

1. Each of the following arguments contains an error. Mark it and use the blank line to explain what the problem is.

- (a) Let  $x$  and  $y$  be integers. If  $x = y$ , then one has  $xy = y^2$  and hence  $x^2 - xy = x^2 - y^2$ . This may be rewritten as  $x(x - y) = (x + y)(x - y)$ , and cancellation of common factors yields  $x = x + y$ . Thus, for  $x = 1 = y$  one gets  $1 = 2$ .

Cancellation only valid for  $x \neq y$  as div by 0 not def.

- (b) For every  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$  the Pythagorean Theorem yields  $\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$  and hence  $\cos \theta = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta}$ . Evaluating this expression at  $\theta = \pi$  one gets  $-1 = \sqrt{1 - 0} = 1$ .

$\sqrt{\cos^2 \theta} = |\cos \theta|$

- (c) If  $a$  is even and  $b$  is odd, then  $a + b - 1$  is divisible by 4. Indeed, one has  $a = 2k$  and  $b = 2k + 1$ , so  $a + b - 1 = 2k + (2k + 1) - 1 = 4k$ .

Argument only valid for  $b = a + 1$

- (d) Let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  be primes. Since  $P = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_n + 1$  is not divisible by any of the primes  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  it must itself be prime, and there are thus infinitely many primes.

Could be divisible by a prime  $q \neq p_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .  
 $3 \cdot 5 + 1 = 16$  div. by 2.

2. For each of the following arguments, decide what is being proved.

(a) Let  $n$  be even and write  $n = 2k$ . One then has

$$n^2 - n = (2k)^2 - 2k = 2(2k^2 - k),$$

and as  $2k^2 - k$  is an integer,  $n^2 - n$  is even.

- (i) If  $n^2 - n$  is odd, then so is  $n$ .
- ii. If  $n$  is odd, then so is  $n^2 - n$ .
- iii. For every integer  $n$ , the number  $n^2 - n$  is even.
- (iv) If  $n$  is even, then  $n^2 - n$  is even.

(b) Set  $n = 2k + 1$ . One then has

$$n(n + 1) = (2k + 1)((2k + 1) + 1) = (2k + 1)(2k + 2) = 2(2k + 1)(k + 1),$$

and as  $(2k + 1)(k + 1)$  is an integer,  $n(n + 1)$  is even.

- i. For every integer  $n$ , the number  $n(n + 1)$  is even.
- ii. If  $n(n + 1)$  is odd, then so is  $n$ .
- (iii) If  $n$  is odd, then  $n(n + 1)$  is even.
- iv. If  $n$  is even, then  $n(n + 1)$  is even.

(c) The numbers 2 and 11 are prime, but  $2(11) - 1 = 22 - 1 = 21 = 3(7)$  is not prime.

- i. For odd primes  $p$  and  $q$ , the number  $pq - 1$  is not a prime.
- ii. Nothing
- (iii) It is not true that  $pq - 1$  is prime for all primes  $p$  and  $q$ .
- (iv) There exist primes  $p$  and  $q$ , such that  $pq - 1$  is not a prime.

(d) Let  $\alpha$  be the repeated decimal  $0.\overline{99}$ . One has  $10\alpha = 9.\overline{99}$  and, therefore,  $9\alpha = 10\alpha - \alpha = 9$ . That is,  $\alpha = 1$ .

- i. Nothing
- (ii) The repeated decimal  $0.\overline{99}$  is the number 1.
- (iii) Not every number has a unique decimal representation.
- (iv) One has  $1.\overline{00} = 0.\overline{99}$ .