

Last time: · direct proofs of conditional statements (with template)

Today: · more examples · practice proofs

1. Examples

(a) Prove that if $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ and x is even, then xy is even.

Pf: Suppose $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ and x is even.

Then $x = 2k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Therefore $xy = 2ky = 2(ky)$.

(i.e., $xy = 2N$ for some integer N , namely, for $N = ky$.)

So xy is even, so we are done.

(b) Show that if $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $n^2 + 3n + 4$ is even.

Pf: Suppose/let $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. We consider two cases.

1) n is even. Then $n = 2k$ for some integer k .

$$\text{So } n^2 + 3n + 4 = (2k)^2 + 3 \cdot 2k + 4 = 4k^2 + 6k + 4 = 2(2k^2 + 3k + 2)$$

where $(2k^2 + 3k + 2) \in \mathbb{Z}$ since $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

So $n^2 + 3n + 4$ is even.

2) n is odd. Then $n = 2k + 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } n^2 + 3n + 4 &= (2k+1)^2 + 3(2k+1) + 4 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 + 6k + 3 + 4 \\ &= 4k^2 + 10k + 8 = 2(2k^2 + 5k + 4) \end{aligned}$$

where $(2k^2 + 5k + 4) \in \mathbb{Z}$ since $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

So $n^2 + 3n + 4$ is even.

These cases are exhaustive, so $n^2 + 3n + 4$ is even for every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. □

Pf.: Suppose N is a multiple of 4. Then $N = 4k = 2(2k)$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

So $N/2$ is an integer, w. i. $N/2 \in \mathbb{Z}$. We want to find an int $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$

st. $N = 1 + (-1)^n (2^n - 1)$. We discuss two cases.

1) $N \geq 0$. Consider $n = N/2$. Then $N/2 = 2k \in \mathbb{Z}$ as mentioned. Moreover,

$$1 + (-1)^n (2^n - 1) = 1 + (-1)^{2k} (2^{2k} - 1) = 1 + 1 \cdot (2^{2k} - 1) = 2^{2k} = 2^{N/2} = N, \text{ as desired.}$$

2) $N < 0$. Consider $n = -\frac{1}{2}N + 1 = -2k + 1$, which is an odd int. Moreover,

$$1 + (-1)^n (2^n - 1) = 1 - (2^n - 1) = -2^n + 2 = (-2)(-\frac{1}{2}N + 1) + 2 = (N - 2) + 2 = N, \text{ as desired.}$$

So $N = 1 + (-1)^n (2^n - 1)$ for some nonnegative int. n whenever $4|N$. \square

2. Practice problems

See the problems on the proofs worksheet. The problems will also be HW problems.

Next time: Ch. 5. Contrapositive proof.