

**Mathematical thinking**  
**Graded assignment**  
**Week 2**  
**Total marks: 20**

1. A function  $f$  in 2 variables is said to be *good* if "For every real number  $x$ , there exists a real number  $y$  such that  $f(x, y) = 0$ ". What does it mean to say that a function  $f$  is not good? [2 marks]

- (a) For every real number  $x$ , there exists a real number  $y$  such that  $f(x, y) \neq 0$
- (b) There does not exist any real number  $x$  such that  $f(x, y) = 0$  for some real number  $y$ .
- (c) There exists a real number  $x$  such that  $f(x, y) \neq 0$  for any real number  $y$ .
- (d) For any real number  $x$ , there are no real number  $y$  such that  $f(x, y) = 0$

Answer: (c)

2. Which of the following sets has an upper bound but does not contain the supremum?[2 marks]

- (a)  $D = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} \mid \sin(\pi x) = 0\}$
- (b)  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Q}' \mid 0 < x < \pi\}$ , where  $\mathbb{Q}'$  is the set of all irrational numbers.
- (c)  $T = \{1/n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$
- (d)  $U = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x^2 < 4\}$

Answer: (b),(d)

3. Find the supremum of the set  $\left\{1 - \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\right\}$ . It is enough to submit the final answer. [2 marks]

Answer: 1

4. Which of the following is/are irrational numbers? [1 mark]

- (a)  $\pi$
- (b)  $\sqrt{25}$
- (c)  $\sqrt{5}$
- (d)  $\sqrt{8}$

5. Prove that for any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exist a integer  $m$  such that  $\frac{1}{m} < \epsilon$ . [3 marks]

6. Consider the set  $S = \mathbb{Q}^+ \cup \{0\}$ , where  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  is the collection of all positive rational numbers. Prove or disprove that  $S$  is a field. [3 marks]
7. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be nonempty sets and  $A \subset B$ . Suppose set  $B$  has a least upper bound. Then
- (i) Prove that set  $A$  also has a least upper bound. [2 marks]
  - (ii) Prove that the supremum of  $A$  is less than or equal to the supremum of  $B$ . [2 marks]
8. Consider the set  $S = \{5^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Prove that the set  $S$  has no upper bound. [3 marks]