

1. Show using induction that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n [F(i)]^2 = F(n) \cdot F(n+1).$$

**Solution:** BASIS: At  $n = 1$ , we have,

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= [F(1)]^2 \\ &= 1^2 \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Likewise,

$$\begin{aligned} RHS &= F(1) \cdot F(2) \\ &= 1 \cdot 1 \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $LHS = RHS$ , the basis is proven.

INDUCTIVE STEP: Assume that the hypothesis holds for some  $k \geq 1$ , i.e., assume that

$$\sum_{i=1}^k [F(i)]^2 = F(k) \cdot F(k+1).$$

Observe that,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} [F(i)]^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^k [F(i)]^2 + [F(k+1)]^2 \\ &= F(k) \cdot F(k+1) + F(k+1)^2, \text{ by the inductive hypothesis} \\ &= F(k+1) \cdot [F(k) + F(k+1)] \\ &= F(k+1) \cdot F(k+2), \text{ definition of Fibonacci sequence} \end{aligned}$$

By applying the first principle of mathematical induction, we conclude that the conjecture is true for all integers  $n$ .

□

2. How many distinct *binary* operations can be defined on a set of  $n$  elements?

**Solution:** Focus on a specific binary operation (say  $\oplus$ ) defined on the  $n$  elements. In order to define this operation, we need to construct a table with  $n \times n$  entries such that the  $(i, j)^{th}$  entry corresponds to  $a_i \oplus a_j$ , where  $a_i$  and  $a_j$  are the  $i^{th}$  and  $j^{th}$  element of the set respectively. Now note that for a binary operation that is distinct from  $\oplus$ , at least one of the  $n \times n = n^2$  entries has to be different. Thus, the total number of binary operations corresponds to the number of distinct ways of filling up the operator table. Since there are  $n$  choices for each of the entries, we apply the multiplication principle to conclude that the total number of distinct binary operators is  $n^{n^2}$ .

□

3. Show that the set of all *infinite* length strings over the alphabet  $\{a, b\}$  is not countable.

**Solution:** The proof closely mirrors the proof discussed in class to prove that the set of real numbers is not countable.

Assume that the given set (say  $S$ ) is countable; it follows that the set is denumerable and therefore there exists some enumeration of  $S$ . Let

$$\begin{array}{l} s_{11}s_{12}s_{13}\dots \\ s_{21}s_{22}s_{23}\dots \\ \vdots \\ s_{p1}s_{p2}s_{p3}\dots \\ \vdots \end{array}$$

denote one such enumeration. Construct the following string  $s = s_1s_2\dots$  as follows:  $s_i = a$ , if  $s_{ii} = b$ , else  $s_i = b$ . Clearly,  $s$  is an infinite length string over  $\{a, b\}$  and hence belongs to  $S$ . But it cannot be the first string since it differs from the first string in the first position; likewise, it differs from the second string in the second position and in general it differs from every string in the enumeration in at least one position. Thus  $s$  cannot belong to  $S$ ; this contradiction arose because we assumed that  $S$  is countable. It follows that  $S$  is not countable.

□

4. Let  $A$  and  $B$  denote two arbitrary sets and let  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  and  $\mathcal{P}(B)$  denote their power sets respectively. Argue that,

$$\mathcal{P}(A \cap B) = \mathcal{P}(A) \cap \mathcal{P}(B)$$

**Solution:** Let  $C = A \cap B$ . Observe that  $\mathcal{P}(C)$  is a set of sets, with each set being a subset of  $C$ . Let  $S$  denote an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{P}(C)$ , i.e.,  $S \in \mathcal{P}(C)$ . By the definition of power sets,  $S \subseteq C$  and hence  $S \subseteq A \cap B$ . It follows that  $S \subseteq A$  **and**  $S \subseteq B$ . By the definition of power sets,  $S \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  and  $S \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ . Hence,  $S \in \mathcal{P}(A) \cap \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

Let  $S \in \mathcal{P}(A) \cap \mathcal{P}(B)$ . Therefore,  $S \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  **and**  $S \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ . Since  $S \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ ,  $S \subseteq A$ ; likewise,  $S \subseteq B$ . Therefore,  $S \subseteq A \cap B$ . Therefore,  $S \in \mathcal{P}(A \cap B)$ .  $\square$

5. Let  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  denote three arbitrary sets. Show that

(a)

$$(A \cup B) - C = (A - C) \cup (B - C)$$

(b)

$$[(A' \cup B') \cap A']' = A$$

**Solution:**

- (a) Observe that,

$$\begin{aligned} x \in (A \cup B) - C & \rightarrow x \in (A \cup B) \text{ and } x \notin C \\ & \rightarrow (x \in A \text{ or } x \in B) \text{ and } x \notin C \\ & \rightarrow (x \in A \text{ and } x \notin C) \text{ or } (x \in B \text{ and } x \notin C) \\ & \rightarrow (x \in A - C) \text{ or } (x \in B - C) \\ & \rightarrow x \in (A - C) \cup (B - C) \end{aligned}$$

We have thus shown that  $[(A \cup B) - C] \subseteq [(A - C) \cup (B - C)]$ . The above argument can be reversed to show that  $[(A - C) \cup (B - C)] \subseteq [(A \cup B) - C]$ .

- (b) First observe that

$$\begin{aligned} (A' \cup B') \cap A' &= (A' \cap A') \cup (A' \cap B'), \text{ Distributivity} \\ &= A' \cup (A' \cap B'), \text{ Identity} \\ &= A', \text{ since } A' \cap B \subseteq A \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $[(A' \cup B') \cap A']' = (A')' = A$ , as per the rules of complementation.

$\square$