

Lecture 12

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October 8, 2013

1. Claim:

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^i i^2 = \frac{(-1)^n n(n+1)}{2}$$

We will prove this by induction.

Base Case: for $n = 1$, $\sum_{i=1}^1 (-1)^i i^2 = -1 = \frac{(-1)^1 1(2)}{2}$.

Inductive case: Assume for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have $\sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^i i^2 = \frac{(-1)^n n(n+1)}{2}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} (-1)^i i^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^i i^2 + (-1)^{n+1} (n+1)^2 \\ &= \frac{(-1)^n n(n+1)}{2} + (-1)^{n+1} (n+1)^2 \quad (\text{by inductive hypothesis}) \\ &= \frac{-(-1)^{n+1} n(n+1) + 2(-1)^{n+1} (n+1)^2}{2} \\ &= \frac{(-1)^{n+1} (n+1)(-n + 2n + 2)}{2} \\ &= \frac{(-1)^{n+1} (n+1)(n+2)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

so we have shown by induction that $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^i i^2 = \frac{(-1)^n n(n+1)}{2}$

2. (a) Prove that $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}. x^2 \neq 1 \rightarrow x \neq 1$.

We will prove this by contrapositive. Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ be arbitrary, and $x = 1$, then $x^2 = 1$. Therefore, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}. x = 1 \rightarrow x^2 = 1$, which is the contrapositive of the original statement.

(b) Prove that $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. n \geq 5 \rightarrow 2n^2 > (n+1)^2$.

Suppose $n \in \mathbb{N}$ arbitrary, $n \geq 5$. Then

$$2n^2 = n^2 + n^2 > n^2 + 4n > n^2 + 2n + 1 = (n+1)^2$$

where we made the substitution $n > 4$ and $2n > 1$.

(c) Let $E(x)$ be the proposition “ x is even.” Prove that

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}. E(a) \wedge E(b) \iff E(a+b) \wedge E(a \cdot b)$$

We first prove $E(a) \wedge E(b) \implies E(a+b) \wedge E(a \cdot b)$. Consider $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ arbitrary, and $E(a) \wedge E(b)$ so let $a = 2h$ and $b = 2k$ for $h, k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $a + b = 2h + 2k = 2(h+k)$ is even and $a \cdot b = (2h)(2k) = 2(2hk)$ is even, so $E(a+b) \wedge E(a \cdot b)$.

Now we prove $E(a) \wedge E(b) \iff E(a+b) \wedge E(a \cdot b)$ by contraposition. Consider $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ arbitrary such that $\neg(E(a) \wedge E(b))$. Equivalently, $\neg E(a) \vee \neg E(b)$. Consider the case where $\neg E(a)$, so a is odd. Then if $a + b$ is even then b is odd. However, this means that $a \cdot b$ is odd which gives a contradiction. Now consider the case where $\neg E(b)$, so b is odd. Then if $a + b$ is even then a is odd, so $a \cdot b$ is odd which gives a contradiction.

3. Claim: There are no positive integer solutions to the equation $x^2 - y^2 = 1$.

Symbolically, this is $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N} x^2 - y^2 \neq 1$.

Suppose for sake of contradiction that $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $x^2 - y^2 = 1$. Then note that

$$(x+y)(x-y) = x^2 - y^2 = 1$$

so in particular $(x+y)$ divides 1. However, since x, y are positive integers, $x+y \geq 2$, which is a contradiction because the only divisors of 1 are -1 and 1 .

4. **Claim:** If a and b are both real numbers such that the product ab is irrational then either a or b must be irrational.

To write this out symbolically:

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}. ab \notin \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow a \notin \mathbb{Q} \vee b \notin \mathbb{Q}$$

Consider the contrapositive (with De Morgan's law): $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}. a \in \mathbb{Q} \wedge b \in \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow ab \in \mathbb{Q}$. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ be arbitrary, and suppose $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$. Then let $a = \frac{s}{t}, b = \frac{u}{v}$ where $s, t, u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $v, t \neq 0$. Then $ab = \frac{su}{tv} \in \mathbb{Q}$ since $uv \neq 0$. Therefore, we have shown the contrapositive.

5. **Claim:** For any distinct integers p and q it is the case that $p - 1$ is a multiple of $q - p$ if and only if $q - 1$ is a multiple of $q - p$.

To write this out symbolically:

$$\forall p, q \in \mathbb{Z}. (p \neq q \implies ((q - p)|(p - 1) \leftrightarrow (q - p)|(q - 1)))$$

Consider $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$ arbitrary such that $p \neq q$.

Suppose $(q - p)|(p - 1)$, then there is some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(q - p)n = p - 1$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & (q - p)n = p - 1 \\ \implies & (q - p)n - (p - q) = p - 1 - (p - q) \\ \implies & (q - p)(n - 1) = q - 1 \end{aligned}$$

so $(q - p)|(q - 1)$ as desired.

On the other hand, suppose $(q - p)|(q - 1)$, then there is some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $(q - p)n = q - 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & (q - p)n = q - 1 \\ \implies & (q - p)n + (p - q) = q - 1 + (p - q) \\ \implies & (q - p)(n + 1) = p - 1 \end{aligned}$$

so $(q - p)|(p - 1)$ as desired.