

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

NetID: \_\_\_\_\_ Lecture: A

Discussion: Monday &amp; Wednesday 1:30 2:30

(15 points) Recall that a real number  $p$  is rational if there are integers  $m$  and  $n$  ( $n$  non-zero) such that  $p = \frac{m}{n}$ . Use this definition and your best mathematical style to prove the following claim:

For all real numbers  $x$  and  $y$ ,  $x \neq 0$ , if  $x$  and  $\frac{y+1}{2}$  are rational, then  $\frac{5}{x} + y$  is rational.

**Solution:** Let  $x$  and  $y$  be real numbers, where  $x \neq 0$ . Suppose that  $x$  and  $\frac{y+1}{2}$  are rational.

By the definition of rational,  $x = \frac{m}{n}$  and  $\frac{y+1}{2} = \frac{p}{q}$ , where  $m, n, p$ , and  $q$  are rationals,  $n$  and  $q$  non-zero. Since  $x$  is non-zero,  $m$  is also non-zero.

Since  $x = \frac{m}{n}$  and  $x$  is not zero,  $\frac{5}{x} = \frac{5n}{m}$ .

Since  $\frac{y+1}{2} = \frac{p}{q}$ ,  $y + 1 = \frac{2p}{q}$ . So  $y = \frac{2p}{q} - 1 = \frac{2p-q}{q}$ .

Combining these, we get that  $\frac{5}{x} + y = \frac{5n}{m} + \frac{2p-q}{q} = \frac{5nq+2pm-qm}{mq}$ .  $5nq + 2pm - qm$  and  $mq$  are integers, since  $n, m, p$ , and  $q$  are integers.  $mq$  can't be zero because  $m$  and  $q$  are both non-zero. So  $\frac{5}{x} + y$  is the ratio of two integers and therefore rational.

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1. (5 points) Is the following claim true? Informally explain why it is, or give a concrete counter-example showing that it is not.

For any positive integers  $s, t, p, q$ , if  $s \equiv t \pmod{p}$  and  $p \mid q$ , then  $s \equiv t \pmod{q}$ .

**Solution:** This is false.

Informally, since  $q$  is larger than  $p$ , congruence mod  $q$  makes finer distinctions among numbers than  $p$  does.

More formally, consider  $s = 1, t = 4, p = 3$  and  $q = 6$ . Then  $3 \mid 6$  and  $s$  and  $t$  are congruent mod 3, but  $s$  and  $t$  aren't congruent mod 6.

2. (6 points) Use the Euclidean algorithm to compute  $\gcd(2262, 546)$ . Show your work.

**Solution:**

$$2262 - 546 \times 4 = 2262 - 2184 = 78$$

$$546 - 7 \times 78 = 0$$

So the GCD is 78.

3. (4 points) Check the (single) box that best characterizes each item.

$$\gcd(p, q) = \frac{pq}{\text{lcm}(p, q)}$$

( $p$  and  $q$  positive integers)

always

☒

sometimes

☐

never

☐

$$7 \mid -7$$

true

☒

false

☐