

Homework 3 - Math 300 D - Autumn 2014 - Dr. Matthew Conroy

Relevant readings: Velleman, sections 3.1, and 3.2.

1. Let  $a$  and  $b$  be negative real numbers. Prove that if  $a < b$  then  $a^2 > b^2$ .
2. Let  $a, b$  and  $c$  be positive integers. Prove that if  $a|b$  and  $b|c$ , then  $a|c$ .
3. Let  $a, b$ , and  $c$  be integers,  $c \neq 0$ . If  $ac|bc$ , then  $a|b$ .
4. One fact we use all the time when writing proofs is that, if  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $B \rightarrow C$ , then  $A \rightarrow C$ . Prove this is valid by showing that

$$((A \rightarrow B) \wedge (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)$$

is a tautology. Do this by using applicable laws, or a truth table, to show that this is equivalent to a statement which we know is a tautology.

5. Now that we know the irrational numbers exist, we should prove a few facts about them.

You can use the following useful facts in your proofs. You do not have to prove them.

Fact 1: The sum of rational numbers  $x=a/b$  and  $y=c/d$  is  $(ad+bc)/(bd)$ .

Fact 2: If  $a$  is rational, then  $-a$  is rational; if  $a$  is irrational, then  $-a$  is irrational.

Prove the following theorems:

- (a) The sum of two rational numbers is a rational number.
- (b) The sum of a rational number and an irrational number is an irrational number.
- (c) The product of an irrational number and a non-zero rational number is an irrational number.
- (d) The sum of two irrational numbers may be a rational number.