# Discrete Mathematics 2012 Lecture 1 

Ngày 25 tháng 8 năm 2012

## 1. Introduction

Question

## What is mathematics?

One of my favorite

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Definition

## Mathematics is the study of numbers, shapes and patterns

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How do you study mathematics?

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## What is mathematics?

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## Mathematics is the study of numbers, shapes and patterns

Question
How do you study mathematics?

Answer
With love and enhtusiasm.

## Introduction

## Question <br> How do you really study mathematics?

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Answer

## Introduction

Question

## How do you really study mathematics?

Answer

- Observe


## Introduction

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Answer

- Observe
(2) Hypothesize


## Introduction

Question

## How do you really study mathematics?

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- Observe
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- Prove

Let us start with a small sample of examples.

## Examples

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-     - Consider the sequence 1,2,4,


## Examples

-     - Consider the sequence $1,2,4$,


## Examples

- . Consider the sequence 1,2,4, 7,


## Examples

-     - Consider the sequence 1,2,4, 7, 11,


## Examples

-     - Consider the sequence $1,2,4,7,11,16$,


## Examples

- . Consider the sequence $1,2,4,7,11,16,22 \ldots$


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What is the next number?
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Can you formulate an hypothesis?


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Can you formulate an hypothesis?
Can you prove it?


## Shapes



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## Shapes



## Shapes

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- So can you tell how many regions can be generated by 17 lines?
- Can you explain why?
- Can you find a "formula" for $f(n)$ the number of regions generated by $n$ lines?
- Can you prove that it is $\binom{n+1}{2}+1$ ?


## Curiosity led research

You have four points on a line, the distance between any two consecutive points is 1 .

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- How many times does the distance 1 occur?
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You have four points on a line, the distance between any two consecutive points is $\mathbf{1}$.

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(3) How many times does the distance 3 occur?
4. Can you place $n$ points in the plane so one distance will occur $n-1$ times, a second distance will occur $n-2$ times, a third $n-3$ times etc.
(5) This was easy, can you do it so no three points are on a line?
(6) This was not too difficult,
(2) but can you do it so the points wil be in general position (no three on a line, no four on a circle)?

