

CS204

Spring 2018, Homework #2

Problem 1.*1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 pts*

Classify each example below as one of the following types; no justification needed.

Types: Theorem, Lemma, Corollary, Conjecture, Counterexample, Trivial proof, Vacuous proof, Proof by cases, Proof by contraposition, Proof by contradiction, Proof by induction

- The famous proven statement “if $n \geq 3$ is an integer, then $a^n + b^n = c^n$ has no positive integer solutions a, b, c ”.
- In particular, the statement “ $a^3 + b^3 = c^3$ has no positive integer solutions a, b, c ”.
- The number 2 to the claim “all primes are odd”.
- The following proof of the statement “all primes greater than 2 are odd”: if $n > 2$ is even, then $n = 2k$ where $k > 1$ and so n is not prime.
- The famous unproven statement “every even integer ≥ 4 is the sum of two primes”.
- The following proof of the statement “every even integer ≥ 4 is the sum of two integers”: every integer n is the sum of two integers n and 0.

Problem 2.*3 + 2 pts*

The following theorem is true, but the given proof is incorrect.

Theorem. If x is a real number satisfying $(x^2 - x + 1)^2 - (x^2 - x + 1) + 1 = 1$, then x also satisfies $x^2 - x + 1 = 1$.

Proof. Since $x^2 - x + 1 = 1$, plugging it into the original equation gives $1^2 - 1 + 1$ on the left hand side, which is equal to 1, the right hand side. So the claim is proven.

- What is wrong with the above proof?
- (Bonus) Give a correct proof of the theorem.

Problem 3.*2 + 2 + 2 + 1 + 2 + 2 + 2 + 1 pts*

You will be asked to prove the following theorem. Follow the given outline. If you cannot solve an item, you may still use it in the next steps. Recall that $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$.

Theorem. Suppose $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ has at least 3 members and satisfies the following property: for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if $n \geq 2$ and n is in S , then both $n + 3$ and $n - 2$ are also in S . Then $S = \mathbb{N}$.

- Write the property “for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if $n \geq 2$ and n is in S , then both $n + 3$ and $n - 2$ are also in S ” in first-order logic.
- Prove that S has an element $b \geq 2$, by contradiction. (Hint: Use the fact that S has at least 3 members.)
- Using the b from item b), prove that S has an element $c \geq 2$ that is even, by cases. (Hint: Consider the parity of b .)
- We will now prove that S contains all elements $n \geq 2$, by induction. Write down the proposition $P(n)$ to be proved by induction.
- Prove the basis step $P(2)$. (Hint: Use c from item c).)
- Prove the induction step $P(n) \rightarrow P(n + 1)$. (Hint: Use the property of S .)
- (Bonus) This proof is not complete yet. What is missing? Complete the proof.
- (Bonus) What happens if $|S| \geq 2$ instead of $|S| \geq 3$? Can we still prove $S = \mathbb{N}$?