

McGill University  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
MATH 254 Analysis 1, Fall 2015  
Assignment 1

You should carefully work out **all** problems. However, you only have to hand in solutions to **problems 2, 5**.

This assignment is due **Monday, September 21, at the end of the class** in class.  
**Late assignments will not be accepted.**

1. Conjecture a formula for the sum

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n+1)},$$

and prove your conjecture using Mathematical Induction.

2. Prove that the collection  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{N})$  of all *finite* subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$  is countable.
3. Let  $E_n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  be an infinite sequence of sets. Let

$$\overline{E} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} E_m, \quad \underline{E} = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{m=n}^{\infty} E_m.$$

Prove that

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n \subseteq \underline{E} \subseteq \overline{E} \subseteq \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n.$$

- 4.
5. Let  $f : D \rightarrow E$  be a function and let  $A \subseteq D$ ,  $B \subseteq E$ . Prove the following:
- (a)  $f(f^{-1}(B)) \subseteq B$ .
  - (b) If  $f$  is surjective then  $f(f^{-1}(B)) = B$ .
  - (c)  $f^{-1}(f(A)) \supseteq A$ .
  - (d) If  $f$  is injective then  $f^{-1}(f(A)) = A$ .

6. Prove by induction that

$$\underbrace{\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \cdots + \sqrt{2}}}}}_{n \text{ nested square roots}} = 2 \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2^{n+1}} \right)$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Hint: The half-angle formula  $\cos^2(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos(2x))$  might be useful.

7. Recall that the binomial coefficient  $\binom{n}{k}$  is defined as  $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$ . Prove by induction on  $n$  that  $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = 2^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . You may use, without proof, the well-known identity  $\binom{n+1}{k} = \binom{n}{k} + \binom{n}{k-1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $1 \leq k \leq n$ .
8. Let  $A$  be a countably infinite set and let  $B \subseteq A$ . Prove that  $B$  is countable.