

Math 310 Final, Fall 2008, Due 5pm, Dec. 18

You can quote all the theorems proven in class, homework, midterm problems and online class notes to solve the problems below.

(1) Show that if $a_n \geq b_n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = b$, then $a \geq b$. (10 points)

(2a) Show that for any two *real* numbers x and y with $x < y$, there is a *rational* number r such that $x < r < y$. Conclude that therefore there are two rational numbers r and s such that $x < r < s < y$. (10 points).

(Hint: midterm problem 5.)

(2b) We have shown in class that there are uncountably many real numbers in the open interval $(0, 1)$. Show that there are uncountably many *irrational numbers* in the interval $(0, 1)$. (5 points)

(2c) For any two *rational* numbers r and s with $r < s$, show that there are uncountably many *irrational* numbers in the open interval (r, s) . (10 points)

(Hint: Scaling $(0, 1)$ appropriately.)

(2d) Show that for any two real numbers x and y with $x < y$, there are uncountably many *irrational* numbers in the interval (x, y) . (5 points)

(3a) Use the pigeonhole principle (midterm problem 4(b)) to prove that a rational number r with $0 < r < 1$ is either a finite decimal of the form

$$0.a_1a_2a_3 \cdots a_k$$

for some k , or an infinite periodical decimal of the form

$$0.a_1a_2 \cdots a_s b_1 b_2 \cdots b_t b_1 b_2 \cdots b_t b_1 b_2 \cdots b_t \cdots,$$

where the b -digits are periodic. (10 points)

(3b) Conversely, a finite decimal or an infinite periodical decimal is a rational number. Do not give the general proof. You are only asked to express the periodical

$$0.034123123123123 \cdots,$$

where the digits 123 repeat, as a fraction q/p in lowest terms, where q and p are natural numbers. (5 points)

(4) Let $a_1 = \sqrt{2}$, $a_2 = \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2}}$, $a_3 = \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2}}}$, \dots . In general, $a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2 + a_n}$.

(a) Show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ exists. (10 points)

(Hint: Show that the sequence is increasing and bounded.)

(b) Find the exact limit of the sequence (a_n) . (5 points)

2

(5) Find the smallest natural number x satisfying

$$2x \equiv 5 \pmod{7}$$

$$4x \equiv 2 \pmod{6}$$

$$3x \equiv 4 \pmod{5}.$$

(10 points)

(Hint: Convert the equations so that the coefficients for x are all 1.)