
CS 70

Discrete Mathematics for CS

Spring 2008

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MT 1 Solns

Midterm 1 Sample Solutions

Problem 1. [True or false] (20 points)

- (a) TRUE or FALSE: Let the logical proposition $R(x)$ be given by $x^2 = 4 \implies x \leq 1$. Then $R(3)$ is true.
(False implies anything.)
- (b) TRUE or FALSE: The proposition $P \implies (P \wedge Q)$ is logically equivalent to $P \implies Q$.
- (c) TRUE or FALSE: The proposition $P \implies (P \wedge Q)$ is logically equivalent to $(P \wedge Q) \implies P$.
(Consider $P = \text{True}$, $Q = \text{False}$.)
- (d) TRUE or FALSE: The proposition $(P \wedge Q) \vee (\neg P \vee \neg Q)$ is a tautology, i.e., is logically equivalent to True.
- (e) TRUE or FALSE: $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} . (P(n) \wedge Q(n))$ is logically equivalent to $(\exists n \in \mathbb{N} . P(n)) \wedge (\exists n \in \mathbb{N} . Q(n))$.
(Consider the propositions $P(n) = \text{"}n \text{ is odd"}$ and $Q(n) = \text{"}n \text{ is even"}$.)
- (f) TRUE or FALSE: $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} . (P(n) \vee Q(n))$ is logically equivalent to $(\exists n \in \mathbb{N} . P(n)) \vee (\exists n \in \mathbb{N} . Q(n))$.
- (g) TRUE or FALSE: $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} . ((\exists k \in \mathbb{N} . n = 2k) \vee (\exists k \in \mathbb{N} . n = 2k + 1))$.
(Every natural number is either odd or even.)
- (h) TRUE or FALSE: $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} . ((\forall k \in \mathbb{N} . n = 2k) \vee (\forall k \in \mathbb{N} . n = 2k + 1))$.
(For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, take $k = 100n + 100$; then $n \neq 2k$ and $n \neq 2k + 1$.)
- (i) TRUE or FALSE: $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} . ((\exists k \in \mathbb{N} . n = k^2) \implies (\exists \ell \in \mathbb{N} . n = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} (2i - 1)))$.
(For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with $n = k^2$, take $\ell = k$.)
- (j) TRUE or FALSE: If we want to prove the statement $x^2 \leq 1 \implies x \leq 1$ using Proof by Contrapositive, it suffices to prove the statement $x^2 > 1 \implies x > 1$.
(Converse error. We'd need to prove $x > 1 \implies x^2 > 1$.)
- (k) TRUE or FALSE: If we want to prove the statement $x^2 \leq 1 \implies x \leq 1$ using Proof by Contradiction, it suffices to start by assuming that $x^2 \leq 1 \wedge x > 1$ and then demonstrate that this leads to a contradiction.
($x^2 \leq 1 \wedge x > 1$ is the negation of $x^2 \leq 1 \implies x \leq 1$.)
- (l) TRUE or FALSE: Let $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} : x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}\}$. Then the well ordering principle guarantees that S has a smallest element.
(S is not a subset of the natural numbers, so the well ordering principle guarantees nothing. In fact, S has no smallest element, since $x = 3 - 7n$ satisfies $x^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$.)
- (m) TRUE or FALSE: Let $T = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : n^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{8}\}$. Then the well ordering principle guarantees that T has a smallest element.
(T is the empty set, so the well ordering principle guarantees nothing in this case.)
- (n) Suppose that, on day k of some execution of the Traditional Marriage Algorithm, Alice likes the boy who she currently has on a string better than the boy who Betty has on a string.
 TRUE or FALSE: It's guaranteed that on every subsequent day, this will continue to be true.
(Tomorrow, Betty might receive a proposal from some third boy who Alice has a mad crush on.)

Problem 2. [You complete the proof] (10 points)

The algorithm $A(\cdot, \cdot)$ accepts two natural numbers as input, and is defined as follows:

$A(n, m)$:

1. If $n = 0$ or $m = 0$, return 0.
2. Otherwise, return $A(n - 1, m) + A(n, m - 1) + 1 - A(n - 1, m - 1)$.

Fill in the boxes below in a way that will make the entire proof valid.

Theorem: For every $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $A(n, m) = nm$.

Proof: If $s \in \mathbb{N}$, let $P(s)$ denote the proposition

“ $\forall n, m \in \mathbb{N} . n + m = s \implies \boxed{A(n, m) = nm}$.”

We will use a proof by $\boxed{\text{strong induction}}$

on the variable \boxed{s} .

Base case: $A(0, 0) = 0$, so $P(0)$ is true.

Inductive hypothesis: Assume $\boxed{P(0) \wedge \dots \wedge P(s)}$ (or: $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N} . n + m \leq s \implies A(n, m) = nm$) is true for some $s \in \mathbb{N}$.

Induction step: Consider an arbitrary choice of $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $n + m = s + 1$. If $n = 0$ or $m = 0$, then $A(n, m) = 0 = nm$ is trivially true, so assume that $n \geq 1$ and $m \geq 1$. In this case we see that

$$\begin{aligned} A(n, m) &= A(n - 1, m) + A(n, m - 1) + 1 - A(n - 1, m - 1) && \text{(by the definition of } A(n, m)) \\ &= (n - 1)m + n(m - 1) + 1 - (n - 1)(m - 1) && \text{(by the inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= nm - m + nm - n + 1 - nm + n + m - 1 \\ &= nm. \end{aligned}$$

In every case where $n + m = s + 1$, we see that $A(n, m) = nm$. Therefore $P(s + 1)$ follows from the inductive hypothesis, and so the theorem is true. \square

Comment: Simple induction is not good enough. In the induction step we need to know that $A(n - 1, m - 1) = (n - 1)(m - 1)$. Since $n - 1 + m - 1 = s - 1$, to prove $P(s + 1)$ we need to know that both $P(s)$ and $P(s - 1)$ are true.

Problem 3. [Modular arithmetic] (10 points)

Suppose that x, y are integers such that

$$3x + 2y = 0 \pmod{71}$$

$$2x + 2y = 1 \pmod{71}$$

Solve for x, y . Find all solutions. Show your work. Circle your final answer showing all solutions for x, y .

Solution: There are many ways to solve this. Here is one. First, isolate x by subtracting the 2nd equation from the 1st, yielding

$$x \equiv -1 \pmod{71}.$$

Plug this expression for x into the first original equation to get $3 \times -1 + 2y \equiv 0 \pmod{71}$, i.e.,

$$2y \equiv 3 \pmod{71}.$$

Now $\gcd(2, 71) = 1$, so 2 has a multiplicative inverse modulo 71. One way to solve the equation for y is to notice that $2y \equiv 3 + 71 \equiv 74 \pmod{71}$, hence $y \equiv 2^{-1} \times 2y \equiv 2^{-1} \times 74 \equiv 2^{-1} \times 2 \times 37 \equiv 37 \pmod{71}$.

Final answer: $x \equiv -1 \pmod{71}, y \equiv 37 \pmod{71}$. Or, equivalently, $x = 70 + 71n, y = 37 + 71m$ for $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Alternatively, apply The Pulverizer to find the multiplicative inverse of 2 modulo 71. We need to find $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $a \cdot 2 + b \cdot 71 = 1$, so write:

$$0 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 71 = 71$$

$$1 \cdot 2 + 0 \cdot 71 = 2$$

$$-35 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 71 = 1$$

where we subtracted 35 times the 2nd equation from the 1st equation (here $35 = \lfloor 71/2 \rfloor$). Therefore, $2^{-1} \equiv -35 \equiv 36 \pmod{71}$. Now multiply both sides of the equation $2y \equiv 3 \pmod{71}$ by 36 to get

$$y \equiv 36 \cdot 2y \equiv 36 \cdot 3 \equiv 108 \equiv 37 \pmod{71}.$$

Alternatively, apply the extended Euclidean algorithm to find the multiplicative inverse of 2 modulo 71, and then continue as above.

Alternatively, we could have started by isolating y . We'd subtract 3 times the second equation from 2 times the first equation to get

$$-2y \equiv -3 \pmod{71},$$

continuing as before to calculate that $y \equiv 37 \pmod{71}$. Then, we can plug this into one of two original equations to find that $x \equiv -1 \pmod{71}$.

Alternatively, solve for x in the first equation to get

$$x \equiv 3^{-1} \times -2y \equiv 24 \times -2y \equiv -48y \equiv 23y \pmod{71},$$

where we had to compute the modular inverse of 3 modulo 71 (namely, 23) along the way. Now plug this expression for x into the second equation, yielding

$$2 \cdot 23y + 2y \equiv 1 \pmod{71},$$

i.e., $48y \equiv 1 \pmod{71}$. Now calculate the modular inverse of 48 modulo 71 to find the value of y . Then we can plug the known value for y into one of the equations and solve for x .