

Math 302

Homework 9

Problem 1: Recall de Morgan Theorem: $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$ for any pair of sets A and B .

(a) Use the principle of mathematical induction to show that

$$(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n)^c = A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap \dots \cap A_n^c$$

for any finite $n \in \mathbf{N}$.

(b) Explain **why** the induction cannot be used to conclude

$$\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \right)^c = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n^c$$

(c) Is the statement in (b) true? If so, write the appropriate proof without using induction.

Problem 2: Prove that any natural power of the golden number φ can be expressed via Fibonacci numbers as follows:

$$\varphi^n = \varphi F_n + F_{n-1}$$

Recall: $\varphi = \frac{\sqrt{5} + 1}{2}$. Also $F_1=1, F_2=1, F_3=2$ and $F_{n+2} = F_{n+1} + F_n$.

Problem 3: Show this curious property of Fibonacci numbers:

$$F_{n-1} \cdot F_{n+1} = (F_n)^2 + (-1)^n$$

Problem 4: Prove these properties of Fibonacci numbers:

- (i) F_{3n} is even for any natural n .
- (ii) F_{4n} is divisible by 3.

Guess a general property. Can you prove it?

Problem 5. Show that for any natural n the following formula holds:

$$(F_1)^2 + (F_2)^2 + (F_3)^2 + \dots + (F_n)^2 = F_n F_{n+1}$$

(Discovered by Lukas, 1897). Clearly, first check for a few initial cases.

Problem 6 (for fun). (a) A generalized Fibonacci sequence is defined by the usual recurrence, $G_{n+2} = G_{n+1} + G_n$, but starting with two arbitrary natural numbers $G_1=a, G_2=b$. For instance choosing $a=2$ and $b=5$ we get:

$$2, 5, 7, 12, 19, 31, 50, \dots$$

Show that the ratio of two consecutive numbers of this sequence G_{n+1}/G_n approaches the golden mean $\varphi = (1+\sqrt{5})/2$.

(b) Calculate the first few entries of G_i for general a and b , and then look...

Problem 7 (for fun). In a certain right triangle the sides form a geometric sequence. Find the sides of this triangle. [Hint: you can make the shortest side 1. Why?]. This triangle has been actually built in enormous size – where?