

## Assignment 2

Due: Monday, October 3th, 2011

**1 (15 points)**

Prove that  $1/3$  is a recurring decimal number (in other words, it does not have a finite decimal representation). *Hint*: Use induction on the number of digits in any representation.

**2 (4 points)**

Prove that if  $n$  is an integer and  $3n + 2$  is even, then  $n$  is even using

- an indirect proof (an indirect proof proves an argument of the form, if  $p$  is *true* then  $q$  is *true*, by proving the *contrapositive* - if  $q$  is *false*, then  $p$  is *false*)
- a proof by contradiction

**3 (6 points)**

Prove that except for 3, 5, 7, no three consecutive odd positive integers are prime.

**4 (15 points)**

Prove that  $\sqrt{2}$  is an irrational number. *Hint*: Any rational number can be represented using integers  $p$  and  $q$ , in the form  $\frac{p}{q}$  such that  $q \neq 0$  and with  $GCD(p, q) = 1$ .

**5 (5 points)**

Prove that there are infinitely many primes.

**6 (5 points)**

Prove or disprove: If  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $m$  are positive integers, then  $(a \bmod m) + (b \bmod m) = (a + b) \bmod m$

## 7 (3 points)

Using mathematical induction prove that  $1 \cdot 1! + 2 \cdot 2! + \dots + n \cdot n! = (n + 1)! - 1$  whenever  $n$  is a positive integer.

## 8 (3 points)

Use mathematical induction to prove that  $1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + n \cdot (n+1) \cdot (n+2) = n(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)/4$

## 9 (4 points)

Use mathematical induction to prove that a set with  $n$  elements has  $n(n - 1)(n - 2)/6$  subsets containing exactly three elements whenever  $n$  is an integer greater than or equal to 3

## 10 (5 points)

Find the flaw with the following “proof” that  $a^n = 1$  for all nonnegative integers  $n$ , whenever  $a$  is a nonzero real number.

*Basic Step:*  $a^0 = 1$  is true by the definition of  $a^0$ .

*Inductive Step:* Assume that  $a^k = 1$  for all nonnegative integers  $k$  with  $k \leq n$ . Then note that –

$$a^{n+1} = \frac{a^n \cdot a^n}{a^{n-1}} = \frac{1 \cdot 1}{1} = 1$$

## 11 (15 points)

Prove that for any integer  $n$  a  $2^n \times 2^n$  grid with *one corner square removed* can be covered with  $L$  shaped tiles made up of 3 squares.