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# Elementary Number Theory and Methods of Proof

1



## 4.4 Direct Proof and Counterexample IV: Division into Cases and the Quotient-Remainder Theorem



## Quotient-Remainder Theorem (warm up)

Suppose 14 objects are divided into groups of 3?

x x x   x x x   x x x   x x x   x x

The result is 4 groups of 3 each with 2 left over.

We write

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \leftarrow \text{quotient} \\ 3 \overline{)14} \\ \underline{12} \\ 2 \leftarrow \text{remainder} \end{array}$$

or,  $\frac{14}{3} = 4 + \frac{2}{3}$

or, better,

$14 = 4 \cdot 3 + 2.$

**Note:** The number left over has to be less than the size of the groups.



## Quotient-Remainder Theorem (warm up)

Notice that:  $4 \overline{)11}$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \leftarrow \text{quotient} \\ 4 \overline{)11} \\ \underline{8} \\ 3 \leftarrow \text{remainder} \end{array}$$

$$11 = 2 \cdot 4 + 3.$$

↑
↑  
 2 groups of 4      3 left over

Examples:

$54 = 4 \cdot 13 + 2$	$q = 13$	$r = 2$
$-54 = 4 \cdot (-14) + 2$	$q = -14$	$r = 2$
$54 = 70 \cdot 0 + 54$	$q = 0$	$r = 54$



## Quotient-Remainder Theorem

### Theorem 4.4.1 The Quotient-Remainder Theorem

Given any integer  $n$  and positive integer  $d$ , there exist unique integers  $q$  and  $r$  such that

$$n = dq + r \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq r < d.$$

The quotient-remainder theorem says that when any integer  $n$  is divided by any positive integer  $d$  (group size), the result is a quotient  $q$  and a nonnegative remainder  $r$  that is smaller than  $d$

The proof that there exist integers  $q$  and  $r$  with the given properties is in Section 5.4.

The proof that  $q$  and  $r$  are **unique** is outlined in exercise 18 in Section 4.7.



## Consequences

1. Apply the quotient-remainder theorem with  $d = 2$ . The result is that there exist unique integers  $q$  and  $r$  such that

$$n = 2q + r \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq r < 2.$$

What are possible values for  $r$ ?

*Answer:*  $r = 0$  or  $r = 1$

**Consequence:** No matter what integer you start with, it either equals

$$2q + 0 (= 2q) \quad \text{or} \quad 2q + 1 \quad \text{for some integer } q.$$

even

odd

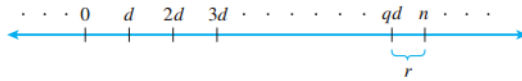
**So: Every integer is either even or odd.**

## Exercises

Ex: Find  $q$  and  $r$  if  $n = 23$  and  $d = 6$ .

**Answer:**  $q = 3$  and  $r = 5$

If  $n$  is positive, the quotient-remainder theorem can be illustrated on the number line as follows:



Ex: Find  $q$  and  $r$  if  $n = -23$  and  $d = 6$ .

**Answer:**  $q = -4$  and  $r = 1$



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7

## Exercises (\*\*)

2. *Similarly:* Given any integer  $n$ , apply the quotient-remainder theorem with  $d = 3$ . The result is that there exist unique integers  $q$  and  $r$  such that

$$n = 3q + r \text{ and } 0 \leq r < 3.$$

What are possible values for  $r$ ?

**Answer:**  $r = 0$  or  $r = 1$  or  $r = 2$

**Consequence:** Given any integer  $n$ , there is an integer  $q$  so that  $n$  can be written in one of the following three forms:

$$n = 3q, \quad n = 3q + 1, \quad n = 3q + 2.$$

3. Similarly for other values of  $d$ .

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8



## More later... (\*\*)

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- Quotient-remainder theorem
  - Powerful tool for method of proof by [division into cases](#)
  - Ex. Prove that: given any integer  $n$ , there is an integer  $k$  so that  $n^2 = 3k$  or  $n^2 = 3k + 1$ .
    - Any integer can be written as
      - $n=4q$  or  $n=4q+1$  or  $n=4q+2$  or  $n=4q+3$
  - Ex. Prove that the square of any odd integer has the form  $8m+1$  for some integer  $m$ 
    - Any odd integer can be
      - $4q+1$  or  $4q+3$ .



## div and mod

## div and mod

Given an integer  $n$  and a positive integer  $d$ ,

$n \text{ div } d$  = the integer quotient obtained  
when  $n$  is divided by  $d$ , and

$n \text{ mod } d$  = the nonnegative integer remainder obtained  
when  $n$  is divided by  $d$ .

Symbolically, if  $n$  and  $d$  are integers and  $d > 0$ , then

$$n \text{ div } d = q \quad \text{and} \quad n \text{ mod } d = r \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad n = dq + r$$

where  $q$  and  $r$  are integers and  $0 \leq r < d$ .

$$n = d \cdot (n \text{ div } d) + n \text{ mod } d$$

Examples:

$$32 \text{ div } 9 = 3$$

$$32 \text{ mod } 9 = 5$$

## Recall: $2k-1$ example!

- Proof: if  $k$  is integer then  $2k-1$  is odd
- $(2k-1) \text{ mod } 2 = r$  and  $(2k-1) \text{ div } 2 = q$

Iff  $2k-1 = 2q+r$

$$\begin{aligned} r &= 2k - 2q - 1 \\ &= 2(k-q) - 1 \end{aligned}$$

- $0 \leq r < 2$ .  
 $r=0$  or  $r=1$
- If  $r=0$  then  $k-q=1/2$  which is impossible

Then  $r=1$

**Definition.** if  $n$  and  $d$  are integers and  $d > 0$ , then  
 $n \text{ div } d = q$  and  $n \text{ mod } d = r \Leftrightarrow n = dq + r$ ,  
where  $q$  and  $r$  are integers and  $0 \leq r < d$ .



## Application1

Given the following code, prove that when the first condition is satisfied, the code will always print "Lucky".

```

int a,b,c;
if((b%a==0) && (c%a==0))
    if((b+c)%a == 0)
        printf("Lucky");
    else printf("Not lucky");

```

$b\%a==0 \rightarrow b = aq$   
 $c\%a==0 \rightarrow c = ap$   
 $b + c = a(q+p) + 0$   
 $\rightarrow (b + c) \% a == 0$

**Note:** rewrite the code as a conditional statement:

"For all integers a, b, and c, if  $b|a$  &  $c|a$  then  $(b+c)|a$ "



## Application2

### Computing the Day of the Week

If today is Wednesday and it is 2/11/2016, which day it will be the valentine's day in 2017?

Valentine's day = 14/2/2017

The number of days from today to 14/2/2017 = 28 in November + 31 in December + 31 in January + 14 in February = 104 days

$104 \text{ div } 7 = 14$

$104 \text{ mod } 7 = 6$

That is, after 14 weeks the day will be Wednesday, and 6 days after, it will be Tuesday



## Application3

### Solving a Problem about mod

Suppose  $m$  is an integer.

If  $m \bmod 11 = 6$ , what is  $4m \bmod 11$ ?

$$m = 11q + 6.$$

$$4m = 44q + 24 = 44q + 22 + 2 = 11(4q + 2) + 2.$$

$$4m \bmod 11 = 2.$$



## Representing Integers using the quotient-remainder theorem Parity Property

We represent any number as:

$$n = 2q + r \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq r < 2$$

Because we have only  $r = 0$  and  $r = 1$ , then:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} n = 2q + 0 & \text{or} & n = 2q + 1 \\ \text{Even} & & \text{Odd} \end{array}$$

Therefore,  $n$  is either even or odd (parity)

The **parity** of an integer refers to whether the integer is even or odd





## Representing Integers using the quotient-remainder theorem Parity Property

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### Theorem 4.4.2 The Parity Property

Any two consecutive integers have opposite parity.

#### Proof:

Given  $m$  and  $m+1$  are consecutive integers

Then, one is odd and the other is even (by parity property)

**Case1 ( $m$  is even):**  $m = 2k$ , so  $m+1 = 2k+1$ , which is odd

**Case2 ( $m$  is odd):**  $m = 2k+1$  and so

$$m+1 = (2k+1) + 1 = 2k+2 = 2(k+1).$$

thus  $m+1$  is even.



## Method of Proof by Division into Cases



## Method of Proof by Division into Cases

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How do you prove? If  $A$  **or**  $B$  is true then  $C$  is also true.

**Technique:** Prove

If  $A$  is true then  $C$  is true **and** if  $B$  is true then  $C$  is true.



## Method of Proof by Division into Cases

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To prove a statement of the form

"If  $A_1$  or  $A_2$  or ... or  $A_n$ , then  $C$ "

prove **all** of the following:

If  $A_1$ , then  $C$ ,

If  $A_2$ , then  $C$ ,

.

If  $A_n$ , then  $C$ .

This process shows that  $C$  is true regardless of which of  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  happens to be the case.



## Example: Representations of Integers Modulo 4

Show that any integer can be written in one of the four forms:

$n=4q$  or  $n=4q+1$  or  $n=4q+2$  or  $n=4q+3$   
for some integer  $q$ .

**Solution:** apply the quotient-remainder theorem to  $n$  with  $d = 4$

There exist an integer quotient  $q$  and a remainder  $r$  such that

$$n = 4q + r \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq r < 4.$$

But the only nonnegative remainders that are less than 4 are 0, 1, 2, and 3.

Thus, any integer can be represented as:

$$n=4q \quad \text{or} \quad n=4q+1 \quad \text{or} \quad n=4q+2 \quad \text{or} \quad n=4q+3$$

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21



## Example: The Square of an Odd Integer

**Proof:** The square of any odd integer has the form  $8m+1$  for some integer  $m$

**Formal Restatement:**  $\forall$  odd integers  $n$ ,  $\exists$  an integer  $m$  such that  $n^2 = 8m + 1$ .

**Starting Point:** Suppose  $n$  is a particular but arbitrarily chosen odd integer.

**To Show:**  $\exists$  an integer  $m$  such that  $n^2 = 8m + 1$ .

**Hint:** any odd integer can be  $4q+1$  or  $4q+3$ .

**Case 1 ( $n=4q+1$ ):**

$$n^2 = (4q+1)^2 = 16q^2 + 8q + 1 = 8(2q^2 + q) + 1$$

Let  $(2q^2 + q)$  be an integer  $m$ , thus  $n^2 = 8m + 1$

**Case 2 ( $n=4q+3$ ):**

$$n^2 = (4q+3)^2 = 16q^2 + 24q + 8 + 1 = 8(2q^2 + 3q + 1) + 1$$

Let  $(2q^2 + 3q + 1)$  be an integer  $m$ , thus  $n^2 = 8m + 1$

[In details on page 186 - Theorem 4.4.3](#)

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22



## Example

**Theorem:** Prove that given any integer  $n$ , there is an integer  $k$  s.t.  
 $n^2 = 3k$  or  $n^2 = 3k + 1$ .

**Outline of Proof:** Suppose  $n$  is **any** integer. By the quotient-remainder theorem with  $d = 3$ , there is an integer  $q$  so that

$$n = 3q, \quad n = 3q + 1, \quad n = 3q + 2.$$

We will show that regardless of which of these happens to be the case, the conclusion of the theorem follows.

*Case 1,  $n = 3q$  for some integer  $q$ . (fill in)*

*Case 2,  $n = 3q + 1$  for some integer  $q$ . (fill in)*

*Case 3,  $n = 3q + 2$  for some integer  $q$ . (fill in)*

Hence, in every case there exists an integer  $k$  so that  
 $n^2 = 3k$  or  $n^2 = 3k + 1$ , as was to be shown.



*How would we fill in Case 2, for example?*

*Case 2,  $n = 3q + 1$  for some integer  $q$ :* In this case,

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 &= (3q + 1)^2 && \text{by substitution} \\ &= (3q + 1)(3q + 1) \\ &= 9q^2 + 6q + 1 \\ &= 3(3q^2 + 2q) + 1 && \text{by algebra.} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $k = 3q^2 + 2q$ .

Then  $k$  is an integer because it is a sum of products of integers.

Thus there is an integer  $k$  such that  $n^2 = 3k + 1$ .



## Method of Proof by Contradiction



## Method of Proof by Contradiction

**Definition:** A **contradiction** is a form of statement that is “always” false.

**Ex:**  $p \wedge \sim p$

**Claim:** Suppose **c** is a contradiction. Then the following is a valid form of argument:

$$\begin{array}{l} \sim p \rightarrow \mathbf{c} \\ \therefore p \end{array}$$

**Proof:**

$p$	$\mathbf{c}$	$\sim p$	$\sim p \rightarrow \mathbf{c}$	$p$
T	F	F	T	T
F	F	T	F	F

In the only case where the premise is true, the conclusion is also true. So this form of argument is valid.



## Method of Proof by Contradiction

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To prove a statement by contradiction,

**Suppose** the statement is not true.

**Show** that this supposition leads logically to a contradiction.

*[Conclude: The supposition is false. That is, conclude that the given statement is true.]*



## Recall: $2k-1$ example!

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- Proof: if  $k$  is integer then  $2k-1$  is odd
- Suppose it is even,
  - i.e.,  $2k-1=2k'$ ,  $k'$  is integer
  - $2k=2k'+1$ ,  $k=k'+1/2$
- But  $k$  is integer by hypothesis
  - contradiction



Prove that  $\sqrt{2}$  is not rational. (A rational number is one which can be written in the form  $p/q$  where  $q \neq 0$  and  $p$  and  $q$  are integers.)

*Proof*

The proof of this theorem is a well known example of proof by contradiction. We assume that  $\sqrt{2}$  is rational and show that this leads to a contradiction.

Suppose that  $\sqrt{2}$  is rational, i.e.  $\sqrt{2} = m/n$  where  $m$  and  $n$  are integers and  $n \neq 0$ . We may assume that the fraction  $m/n$  is in its 'lowest terms', i.e. that  $m$  and  $n$  have no common factors. If they do have common factors we simply cancel them.



Prove that  $\sqrt{2}$  is not rational. (A rational number is one which can be written in the form  $p/q$  where  $q \neq 0$  and  $p$  and  $q$  are integers.)

Now

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{2} = m/n \\ \Rightarrow & 2 = m^2/n^2 \\ \Rightarrow & 2n^2 = m^2 \\ \Rightarrow & m^2 \text{ is even} \\ \Rightarrow & m \text{ is even (see example 2.3.1)} \\ \Rightarrow & m = 2p \text{ for some integer } p \\ \Rightarrow & m^2 = 4p^2. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting this result into the equation  $2n^2 = m^2$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} & 2n^2 = 4p^2 \\ \Rightarrow & n^2 = 2p^2 \\ \Rightarrow & n^2 \text{ is even} \\ \Rightarrow & n \text{ is even.} \end{aligned}$$

We have now shown that both  $m$  and  $n$  are even, i.e. that they have a common factor 2. But  $m$  and  $n$  have no common factors because any such factors were cancelled at the beginning. Hence we have deduced the conjunction of a proposition and its negation, i.e. a contradiction, and this proves the theorem.  $\square$



## Example

Use a Proof by Contradiction to prove:  
If  $3n + 2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd.



## Example

Use a Proof by Contradiction to prove:

→ If  $3n + 2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd.

① Formally,  $\forall n$ , if  $3n+2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd.  
Negation:  $\exists n$  s.t.  $3n+2$  is odd and  $n$  is even.

Proof by Contradiction:

① Suppose not. That is, suppose  $\exists n$  s.t.  $3n+2$  is odd and  $n$  is even. ←  
Since  $n$  is even, we know that  $n=2k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$   
$$\begin{aligned} 3n+2 &= 3(2k)+2 && \text{by substitution} \\ &= 6k+2 && \text{by multiplication} \\ &= 2(3k+1) && \text{by factoring} \end{aligned}$$



## Example

Use a Proof by Contradiction to prove:

→ If  $3n + 2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd.

““

$$3n+2 = 2(3k+1)$$

Let  $q = 3k+1$ . Notice that  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$  due to integer closure properties.

Then  $3n+2 = 2q$  where  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$  which is even by definition.

But we said  $3n+2$  was odd. **Contradiction!**

∴ The negation is false, meaning the original statement is true. ■

## A “Lemma”

A lemma is a statement whose main use is to help prove another, more important, statement, called a theorem.

**Lemma:** If the square of an integer is even, then the integer is even.

*Formal restatement:*

$\forall$  integers  $n$ , if  $n^2$  is even then  $n$  is even.

*Negation:*

$\exists$  an integer  $n$  such that  $n^2$  is even and  $n$  is not even.

*Think the negation to get a proof by contradiction started.*



## Proof of Lemma

**Lemma:** If the square of an integer is even, then the integer is even.

**Proof by contradiction:** Suppose not. That is, suppose there exists an integer  $n$  such that  $n^2$  is even and  $n$  is not even.

Then  $n$  is odd (why?) and so, by definition of odd,

$n = 2s + 1$  for some integer  $s$ .

quotient-remainder theorem

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } n^2 &= (2s + 1)^2 && \text{by substitution} \\ &= 4s^2 + 4s + 1 \\ &= 2(2s^2 + 2s) + 1 && \text{by algebra.} \end{aligned}$$

But  $2s^2 + 2s$  is an integer b/c it is a sum of products of integers.

Hence  $n^2$  equals twice an integer plus 1 and thus is odd by definition of odd. But this contradicts the fact that  $n^2$  is even.

*[Hence the supposition is false and the lemma is true.]*

35

35

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## Exercises

**Task:** Solve the equation  $2(x - 7) + 5(3 - x) = 3(2 - x)$ .

**Solution:** *Suppose*  $x$  is a number for which the equation is true:

$$2(x - 7) + 5(3 - x) = 3(2 - x)$$

Then

$$2x - 14 + 15 - 5x = 6 - 3x \quad \text{by multiplying out.}$$

$$\text{So } -3x + 1 = 6 - 3x \quad \text{by combining like terms}$$

$$\text{and thus } 1 = 6 \quad \text{by adding } 3x \text{ to both sides}$$

But 1 is not equal to 6. Therefore the supposition that there is a solution for the equation is false, and this equation has no solution.

36

36

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## summary

Complete the following sentences:

An integer  $n$  is **even** if, and only if  $n$  is equal to twice some integer.

An integer  $n$  is **odd** if, and only if  $n$  is equal to twice some integer plus 1.

An integer  $n$  is **prime** if, and only if,

$n > 1$  and the only positive integer divisors of  $n$  are 1 and  $n$ .

A real number  $r$  is **rational** if, and only if

it is equal to a quotient of integers with a nonzero denominator.

Given integers  $n$  and  $d$ ,  $d$  **divides**  $n$  if, and only if,

$n$  equals  $d$  times some integer.

**NOTE:** There are a number of other correct versions of these definitions.



## Summary.

What is the **quotient-remainder** theorem?

For all integers  $n$  and positive integers  $d$ , there exist unique integers  $q$  and  $r$  such that

$$n = dq + r \text{ and } 0 \leq r < d.$$

What is the “**transitivity of divisibility**” theorem?

$\forall$  integers  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ , if  $a \mid b$  and  $b \mid c$ , then  $a \mid c$ .

What does it mean for an integer  $> 1$  to **not be prime**?

$n$  is a product of positive integers, neither of which is 1.

What is the **unique factorization** theorem?

Given any integer  $n > 1$ , either  $n$  is prime or  $n$  can be written as a product of prime numbers in a way that is unique, except, possibly, for the order in which the numbers are written.

## Absolute Value and the Triangle Inequality

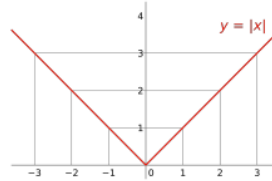
### • Definition

For any real number  $x$ , the **absolute value of  $x$** , denoted  $|x|$ , is defined as follows:

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}.$$

**Example:**

$$\begin{aligned} |2| &= 2 \\ |-2| &= 2 \end{aligned}$$



## Absolute Value

### Lemma 4.4.4

For all real numbers  $r$ ,  $-|r| \leq r \leq |r|$ .

**Proof:**

Suppose  $r$  is any real number. We divide into cases according to whether  $r \geq 0$  or  $r < 0$ .

**Case 1 ( $r \geq 0$ ):** In this case, by definition of absolute value,  $|r| = r$ . Also, since  $r$  is positive and  $-|r|$  is negative,  $-|r| < r$ . Thus it is true that

$$-|r| \leq r \leq |r|.$$

**Case 2 ( $r < 0$ ):** In this case, by definition of absolute value,  $|r| = -r$ . Multiplying both sides by  $-1$  gives that  $-|r| = r$ . Also, since  $r$  is negative and  $|r|$  is positive,  $r < |r|$ . Thus it is also true in this case that

$$-|r| \leq r \leq |r|. \quad \text{Hence, in either case,}$$

$$-|r| \leq r \leq |r|$$

[as was to be shown].

# Absolute Value

## Lemma 4.4.5

For all real numbers  $r$ ,  $|-r| = |r|$

**Proof:**

Suppose  $r$  is any real number. By Theorem T23 in Appendix A, if  $r > 0$ , then  $-r < 0$ , and if  $r < 0$ , then  $-r > 0$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 |-r| &= \begin{cases} -r & \text{if } -r > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } -r = 0 \\ -(-r) & \text{if } -r < 0 \end{cases} && \text{by definition of absolute value} \\
 &= \begin{cases} -r & \text{if } -r > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } -r = 0 \\ r & \text{if } -r < 0 \end{cases} && \begin{array}{l} \text{because } -(-r) = r \text{ by Theorem T4} \\ \text{in Appendix A} \end{array} \\
 &= \begin{cases} -r & \text{if } r < 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } -r = 0 \\ r & \text{if } r > 0 \end{cases} && \begin{array}{l} \text{because, by Theorem T24 in Appendix A, when} \\ -r > 0, \text{ then } r < 0, \text{ when } -r < 0, \text{ then } r > 0, \\ \text{and when } -r = 0, \text{ then } r = 0 \end{array} \\
 &= \begin{cases} r & \text{if } r \geq 0 \\ -r & \text{if } r < 0 \end{cases} && \text{by reformatting the previous result} \\
 &= |r| && \text{by definition of absolute value.}
 \end{aligned}$$

41

# Absolute Value and Triangle Inequality

## Theorem 4.4.6 The Triangle Inequality

For all real numbers  $x$  and  $y$ ,  $|x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$ .

**Proof:**

Suppose  $x$  and  $y$ , are any real numbers.

T26. If  $a < c$  and  $b < d$ , then  $a + b < c + d$ .

**Case 1 ( $x + y \geq 0$ ):** In this case,  $|x + y| = x + y$ , and so, by Lemma 4.4.4,

$$x \leq |x| \quad \text{and} \quad y \leq |y|.$$

Hence, by Theorem T26 of Appendix A,

$$|x + y| = x + y \leq |x| + |y|.$$

**Case 2 ( $x + y < 0$ ):** In this case,  $|x + y| = -(x + y) = (-x) + (-y)$ , and so, by Lemmas 4.4.4 and 4.4.5,

$$-x \leq |-x| = |x| \quad \text{and} \quad -y \leq |-y| = |y|.$$

It follows, by Theorem T26 of Appendix A, that

$$|x + y| = (-x) + (-y) \leq |x| + |y|.$$

Hence in both cases  $|x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$  [as was to be shown].

42