

**MATH 101 - SETS, GROUPS, AND TOPOLOGY, FALL 2018**  
**ASSIGNMENT 8**

**Due Friday, October 12 at the beginning of class** (please submit your assignment on Canvas). Make sure to include your full name *and the list of your collaborators* (if any) with your assignment. You may discuss problems with others, but you may *not* keep a written record of your discussions. Please refer to the syllabus for details.

In your proofs, you may assume basic facts about real numbers and integers, such as those mentioned on p. 90-91 of Hammack. You also can use results from the book, results covered in class, or results you have proven already. As a general rule, you should imagine that you are writing your proof to convince somebody else in the class who is very skeptical about the particular statement. In particular, it should be completely understandable to another student: always justify your reasoning in plain English.

- (1) For each of the following four conditions, give an example of a function from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$  which satisfies it: bijective, injective and not surjective, surjective and not injective, not surjective and not injective. In each case, prove that your example has these properties.
- (2) Assume  $A$  is a set of real numbers. The *indicator function*  $\chi_A$  of  $A$  is defined to be the function  $\chi_A : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  given by:

$$\chi_A(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \notin A \\ 1 & \text{if } x \in A \end{cases}$$

- (a) When is  $\chi_A$  an injection? When is  $\chi_A$  a surjection?
- (b) Call  $\mathcal{F}$  the set of all functions from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\{0, 1\}$ . Show that the function  $f : \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  defined by  $f(A) = \chi_A$  is a bijection.
- (3) Assume that  $A$  is a non-empty set and  $a \in A$ . Define  $P = \{X \in \mathcal{P}(A) \mid a \in X\}$  and  $Q = \{X \in \mathcal{P}(A) \mid a \notin X\}$  (in words,  $P$  is the set of subsets of  $A$  that have  $a$  as a member, and  $Q$  is the set of subsets of  $A$  that do *not* have  $a$  as a member).
  - (a) Set  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $a = 2$ . Write down  $P$  and  $Q$  explicitly.
  - (b) Prove that (for general  $A$  and  $a$ ),  $\{P, Q\}$  is a partition of  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ .
  - (c) Explain why, if  $A$  is finite,  $|\mathcal{P}(A)| = |P| + |Q|$ .
  - (d) Give an explicit bijection from  $P$  to  $Q$ , and prove that it is a bijection.
  - (e) Deduce using induction that for any non-negative integer  $n$  and any set  $B$  of cardinality  $n$ ,  $|\mathcal{P}(B)| = 2^n$ .
- (4) Assume  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$ . Prove or disprove:
  - (a) If  $f$  is a surjection and  $g$  is an injection, then  $g \circ f$  is an injection.
  - (b) If  $f$  and  $g$  are bijections, then  $(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$ . (Recall that for a bijection  $h$ ,  $h^{-1}$  denotes the inverse of  $h$ ). *Hint: what happens if you*

*start with the equation  $c = g(f(a))$  and apply  $g^{-1}$  to both sides? What if you then apply  $f^{-1}$ ?*

- (5) First, two definitions: A set  $A$  is called *countably infinite* if there is a bijection from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $A$ . A set is called *uncountable* if it is infinite but not countably infinite.
- (a) Show that the set of natural numbers that are multiples of five is countably infinite.
- (b) Show that the set of irrational numbers is uncountable. *Hint: do it by contradiction. You may use without proof that the union of two countably infinite sets is countably infinite (Theorem 13.6 in Hammack).*