

In-the-Book Definitions (I)

The “In-the-Book Definitions” are the definitions given in the book of terms, some of which are well known and understood already with perhaps other simpler and equivalent definitions. However, the “In-the-Book Definitions” are the definitions which are necessary for using these terms in a proof. Although the simpler definitions learned in the past are useful for understanding the objects defined, these simpler definitions are often very difficult to use when writing a proof of a theorem which involves these objects.

Since the “In-the-Book Definitions” are the definitions to be used in proofs, it is important to memorize these definitions word for word. One advantage to memorizing these definitions is that, when one of these definitions is applied within a proof, the exact wording of the “In-the-Book Definition” can be used directly in the wording of the proof.

Definition: Let n be an integer .

Integer n is an even integer \Leftrightarrow there exists an integer k such that $n = 2k$.

Integer n is an odd integer \Leftrightarrow there exists an integer k such that $n = 2k + 1$.

It can be proved that every integer is either even or odd and that no integer is both even and odd. The even-ness or odd-ness of an integer is called its parity .

The terms even number and odd number mean “even integer” and “odd integer,” respectively.

Definition: Let n be an integer .

Integer n is prime \Leftrightarrow

$(n > 1)$ AND

$(\text{For all positive integers } r, s, \text{ IF } n = rs, \text{ THEN } (r = 1 \text{ OR } s = 1)) .$

Integer n is composite \Leftrightarrow

$(n > 1)$ AND (there exist integers r and s such that

$1 < r < n$ and $1 < s < n$ and $n = rs$) .

The number 1 is neither prime nor composite.

It can be proved that every integer > 1 (which is greater than 1) is either prime or composite and no integer is both prime and composite.

The terms prime number and composite number mean “prime integer” and “composite integer,” respectively.

Definition: Let r be a real number.

Real number r is rational \Leftrightarrow

There exist integers a and b such that $r = a/b$ and $b \neq 0$.

Real number r is irrational \Leftrightarrow r is not rational.

The terms rational number and irrational number mean “rational real number” and “irrational real number” respectively.

In mathematics, the phrase “There exist objects x and y such that ...” always includes the possibility that x and y represent the same object, that is that $x = y$.

To require that x and y are not identical, the phrase “There exist distinct objects ...”.

Thus, the integers a and b in the definition above cannot be assumed to be distinct, that is, it is possible that they are equal (i.e., they represent the same number).

Therefore, $r = 1$ is a rational number.

Definition: Let n and d be integers.

n is divisible by d

n is a multiple of d

d divides n (written $d | n$)

d is a divisor of n

d is a factor of n

\Leftrightarrow There exists an integer k such that $n = d \cdot k$.

The integer 0 is divisible by every integer since $0 = 0 \cdot k$, for every integer k .

The integer 0 is a factor of no integer other than 0 itself since $n = 0 \cdot k$ implies $n = 0$.

It can be proved that for all positive values of d and n , $d | n \Leftrightarrow n \div d$ has remainder 0 .

Take care that “ $d | n$ ” is not accidentally written “ d / n ” because “ d / n ” represents a number whereas “ $d | n$ ” represents a relationship between integers. In fact, it can be proved that $d | n \Leftrightarrow n / d$ is an integer, and in this case, $k = n / d$.