

**MATH 052: FUNDAMENTALS OF MATHEMATICS**  
**EXAM #2**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Problem	Score
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Problem 1.**

- (a) For sets  $A, B$ , the commutative laws state that  $A \cup B = B \cup A$  and  $A \cap B = B \cap A$ . State the two distributive laws for sets.

- (b) Disprove the statement: If  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $n^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  then  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

- (c) A proof of a result is given below. What result is proved?

*Proof.* Let  $a \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$  and  $b \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and assume, to the contrary, that  $4 \mid (a^2 + 2b)$ . We have  $a = 4r + 2$  and  $b = 2s + 1$  with  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Therefore,

$$a^2 + 2b = (4r + 2)^2 + 2(2s + 1) = 16r^2 + 16r + 4s + 6.$$

Now since  $4 \mid (a^2 + 2b)$ , we have  $a^2 + 2b = 4t$  with  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So  $16r^2 + 16r + 4s + 6 = 4t$  hence

$$6 = 4t - 16r^2 - 16r - 4s = 4(t - 4r^2 - 4r - s).$$

Since  $t - 4r^2 - 4r - s \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we conclude that  $4 \mid 6$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$



**Problem 3.** Let  $x, y, a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Prove that if  $ax + by$  is odd then  $a$  is odd or  $b$  is odd.

**Problem 4.** Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Prove that if  $a \mid b$  and  $b \mid c$  then  $a \mid c$ .

**Problem 5.** Let  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  satisfy  $r \neq 1$ . Prove by induction that

$$1 + r + r^2 + \cdots + r^{n-1} = \frac{1 - r^n}{1 - r}$$

for all integers  $n \geq 1$ .