

Homework 16: The Unit Distance Graph

Due Friday, Week 10

UCSB 2015

Do **one** of the four problems listed here! Have fun, prove all of your claims, and let me know if you have any questions!

1. Finish our proof that $\chi(\mathbb{Q}^2)$ is rational by proving the following claims:
 - (a) Take any two rational numbers $\frac{a}{b}, \frac{c}{d}$ written so that $GCD(a, b) = 1 = GCD(c, d)$. Suppose that $a^2d^2 + b^2c^2 = b^2d^2$. Prove that both b and d must be odd.
 - (b) Using (a), take any two points $\vec{q}, \vec{r} \in \mathbb{Q}^2$. Show that if $d(\vec{q}, \vec{r}) = 1$, then $\vec{q} \sim \vec{r}$ under the equivalence relation defined in class on Monday.
 - (c) Take the collection of all rational points equivalent to $(0, 0)$, under the equivalence relation defined in class. Color points in this class red when they are of the form $(\frac{odd}{odd}, \frac{odd}{odd})$ or $(\frac{even}{odd}, \frac{even}{odd})$, and color them blue otherwise; i.e. color points blue when they are of the form $(\frac{odd}{odd}, \frac{even}{odd})$ or $(\frac{even}{odd}, \frac{odd}{odd})$. Prove the claim we made in class: any two points that are distance 1 apart in this class are colored different colors.

2. Zorn's lemma, in mathematics, says the following:

Lemma 1 (Zorn's lemma). *Suppose that (P, \leq) is a nonempty partially ordered set¹ with the following property: in any totally ordered subset² T of P , there is an upper bound u : i.e. an element u such that for any other $a \in T$, $a \leq u$.*

Then P has a maximal element: i.e. there is some $m \in P$ such that we never have $m < a$ for any $a \in P$.

Prove this, using the axiom of choice.

3. Let \mathbb{Q}^3 denote the graph on \mathbb{Q}^3 formed by connecting \vec{v}, \vec{w} with an edge if and only if $d(\vec{v}, \vec{w}) = 1$. Show that $\chi(\mathbb{Q}^3) = 2$.

¹A partially ordered set (P, \leq) is a set P and a binary relation \leq such that \leq satisfies the following three axioms:

- $a \leq a$ (reflexivity)
- $a \leq b$ and $b \leq a$ implies $a = b$ (antisymmetry)
- $a \leq b$ and $b \leq c$ implies $a \leq c$ (transitivity).

²A subset T of P is called totally ordered if every two elements are comparable in T : i.e. for any $a, b \in T$, $a \leq b$ or $b \leq a$.