

Complete all of the following problems and hand in your solutions to your tutor by 1:50pm on Tuesday 26 August, 2003. **Make sure that your name and student number are on each sheet of your answers.** Solutions to all the problems will be distributed later.

Completing 5 out of the 6 assignments is compulsory and each of the five assignments will contribute 4% towards your final grade. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have a very good excuse.

1. Complete the following questions from the textbook:

- Section 3.1, pages 124-125: Questions 7, 26, 41.
- Section 3.2, pages 130-131: Question 15.
- Section 3.3, pages 138-139: Questions 8, 15, 22, 31b.
- Section 3.4, pages 146-147: Questions 6, 10b, 23a.
- Section 3.5, pages 153-154: Questions 10b, 13a.
- Section 3.6, page 161: Questions 8, 22.

2. Each of the following “proofs” is incorrect. Explain why each “proof” is wrong.

(a) Any product of four consecutive integers is one less than a perfect square.

**Proof:** Consider the four consecutive integers 3, 4, 5, 6. The product

$$3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 = 360.$$

Now  $361 = (19)^2$  so 360 is one less than a perfect square. Hence any product of four consecutive integers is one less than a perfect square.

(b) For all integers  $a, b, c$ , if  $a \mid bc$ , then  $a \mid b$ .

**Proof:** Let  $a, b, c$  be integers and suppose that  $a \mid b$ . Then  $b = ra$  for some integer  $r$ . Multiplying both sides of this equation by  $c$  we get

$$bc = (ra)c = (rc)a.$$

Since  $rc$  is an integer, we know that  $a \mid bc$ . Hence if  $a \mid bc$ , then  $a \mid b$ .

(c) The difference of any two odd integers is even.

**Proof:** Let  $m$  and  $n$  be odd integers. Suppose that  $m - n$  is even. Thus  $m - n = 2r$  for some integer  $r$ . Now since  $m$  and  $n$  are both odd, we have

$$m = 2s + 1 \text{ for some integer } s, \quad \text{and} \quad n = 2t + 1 \text{ for some integer } t.$$

Thus

$$m - n = (2s + 1) - (2t + 1) = 2r,$$

so the difference of any two odd integers is even.

**3.** Use the Euclidean Algorithm to calculate the greatest common divisor of each of the following pairs of numbers.

(a) 49, 63

(b) 238, 14

(c) 1550, 250

**4.** Find a solution to the linear Diophantine equation  $1550c + 250d = 46500$ .

**5.** Show that there does not exist a point with integer co-ordinates that lies on the line  $63x + 49y = 4$ .

**6. (Bonus Question)**

A company has \$46,500.00 to spend on new computers and desks. Each computer costs \$1550.00 and each desk costs \$250.00. How many computers and desks should the company buy in order to spend *all* the money, while ensuring that they get approximately the same number of desks as computers?