}{(k+1)(k+2)} = \frac{k(k+2) + 1}{(k+1)(k+2)}$$

$$= \frac{k^2 + 2k + 1}{(k+1)(k+2)} = \frac{(k+1)^2}{(k+1)(k+2)} = \frac{k+1}{k+2}. \quad (2) \text{ So } \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{k+1}{(k+1)(k+2)},$$

(2) which means that  $P(k+1)$  is true. //