

MATH1050 Workshop on Proof-writing 1 (Solution)

1. Let $x, n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Suppose x is divisible by n .

Let $y \in \mathbb{Z}$.

By assumption, there exists some $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $x = tn$.

$$\begin{aligned} & (5x + y)^7 + (5x - y)^7 \\ &= [(5x + y) + (5x - y)][(5x + y)^6 - (5x + y)^5(5x - y) + (5x + y)^4(5x - y)^2 - (5x + y)^3(5x - y)^3 \\ &\quad + (5x + y)^2(5x - y)^4 - (5x + y)(5x - y)^5 + (5x - y)^6] \\ &= 10x[(5x + y)^6 - (5x + y)^5(5x - y) + (5x + y)^4(5x - y)^2 - (5x + y)^3(5x - y)^3 \\ &\quad + (5x + y)^2(5x - y)^4 - (5x + y)(5x - y)^5 + (5x - y)^6] \\ &= 10n \cdot t[(5x + y)^6 - (5x + y)^5(5x - y) + (5x + y)^4(5x - y)^2 - (5x + y)^3(5x - y)^3 \\ &\quad + (5x + y)^2(5x - y)^4 - (5x + y)(5x - y)^5 + (5x - y)^6] \end{aligned}$$

Since t, x, y are integers, $t[(5x + y)^6 - (5x + y)^5(5x - y) + (5x + y)^4(5x - y)^2 - (5x + y)^3(5x - y)^3 + (5x + y)^2(5x - y)^4 - (5x + y)(5x - y)^5 + (5x - y)^6]$ is also an integer.

Then, by definition, $(5x + y)^7 + (5x - y)^7$ is divisible by $10n$.

2. Let x, y be rational numbers. Suppose $y \neq 0$.

Since x is a rational number, there exist some $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $n \neq 0$ and $m = nx$.

Since y is a rational number, there exist some $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $q \neq 0$ and $p = qy$.

Since $y \neq 0$, we have $p \neq 0$. Recall $n \neq 0$. Then $pn \neq 0$.

We also have $mq \cdot y = m \cdot qy = nx \cdot p = np \cdot x = np \cdot \frac{x}{y} \cdot y$.

Since $y \neq 0$, we have $mq = np \cdot \frac{x}{y}$.

It follows that $\frac{x}{y}$ is a rational number.

3. Let p, q be prime numbers. Suppose p, q are positive and $p \neq q$.

Suppose it were true that p was divisible by q .

Since p is a prime number, p is divisible by $1, -1, p, -p$ only.

Then, since p was divisible by q , $q = 1$ or $q = -1$ or $q = p$ or $q = -p$.

Since q is a prime number, $q \neq 1$ and $q \neq -1$.

By assumption, $q \neq p$.

Since p is positive, $-p$ is negative. Then by assumption, $q \neq -p$.

Contradiction arises.

It follows that p is not divisible by q in the first place.

4. Let a be a real number, and $h : (0, +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the real-valued function of one real variable defined by $h(x) = x + \frac{a^2}{x}$ for any $x \in (0, +\infty)$. Suppose $a > 0$.

Pick any $s, t \in (0, a]$. Suppose $s < t$.

Note that

$$h(s) - h(t) = \left(s + \frac{a^2}{s}\right) - \left(t + \frac{a^2}{t}\right) = (s - t) + a^2\left(\frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{t}\right) = (s - t) + \frac{a^2}{st}(t - s) = \frac{t - s}{st} \cdot (a^2 - st)$$

Since $0 < s < t$, we have $t - s > 0$ and $st > 0$. Then $\frac{t - s}{st} > 0$.

Since $0 < s < t \leq a$, we have $0 < st < t^2 \leq a^2$. Then $a^2 - st > 0$.

Therefore $h(s) - h(t) = \frac{t - s}{st} \cdot (a^2 - st) > 0$. Then $h(t) < h(s)$.

It follows that h is strictly decreasing on $(0, a]$.

5. Let a, b be real numbers. Suppose $|a| \leq 1$ and $|b| \leq 1$. Suppose $\sqrt{1-a^2} + \sqrt{1-b^2} > 2\sqrt{1-(a+b)^2/4}$.

Note that $2\sqrt{1 - \frac{(a+b)^2}{4}} \geq 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} (1-a^2) + (1-b^2) + 2\sqrt{(1-a^2)(1-b^2)} &= (\sqrt{1-a^2} + \sqrt{1-b^2})^2 \\ &> \left[2\sqrt{1 - \frac{(a+b)^2}{4}}\right]^2 = 4 \left[1 - \frac{(a+b)^2}{4}\right] = 4 - (a+b)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore (after simplification), we would obtain $\sqrt{(1-a^2)(1-b^2)} > 1-ab$.

Since $|a| \leq 1$ and $|b| \leq 1$, we have $ab \leq |ab| \leq 1$. Then $1-ab \geq 0$.

Then $1-a^2-b^2+a^2b^2 = (1-a^2)(1-b^2) > (1-ab)^2 = 1-2ab+a^2b^2$.

Therefore (after simplification), we would obtain $a^2+b^2-2ab < 0$.

But $a^2+b^2-2ab = (a-b)^2 \geq 0$ because a, b are real numbers. Contradiction arises.

Hence $\sqrt{1-a^2} + \sqrt{1-b^2} \leq 2\sqrt{1 - \frac{(a+b)^2}{4}}$ in the first place.

6. Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$. Let x be a positive real number. Suppose $m > n$.

We have $\left(x^m + \frac{1}{x^m}\right) - \left(x^n + \frac{1}{x^n}\right) = (x^m - x^n) - \frac{x^m - x^n}{x^{m+n}} = \frac{(x^m - x^n)(x^{m+n} - 1)}{x^{m+n}}$.

Note that $x^{m+n} > 0$. We verify that $(x^m - x^n)(x^{m+n} - 1) \geq 0$.

- (Case 1). Suppose $0 < x < 1$. Then $0 < x^{m-n} < 1$ and $x^n > 0$.

Therefore $x^m - x^n = (x^{m-n} - 1)x^n < 0$.

Hence $x^m - x^n < 0$.

Also $0 < x^{m+n} < 1$. Then $x^{m+n} - 1 < 0$. It follows that $(x^m - x^n)(x^{m+n} - 1) > 0$.

- (Case 2). Suppose $x \geq 1$. Then $x^{m-n} \geq 1$ and $x^n > 0$.

Therefore $x^m - x^n = (x^{m-n} - 1) \cdot x^n > 0$.

Hence $x^m - x^n \geq 0$.

Also $x^{m+n} \geq 1$. Then $x^{m+n} - 1 \geq 0$. It follows that $(x^m - x^n)(x^{m+n} - 1) \geq 0$.

Therefore, in any case, $(x^m - x^n)(x^{m+n} - 1) \geq 0$.

It follows that $\left(x^m + \frac{1}{x^m}\right) - \left(x^n + \frac{1}{x^n}\right) = \frac{(x^m - x^n)(x^{m+n} - 1)}{x^{m+n}} \geq 0$. Hence $x^m + \frac{1}{x^m} \geq x^n + \frac{1}{x^n}$.

- Suppose $x = 1$. Then $x^m + \frac{1}{x^m} = 2 = x^n + \frac{1}{x^n}$.

- Suppose $x^m + \frac{1}{x^m} = x^n + \frac{1}{x^n}$. Then $0 = \frac{(x^m - x^n)(x^{m+n} - 1)}{x^{m+n}}$. Therefore $x^m = x^n$ or $x^{m+n} = 1$.

* (Case 1). Suppose $x^m = x^n$. Then $x^{m-n} = 1$. Since $m > n$, we have $m-n > 0$. Since $x > 0$, we have $x = 1$.

* (Case 2). Suppose $x^{m+n} = 1$. Note that $m+n > 0$. Since $x > 0$, we have $x = 1$.

Hence, in any case, we have $x = 1$.