

SCORE: ____ / 24 POINTS

Prove the following statement.

SCORE: ____ / 8 POINTS

The sum of the squares of any two consecutive integers has the form $4k + 1$.

Do NOT use the property that consecutive integers have opposite parity, nor the table of properties regarding the arithmetic of even and odd numbers, unless you prove them here.

Let x be an integer.

$$x^2 + (x+1)^2 = 2x^2 + 2x + 1 = 2x(x+1) + 1$$

By parity property, x is either even or odd.

Case 1: If x is even,

then by definition of even, $x = 2m$ for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$2x(x+1) + 1 = 2(2m)(2m+1) + 1 = 4m(2m+1) + 1$$

where $m(2m+1) \in \mathbb{Z}$ by closure of \mathbb{Z} under multiplication and addition.

So, the sum of the squares has the form $4k + 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Case 2: If x is odd,

then by definition of odd, $x = 2m + 1$ for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$2x(x+1) + 1 = 2(2m+1)(2m+2) + 1 = 4(2m+1)(m+1) + 1$$

where $(2m+1)(m+1) \in \mathbb{Z}$ by closure of \mathbb{Z} under multiplication and addition.

So, the sum of the squares has the form $4k + 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

So, the sum of the squares of two consecutive integers, always has the form $4k + 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Based on a question from your homework: If you wanted to show that 173 is prime, what is the largest number you need to try to divide 173 by? Show very briefly how you got your answer.

SCORE: ____ / 3 POINTS

13 is the largest prime less than $\sqrt{173}$

Prove that there is no least positive rational number.

SCORE: ____ / 8 POINTS

Assume that there is a least positive rational number, which we call x .

By definition of rational, $x = \frac{a}{b}$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ where $b \neq 0$.

Since $x > 0$, therefore $\frac{1}{2}x > 0$ [by multiplying both sides of the inequality by $\frac{1}{2}$].

Since $\frac{1}{2} < 1$ and $x > 0$, therefore $\frac{1}{2}x < x$ [by multiplying both sides of the first inequality by x].

In addition, $\frac{1}{2}x = \frac{a}{2b}$ where $b \in \mathbb{Z}$ by the closure of \mathbb{Z} under multiplication, and $2b \neq 0$ by the zero product property.

So, by definition of rational, $\frac{1}{2}x$ is a rational number, which is also positive and less than x .

But this contradicts the assumption that x was the least positive rational number.

So, the assumption is wrong, and there is no least positive rational number.

Consider the true statement “If x is odd, then x^2 is odd”.

SCORE: ____ / 2 POINTS

Find the **FIRST** error in the following incorrect “proof” by contraposition, and explain in **12 WORDS OR FEWER** what the error is.

“Proof”: Suppose that x is not odd.

By the parity property, x is even.

By the definition of even, $x = 2k$ for some integer k .

So, $x^2 = (2k)^2 = 4k^2 = 2(2k^2)$.

$2k^2$ is an integer by the closure of integers under multiplication.

So, by the definition of even, x^2 is even.

By the parity property, x^2 is not odd.

So, the statement is true.

The first sentence is not the negation of the conclusion.

Exactly one of the following statements is **false**. Find the statement, and find a counterexample.

SCORE: ____ / 3 POINTS

You do not have to prove why your counterexample is correct, but it must be correct.

[I] The quotient of an irrational number divided by a non-zero rational number must be irrational.

[II] The reciprocal of an irrational number must be irrational.

[III] The sum of two positive irrational numbers must be irrational.

[III] $10 - \sqrt{2}$ and $10 + \sqrt{2}$ are both positive and irrational, but $10 - \sqrt{2} + 10 + \sqrt{2} = 20$ is not

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Based on a question from your homework: If you wanted to show that 163 is prime, what is the largest number you need to try to divide 163 by? Show **very briefly** how you got your answer.

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11 is the largest prime less than $\sqrt{163}$

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