

**Directions:** You may work to solve these problems in groups, but all written work must be your own. Unless the problem indicates otherwise, all problems require some justification; a correct answer without supporting reasoning is not sufficient. Submissions must be stapled. See “Guidelines and advice” on the course webpage for more information.

1. Use the method of contrapositive proof to prove the following.
  - (a) If  $n$  is an integer and  $n^2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd.
  - (b) If  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x^3 - x > 0$ , then  $x > -1$ .
  - (c) Suppose that  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $x \neq 0$ . If  $x \nmid yz$ , then  $x \nmid y$  and  $x \nmid z$ .
  - (d) If  $a$  is an integer and  $4 \nmid a^2$ , then  $a$  is odd.
2. Give either a direct proof or a contrapositive proof of each of the following.
  - (a) If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a$  and  $b$  have the same parity, then  $3a + 7$  and  $7b - 4$  do not.
  - (b) Suppose  $a, a', b, b', m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $m \geq 1$ . If  $a \equiv a' \pmod{m}$  and  $b \equiv b' \pmod{m}$ , then  $ab \equiv a'b' \pmod{m}$ .

Comment: this says that when computing  $ab$  modulo  $m$ , we are free to replace  $a$  and  $b$  with integers  $a'$  and  $b'$  of our choice, provided that  $a'$  is congruent to  $a$  and  $b'$  is congruent to  $b$ .
  - (c) For all  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $(a + b)^3 \equiv a^3 + b^3 \pmod{3}$ .
  - (d) If  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $4 \nmid (n^2 - 3)$ .
3. Forced division.
  - (a) Prove that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exist nonnegative integers  $r$  and  $s$  such that  $s$  is odd and  $n = 2^r s$ .
  - (b) Show that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the expression for  $n$  obtained in part (a) is unique. That is, prove that if  $n = 2^{r_1} s_1$  and  $n = 2^{r_2} s_2$  where  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are nonnegative integers and  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are odd integers, then  $r_1 = r_2$  and  $s_1 = s_2$ .
  - (c) Use part (a) to prove that if  $A \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, 2m\}$  and  $|A| > m$ , then there exist integers  $b, c \in A$  such that  $b \mid c$ . (Hint: find a way to partition  $\{1, 2, \dots, 2m\}$  into  $m$  buckets such that the each bucket forms a division chain, with the smallest number in the bucket dividing the second smallest, the second smallest dividing the thrid smallest, and so on.)
4. Three people that mutually hate each other are confined to a unit square. (The people are small compared to the square, so they can be modeled as points.) Their buffer is the distance between the closest pair. What is the maximum possible buffer? As usual, be sure to show your work.