

Homework 6

Math 254

Due in class Friday, March 4. Make sure to copy the proposition for each proof and then clearly indicate where your proof starts and ends.

Prove the following statements using a proof by contradiction.

1. Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$. If $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$, then a or b is even.
2. Suppose that $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. If $4 \mid (a^2 + b^2)$, then a and b are not both odd.

Prove the following statements using any method.

3. Suppose $a \in \mathbb{Z}$. If $a \equiv 4 \pmod{5}$, then $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$
4. Let $a, b, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $n > 0$. If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$, then $\gcd(a, n) = \gcd(b, n)$.
Hint: *If $d = \gcd(a, n)$, then you need to prove two things. First, prove that d also divides b , and second prove that d is the largest divisor of b and n .*