

Reading Questions 3

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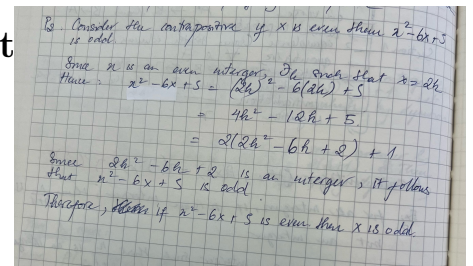
1. To prove that the statement P is false by showing that the negation of P is true is a proof by contradiction. T
2. Consider the statement: "If the average of four different integers is 10 then one of the integers is greater than 11". This statement was proved using proof by contradiction. F
3. Were there any explanations since the previous class which were unclear?

Section 0.2 Proofs in Mathematics (Part

Proof by Contrapositive

P 1. When should proof by contrapositive be used to prove a statement?

P 2. Prove: If $x^2 - 6x + 5$ is even then x is odd.



Proof by Contradiction and Counter Example

P 3. When using proof by contradiction what is being contradicted?

P 4. Prove: No odd integer can be expressed as the sum of three even integers.

P 5. When is finding a counter example useful?

P 6. Prove or Disprove: For all positive integers x , if $\frac{x(x+1)}{2}$ is odd then $\frac{(x+1)(x+2)}{2}$ is odd.

contrapositive of $P \rightarrow Q$ is $\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$

Thm: Let x be an integer. If $5x - 7$ is even then x is odd.

pf: Consider the contrapositive (If x is even then $5x - 7$ is odd.)

Since x is even, $\exists k$ -integer such that $x = 2k$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} 5x - 7 &= 5(2k) - 7 \\ &= 10k - 7 \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2(5k-4) + 1.$$

Since $5k-4$ is an integer it follows that $5x-7$ is odd.

Therefore the statement is true by way of contrapositive.

Contradiction $\neg P$

Assume $\neg P$ and find a contradiction

Thm: The real number $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.

pf: P : $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational

$\neg P$: $\sqrt{2}$ is rational

WTS $\neg P$ is false.

Assume $\sqrt{2}$ is rational. Then $\exists m, n, n \neq 0$ s.t.

$\sqrt{2} = \frac{m}{n}$. Pick m and n in reduced form. In other words

m and n have no common factors.

Hence

$$2 = \frac{m^2}{n^2} \Rightarrow 2n^2 = m^2 \Rightarrow m^2 - \text{even} \\ \Rightarrow m - \text{even}$$

Thus $\exists k$ - integer s.t.

$$2 = \frac{(2k)^2}{n^2} \Rightarrow 2n^2 = 4k^2 \\ \Rightarrow n^2 = 2k^2 \\ \Rightarrow n^2 - \text{even}$$

$\Rightarrow n - \text{even}$

However m and n can not have the common factor of 2. Therefore $\sqrt{2}$ is not rational which implies $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.

Counter Example

Ex: For all integers x , $x^2 > 0$.

when $x = 0$ $x^2 = 0 \neq 0$. Hence $x = 0$ is a counter example.