

Name:

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Serial #:

1. [16pts] (a) Prove that there are no positive real numbers  $x, y$  such that  $\sqrt{x} + 2\sqrt{y} = \sqrt{x + 4y}$ .

(b) Prove that there are no integers  $a, b$  such that  $a < b$  and  $2a + 1 \geq 2b$ .

**Solution.** (a) Assume for contradiction that there are positive real numbers  $x, y$  such that  $\sqrt{x} + 2\sqrt{y} = \sqrt{x + 4y}$ . Then  $(\sqrt{x} + 2\sqrt{y})^2 = x + 4y$ , i.e.  $x + 4y + 4\sqrt{xy} = x + 4y$ .

Hence  $xy = 0$ , i.e.  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$ , a contradiction. ■

(b) Suppose on the contrary that there are integers  $a, b$  such that  $a < b$  and  $2a + 1 \geq 2b$ .

Then  $0 < 2(b - a) \leq 1$ , which is impossible since  $2(b - a)$  is an even integer and there are no even integers in the interval  $(0, 1]$ . ■

2. [24pts] (a) Prove that  $2^n \geq (n + 1)^2$  for each integer  $n \geq 6$ .

(b) A sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is defined recursively by:

$$a_1 = 2, \quad a_2 = 4, \quad a_{n+2} = 5a_{n+1} - 6a_n \quad (\text{for } n \geq 1).$$

Make a conjecture about  $a_n$  and then prove your claim.

**Solution.** (a) Let  $P(n)$  be the statement:  $2^n \geq (n + 1)^2$ . Clearly  $P(6)$  is true ( $2^6 = 64 > 36 = 6^2$ ).

Suppose  $P(k)$  is true for some integer  $k \geq 6$  (i.e.  $2^k \geq (k + 1)^2$ ).

We prove that  $P(k + 1)$  is true (i.e. that  $2^{k+1} \geq (k + 2)^2$ ).

We have  $2^{k+1} = 2 \cdot 2^k \geq 2(k + 1)^2$  (by induction hypothesis).

If we prove that  $2(k + 1)^2 \geq (k + 2)^2$ , then we are done.

We have  $2(k + 1)^2 - (k + 2)^2 = k^2 - 2 \geq 0$  since  $k \geq 6$ , hence  $2(k + 1)^2 \geq (k + 2)^2$ , as required. ■

(b) We have  $a_3 = 5 \times 4 - 6 \times 2 = 2^3$ , so we conjecture that  $a_n = 2^n$  for each  $n \geq 1$ .

Let  $P(n)$  be the statement:  $a_n = 2^n$ . Clearly  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1, 2$ .

Let  $k \geq 2$  be an integer and assume  $P(h)$  is true for all integers  $h$  such that  $1 \leq h \leq k$  (we are using strong induction and assuming that  $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k)$  are true statements).

We prove that  $P(k + 1)$  is true.

We have

$$\begin{aligned} a_{k+1} &= 5a_k - 6a_{k-1} = 5 \times 2^k - 6 \times 2^{k-1} \quad (\text{by induction hypothesis}) \\ &= 5 \times 2^k - 3 \times 2^k = 2^{k+1}, \quad \text{as required.} \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

3. [20pts] (a) Let  $\mathbb{R}^*$  denote the set of all nonzero real numbers. A relation  $R$  is defined on  $\mathbb{R}^*$  by

$$xRy \text{ iff } x + y \neq 0.$$

Is  $R$  reflexive? symmetric? transitive? Justify your answers.

(b) In  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ , express  $[15^{11}] + [11^{15}]$  as  $[r]$  where  $0 \leq r \leq 7$ .

**Solution.** (a) For each nonzero real number  $x$  we have  $x + x \neq 0$ , hence  $xRx$  and so  $R$  is reflexive.

Suppose  $xRy$  for some nonzero real numbers  $x$  and  $y$ . Then  $x + y \neq 0$ , i.e.  $y + x \neq 0$ . Hence  $yRx$  and so  $R$  is symmetric.

$R$  is not transitive: take  $x = 1, y = 2, z = -1$ . Then  $xRy$  and  $yRz$  but  $x \not R z$ .

(b) We have  $15 \equiv -1 \pmod{8}$  so  $15^{11} \equiv -1 \pmod{8}$

Also  $11 \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ , so  $11^2 \equiv 9 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ .

We obtain  $15^{11} + 11^{15} \equiv -1 + 11 \times (11^2)^7 \equiv 10 \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ . Hence  $[15^{11}] + [11^{15}] = [2]$  (in  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ ).

4. [20pts] (a) Prove that the function  $f : \mathbb{R} - \{1\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} - \{1\}$  given by  $f(x) = \frac{x-3}{x-1}$  is a bijection and find its inverse function.

(b) For each of the following functions determine whether it is one-to-one or onto and justify your answers.

(i)  $f : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  given by  $f(x, y) = \frac{x}{y}$ .

(ii)  $g : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}$  given by  $g(x, y) = xy$ .

**Solution.** (a) We have  $f\left(\frac{x-3}{x-1}\right) = \frac{\frac{x-3}{x-1} - 3}{\frac{x-3}{x-1} - 1} = x$ , i.e.  $f \circ f = \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}-\{1\}}$ , the identity map on  $\mathbb{R} - \{1\}$ .

This shows that  $f$  is its own inverse and so  $f$  is bijective.

(We can also prove that  $f$  is a bijection by showing that it is injective and surjective.)

(b) (i)  $f$  is not one-to-one:  $f(1, 1) = f(2, 2)$  but  $(1, 1) \neq (2, 2)$ .

$f$  is not onto: There are no positive integers  $x, y$  such that  $f(x, y) = 0$ .

(ii)  $g$  is not one-to-one:  $g(1, 2) = g(2, 1)$  but  $(1, 2) \neq (2, 1)$ .

$g$  is onto: For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $g(1, n) = n$  i.e.  $n$  is an image under  $g$ .