

MATH1050 Exercise 7 (Answers and selected solution.)

1. **Answer.**

- (a) There exists some  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that for any  $s, t \in \mathbb{Q}$ , there exists some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $s < n < t$  and  $|x - n| \leq |t - s|$ .
- (b) There exists some  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ , such that for any  $q \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exist some  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|s - t| < |q|$  and  $|s^n - t^n| \geq |p|$ .
- (c) There exist some  $s, t \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that for any  $p, q \in \mathbb{R}$ , there exists some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $|s - t| \leq |q|$  and  $(t^n > |p|$  or  $s^n > |p|)$ .
- (d) For any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists some  $\varepsilon \in (0, +\infty)$  such that for any  $\delta \in (0, +\infty)$ , there exist some  $u, v \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $|u - v| < \delta$  and  $|u^n - v^n| \geq \varepsilon$ .
- (e) There exist some  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that for any  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ , there exist some  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|p + q| \geq s^m$  and  $|p^n - q| \geq t$  and  $|p - q^n| \geq t$ .
- (f) There exists some  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  such that for any  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ , there exists some  $w \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $(|z - w| \leq r$  and  $(z \in \mathbb{R}$  or  $|w| \leq r))$ .
- (g) There exist some  $z, w \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $|z - w| \geq |z + w|$  and (for any  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ , there exists some  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $(|z - s - t| \leq |w|$  and  $|z| \geq 1)$ ).
- (h) There exist some  $\zeta, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  such that (there exist some  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\zeta = s\alpha + t\beta$ ) and (for any  $p, q \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\zeta \neq p\bar{\alpha} + q\bar{\beta}$ ).

2. **Solution.**

- (a) Take  $n = 3$ . Note that  $3 \in \mathbb{N}$ . Note that  $3 + 2 = 5$ ,  $3 + 4 = 7$ . The integers 3, 5, 7 are prime numbers.
- (b) Take  $x = \sqrt{2}$ . Note that  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . We have  $x^2 - 2 = (\sqrt{2})^2 - 2 = 2 - 2 = 0$ .
- (c) Take  $z_0 = \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}}$ . Note that  $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Also note that  $z_0^4 = \left(\frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^4 = \frac{1+4i+6i^2+4i^3+i^4}{4} = \frac{1+4i-6-4i+1}{4} = 1$ .

3. **Solution.**

- (a) i.  $-2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $-2 + 1 = -1 < 0$ .  
ii.  $2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $2 - 1 = 1 > 0$ .
- (b) Suppose it were true that there existed some  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $(x + 1 < 0$  and  $x - 1 > 0)$ . For this  $x$ , we would have  $x < -1$  and  $x > 1$ . Then  $x < -1 < 1 < x$ . Therefore  $x \neq x$ . Contradiction arises.  
Hence it is false that there exists some  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $(x + 1 < 0$  and  $x - 1 > 0)$ .

*Alternative argument:* The negation of the statement ‘there exists some  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $(x + 1 < 0$  and  $x - 1 > 0)$ ’ is given by:

- For any  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $(x + 1 \geq 0$  or  $x - 1 \leq 0)$ .

We give a proof of the latter:

- Let  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We have  $x \geq 0$  or  $x \leq 0$ . Where  $x \geq 0$ , we have  $x + 1 \geq 1 \geq 0$ . Where  $x \leq 0$ , we have  $x - 1 \leq -1 \leq 0$ .

4. **Solution.**

- (a) Let  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ . Suppose it were true that  $\operatorname{Re}(z) = 0$  and  $\operatorname{Im}(z) = 0$ . Then  $z = \operatorname{Re}(z) + i\operatorname{Im}(z) = 0 + i \cdot 0 = 0$ . Contradiction arises. Hence  $\operatorname{Re}(z) \neq 0$  or  $\operatorname{Im}(z) \neq 0$  in the first place.
- (b) The statement ‘for any  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\operatorname{Re}(z) \neq 0$ ’ is false: we have  $i \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(i) = 0$ . The statement ‘for any  $w \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\operatorname{Im}(w) \neq 0$ ’ is also false: we have  $1 \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\operatorname{Im}(1) = 0$ .  
Hence the statement ‘(for any  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\operatorname{Re}(z) \neq 0$ ) or (for any  $w \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\operatorname{Im}(w) \neq 0$ )’ is false.

5. (a) **Answer.**

- (I) Suppose
- (II)  $\eta = a'\zeta + b'\zeta^2$
- (III)  $\zeta \neq 0$
- (IV)  $a' - a$
- (V) Suppose it were true that  $b \neq b'$
- (VI)  $\frac{a' - a}{b - b'}$

(VII)  $a' = a$

(b) i. —

**Remark.** The correct way to start the argument is:

Let  $r$  be a real number. Let  $a, a', b, b'$  be rational numbers. Suppose  $r = a + b\sqrt{2}$  and  $r = a' + b'\sqrt{2}$ .

ii. —

**Remark.** The correct way to start the argument is:

Let  $p, q$  be real numbers. Suppose  $f(x)$  be the cubic polynomial given by  $f(x) = x^3 + px + q$ .

Let  $v$  be a real number. Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be real numbers. Suppose ' $u = \alpha$ ', ' $u = \beta$ ' are real solutions of the equation  $f(u) = v$  with unknown  $u$ .

6. (a) **Answer.**

There are many correct answers for (II), (III), ..., (IX) collectively.

(I) There exist some  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that each of  $xy, xz$  is divisible by 4 and  $xyz$  is not divisible by 8.

(II)  $y = z = 1$

(III) 4

(IV) 4

(V)  $4 = 1 \cdot 4$  and  $1 \in \mathbb{Z}$

(VI) 4

(VII) 4 were divisible by 8

(VIII)  $4 = 8k$

(IX)  $\frac{1}{2}$

(b) i. —

ii. —

**Remark.** Be aware that the negation of the statement to be dis-proved is:

- There exist some  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x - y > 0$  and  $y - z > 0$  and  $x - y, y - z$  are divisible by 5 and  $x + y + z$  is divisible by 5.

iii. —

**Remark.** Be aware that the negation of the statement to be dis-proved is:

- There exist some  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \notin \mathbb{N}$ .

iv. —

**Remark.** Be aware that the negation of the statement to be dis-proved is:

- There exist some  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$  such that both of  $s + t, st$  are rational and both of  $s, t$  are irrational.

v. —

**Remark.** Be aware that the negation of the statement to be dis-proved is:

- There exist some  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $ab$  is divisible by  $c$  and  $c < a$  and  $c < b$  and both of  $a, b$  are divisible by  $c$ .

7. (a) **Answer.**

(I) Suppose

(II)  $u \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-1, 0, 1\}$

(III)  $u^6 + v^6 \leq 2v^4$

(IV)  $u^6 - 2u^4 + u^2 + v^6 - 2v^4 + v^2 \leq 0$

(V)  $u^2(u^2 - 1)^2 = 0$

(VI)  $u \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-1, 0, 1\}$

(b) i. **Solution.**

We verify that for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x^2 + 2x + 3 \geq 0$ :

- Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . We have  $x^2 + 2x + 3 = (x + 1)^2 + 2 \geq 0 + 2 = 2 \geq 0$ .

*Alternative argument:*

Suppose it were true that there existed some  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x^2 + 2x + 3 < 0$ . Then we would have  $0 \leq 2 = 0 + 2 \leq (x + 1)^2 + 2 = x^2 + 2x + 3 < 0$ . Contradiction arises.

Hence, in the first place, it is false that there exists some  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x^2 + 2x + 3 < 0$ .

ii. **Solution.**

We verify that for any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $(x + y)^2 \neq x^2 + y^2$ :

- Pick any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ . We have  $xy \neq 0$ . Then  $(x + y)^2 - x^2 - y^2 = 2xy \neq 0$ . Then  $(x + y)^2 \neq x^2 + y^2$ .

Hence it is false that there exist some  $x, y \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $(x + y)^2 = x^2 + y^2$ .

*Alternative argument:*

Suppose it were true that there existed some  $x, y \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $(x+y)^2 = x^2 + y^2$ . Then we would have  $2xy = (x+y)^2 - x^2 - y^2 = 0$ . Since  $x \neq 0$  and  $y \neq 0$  and  $2 \neq 0$ , we have  $2xy \neq 0$ . Contradiction arises. Hence, in the first place, it is false that there exist some  $x, y \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $(x+y)^2 = x^2 + y^2$ .

- iii. —
- iv. —
- v. —

**8. Solution.**

(a) Let  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- Suppose  $s$  is not divisible by 2.

By Division Algorithm for Integers, there exist some  $k, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $s = 2k + r$  and  $0 \leq r < 2$ .

Since  $s$  is not divisible by 2, we have  $r \neq 0$ . Then  $0 < r < 2$ . Therefore  $r = 1$ .

Hence  $s = 2k + 1$  for the same  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- Suppose there exists some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $s = 2k + 1$ .

We claim that  $s$  is not divisible by 2:

- \* Suppose it were true that  $s$  was divisible by 2. Then there exists some  $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $s = 2\ell$ .

Now we would have  $2\ell = s = 2k + 1$ . Then  $2(\ell - k) = 1$ . Since  $k, \ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $\ell - k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Therefore 1 would be divisible by 2. But  $0 < 1 < 2$ .

Contradiction arises.

Hence  $s$  is not divisible by 2 in the first place.

(b) Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- Suppose  $ab$  is an odd integer.

We claim that both of  $a, b$  are odd integers:

- \* Suppose it were true that at least one of  $a, b$ , say,  $a$  was an even integer. Then there would exist some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a = 2k$ .

Now we would have  $ab = 2kb$ . Since  $k, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $kb \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Therefore  $ab$  would be divisible by 2. Hence  $ab$  would not be an odd integer. Contradiction arises.

Hence both of  $a, b$  are odd integers in the first place.

- Suppose both of  $a, b$  are odd integers.

Then there exist  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a = 2m + 1$  and  $b = 2n + 1$ .

Now we have  $ab = (2m + 1)(2n + 1) = 4mn + 2m + 2n + 1 = 2(2mn + m + n) + 1$ .

Since  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $2mn + m + n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $ab$  is an odd integer.

9. —

10. —

**11. Solution.**

(a) We have

$$\begin{aligned} 35 &= 2 \cdot 14 + 7 \\ 14 &= 2 \cdot 7 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\gcd(35, 14) = 7.$$

(b) We have

$$\begin{aligned} 15 &= 1 \cdot 11 + 4 \\ 11 &= 2 \cdot 4 + 3 \\ 4 &= 1 \cdot 3 + 1 \\ 3 &= 3 \cdot 1 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\gcd(15, 11) = 1.$$

(c) We have

$$\begin{aligned} 252 &= 1 \cdot 180 + 72 \\ 180 &= 2 \cdot 72 + 36 \\ 72 &= 2 \cdot 36 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\gcd(252, 180) = 36.$$

(d) We have

$$\begin{aligned} 1368 &= 1 \cdot 1278 + 90 \\ 1278 &= 14 \cdot 90 + 18 \\ 90 &= 5 \cdot 18 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence } \gcd(1368, 1278) = 18.$$

12. **Solution.**

- (a) i. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ . Applying the Euclidean Algorithm to the pair of positive integers  $n, n + 1$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} n + 1 &= 1 \cdot n + 1 \\ n &= n \cdot 1 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\gcd(n, n + 1) = 1$ .

- ii. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ . Applying Euclidean Algorithm to the pair of positive integers  $2n - 1, 2n + 1$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 2n + 1 &= 1 \cdot (2n - 1) + 2 \\ 2n - 1 &= (n - 1) \cdot 2 + 1 \\ 2 &= 2 \cdot 1 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\gcd(2n - 1, 2n + 1) = 1$ .

- (b) The following statement holds:

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ . If  $n$  is an odd integer then  $\gcd(3n - 1, 3n + 1) = 2$ . If  $n$  is an even integer then  $\gcd(3n - 1, 3n + 1) = 1$ .

Justification:

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ .

\* Suppose  $n$  is an odd integer. Then there exists some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $n = 2k + 1$ . Therefore  $3n - 1 = 6k + 2$ , and  $3n + 1 = 6k + 4$ .

Since  $n \geq 2$ , we have  $k \geq 1$ .

Applying Euclidean Algorithm to the pair of positive integers  $6k + 2, 6k + 4$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 6k + 4 &= 1 \cdot (6k + 2) + 2 \\ 6k + 2 &= (3k + 1) \cdot 2 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\gcd(3n - 1, 3n + 1) = \gcd(6k + 2, 6k + 4) = 2$ .

\* Suppose  $n$  is an even integer. Then there exists some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $n = 2\ell$ . Therefore  $3n - 1 = 6\ell - 1$ , and  $3n + 1 = 6\ell + 1$ .

Since  $n \geq 2$ , we have  $\ell \geq 1$ .

Applying Euclidean Algorithm to the pair of positive integers  $6\ell - 1, 6\ell + 1$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 6\ell + 1 &= 1 \cdot (6\ell - 1) + 2 \\ 6\ell - 1 &= (3\ell - 1) \cdot 2 + 1 \\ 2 &= 2 \cdot 1 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\gcd(3n - 1, 3n + 1) = \gcd(6\ell - 1, 6\ell + 1) = 1$ .

13. (a) *Hint.* Re-write the equality  $\binom{p}{r} = \frac{p!}{(r!) \cdot [(p - r)!]}$  as  $(r!) \cdot [(p - r)!] \cdot \binom{p}{r} = p \cdot [(p - 1)!]$ .

What does Euclid's Lemma tells you in light of  $p$  being a prime number?

- (b) *Hint.* Apply the Binomial Theorem.

- (c) *Hint.* Apply mathematical induction to the proposition  $S(n)$  stated below:

$$n^p \equiv n \pmod{p}.$$

- (d) *Hint.* Apply the result in part (c).

14. (a) **Solution.**

Regard  $0, 1, 2$  as distinct objects.

Let  $A = \{0, 1\}$ ,  $B = \{1\}$ ,  $C = \{2\}$ .

We have  $A \cap B = B = \{1\}$ ,  $C \setminus B = C = \{2\}$ ,  $A \setminus (C \setminus B) = A = \{0, 1\}$ .

Note that  $0 \in A \setminus (C \setminus B)$  and  $0 \notin A \cap B$ .

Hence  $A \setminus (C \setminus B) \not\subseteq A \cap B$ .

**Remark.** Be aware that to dis-prove the statement stated in the question is to prove its negation, which reads:

- There exist some sets  $A, B, C$  such that  $A \setminus (C \setminus B) \not\subseteq A \cap B$ .

- (b) **Solution.**

Regard  $0, 1, 2$  as distinct objects.

Let  $A = \{0\}$ ,  $B = \{1\}$ ,  $C = \{2\}$ .

$A, B, C$  are non-empty sets.

We have  $B \setminus A = B = \{1\}$ ,  $C \setminus A = C = \{2\}$ ,  $C \setminus B = C = \{2\}$ , and  $(C \setminus A) \setminus (C \setminus B) = \emptyset$ .

Note that  $1 \in B \setminus A$  and  $1 \notin (C \setminus A) \setminus (C \setminus B)$ .

Hence  $B \setminus A \not\subseteq (C \setminus A) \setminus (C \setminus B)$ .

**Remark.** Be aware that to dis-prove the statement stated in the question is to prove its negation, which reads:

- There exist some non-empty sets  $A, B, C$  such that  $B \setminus A \not\subseteq (C \setminus A) \setminus (C \setminus B)$ .

(c) **Solution.**

Regard  $0, 1, 2$  as distinct objects.

Let  $A = \{0\}, B = \{1\}, C = \{2\}$ .

We have  $B \cap C = \emptyset$ . Then  $A \cup (B \cap C) = \{0\}$ .

We also have  $A \cup B = \{0, 1\}$ . Then  $(A \cup B) \cap C = \emptyset$ .

Note that  $0 \in A \cup (B \cap C)$  and  $0 \notin (A \cup B) \cap C$ .

Here  $A \cup (B \cap C) \not\subseteq (A \cup B) \cap C$ .

**Remark.** Be aware that to dis-prove the statement stated in the question is to prove its negation, which reads:

- There exist some non-empty sets  $A, B, C$  such that  $A \cup (B \cap C) \not\subseteq (A \cup B) \cap C$ .

(d) —

(e) —

(f) —

(g) —

15. **Solution.**

(a) Let  $A, B$  be sets.

- Suppose  $A \subsetneq B$ . Then  $A \subset B$  and  $A \neq B$ .  
In particular  $A \subset B$ .  
Since  $A \neq B$ , we have  $(A \not\subseteq B$  or  $B \not\subseteq A)$ .  
Since  $A \subset B$ , we have  $B \not\subseteq A$ .
- Suppose  $A \subset B$  and  $B \not\subseteq A$ .  
Since  $B \not\subseteq A$ , it is not true that  $B \subset A$ . Therefore  $A \neq B$ .  
It follows that  $A \subsetneq B$ .

(b) Let  $A, B, C$  be sets. Suppose  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C$ . Further suppose  $A \subsetneq B$  or  $B \subsetneq C$ .

Since  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C$ , we have  $A \subset C$ .

We verify that  $C \not\subseteq A$ :

- Suppose it were true that  $C \subset A$ . Then, since  $A \subset C$ , we would have  $A = C$ . Moreover, since  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C = A$ , we would have  $A = B$ .  
Therefore  $B = C$  also.  
Now  $A = B$  and  $B = C$ . Then  $(A \subsetneq B$  or  $B \subsetneq C)$  would be false.  
Contradiction arises. Hence  $C \not\subseteq A$  in the first place.

Now we have  $A \subset C$  and  $C \not\subseteq A$ . It follows that  $A \subsetneq C$ .

16. —

17. **Solution.**

Let  $M$  be a set, and  $C$  be a subset of  $\mathfrak{P}(M)$ .

Define  $I = \{x \in M : x \in V \text{ for any } V \in C\}$ ,  $J = \{x \in M : x \in V \text{ for some } V \in C\}$ .

(a) Let  $P$  be a subset of  $M$ . Suppose  $P \subset V$  for any  $V \in C$ .

Pick any  $x \in P$ .

- Pick any  $V \in C$ . Now we have  $x \in P$  and  $P \subset V$ . Then by assumption, we have  $x \in V$ .

Therefore  $x \in I$  by the definition of  $I$ .

It follows that  $P \subset I$ .

(b) Let  $Q$  be a subset of  $M$ . Suppose  $V \subset Q$  for any  $V \in C$ .

Pick any  $x \in J$ . By the definition of  $J$ , there exists some  $V_x \in C$  such that  $x \in V_x$ . By assumption,  $V_x \subset Q$ .

Now we have  $x \in V_x$  and  $V_x \subset Q$ . Therefore  $x \in Q$ .

It follows that  $J \subset Q$ .

(c) Let  $R$  be a subset of  $M$ . Suppose  $D = \{V \cap R \mid V \in C\}$ , and  $K = \{x \in M : x \in U \text{ for some } U \in D\}$ .

- Pick any  $x \in K$ . By the definition of  $K$ , there exists some  $U_x \in D$  such that  $x \in U_x$ .  
By the definition of  $D$ , there exists some  $V_x \in C$  such that  $U_x = V_x \cap R$ .  
Then  $x \in V_x \cap R$ . Therefore  $x \in V_x$  and  $x \in R$ .  
Since  $x \in V_x$  and  $V_x \in C$ , we have  $x \in J$  by the definition of  $J$ .  
Now  $x \in J$  and  $x \in R$ . Then  $x \in J \cap R$ .

- Pick any  $x \in J \cap R$ . We have  $x \in J$  and  $x \in R$ .  
In particular,  $x \in J$ . Then there exists some  $V_x \in C$  such that  $x \in V_x$ .  
Now  $x \in V_x$  and  $x \in R$ . Then  $x \in V_x \cap R$ .  
Define  $U_x = V_x \cap R$ . By the definition of  $U_x$ , we have  $U_x \in D$ , and  $x \in U_x$ .  
Then by the definition of  $K$ , we have  $x \in K$ .

It follows that  $K = J \cap R$ .