

# MATH 108 Fall 2019 - Problem Set 5 solutions

due November 4

1. Let  $\sim$  be the relation on  $\mathbb{R}$  defined by  $x \sim y$  if and only if  $x - y \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(a) Prove that  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation.

Reflexivity: For  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x - x = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  so  $x \sim x$ .

Symmetry: For  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $x \sim y$  then  $x - y$  is an integer. Therefore  $-(x - y) = y - x$  is also an integer, so  $y \sim x$ .

Transitivity: For  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $x \sim y$  and  $y \sim z$  then  $x - y$  and  $y - z$  are integers. The sum of two integers is an integer, so  $(x - y) + (y - z) = x - z$  is an integer. Therefore  $x \sim z$ .

(b) Prove for all real numbers  $x, y, z, w$  that if  $\bar{x} = \bar{z}$  and  $\bar{y} = \bar{w}$  then  $\overline{x + y} = \overline{z + w}$ .

Suppose that  $\bar{x} = \bar{z}$  and  $\bar{y} = \bar{w}$ , so  $x - z$  and  $y - w$  are integers. The sum of two integers is an integer, so  $(x - z) + (y - w) = (x + y) - (z + w)$  is an integer. Therefore  $x + y \sim z + w$ , meaning  $\overline{x + y} = \overline{z + w}$ .

2. Using modular arithmetic, prove that for all positive integers  $n$ ,

(a)  $10^n - 1$  is divisible by 3.

Since  $10 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , then

$$10^n - 1 \equiv 1^n - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

for all positive integers  $n$ .

(b)  $n^4 + 2n^3 - n^2 - 2n$  is divisible by 4.

There are four cases, depending on the equivalence class of  $n$ .

If  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  then

$$n^4 + 2n^3 - n^2 - 2n \equiv 1^4 + 2 \cdot 1^3 - 1^2 - 2 \cdot 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}.$$

If  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$  then

$$n^4 + 2n^3 - n^2 - 2n \equiv 2^4 + 2 \cdot 2^3 - 2^2 - 2 \cdot 2 \equiv 24 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}.$$

If  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  then

$$n^4 + 2n^3 - n^2 - 2n \equiv 3^4 + 2 \cdot 3^3 - 3^2 - 2 \cdot 3 \equiv 120 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}.$$

If  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  then

$$n^4 + 2n^3 - n^2 - 2n \equiv 0^4 + 2 \cdot 0^3 - 0^2 - 2 \cdot 0 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}.$$

(c)  $1^n + 2^n + 3^n + 4^n$  is a multiple of 5 or one less than a multiple of 5.

We proceed by induction on  $n$ , with base cases 1, 2, 3, 4. For  $n = 1$ , we have

$$1^1 + 2^1 + 3^1 + 4^1 \equiv 10 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}.$$

For  $n = 2$ , we have

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 \equiv 30 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}.$$

For  $n = 3$ , we have

$$1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + 4^3 \equiv 100 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}.$$

For  $n = 4$ , we have

$$1^4 + 2^4 + 3^4 + 4^4 \equiv 354 \equiv 4 \pmod{5}.$$

For  $n > 4$ , assume that  $1^{n-4} + 2^{n-4} + 3^{n-4} + 4^{n-4}$  is a multiple of 5 or one less than a multiple of 5. Note that

$$1^4 \equiv 2^4 \equiv 3^4 \equiv 4^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} 1^n + 2^n + 3^n + 4^n &\equiv 1^4 \cdot 1^{n-4} + 2^4 \cdot 2^{n-4} + 3^4 \cdot 3^{n-4} + 4^4 \cdot 4^{n-4} \\ &\equiv 1^{n-4} + 2^{n-4} + 3^{n-4} + 4^{n-4} \pmod{5}. \end{aligned}$$

So  $1^n + 2^n + 3^n + 4^n$  is also a multiple of 5 or one less than a multiple of 5.

3. The “Cancellation Law” for  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  is the statement: For all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$ , if  $xy \equiv xz \pmod{m}$  and  $x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$  then  $y \equiv z \pmod{m}$ .

(a) Prove that if  $m$  is prime then the Cancellation Law for  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  is true.

Suppose that  $m$  is prime, that  $xy \equiv xz \pmod{m}$  and that  $x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ . Then  $x(y - z)$  is divisible by  $m$  and  $x$  is not divisible by  $m$ . Since  $m$  is prime, by Euclid’s Lemma  $y - z$  must be divisible by  $m$ . Therefore  $y \equiv z \pmod{m}$ .

(b) Prove that if  $m$  is composite then the Cancellation Law for  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  is false.

Supposing  $m$  is composite, we produce a counterexample to the Cancellation Law. Since  $m$  is composite,  $m = xy$  for some  $x$  and  $y$  that are both not divisible by  $m$ . So  $xy \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$  but  $x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$  and  $y \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ . Let  $z = 0$ . Then  $xy \equiv xz \pmod{m}$  since they are both congruent to zero. However  $y \not\equiv z \pmod{m}$  since  $y - z = y$  is not divisible by  $m$ .

4. Let  $\preceq$  be the relation on  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  defined by  $(a, b) \preceq (c, d)$  if and only if  $a \leq c$  and  $b \leq d$ .

- (a) Prove that  $\preceq$  is a partial order.

Reflexivity: For  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ ,  $a \leq a$  and  $b \leq b$  so  $(a, b) \preceq (a, b)$ .

Antisymmetry: For  $(a, b), (c, d) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  with  $(a, b) \neq (c, d)$ , either  $a \neq c$  or  $b \neq d$ . If  $a \neq c$  then either  $a \not\leq c$  or  $c \not\leq a$ , so either  $(a, b) \not\preceq (c, d)$  or  $(c, d) \not\preceq (a, b)$ . Similarly if  $b \neq d$  then either  $b \not\leq d$  or  $d \not\leq b$ , so either  $(a, b) \not\preceq (c, d)$  or  $(c, d) \not\preceq (a, b)$ .

Transitivity: For  $(a, b), (c, d), (e, f) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  if  $(a, b) \preceq (c, d)$  and  $(c, d) \preceq (e, f)$  then  $a \leq c \leq e$  and  $b \leq d \leq f$  so  $(a, b) \preceq (e, f)$ .

- (b) Find the greatest lower bound of  $\{(1, 5), (3, 3)\}$ .

The greatest lower bound is  $(1, 3)$ . Since  $(1, 3) \preceq (1, 5)$  and  $(1, 3) \preceq (3, 3)$ , it is a lower bound. Any other lower bound  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  has  $(a, b) \preceq (1, 5)$  and  $(a, b) \preceq (3, 3)$ , so  $a \leq 1$  and  $a \leq 3$ , and  $b \leq 5$  and  $b \leq 3$ . Therefore  $a \leq 1$  and  $b \leq 3$ , so  $(a, b) \preceq (1, 3)$ . Thus any other lower bound is less than  $(1, 3)$ .

- (c) Is  $\preceq$  a total order? Justify your answer.

No. For example  $(1, 5) \not\preceq (3, 3)$  and  $(3, 3) \not\preceq (1, 5)$  so  $(1, 5)$  and  $(3, 3)$  are incomparable.

5. Let  $A$  be the set of divisors of 36,  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, 36\}$ . Draw the Hasse diagram for the poset  $(A, |)$ .

