

## Homework 3 - Solutions

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1. *Proof.* Let  $x$  be an even integer. Then,  $x = 2q$  for some integer  $q$ . Suppose, for the contradiction, that  $x^3 - 1$  is an even integer. Then,  $x^3 - 1 = 2k$  for some integer  $k$ . Since  $x = 2q$  and  $x^3 - 1 = 2k$ , we have  $(2q)^3 - 1 = 2k$ , i.e.,  $8q^3 - 1 = 2k$ . Thus,  $1 = 8q^3 - 2k = 2(4q^3 - k)$  where  $4q^3 - k$  is an integer. In particular,  $4q^3 - k = \frac{1}{2}$  what implies that  $\frac{1}{2}$  is an integer contradicting the fact that  $\frac{1}{2}$  is not an integer. Hence,  $x^3 - 1$  is not even, so  $x^3 - 1$  is odd.  $\square$

2. *Proof.* The contrapositive of the statement “If  $a$  is even and  $b$  is odd, then  $a + b$  is odd” is “If  $a + b$  is even, then  $a$  is odd or  $b$  is even”. Since the statement and its contrapositive are equivalent, it is enough to suppose  $a + b$  is even and show that  $a$  is odd or  $b$  is even.

If  $a$  is odd, then we are done. Thus, we assume that  $a$  is not odd, i.e.,  $a$  is even. Since  $a + b$  and  $a$  even, we have  $a + b = 2k$  and  $a = 2l$  for some integers  $k$  and  $l$ . Then,  $b = (a + b) - a = 2k - 2l = 2(k - l)$  where  $(k - l)$  is an integer. Thus,  $b$  is even. As a result, if  $a + b$  is even, then  $a$  is odd or  $b$  is even.  $\square$

3. The mistake in the inductive step. The proof does not work to show that for each collection of 2 horses, all of the horses in the collection have the same color. If we remove a horse from a collection of 2 horses, then we get a collection of 1 horse, which obviously, has the same color. The problem is that the collections of 1 horse do not when we choose another horse. Therefore, we could have 2 horses such that one is of one color, and the other is of the other. Therefore, statement for 1 horse doesn't imply statement for 2 horses, so the inductive step doesn't hold.

4. *Proof.* We prove by induction.

Base case: For  $n = 1$ , we have  $1^2 + \dots + n^2$  is just 1 and  $\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} = \frac{1(1+1)(2\cdot 1)}{6} = \frac{1\cdot 2\cdot 3}{6} = 1$ . Therefore, for  $n = 1$ , we have  $1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$ .

Inductive step: Suppose that for given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}.$$

Our goal is to show that

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 + (n+1)^2 = \frac{[n+1]([n+1]+1)(2[n+1]+1)}{6},$$

i.e.,

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 + (n+1)^2 = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(2n+3)}{6}.$$

Adding  $(n + 1)^2$  to both sides of the inductive hypothesis, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 + (n + 1)^2 &= \frac{n(n + 1)(2n + 1)}{6} + (n + 1)^2 \\
 &= \frac{n(n + 1)(2n + 1)}{6} + \frac{6(n + 1)(n + 1)}{6} \\
 &= \frac{(n + 1)}{6}(n(2n + 1) + 6(n + 1)) \\
 &= \frac{(n + 1)}{6}(2n^2 + 7n + 6) \\
 &= \frac{(n + 1)(n + 2)(2n + 3)}{6}
 \end{aligned}$$

because

$$(n + 2)(2n + 3) = 2n^2 + 4n + 3n + 6 = 2n^2 + 7n + 6.$$

Therefore, by the principle of mathematical induction, we proved that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n + 1)(2n + 1)}{6}.$$

□

5. *Proof.* We prove by induction.

Base case: For  $n = 1$ , we have  $1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n = 1 + x$  and

$$\frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1} = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1} = \frac{(x - 1)(x + 1)}{x - 1} = x + 1$$

because  $x - 1 \neq 0$ . Therefore, for  $n = 1$ , the statement is true.

Inductive step: Suppose that for given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n = \frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1}.$$

Our goal is to show that

$$1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n + x^{n+1} = \frac{x^{[n+1]+1} - 1}{x - 1},$$

i.e.,

$$1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n + x^{n+1} = \frac{x^{n+2} - 1}{x - 1}.$$

Adding  $x^{n+1}$  to both sides of the inductive hypothesis, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n + x^{n+1} &= \frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1} + x^{n+1} \\
 &= \frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1} + \frac{x^{n+1}(x - 1)}{x - 1} \\
 &= \frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1} + \frac{x^{n+2} - x^{n+1}}{x - 1} \\
 &= \frac{x^{n+1} - 1 + x^{n+2} - x^{n+1}}{x - 1} \\
 &= \frac{x^{n+2} - 1}{x - 1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by the principle of mathematical induction, we proved the statement for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$

6. *Proof.* We use proof by induction.

Base case: Let  $n = 1$ . Then,  $3^{2n-1} + 1 = 3^{2 \cdot 1 - 1} + 1 = 4$  and 4 divides 4. Therefore, 4 divides  $(3^{2n-1} + 1)$  if  $n = 1$ .

Inductive step: Suppose that for given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have 4 divides  $(3^{2n-1} + 1)$ . Our goal is to show that 4 divides  $(3^{2[n+1]-1} + 1)$ , i.e., 4 divides  $(3^{2n+1} + 1)$ .

We have

$$3^{2n+1} + 1 = 3^{2n-1} \cdot 3^2 + 1 = 3^{2n-1} \cdot (8 + 1) + 1 = (3^{2n-1} + 1) + 8 \cdot 3^{2n-1}.$$

Since 4 divides  $(3^{2n-1} + 1)$  (by inductive hypothesis) and 4 divides  $8 \cdot 3^{2n-1}$  (because  $8 \cdot 3^{2n-1} = 4 \cdot (2 \cdot 3^{2n-1}) = 4 \cdot \text{integer}$ ), we have 4 divides  $(3^{2n+1} + 1)$ .

Therefore, by the principle of the mathematical induction, we proved the statement for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$