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MAU11602 Assignment 2, Due Wednesday 14 February 2024
Solutions
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## 1. Consider a formal system with grammar

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statement : number "+" number relation number
number : "0" | number "'"
relation : "=" | "≠"
the single axiom
0+0=0
and the following rules of inference
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- (a) From any statement containing the strings + and =0 we can deduce the same statement, but with + replaced by '+ and =0 replaced by =0'.
- (b) From any statement containing the string=0 we can deduce the same statement, but with =0 replaced by '=0'.
- (c) From any statement containing the strings + and =0 we can deduce the same statement, but with + replaced by '+ and =0 replaced by ≠0.
- (d) From any statement containing the string=0 we can deduce the same statement, but with =0 replaced by '≠0.
- (e) From any statement containing the string=0 we can deduce the same statement, but with =0 replaced by  $\neq 0$ '.

Give formal proofs of the following theorems:

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(a) 0''+0'''=0''''
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(b) 0''+0''≠0''''
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Solution: Both proofs begin with 0+0=0 0'+0=0' 0''+0=0'' 0''+0'=0'''The first one continues on with 0''+0''=0'''''while the second one continues on with  $0''+0''\neq0''''''$ 

2. Every string in the language from the previous problem is a 0 followed by some number of 's followed by a + followed by a 0 followed by some number of 's followed by either a = or a  $\neq$  followed by a 0 followed by by some number of of 's. Say the numbers of 's above are *j*, *k* and *l*. A statement with a = is to be interpreted as meaning that *j* + *k* = *l* while one with a  $\neq$  is to be interpreted as meaning that *j* + *k*  $\neq$  *l*. Negation a statement means swapping a = for a  $\neq$  or vice versa.

With this interpretation, is the system

- (a) sound?
- (b) consistent?
- (c) semantically complete?
- (d) syntactically complete?

Note: You can't give formal proofs that any of these either are or aren't true since we don't have a formal system for describing formal systems. You can, and should, give informal proofs, but these don't have to be very detailed and you can use basic facts about arithmetic.

Solution: The system is sound. The axiom is true. The first two rules take a statement meaning j + k = l and either increment j and l or increment k and l. Either of these operations will give a true statement if you started from one. The other three rules increment only one of j, k or l and change the equality to an inequality. This is also fine.

The system is consistent. A statement and its negation must be of the form j + k = l and  $j + k \neq l$  in some order and at most one of these is true. The system is sound, and as a consequence any theorem is true so at most one of them is a theorem.

The system is not semantically complete. An example of a true statement which is not a theorem is  $0+0\neq0''$ . The following argument for why this is not a theorem is more detailed than I would expect you to give. Suppose  $0+0\neq0''$  is a theorem. Then it has a proof and  $0+0\neq0''$  must be its last line. It's not an axiom, so it must be derived by a rule of inference from an earlier statement. It can't have been derived by either of the first two, since those give statements with a = rather than  $\neq$ . It can't be the third one, since that would give a statement with a ' before the +. It can't be the fourth one since that would give a statement with a ' before the  $\neq$ . It must therefore be the fifth one. The only statement which we could apply the fifth to to get  $0+0\neq0''$  is 0+0=0', so this must be an earlier statement in the proof. If we stopped the proof there we would have a proof of 0+0=0'. But 0+0=1 is not a true statement and we've already seen our system is sound so 0+0=0' is not a theorem.

Note that  $0+0\neq0$ '' is far from the only true statement which is not a theorem and this is not the only proof that  $0+0\neq0$ '' is not a theorem. If you're curious, the true statements which are not theorems in this system are precisely those whose interpretation is  $j + k \neq l$  with values of j, k and l such that |j + k - l| > 1.

The system is not syntactically complete. We just saw that  $0+0\neq0''$  is not a theorem. It's negation,  $0+0\neq0''$ , is also not a theorem, since 0 + 0 = 2 is false and the system is sound.