

## Assignment 2.

This homework is due *Tuesday*, September 22 (because I will cover some stuff related to Problems 5–7 on Tuesday, Sep 15).

There are total 22 points in this assignment. 17 points is considered 100%. If you go over 16 points, you will get over 100% for this homework and it will count towards your course grade (but not over 115%).

Collaboration is welcome. If you do collaborate, make sure to write/type your own paper and *credit your collaborators*. Your solutions should contain full proofs. Bare answers will not earn you much.

This assignment covers sections 1.2, 1.3, 2.1 in Bartle–Sherbert.

- (1) [2pt] (Paragraph 1.2.4g) Find a mistake in the following (erroneous!) induction argument:  
**Claim:** If  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and if the maximum of the natural numbers  $p, q$  is  $n$ , then  $p = q$ .  
**“Proof.”** Proof by induction in  $n$ . Evidently, for  $n = 1$  claim is true since in such case,  $p = 1$  and  $q = 1$ .  
 Suppose, the claim holds for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Prove that then it also holds for  $n + 1$ . Suppose maximum of  $p$  and  $q$  is  $n + 1$ . Then maximum of  $p - 1$  and  $q - 1$  is  $(n + 1) - 1 = n$ . By induction hypothesis,  $p - 1 = q - 1$ , therefore  $p = q$ . Thus, the claim holds for  $n + 1$  and, by induction principle, for all natural numbers.
  
- (2) [2pt] (1.3.5) Exhibit (define explicitly) a bijection from  $N$  to the set of all odd integers greater than 13.
  
- (3) Exhibit (define explicitly) a bijection between
  - (a) [2pt]  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$ ,
  - (b) [3pt, optional<sup>1</sup>]  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ .
  
- (4) [3pt] (1.3.12) Prove that the collection  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{N})$  of all *finite* subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$  is countable.
  
- (5) [2pt] Prove that there does not exist a rational number  $r$  such that  $r^2 = 3$ .
  
- (6) [4pt]
  - (a) ( $\sim$ 2.1.8a) Let  $x, y$  be rational numbers. Prove that  $xy, x - y$  are rational numbers.
  - (b) (2.1.8b) Let  $x$  be a rational number,  $y$  an irrational number. Prove that  $x + y$  is irrational. Prove that if, additionally,  $x \neq 0$ , then  $xy$  is irrational.
  - (c) Let  $x, y$  be irrational numbers. Is it true that  $xy$  is always irrational? Is it true that  $xy$  is always rational?
  
- (7) [4pt] (2.1.9) Let  $K = \{s + t\sqrt{2} \mid s, t \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ . Show that  $K$  satisfies the following:
  - (a) If  $x_1, x_2 \in K$  then  $x_1 + x_2 \in K$  and  $x_1 x_2 \in K$ .
  - (b) If  $x \neq 0$  and  $x \in K$  then  $1/x \in K$ . (*Hint:* Get rid of irrationality in the denominator..)

COMMENT. In other words,  $K$  is a subfield of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

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<sup>1</sup>That is, not included in the denominator of the grade.