

**Midterm Mathematical Structures AM1010**  
**Monday November 4, 2019, 9:00-11:00**



No calculators allowed. Write the solutions in the fields provided. The grade is (score+6)/6.

1. (a) Write the statement below using quantifiers, logical operators, equations, and expressions such as  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . 4

There exists an integer  $x$  such that  $xy$  is an integer multiple of 7 for all rational numbers  $y$ .

Don't use words or the divisor symbol  $n \mid m$ . No explanation necessary.

*Solution.*

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{Z} : \forall y \in \mathbb{Q} : \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} : xy = 7k.$$

In this case it is a bit unclear where the for all  $y$  should be, so we also grade correct the following

$$\forall y \in \mathbb{Q} : \exists x \in \mathbb{Z} : \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} : xy = 7k. \quad \square$$

However, whatever you do, you do need to introduce the  $y$  (using the quantifier) before you use it, so even though it is in the order of the text, it is incorrect to say

**INCORRECT:** 
$$\exists x \in \mathbb{Z} : \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} : xy = 7k \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{Q}$$

- (b) Write down the negation of the above statement (again using quantifiers, logical operators, equations, and expressions such as  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ ). No explanation necessary. 3

*Solution.*

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z} : \exists y \in \mathbb{Q} : \forall k \in \mathbb{Z} : xy \neq 7k. \quad \square$$

2. Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a function. Suppose  $C \subseteq A$  and  $D \subseteq B$ . Show that 6

$$f(C) \setminus D = f(C \setminus f^{-1}(D))$$

using the definitions of image and pre-image.

*Solution.* Let  $x \in f(C) \setminus D$ . Then  $x \in f(C)$  and  $x \notin D$ . As  $x \in f(C)$ , there exists  $y \in C$  such that  $x = f(y)$ . From  $f(y) \notin D$  we obtain  $y \notin f^{-1}(D)$ . Thus  $y \in C \setminus f^{-1}(D)$ . It follows that  $x = f(y) \in f(C \setminus f^{-1}(D))$ . We conclude  $f(C) \setminus D \subseteq f(C \setminus f^{-1}(D))$ .

Now let  $x \in f(C \setminus f^{-1}(D))$ . Then there exists  $y \in C \setminus f^{-1}(D)$  such that  $x = f(y)$ . Thus  $y \in C$  and  $y \notin f^{-1}(D)$ . As a consequence  $x = f(y) \in f(C)$  and  $x = f(y) \notin D$ . We conclude  $x \in f(C) \setminus D$ . Thus  $f(C \setminus f^{-1}(D)) \subseteq f(C) \setminus D$ .

From the two inclusions we derive  $f(C) \setminus D = f(C \setminus f^{-1}(D))$ . □

3. Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function. Define a relation  $R$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  by saying  $xRy$  holds whenever  $xf(y) = yf(x)$ .

(a) Is this relation reflexive (for any function  $f$ )? Prove or disprove. 2

*Solution.* Yes. Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $xf(x) = xf(x)$ , so  $xRx$  holds.  $\square$

(b) Is this relation symmetric (for any function  $f$ )? Prove or disprove. 2

*Solution.* Yes. Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ . Suppose  $xRy$  holds. Then  $xf(y) = yf(x)$  and thus  $yf(x) = xf(y)$ . In particular  $yRx$  holds as well.  $\square$

(c) Is this relation transitive (for any function  $f$ )? Prove or disprove. 3

*Solution.* No. Take  $f(x) = x^2$ . Then  $1R0$  holds as  $1f(0) = 0 = 0f(1)$ .  $0R(-1)$  holds as  $0f(-1) = 0 = -1 \cdot f(0)$ . But  $1R(-1)$  does not hold as  $1f(-1) = 1 \neq -1 = (-1) \cdot f(1)$ .  $\square$

(d) Give an example of a function  $f$  for which this relation is an equivalence relation and show that this is the case. 2

*Solution.* Take  $f(x) = x$ . Then  $xRy$  holds for all  $x$  and  $y$ , as  $xf(y) = xy = yf(x)$ . In particular this relation is transitive as well as symmetric and reflexive, so it is an equivalence relation.

**Remark:** In fact almost any  $f$  works, but for not all functions is it this easy to conclude transitivity.  $\square$

4. Suppose  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is increasing and  $f(0) = 0$ ,  $f(1) = 1$ . Prove or disprove:  $f$  is surjective. 4

Note:  $f$  is increasing if  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R} : x > y \Rightarrow f(x) > f(y)$ .

*Solution.* The statement is not true. Take

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{2} & x < \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{x+1}{2} & x \geq \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}.$$

Then  $f(0) = \frac{0}{2} = 0$  and  $f(1) = \frac{1+1}{2} = 1$ .  $f$  is increasing as if  $x < y < \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $f(x) = \frac{x}{2} < \frac{y}{2} = f(y)$ . If  $x < \frac{1}{2} \leq y$ , then  $f(x) = \frac{x}{2} < \frac{1}{4} < \frac{3}{4} \leq \frac{1+y}{2} = f(y)$ . And if  $\frac{1}{2} \leq x < y$ , then  $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{2} < \frac{y+1}{2} = f(y)$ .

Moreover  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}$  has no solutions, so  $f$  is not surjective. Indeed if  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}$  would have a solution  $x < \frac{1}{2}$ , then we would have  $\frac{x}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$ , so  $x = 1 \geq \frac{1}{2}$ , so this is impossible. Otherwise  $x \geq \frac{1}{2}$  and we would have  $\frac{x+1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$ , so  $x = 0$ , which is also not true.

**Remark:** The statement is true for continuous functions, which follows from the intermediate value theorem, Theorem 5.3.6.  $\square$

5. In this exercise you only have to provide the final answer, no explanation necessary.

- (a) Write  $\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (2 - \frac{1}{n}, 4 - \frac{1}{n})$  as a finite union of intervals and finite sets. 2

*Solution.*  $[2, 3)$ .

Note that the first set is  $(1, 3)$ , so numbers  $\geq 3$  are missing in this set. Moreover, while 2 is contained in every set, if  $x < 2$  there is an  $n$  such that  $x < 2 - \frac{1}{n}$  and  $x \notin (2 - \frac{1}{n}, 4 - \frac{1}{n})$ .  $\square$

- (b) Write  $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (2 - \frac{1}{n}, 4 - \frac{1}{n})$  as a finite union of intervals and finite sets. 2

*Solution.*  $(1, 4)$ .

Note that for  $n = 1$  we have  $(1, 3)$ , so numbers from 1 to 3 occur in that set. For numbers  $x$  with  $3 \leq x < 4$  we have  $x > 2 - \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $n$ , and there is an  $n$  with  $x < 4 - \frac{1}{n}$ , so  $x \in (2 - \frac{1}{n}, 4 - \frac{1}{n})$ . Also numbers  $\geq 4$  or  $< 1$  do not appear in any of the sets.  $\square$

6. Prove using induction that  $2n^3 - 3n^2 + n$  is a multiple of 6 for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . 8

*Solution.* We prove this by induction.

For  $n = 1$  we have  $2 \cdot 1^3 - 3 \cdot 1^2 + 1 = 0$  is indeed a multiple of 6.

Suppose  $2k^3 - 3k^2 + k = 6l$  for some integer  $l$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} 2(k+1)^3 - 3(k+1)^2 + (k+1) &= 2k^3 + 6k^2 + 6k + 2 - 3k^2 - 6k - 3 + k + 1 \\ &= (2k^3 - 3k^2 + k) + 6k^2 = 6(l + k^2) \end{aligned}$$

Thus this is again a multiple of 6.

By induction we conclude that  $2n^3 - 3n^2 + n$  is a multiple of 6 for all  $n$ .  $\square$

7. Complete the definition of  $\lim s_n = s$  for a real number  $s$ . 2

The sequence  $(s_n)$  converges to  $s$  when ...

*Solution.*  $\forall \epsilon > 0 : \exists N : \forall n > N : |s_n - s| < \epsilon$ .

The book insists on  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and says  $n \geq N$  instead of  $n > N$ , which is equivalent and you can do too.  $\square$

8. Prove using the definition of infinite limits that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2+5}{n+3} = \infty$ .

8

*Solution.* Let  $M$  be arbitrary. Choose  $N = \max(2M, 3)$ . Let  $n > N$ . Then  $n + 3 < 2n$  as  $n > 3$ , so

$$\frac{n^2 + 5}{n + 3} > \frac{n^2}{2n} = \frac{n}{2} > \frac{N}{2} \geq M.$$

□

9. Suppose  $(s_n)$  is a convergent sequence and  $(t_n)$  is divergent. Prove or disprove the following statements

- (a)  $(s_n t_n)$  is divergent.

3

*Solution.* This is false. Take  $s_n = 0$  and  $t_n = n$ . Then  $s_n \rightarrow 0$ , whereas  $(t_n)$  diverges.  $s_n t_n = 0$ , so this converges to 0 as well.

**Remark:** If  $s = \lim s_n \neq 0$ , then  $(s_n t_n)$  diverges.

□

- (b)  $(s_n + t_n)$  is divergent.

3

*Solution.* This is true, we prove it by contradiction. Suppose  $(s_n + t_n)$  converges. As  $(s_n)$  converges, so does  $(-s_n)$  (multiply by a constant). Thus  $(t_n) = (s_n + t_n + (-s_n))$  converges as a sum of two convergent sequences. This is in contradiction with the fact that  $(t_n)$  diverges, so our assumption is false. This means that  $(s_n + t_n)$  diverges. □