

## Assignment 3

**Due: Thursday Oct. 22, 2020 before 6:30 PM to be uploaded in Gradescope as a single pdf file.**

**Please write your name and student number on your submission.** Justify each step carefully using previously proven results either in the zyBook or the videos/zoom sessions. When in doubt prove the statement you are going to use. Solutions are graded for correctness as well as clarity.

**Exercise 1** (10 point). Let  $x, y$  be any non-zero real numbers. Given

$$\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x} = 2$$

Show that  $x = y$  by “direct proof”.

**Exercise 2** (15 point). Prove the following proposition by contraposition:  
For every positive integer  $a$ , if  $a$  is strictly greater than 1 then  $a$  does not divide  $2a^2 + a + 1$ .

**Exercise 3** (15 points). Prove that  $\sqrt[3]{2}$  is not a rational number by contradiction.  
*Hint:* You may use the fact that if  $a^3$  is an even number then  $a$  must also be even, with proper justification.

**Exercise 4** (10 point). Solve the following equations for real numbers

$$|x^2 - 1| = |x - 1|$$

using case analysis.