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Worksheet - Aug. 29

MAT 3501

Fall 2017

1. In each case, prove using induction:

(a) For all  $n \geq 0$ ,  $3^{2n+1} + 2^{n+2}$  is divisible by 7.

(b) (pb. 14 section 8.3) Show that the sum of the interior angles of a convex polygon is  $180(n - 2)$  degrees, where  $n$  is the number of sides of the polygon.

(c) For all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$ .

(d) Show that  $2^n | (n + 1)(n + 2) \dots (2n)$ , for all positive integers  $n$ .

**Definitions:** (i) The **greatest common divisor** of a set of numbers is the largest of the divisors common to all the numbers. (*Notation:*  $\gcd(\dots)$ .)

(ii) The **least common multiple** of a set of numbers is the smallest of the multiples common to all the numbers. (*Notation:*  $\text{lcm}(\dots)$ .) Note that this definition uses the Well Ordering Principle!

(iii) Two numbers  $a, b$  are relatively prime if they share no prime common factor, that is, if  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ .

2. Use the Division Theorem and the Well Ordering Principle to prove the following important result:

**Theorem:** If  $a, b$  are positive integers, show that there exist integers  $x, y$  so that  $ax + by = \gcd(a, b)$ .

*Start of Proof:* Consider the set  $S = \{ax + by > 0 | x, y \in \mathbf{Z}\}$ . By well ordering principle, the set  $S$  has a smallest element, call it  $d$ . Show that  $d = \gcd(a, b)$ .

**Corollary:** If  $a, b$  are relatively prime, i.e. if  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ , then there exist integers  $x, y$  so that  $ax + by = 1$ .