

# MATHEMATICS 300 — FALL 2017

## *Introduction to Mathematical Reasoning*

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### HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT NO. 13, DUE ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

*This assignment consist of three problems.*

In these problems, if  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers, we write “ $[a, b]$ ” to denote the closed interval  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : a \leq x \leq b\}$ , and “ $]a, b[$ ” to denote the open interval  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : a < x < b\}$ .

If  $A$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , an interior point of  $A$  is a point  $a \in A$  such that the open interval  $]a - \varepsilon, a + \varepsilon[$  is a subset of  $A$  for some positive<sup>1</sup> real number  $\varepsilon$ .

If  $A$  is a set, then the identity map of  $A$  is the function  $I_A$  such that (1)  $\text{Dom}(I_A) = A$ , and (2)  $I_A(x) = x$  for every  $x \in A$ .

**Problem 1. *Prove*** that if  $X$  is a set then there does not exist a one-to-one function<sup>2</sup>  $f : \mathcal{P}(X) \longrightarrow X$ .

**Problem 2. *Prove*** that if  $f : A \longrightarrow B$ , then  $f$  is a bijection from  $A$  to  $B$  if and only if the following is true:

(#) There exists a function  $g : B \longrightarrow A$  such that  $g \circ f = I_A$  and  $f \circ g = I_B$ .

**Problem 3.**

1. Let  $f, g$  be the functions defined by

(i)  $\text{Dom}(f) = \mathbb{R}$ ,

(ii)  $f(x) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

(iii)  $\text{Dom}(g) = ]-1, 1[$ ,

iv)  $g(y) = \frac{y}{\sqrt{1-y^2}}$  for  $y \in ]-1, 1[$ ,

(a) ***Prove*** that  $f : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow ]-1, 1[, g : ]-1, 1[ \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g \circ f = I_{\mathbb{R}}$ , and  $f \circ g = I_{]-1, 1[}$ .

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<sup>1</sup>“Positive” means “ $> 0$ ”.

<sup>2</sup>“ $\mathcal{P}(X)$ ” stands for “the power set of  $X$ ”. By definition,  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  is the set of all subsets of  $X$ . That is,  $\mathcal{P}(X) = \{U : U \subseteq X\}$ .

- (b) **Conclude** from this that  $\mathbb{R}$  and the interval  $] - 1, 1[$  have the same cardinality.
2. If  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $a < b$ , let  $f_{a,b}$  be the function with domain  $] - 1, 1[$ , given by  $f_{a,b}(x) = a + \frac{1}{2}(b - a)(x + 1)$  for  $x \in ] - 1, 1[$ . **Prove** that  $f$  is a bijection from  $] - 1, 1[$  to  $]a, b[$ , and **conclude** from this that  $\mathbb{R}$  and the interval  $]a, b[$  have the same cardinality.
3. **Prove** that if  $S$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $S$  has an interior point then  $S$  has the same cardinality as  $\mathbb{R}$ . (HINT: Use the Cantor-Schroeder-Bernstein theorem. Construct a one-to-one map<sup>3</sup> from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $S$  and a one-to-one map from  $S$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .)
4. Let  $\mathbb{I}$  be the set of all irrational numbers. **Prove** that  $\mathbb{I}$  has the same cardinality as  $\mathbb{R}$ .

HINT: Think of a very large hotel in which the rooms correspond to the irrational numbers, in the sense that the hotel has a room  $x$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{I}$ . And think of  $\mathbb{R}$  as a set of guests: for each real number  $r$ , there is a guest, guest  $r$ . You want to put each guest in a room. You can start by putting each guest with an irrational number in a room, by putting guest no.  $x$  in room no.  $x$  if  $x \in \mathbb{I}$ . And now you have to find rooms for the guests corresponding to the rational numbers, i.e., the members of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Since the set  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countably infinite, there is a bijection  $b : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ . So the rational numbers are the numbers  $b(1), b(2), b(3)$ , and so on. Find a sequence  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$  of pairwise distinct irrational numbers (for example, you could take  $x_n = n\sqrt{2}$ ), and move the guests occupying rooms  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$  to rooms  $x_2, x_4, x_6, \dots$ , thereby leaving room for the guests numbered  $b(1), b(2), b(3), \dots$  to be put in rooms  $x_1, x_3, x_5, \dots$

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<sup>3</sup>“Map” means the same thing as “function”.