

Course	Number	Section(s)	
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>MATH 364</b>	<b>A</b>	
Examination	Date	Time	Pages
<b>Midterm</b>	<b>October 2015</b>	<b>1 <math>\frac{1}{4}</math> hours</b>	<b>4</b>
Instructor	Course Examiner		
<b>Paweł Góra</b>	<b>Paweł Góra</b>		

**Special Instructions: Approved calculators permitted. Lined paper booklets.**  
***READ THE QUESTIONS CAREFULLY !!! SHOW ALL WORK !!!***  
***JUSTIFY ALL STEPS !!! GOOD LUCK !!!***

**MARKS:** marks for each problem are shown in front of the problems. Maximum total is 100.

↓MARKS

- 15 **Problem 1 :** (a) Is the following sentence always true ? Give the proof or a counterexample.

$$[(p \Rightarrow q) \wedge (p \Rightarrow \neg q)] \Rightarrow (\neg p) .$$

- (b) Write the negation of the sentence:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \forall y \in \mathbb{R} |x - y| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon .$$

- 15 **Problem 2 :** Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be the set of all triangles in the plane which have all vertices at rational points. Show that  $\text{card}(\mathcal{T}) = \aleph_0$ . What would be the cardinality if we allow one non-rational vertex?

- 15 **Problem 3 :** Find the limit

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{n} \ln(5^n + \pi \cdot (-1)^n + \sin^2(n^n + (10!)^n)) .$$

- 15 **Problem 4 :** Find the supremum and the infimum of the set  $A = \left\{ \left( \frac{n^2+1}{n^2} \right) : n = 1, 2, \dots \right\} .$

- 25 **Problem 4a :** This is a replacement problem for Problem 4. You can be awarded points for Problem 4 or Problem 4a but not for both. Your choice.

Find the supremum and the infimum of the set

$$A = \left\{ \sqrt[n]{n} : n = 2, 3, \dots \right\} .$$

- 15 **Problem 5 :** Let  $a_1 = 2$  and  $a_{n+1} = a_n - \frac{a_n^2 - a_n}{2a_n - 1}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Prove that the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is decreasing and bounded below by 1. Conclude that it is convergent (refer to a theorem) and find its limit. What would happen if  $a_1 = 0.7$  ?

- 15 **Problem 6 :** Prove that for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$12 | 3^n + 7^{n-1} + 8 ,$$

i.e.,  $3^n + 7^{n-1} + 8$  is divisible by 12.

- 10 **Problem 7 :** (a) Prove that  $\sqrt{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}}$  is not a rational number.

(b) Assume that  $a \cdot b$  is rational. Must both  $a$  and  $b$  be rational numbers?

## SOLUTIONS:

**Problem 1:**

(a)

$$[(p \Rightarrow q) \wedge (p \Rightarrow \neg q)] \Rightarrow (\neg p) .$$

First method, checking all possibilities:

p	q	$p \Rightarrow q$	$p \Rightarrow \neg q$	$\wedge$	$\neg p$	full
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1	0	0	1
0	0	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	0	0	0	1

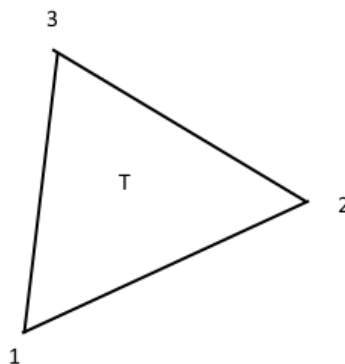
Since for all possible values of  $p$  and  $q$  the sentence is true it is always true.

Second method: Assume that the sentence is sometimes false. Then, since the only false implications is  $1 \Rightarrow 0$ , we have  $p = 1$  and  $(p \Rightarrow q) = 1$  and  $(p \Rightarrow \neg q) = 1$ . Then,  $q = 1$  and  $\neg q = 1$ , which is a contradiction. Thus, the sentence is always true.

(b)

$$\exists \varepsilon > 0 \forall \delta > 0 \exists x \in \mathbb{R} \exists y \in \mathbb{R} |x - y| < \delta \wedge |f(x) - f(y)| \geq \varepsilon .$$

**Problem 2:** If two triangles are different, then they cannot have identical vertices, i.e., the map  $f(T) = (x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2, x_3, y_3)$  is injective, where the vertices of  $T$  are  $(x_1, y_1)$ ,  $(x_2, y_2)$ ,  $(x_3, y_3)$  and we agree for some order of vertices for all triangles. For example, we can agree that the vertex 1 is the one with the smallest x-coordinate and if there are two with the same the smallest x-coordinate, the one of them with smaller y-coordinate. Then, the vertex 2 is the next vertex when we move from vertex 1 along the perimeter of the triangle in counter-clock direction. The remaining vertex is vertex 3.



The map  $f$  defines an injection of  $\mathcal{T}$  into  $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countable and a finite Cartesian product of countable sets is countable,  $\mathcal{T}$  is countable. Since it is obviously infinite  $\text{card}(\mathcal{T}) = \aleph_0$ .

If we allow one non-rational vertex, there is a continuum choices for this vertex so  $\text{card}(\mathcal{T}) \geq \mathfrak{c}$ . The map  $f$  above defines injection of  $\mathcal{T}$  into  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ . The cardinality of this set is again  $\mathfrak{c}$  (finite Cartesian product of sets of cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ ). Thus,  $\text{card}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathfrak{c}$ .

**Problem 3:** We have

$$\frac{1}{n} \ln(5^5 - (1/2) \cdot 5^n) \leq \frac{1}{n} \ln(5^n + \pi \cdot (-1)^n + \sin^2(n^n + (10!)^n)) \leq \frac{1}{n} \ln(5^n + 5^n + 5^n),$$

or

$$\frac{1}{n} \ln((1/2) \cdot 5^n) \leq \frac{1}{n} \ln(5^n + \pi \cdot (-1)^n + \sin^2(n^n + (10!)^n)) \leq \frac{1}{n} \ln(3 \cdot 5^n),$$

or

$$\frac{1}{n} \ln(1/2) + \frac{1}{n} \ln(5^n) \leq \frac{1}{n} \ln(5^n + \pi \cdot (-1)^n + \sin^2(n^n + (10!)^n)) \leq \frac{1}{n} \ln(3) + \frac{1}{n} \ln(5^n).$$

The limit on the LHS is  $\ln 5$  and the limit on the RHS is also  $\ln 5$ . Thus, by Squeeze Th., the limit of our sequence is  $\ln 5$ .

**Problem 4:** We can write  $\frac{n^2+1}{n^2} = 1 + \frac{1}{n^2}$  which clearly shows that elements of  $A$  form a decreasing sequence. Thus,

$$\sup A = \max A = 1 + 1/1^2 = 2 .$$

We will prove that  $\inf A = 1$ . We have  $1 < 1 + 1/n^2$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , so 1 is a lower bound for  $A$ . We will show that for arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  we can find element  $1 + 1/n^2 \in A$  such that  $1 + 1/n^2 < 1 + \varepsilon$ . We need  $1 + 1/n^2 < 1 + \varepsilon$ , or  $1/n^2 < \varepsilon$ , or  $1/\varepsilon < n^2$ , or  $\sqrt{1/\varepsilon} < n$ . Since natural numbers are unbounded, for arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  we can find  $n$  satisfying this inequality. This proves

$$\inf A = 1 .$$

**Problem 4a:** We have

$$\sqrt[2]{2} \sim 1.414213562,$$

$$\sqrt[3]{3} \sim 1.442249570,$$

$$\sqrt[4]{4} = \sqrt[2]{2} \sim 1.414213562,$$

$$\sqrt[5]{5} \sim 1.379729661.$$

It seems that starting from  $n = 3$  the sequence is decreasing. We will prove this. We want:

$$\sqrt[n]{n} \geq \sqrt[n+1]{n+1},$$

or

$$n^{n+1} \geq (n+1)^n,$$

or

$$n \geq \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^n = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n .$$

Since  $(1 + 1/n)^n < e \sim 2.718281828$  for all  $n$ , the above inequality holds for  $n = 3, 4, 5, \dots$  as we guessed. This shows that

$$\sup A = \max A = \sqrt[3]{3}.$$

Obviously  $1 < \sqrt[n]{n}$ , for all  $n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$ . We know from class that  $\sqrt[n]{n} \rightarrow 1$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . We also proved a theorem saying that a decreasing bounded below sequence converges to its infimum. Thus,

$$\inf A = 1.$$

**Problem 5:** We will prove that  $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$ . We need

$$a_n - \frac{a_n^2 - a_n}{2a_n - 1} \leq a_n,$$

or

$$2a_n^2 - a_n - a_n^2 + a_n \leq 2a_n^2 - a_n,$$

or

$$0 \leq a_n(a_n - 1).$$

We will prove that  $a_n \geq 1$  for all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  by induction.

$n = 1$   $a_1 = 2$  so yes, it holds.

Assume for  $n$ :  $a_n \geq 1$ .

Prove for  $n + 1$ : We have

$$a_n - \frac{a_n^2 - a_n}{2a_n - 1} = \frac{a_n^2}{2a_n - 1}.$$

Since  $a_n \geq 1$  the denominator is positive and the inequality

$$\frac{a_n^2}{2a_n - 1} \geq 1$$

is equivalent to  $a_n^2 \geq 2a_n - 1$  or  $a_n^2 - 2a_n + 1 \geq 0$  which is always true ( $t^2 - 2t + 1 = (t - 1)^2 \geq 0$ ). Proof by induction is completed.

We proved both facts:  $\{a_n\}$  is decreasing and bounded below by 1. Note, that in the proof, the only information about  $a_1$  we used was that  $a_1 \geq 1$ . By theorem about monotone sequences the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is convergent.

Let  $a_n \rightarrow L$ . We can go to the limit in the definition

$$a_{n+1} = a_n - \frac{a_n^2 - a_n}{2a_n - 1},$$

and obtain equation

$$L = L - \frac{L^2 - L}{2L - 1},$$

with two solutions :  $L = 0$  or  $L = 1$ . Since  $a_n \geq 1$  it cannot converge to 0. Thus,  $a_n \rightarrow 1$ .

If  $a_1 = 0.7$ , then  $a_2 = 1.225$  and starting from element number two the sequence is decreasing and bounded below by 1 as before. The limit again is 1.

**Problem 6:** Prove

$$21|4^{n+1} + 5^{2n-1}.$$

$n = 1$ :  $4^{1+1} + 5^{2-1} = 21$  is divisible by 21.

Assume for  $n$ :  $4^{n+1} + 5^{2n-1} = 21k$ .

Prove for  $n + 1$ : We have

$$4^{n+1+1} + 5^{2n+2-1} = 4 \cdot 4^{n+1} + 25 \cdot 5^{2n-1} = 4(4^{n+1} + 5^{2n-1}) + 21 \cdot 5^{2n-1} = 4 \cdot 21k + 21 \cdot 5^{2n-1},$$

and again is divisible by 21.

This completes the proof by induction.

**Problem 7:** (a) Assume that  $\sqrt{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}} = \frac{p}{q}$  where  $p, q$  are natural numbers (it is obviously positive). Then,

$$\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} = \frac{p^2}{q^2},$$

and

$$2 + 2\sqrt{6} + 3 = \frac{p^4}{q^4},$$

so  $\sqrt{6}$  is a rational number. Let  $\sqrt{6} = \frac{r}{s}$ , where  $r, s$  are natural numbers without common divisors. Then,

$$6 = \frac{r^2}{s^2},$$

or  $6s^2 = r^2$  and  $r^2$  is even. Thus,  $r$  is even and  $r = 2k$  where  $k$  is a natural number. We have  $6s^2 = 4k^2$  or  $3s^2 = 2k^2$ . Thus,  $s^2$  is even and then  $s$  is also even. Thus, we proved that both  $r$  and  $s$  are even which contradicts the assumption that they have no common divisors.

This contradiction proves that  $\sqrt{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}}$  is not a rational number.

(b) Simple example

$$\sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 1.$$

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Examination	Instructor	Date	Time	Pages
Midterm	M. Bertola	October 2015	1.25 hours	1

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**Special Instructions:** Explain carefully but not verbosely your steps!

**Problem 1.** (a) Write the negation of the sentence

$$\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists N_0 \in \mathbb{N} : \forall n, m \geq N_0 (|x_n - x_m| < \epsilon) \vee (x_n x_m = 0)$$

(b) Prove that for any sets  $A$  and  $B$  we have  $A = (A \cap B) \cup (A \setminus B)$ .

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**Problem 2.** Use the “squeeze” theorem to show

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{5^n + 2^n - \sin(n^2)} = 5$$

You can use without proof the fact that, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the function  $f(x) = \sqrt[n]{x}$  is increasing.

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**Problem 3.** The Fibonacci sequence is defined by induction as follows

$$x_1 := 1, \quad x_2 := 1, \quad x_n = x_{n-1} + x_{n-2}$$

The first few ones are 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, 233, 377, 610, ... Prove that  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}$ , the element  $x_{3k}$  is even.

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**Problem 4.** Prove that  $\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{2}$  is not rational. Prove that for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$  the number  $x = a\sqrt{3} + b\sqrt{2}$  is not rational, except for the case  $a = b = 0$ . You do not need to prove that  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sqrt{3}$  (separately) are not rational. Explain carefully all your logic.

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**Problem 5.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two functions from a set  $X$  to the interval  $[1, \infty)$ . Let  $h(x) = f(x)g(x)$  be the product function and  $r(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$  be the quotient function. Recall that the sup or inf of a function means the sup or inf of its image. Prove that; (1)  $\sup h \leq (\sup f)(\sup g)$ ; (2)  $\sup r \leq \frac{\sup f}{\inf g}$ .

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**Problem 6.** Show that the set of the roots of polynomials with integer coefficients is countable.

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**Problem 7 (Bonus).** Suppose that  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a convergent sequence of real numbers. Prove that it satisfies the following property (Cauchy)

$$\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists N_0 \in \mathbb{N} : \forall n, m \geq N_0 |x_n - x_m| < \epsilon.$$

### Solution of Problem 1

$$\exists \epsilon : \forall \delta > 0 \exists x, \exists y : (|x - y| < \delta) \wedge (|f(x) - f(y)| \geq \epsilon)$$

### Solution of Problem ??

If  $x \in A \cap B$  then  $x \in A$ ; if  $x \in A \setminus B$  then  $x \in A$ . Thus the RHS is contained in  $A$ . Viceversa, if  $x \in A$  then it either belongs to  $B$  or not. If it does then  $x \in A \cap B$ , if it doesn't then  $x \in A \setminus B$ . This proves the reverse inclusion and concludes the proof.

### Solution of Problem 7

1. By induction:  $x_1 = 3 > 2$ . Suppose  $x_k > 2$ , then

$$x_k > 2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{2}{x_k} < 1 \Leftrightarrow -\frac{2}{x_k} > -1$$

So

$$x_{k+1} = 3 - \frac{2}{x_k} > 3 - 1 = 2$$

Hence the sequence is bounded below by 2.

2. We have

$$x_{k+1} - x_k = 3 - \frac{2}{x_k} - x_k = \frac{3x_k - 2 - x_k^2}{x_k} = -\frac{(x_k - 2)(x_k - 1)}{x_k}$$

Since we know already that  $x_k > 2$  the numerator is strictly positive and hence (because of the minus sign)

$$x_{k+1} - x_k < 0 \Leftrightarrow x_{k+1} < x_k$$

so the sequence is strictly decreasing.

3. By the monotone convergence theorem, the limit exists. Say  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = L \geq 2$  (since 2 is a lower bound for the sequence) Then also  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} = L$  because this is a subsequence. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 3 - \frac{2}{x_n} = 3 - \frac{2}{\lim x_n} = 3 - \frac{2}{L} \\ L &= 3 - \frac{2}{L} \\ L^2 - 3L + 2 &= 0 = (L - 2)(L - 1) \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $L = 2$  ( $L = 1$  is not possible since we already know  $L \geq 2$ ).

### Solution of Problem 4

1. Strictly speaking it is False: take  $x = \sqrt{2}$  and  $y = 0$ . However, I counted also the answer True (under the untold assumption that the rational number is not zero). In this case one needs to prove something.

So, let  $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$  and  $y \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ ; write  $y = \frac{p}{q}$  with  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Suppose by contradiction that  $xy \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $xy = \frac{r}{s}$  for some  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$x = \frac{1}{y} \frac{r}{s} = \frac{qr}{sp}$$

which is in  $\mathbb{Q}$  hence a contradiction.

2. False:  $x = \sqrt{2}$  and  $y = \sqrt{2}$ . Then  $\frac{x}{y} = 1 \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

**Solution of Problem ??**

Let  $0 < x < y$ ; then  $x - y < 0$  and

$$\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y} = \frac{(\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y})(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y})}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} = \frac{x - y}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} < 0$$

where the last inequality holds because the denominator is positive. Thus  $\sqrt{x} < \sqrt{y}$  and the function is increasing.

**Solution of Problem ??**

$$\left| \frac{4n^2 - 1}{2n^2 + 3} - 2 \right| = \left| \frac{-7}{2n^2 + 3} \right| = \frac{7}{2n^2 + 3} < \frac{7}{2n}$$

Now, for any  $\epsilon > 0$  let  $\mathbb{N} \ni n_0 > \frac{2}{\epsilon}$ . Then, for all  $n \geq n_0$  we have

$$\left| \frac{4n^2 - 1}{2n^2 + 3} - 2 \right| < \frac{7}{2n} \leq \frac{7}{2n_0} < \epsilon$$

**Solution of Problem 5** Since  $f, g$  take values in  $[1, \infty)$  then  $\sup f \geq 1 \leq \sup g$  and also  $\inf f \geq 1 \leq \inf g$ . In particular all of these numbers are **positive**.

1. Now

$$f(x)g(x) \leq (\sup f)g(x) \leq (\sup f)(\sup g)$$

where the first is valid because  $g(x) > 0$  and the last inequality is valid only because  $\sup f > 0$ . In particular  $\sup f \sup g$  is an upper bound for the range of  $h(x) = f(x)g(x)$ . Thus  $\sup h \leq \sup f \sup g$ .

2.

$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \leq \frac{f(x)}{\inf g} \leq \frac{\sup f}{\inf g}$$

The inequalities are valid as stated because all the quantities are strictly positive. Taking the sup of the LHS yields  $\sup h \leq \frac{\sup f}{\inf g}$ .

**Solution of Problem 3**

By induction:  $x_3 = 1 + 1 = 2$  is even. Suppose that  $x_{3k}$  is even: then

$$x_{3(k+1)} = x_{3k+3} = x_{3k+2} + x_{3k+1} = x_{3k+1} + x_{3k} + x_{3k+1} = x_{3k} + 2x_{3k+1}$$

Thus  $x_{3(k+1)}$  is the sum of two even numbers, hence even. (It should be noted that the sequence is constituted of integers, but I take this as self-evident).

**Solution of Problem ??**

I claim the limit is 1 and I prove it directly:

$$\left| \frac{n}{\sqrt{n^2 + 1}} - 1 \right| = \frac{|n - \sqrt{n^2 + 1}|}{\sqrt{n^2 + 1}} = \frac{|n^2 - n^2 - 1|}{(n + \sqrt{n^2 + 1})\sqrt{n^2 + 1}} = \frac{1}{(n + \sqrt{n^2 + 1})\sqrt{n^2 + 1}} < \frac{1}{n}$$

For any  $\epsilon > 0$  take  $\mathbb{N} \ni n_0 > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ : then for any  $n \geq n_0$  we have

$$\left| \frac{n}{\sqrt{n^2 + 1}} - 1 \right| < \frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{1}{n_0} < \epsilon$$

which proves the result.

**Solution of Problem ??**

Suppose by contradiction that  $\sqrt[5]{3} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then it can be written as

$$\sqrt[5]{3} = \frac{p}{q}$$

with  $p, q$  two relatively prime integers (i.e. without common divisors (except 1)). Elevating to the fifth power we get

$$3q^5 = p^5$$

Thus  $p^5$  is divisible by 3 and since 3 is a prime number,  $p$  itself must be divisible by 3 and can be written  $p = 3k$  for some other integer  $k$ . Then

$$3q^5 = 3^5 k^5 \Rightarrow q^5 = 3^4 k^5.$$

By the same argument also  $q$  must be divisible by 3, a contradiction with the assumption that  $p, q$  were relatively prime.

# Sample questions for MATH 364

October 2012

Section A only

This is a *representative* list of problems. The actual midterm will consist in 6 (or less) questions.

**Problem 1.** Rewrite the following statements using only the symbols  $\vee, \wedge, \neg$  and brackets

a.  $(\neg A \Rightarrow A) \Rightarrow A$       b.  $\neg A \Rightarrow (A \Rightarrow B)$

**Problem 2.** Prove that

$$[(A \vee B) \Rightarrow C] \Rightarrow [(A \Rightarrow C) \vee (B \Rightarrow C)]$$

**Problem 3.** Write the negation of the sentence:

$$\forall a \forall \epsilon \exists \delta > 0 : \forall x \forall y \quad [|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon] \Rightarrow [(|x - a| < \delta) \vee (|y - a| < \delta)]$$

**Problem 4.** Consider the following statements: if they are true prove them, if they are false give a counterexample

- (1) The product of two rational numbers is rational;
- (2) The product of two irrational numbers is irrational;
- (3) the sum of two irrational numbers is irrational;
- (4) the sum of a rational number and an irrational number is irrational.

**Problem 5.** Let  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a non-empty set, bounded above. Prove that

$$\sup(A) = \inf \{L : \forall a \in A, a \leq L\}$$

**Problem 6.** Let  $A$  be a nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  bounded above and below. Let  $c \neq 0$  be some number. Define

$$cA := \{cx : x \in A\}$$

Prove that

- (1) if  $c > 0$  then  $\sup cA = c \sup A$ ;
- (2) if  $c < 0$  then  $\sup cA = c \inf A$ .

**Problem 7.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two functions from the interval  $[0, 1]$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ . Suppose that both functions are bounded above and below. Let  $h = f - g$  be the difference function, namely

$$h(x) = f(x) - g(x) .$$

(1) Prove that

$$\sup h \leq \sup f - \inf g$$

where by  $\sup$  or  $\inf$  of a function we mean the  $\sup$  or  $\inf$  of its image.

(2) Show, by a **simple** example that the equality sign instead of  $\leq$  would be false in general

**Problem 8.** Prove by induction that

(1)

$$1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + \cdots + n \cdot (n + 1) = \frac{n(n + 1)(n + 2)}{3}$$

(2) for any  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  the following expression is divisible by 25

$$2^{n+2} \cdot 3^n + 5n - 4$$

**Problem 9.** Prove that the limits of the following sequences are correct

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n - \sqrt{1 + n^2} = 0 \qquad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{3^n - 2^n} = 3 .$$

Hint: rationalize in the first, use "sandwich" in the second.

**Problem 10.** Prove that  $\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{4}$  is not a rational number. Find an irrational number within the interval  $(100, 101)$ .

**Problem 11.** Find the sup and inf of

$$(1) A := \left\{ \frac{n+5}{n} : n = 1, 2, \dots \right\}$$

$$(2) B := \left\{ \frac{t^2}{t^2+5} : t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

**Problem 12.** Prove that the set

$$B := \left\{ a + b\sqrt{2} + c\sqrt{3} : a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

is countable.

**Problem 13.** Prove that a convergent sequence is bounded. Is every bounded sequence convergent?

**Problem 14.** Let a non-empty set  $A$  be bounded below and let  $m = \inf A$ .

1. Show that for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is an  $a \in A$  such that  $a < m + \varepsilon$ .
2. Use part 1. to show that  $A$  contains a sequence convergent to  $m$ .

**Proof of Problem 1.** (1) Recall that  $P \Rightarrow Q$  is the same as

$$\neg(P \wedge \neg Q)$$

Thus the following statements are equivalent

$$\begin{aligned} & (\neg A \Rightarrow A) \Rightarrow A \\ & \neg((\neg A \Rightarrow A) \wedge \neg A) \\ & \neg(\neg(\neg A \wedge \neg A) \wedge \neg A) \end{aligned}$$

This is enough, but we can simplify further

$$\begin{aligned} & \neg(\neg(\neg A \wedge \neg A) \wedge \neg A) = \\ & \neg((A \vee A) \wedge \neg A) = \\ & \neg(A \wedge \neg A) = \\ & \neg A \vee A \end{aligned}$$

In particular the statement is true, because whatever  $A$  is (True or False) the statement is True.

(2) For the second

$$\begin{aligned} & \neg A \Rightarrow (A \Rightarrow B) = \\ & \neg(\neg A \wedge \neg(A \Rightarrow B)) = \\ & \neg(\neg A \wedge \neg\neg(A \wedge \neg B)) = \\ & \neg(\neg A \wedge (A \wedge \neg B)) = \\ & \neg((\neg A \wedge A) \wedge \neg B) = \\ & A \vee \neg A \vee B \end{aligned}$$

□

**Proof of Problem 2.** We start by simplifying the hypothesis and the thesis using that

$$P \Rightarrow Q = \neg(P \wedge \neg Q) = \neg P \vee Q$$

The hypothesis  $P$  reads

$$(A \vee B) \Rightarrow C = \neg(A \vee B \wedge \neg C) = \neg A \wedge \neg B \vee C$$

The thesis  $Q$  reads

$$(A \Rightarrow C) \vee (B \Rightarrow C) = \neg(A \wedge \neg C) \vee \neg(B \wedge \neg C) = \neg A \vee C \vee \neg B \vee C = \neg Q \vee \neg B \vee C$$

Thus we need to check that  $\neg P \vee Q$  is true:

$$\begin{aligned} & \neg(\neg A \wedge \neg B \vee C) \vee \neg A \vee C \vee \neg B \vee C = \\ & A \vee B \wedge \neg C \vee \neg A \vee C \vee \neg B = \\ & (A \vee \neg A) \wedge (C \vee \neg C) \vee (B \vee \neg B) \end{aligned}$$

Since all the sentences  $X \vee \neg X$  are always true, then the above is always true. □

*Proof.* **Proof of Problem 3** In negating,  $\forall$  becomes  $\exists$  and viceversa, and the last statement is negated. The last statement in this case is

$$\overbrace{[|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon]}^P \Rightarrow \overbrace{[(|x - a| < \delta) \vee (|y - a| < \delta)]}^Q$$

Now  $P \Rightarrow Q = \neg(P \wedge \neg Q)$  thus  $\neg(P \Rightarrow Q) = P \wedge \neg Q$  and the negation of the above is

$$|x - a| \geq \delta \wedge |y - a| \geq \delta \wedge |f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$$

Thus

$$\exists a : \exists \epsilon : \forall \delta > 0 \exists x : \exists y : |x - a| \geq \delta \wedge |y - a| \geq \delta \wedge |f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$$

□

*Proof. Proof of Problem 4* The first is true; indeed two rational numbers are of the form  $\frac{p}{q}$  and  $\frac{r}{s}$  with  $p, q, r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$

Thus

$$\frac{p}{q} \cdot \frac{r}{s} = \frac{pr}{qs}$$

is the ratio of two integers and hence a rational number by definition.

The second is false: counterexample is  $x = \sqrt{2}$  and  $y = \sqrt{2}$  for which  $xy = 2 \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

The third is false: counterexample is  $x = \sqrt{2}$  and  $y = -\sqrt{2}$  for which  $x + y = 0 \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

The fourth is true: indeed if  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$  then  $y := q + x$  is irrational, for, otherwise, we would have

$$\mathbb{Q} \ni y = q + x \Rightarrow x = y - q \in \mathbb{Q}$$

a contradiction. □

*Proof. Proof of Problem 5* Let

$$S = \sup A, \quad M := \inf \overbrace{\{L : \forall a \in A, a \leq L\}}^B$$

The set  $B$  is the set of upper bounds of  $A$ . Thus,  $M$  is the least upper bound. By definition  $M$  is the sup of  $A$ . □

*Proof. Proof of Problem 6* Let  $c > 0$ : let  $S = \sup A$  and  $K = \sup(cA)$ . This means that

$$\forall a, \quad K \geq ca \Rightarrow \frac{K}{c} \geq a$$

Thus  $\frac{K}{c}$  is an upper bound of  $A$  and thus  $S \leq \frac{K}{c}$  or equivalently  $cS \leq K$ . On the other hand

$$\forall a \in A \quad ca \leq cS$$

thus  $cS$  is an upper bound for  $cA$ , and hence  $K \leq cS$ . Combining the two we have  $cS = K$ .

Suppose now  $c < 0$ . Let  $J := \inf cA$ . We have

$$\forall a, \quad J \leq ca \Rightarrow \frac{J}{c} \geq a$$

where the inequality has flipped because  $c$  is negative. Thus  $\frac{J}{c}$  is an upper bound of  $A$  and thus  $S \leq \frac{J}{c}$  or equivalently  $cS \geq J$ . On the other hand

$$\forall a \in A \quad ca \geq cS$$

(again because  $S$  is an upper bound for  $A$  and  $c$  is negative). thus  $cS$  is a **lower** bound for  $cA$ , and hence  $J \geq cS$  because  $J = \inf cA$  is the **greatest lower bound**. Combining the two we have  $cS = J$ . □

*Proof. Proof of Problem 7* We have,  $\forall x, y \in [0, 1]$

$$f(x) - g(y) \leq \sup f - g(y) \leq \sup f - \inf g$$

In particular, if we take  $y = x$  we have,  $\forall x \in [0, 1]$

$$h(x) = f(x) - g(x) \leq \sup f - \inf g.$$

Thus the right hand side is an **upper bound** for the range of  $h(x)$ : by definition of  $\sup h$ , this cannot exceed any other upper bound and hence

$$\sup h \leq \sup f - \inf g$$

A counterexample that the equality is wrong is as follows

$$f(x) = x, \quad g(x) = x, \quad x \in [-1, 1].$$

Then  $\sup f = \sup[-1, 1] = 1$  and  $\inf g = \inf[-1, 1] = -1$  so  $\sup f - \inf g = 2$ . But  $h = x - x = 0$  and  $\sup h = 0$ . □

*Proof. Proof of Problem 8* We verify it for  $n = 1$ :

$$1 \cdot 2 = \frac{1(1+1)(1+2)}{3} = 2$$

Suppose that the formula is true for  $n$ , namely that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n j(j+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} j(j+1) &= \left( \sum_{j=1}^n j(j+1) \right) + (n+1)(n+2) \stackrel{*}{=} \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3} + (n+1)(n+2) = \\ &= (n+1)(n+2) \left( \frac{n}{3} + 1 \right) = (n+1)(n+2) \frac{n+3}{3} = \frac{(n+1)(n+1+1)(n+1+2)}{3} \end{aligned}$$

which proves the case with  $n + 1$ . On the step marked with  $\star$  we have used the induction hypothesis.

For the second part: for  $n = 1$  we have  $8 \cdot 3 + 5 - 4 = 25$ , so it is verified.

Suppose we know that the statement holds for  $n$ ; then

$$2^{n+1+2}3^{n+1} + 5(n+1) - 4 = 6 \cdot 2^{n+2}3^n + 5n + 5 - 4 = 6 \overbrace{(2^{n+2}3^n + 5n - 4)}^{\text{divisible by 25}} - 25n + 25$$

Since each number is divisible by 25 the proof follows. □

*Proof. Proof of Problem 9* We estimate the distance of the sequence from the alleged limit

$$\begin{aligned} \left| n - \sqrt{n^2 + 1} - 0 \right| &= \left| n - \sqrt{n^2 + 1} \right| = \left| \frac{(n - \sqrt{n^2 + 1})(n + \sqrt{n^2 + 1})}{n + \sqrt{n^2 + 1}} \right| = \\ &= \left| \frac{n^2 - n^2 - 1}{n + \sqrt{n^2 + 1}} \right| = \left| \frac{-1}{n + \sqrt{n^2 + 1}} \right| = \frac{1}{n + \sqrt{n^2 + 1}} \leq \frac{1}{n} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for any  $\epsilon > 0$  the definition is verified by choosing  $n_0 > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$  any integer. Then for all  $n > n_0$  we have  $|x_n - 0| < \epsilon$ . □

*Proof.* We use "sandwich" theorem

$$\sqrt[n]{3^n - \frac{1}{2}3^n} < \sqrt[n]{3^n - 2^n} < \sqrt[n]{3^n} = 3.$$

The left hand side estimate is valid for large  $n$  as  $(3/2)^n > 2$  for large  $n$ . Since we want to find a limit considering only large  $n$  is correct. The left hand side estimate

$$\sqrt[n]{3^n - \frac{1}{2}3^n} = \sqrt[n]{\frac{1}{2}3^n} = \sqrt[n]{\frac{1}{2}} \sqrt[n]{3^n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} 1 \cdot 3 = 3.$$

□

*Proof. Proof of Problem 10* Well,  $\sqrt{4} = 2$  so if  $\sqrt{3} + 2$  were rational than so would be  $\sqrt{3}$ . But we have seen that the square root of any prime is not rational.

Now,  $1 < \sqrt{3} < 2$  and thus  $99 + \sqrt{3}$  is the desired example (one of many). □

*Proof. Proof of Problem 11*

(1) For the first part: we note that the sequence is **positive** and **decreasing**, namely if  $k > n$

$$\frac{n+5}{n} > \frac{k+5}{k}$$

Indeed

$$\frac{n+5}{n} - \frac{k+5}{k} = \frac{nk+5k-nk-5n}{nk} = \frac{5}{nk}(k-n) < 0$$

Thus the sup is achieved for  $n = 1$  and it is 6. The inf is the limit (by the monotone convergence theorem) which is 1.

(2) The function  $\frac{t^2}{t^2+5}$  is obviously positive and for  $t = 0$  it is zero. So the inf is actually a min and it is 0. The sup is the limit at infinity which is 1.

□

*Proof. Proof of Problem 12* We set-up a surjection from  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  onto  $B$  as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} &\longrightarrow B \\ (a, b, c) &\mapsto a + b\sqrt{2} + c\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathbb{Z}^3$  is the cartesian product of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  (both of which are countable), then it is countable. By the theorem we proved that says: "if  $X$  is countable and  $F : X \rightarrow Y$  is surjective, then  $Y$  is countable" we can assert that  $B$  is countable

□

*Proof. Proof of Problem 13* Let  $x_n \rightarrow x$ . We will prove that the sequence  $(x_n)$  is bounded. The convergence means

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists N \geq 1 \forall n \geq N \quad x - \varepsilon < x_n < x + \varepsilon .$$

Let us fix an epsilon, say  $\varepsilon = 2012 > 0$  (in principle we think about epsilon as a small number, but it does not have to be small). For this  $\varepsilon$  we can find an  $N$  such that

$$x - 2012 < x_n < x + 2012 ,$$

for  $n = N, N+1, N+2, \dots$ . So the "tail" of the sequence is bounded. It is enough to bound the terms  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{N-1}$ . Since there is only finitely many of them, there is a number  $M > 0$  such that

$$-M \leq x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{N-1} \leq M .$$

Thus, all terms of the of the sequence satisfy

$$\min\{x - 2012, -M\} < x_n < \max\{x + 2012, M\} .$$

No, a bounded sequence does not have to converge.

$$(x_n) = (1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, \dots) ,$$

is an example.

□

*Proof. Proof of Problem 14*

1. Fix an  $\varepsilon > 0$ . If no element of  $A$  satisfies  $a < m + \varepsilon$ , then  $m + \varepsilon > m$  is a lower bound for  $A$ . This contradicts the definition of the infimum  $m$ . This proves the claim.

2. In 1. we proved that for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  we can find an element  $a_\varepsilon < m + \varepsilon$ . Thus, for  $\varepsilon_n = 1/n$ , there are elements  $a_n \in A$  such that  $a_n < m + 1/n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . We have

$$m \leq a_n < m + 1/n \quad , \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

By "sandwich" theorem,  $a_n \rightarrow m$ .

□

*Proof. Proof of Problem 15* Obviously the numbers are not written in base 10. Let the base be  $a$ . Then, we have

$$2(4 \cdot a + 0) = 1 \cdot a^2 + 2 \cdot a + 0 ,$$

or  $a = 6$  as  $a = 0$  is not a valid solution. Then,  $(4 \cdot 6 + 0)/3 = 8_{(10)} = 12_{(6)}$ . The answer is 12. □

*Proof. Proof of Problem 16* Consider the sequence  $a_0 = 1$  and  $a_n = a_0 + \dots + a_{n-1}$ . I claim that

$$a_n = 2^n , n \geq 1$$

Indeed  $a_1 = a_0 = 1$  verifies the assertion. If the assertion is true for  $n$  then

$$a_{n+1} = a_n + a_{n-1} + \dots + a_0 = a_n + a_n = 2a_n = 2 \cdot 2^n = 2^{n+1}.$$

Now since  $(A + B) \bmod 9 = (A \bmod 9 + B) \bmod 9$  we have that

$$x_n = a_{n-1} \bmod 9 = 2^{n-1} \bmod 9 , \quad n \geq 1$$

We see that  $64 \bmod 9 = 2^6 \bmod 9 = 1$ . Thus  $x_{n+6} = 2^{n+6} \bmod 9 = (2^6 \bmod 9)(2^n \bmod 9) \bmod 9 = 2^n \bmod 9 = x_n$ . Thus the sequence is periodic and hence the number is rational. □