

MATH 242 – Principles of Analysis  
Problem Set 2 – due: Feb. 7

‘A’ Section

1. Let  $x \in [-1, 2]$ . Determine the largest and smallest values of  $|x - 5|$ ,  $|x + 5|$ .
2. Use the binomial theorem (Theorem 1.4.1) for all parts of this problem.
  - a. Expand using the binomial theorem and simplify as much as possible:

$$(a^2 + 3b)^5.$$

- b. What is the coefficient of  $x^3$  in the expansion of

$$\left(x^5 + \frac{3}{x^2}\right)^3.$$

- c. Express with no summation:  $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} 2^k$ ? Explain.
  - d. Express with no summation:  $\sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k}$ ? Explain.
3. For each of the following statements, say whether the statement is true or false. If it is false, give a counterexample; if it is true, give a short reason.
    - a. A set  $A \subset \mathbf{R}$  is bounded if there exists some  $B > 0$  such that  $|x| \leq B$  for all  $x \in A$ .
    - b. If  $A, B \subset \mathbf{R}$  are bounded, then  $A \cap B$  is also bounded.
    - c. If  $A, B \subset \mathbf{R}$  are bounded, then  $D = \{x + y \mid x \in A, y \in B\}$  is also bounded.
    - d. If  $A, B \subset \mathbf{R}_{>0}$  are bounded, then  $Q = \{y/x \mid x \in A, y \in B\}$  is also bounded.
  4.
    - a. Let  $A = [0, 3] \cap (2, 5]$ . What is  $a = \text{lub } A$ ? What is  $b = \text{glb } A$ ? Are  $a, b \in A$ ?
    - b. Let  $B = \{x \in \mathbf{R} \mid 0 < x^2 - 2x + 1 < 1\}$ . What is  $a = \text{lub } B$ ? What is  $b = \text{glb } B$ ? Are  $a, b \in B$ ?

‘B’ Section

1. Let  $x, y$  be any real numbers.
  - a. Show that  $|x| - |y| \leq |x - y|$  and deduce that  $||x| - |y|| \leq |x - y|$ .
  - b. Show that if  $x, y > 0$ , then  $x < y$  is equivalent to  $x^n < y^n$  for all  $n \geq 1$ .
  - c. Show that if  $0 < x < y$ , then  $\sqrt{y} - \sqrt{x} < \sqrt{y - x}$ .
2. Let  $a, b$  be any real numbers. Define  $\max(a, b)$  and  $\min(a, b)$  to be the larger and smaller of the two numbers, respectively. (That is,  $\max(a, b) = a$  if  $a \geq b$  and  $\max(a, b) = b$  if  $b \geq a$ . Similarly for the minimum.) Show that

$$\max(a, b) = \frac{a + b}{2} + \frac{|a - b|}{2}$$

and

$$\min(a, b) = \frac{a + b}{2} - \frac{|a - b|}{2}.$$

(Hint: Consider the positions of  $a, b$  on the number line and then “think geometrically.”)

3. Show by mathematical induction that

$$(1 + x)^n \geq 1 + nx$$

for all  $x > -1$  and all  $n \geq 0$ .

4. Find a suitable  $n_0$  and then show by mathematical induction that  $n! \geq 5^n$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .