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hw1

1.10

Define  $P_n$  to be the proposition that  $(2n + 1) + (2n + 3) + \dots + (4n - 1) = 3n^2$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Suppose  $P_n$  is true, for some  $n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & (2(n + 1) + 1) + (2(n + 1) + 3) + \dots + (4(n + 1) - 1) \\ &= (2n + 3) + (2n + 5) + \dots + (4n + 3) \\ &= -(2n + 1) + (2n + 1) + (2n + 3) + (2n + 5) + \dots + (4n - 1) + (4n + 1) + (4n + 3) \\ &= -(2n + 1) + 3n^2 + (4n + 1) + (4n + 3) \\ &= 3n^2 - 2n - 1 + 4n + 1 + 4n + 3 \\ &= 3n^2 + 6n + 3 \\ &= 3(n^2 + 2n + 1) \\ &= 3(n + 1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

So we proved that  $P_{n+1}$  is true, assuming  $P_n$  is true. Now we prove  $P_n$  is true for  $n = 1$ , then all other  $n$ 's will follow.

When  $n = 1$ ,  $2n + 1 = 3 = 3 \cdot 1^2$ . QED.

1.12.

- (a)
- $n = 1$  :  $(a + b)^1 = \binom{1}{0}a^1 + \binom{1}{1}b^1 = a + b$
  - $n = 2$ :  $(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = \binom{2}{0}a^2 + \binom{2}{1}a^1b^1 + \binom{2}{2}b^2$
  - $n = 3$  :

$$\begin{aligned} (a + b)^3 &= a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3 \\ &= \binom{3}{0}a^3 + \binom{3}{1}a^2b + \binom{3}{2}ab^2 + \binom{3}{3}b^3 \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}\binom{n}{k} + \binom{n}{k-1} &= \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} + \frac{n!}{(k-1)!(n-k+1)!} \\ &= \frac{n!}{k!(n+1-k)!/(n+1-k)} + \frac{n!}{\frac{k!}{k}(n+1-k)!} \\ &= \frac{n!(n+1-k)}{k!(n+1-k)!} + \frac{n!k}{k!(n+1-k)!} \\ &= \frac{n!(n+1) - n!k + n!k}{k!(n+1-k)!} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)!}{k!(n+1-k)!} \\ &= \binom{n+1}{k}\end{aligned}$$

(c) Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and define  $P_n$  to be the following proposition:

$$(a+b)^n = \binom{n}{0}a^n + \binom{n}{1}a^{n-1}b + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1}ab^{n-1} + \binom{n}{n}b^n$$

Suppose  $P_n$  is true. Then

$$\begin{aligned}(a+b)^{n+1} &= (a+b)(a+b)^n \\ &= (a+b) \cdot \left[ \binom{n}{0}a^n + \binom{n}{1}a^{n-1}b + \dots + \binom{n}{n}b^n \right] \\ &= \left[ \binom{n}{0}a^{n+1} + \binom{n}{1}a^n b + \binom{n}{2}a^{n-1}b^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n}ab^n \right] \\ &\quad + \left[ \binom{n}{0}a^n b + \binom{n}{1}a^{n-1}b^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n}b^{n+1} \right] \\ &= \binom{n}{0}a^{n+1} + \left[ \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} \right] a^n b + \dots + \binom{n}{n}b^{n+1} \\ &= \binom{n+1}{0}a^{n+1} + \binom{n+1}{1}a^n b + \dots + \binom{n+1}{n+1}b^{n+1} \quad (\text{note that } nC0 \text{ equals } (n+1)C0)\end{aligned}$$

So we see that  $P_{n+1}$  follows from  $P_n$ . Since we proved in part a that  $P_1$  is true, we conclude  $P_n$  (a.k.a the binomial theorem) is true for all non-zero natural number  $n$ . QED.

2.1

- $\sqrt{3}$  satisfies the equation  $x^2 - 3 = 0$   
Divisors of -3:  $\pm 1, \pm 3$   
Divisors of 1:  $\pm 1$   
Possible rational solutions according to Rational Zeros Theorem:  $\frac{\pm 1}{\pm 1}, \frac{\pm 3}{\pm 1}$   
None of these equals  $\sqrt{3}$ , therefore  $\sqrt{3}$  is not a rational number.

- $\sqrt{5}$  satisfies the equation  $x^2 - 5 = 0$   
 Divisors of -5:  $\pm 1, \pm 5$   
 Divisors of 1:  $\pm 1$   
 Possible rational solutions according to Rational Zeros Theorem:  $\frac{\pm 1}{\pm 1}, \frac{\pm 5}{\pm 1}$   
 None of these equals  $\sqrt{5}$ , therefore  $\sqrt{5}$  is not a rational number.
- $\sqrt{7}$  satisfies the equation  $x^2 - 7 = 0$   
 Divisors of -7:  $\pm 1, \pm 7$   
 Divisors of 1:  $\pm 1$   
 Possible rational solutions according to Rational Zeros Theorem:  $\frac{\pm 1}{\pm 1}, \frac{\pm 7}{\pm 1}$   
 None of these equals  $\sqrt{7}$ , therefore  $\sqrt{7}$  is not a rational number.
- $\sqrt{24}$  satisfies the equation  $x^2 - 24 = 0$   
 Divisors of -24:  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 8, \pm 12, \pm 24$   
 Divisors of 1:  $\pm 1$   
 Possible rational solutions according to Rational Zeros Theorem:  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 8, \pm 12, \pm 24$   
 None of these equals  $\sqrt{24}$ , therefore  $\sqrt{24}$  is not a rational number.
- $\sqrt{31}$  satisfies the equation  $x^2 - 31 = 0$   
 Divisors of -31:  $\pm 1, \pm 31$   
 Divisors of 1:  $\pm 1$   
 Possible rational solutions according to Rational Zeros Theorem:  $\pm 1, \pm 31$   
 None of these equals  $\sqrt{31}$ , therefore  $\sqrt{31}$  is not a rational number.

## 2.2

- $\sqrt[3]{2}$  satisfies the equation  $x^3 - 2 = 0$   
 Divisors of -2:  $\pm 1, \pm 2$   
 Divisors of 1:  $\pm 1$   
 Possible rational solutions according to Rational Zeros Theorem:  $\pm 1, \pm 2$   
 None of these equals  $\sqrt[3]{2}$ , therefore  $\sqrt[3]{2}$  is not a rational number.
- $\sqrt[7]{5}$  satisfies the equation  $x^7 - 5 = 0$   
 Divisors of -5:  $\pm 1, \pm 5$   
 Divisors of 1:  $\pm 1$   
 Possible rational solutions according to Rational Zeros Theorem:  $\pm 1, \pm 5$   
 None of these equals  $\sqrt[7]{5}$ , therefore  $\sqrt[7]{5}$  is not a rational number.
- $\sqrt[4]{13}$  satisfies the equation  $x^4 - 13 = 0$   
 Divisors of -13:  $\pm 1, \pm 13$   
 Divisors of 1:  $\pm 1$   
 Possible rational solutions according to Rational Zeros Theorem:  $\pm 1, \pm 13$   
 None of these equals  $\sqrt[4]{13}$ , therefore  $\sqrt[4]{13}$  is not a rational number.

## 2.7

(a) Define  $x = \sqrt{4 + 2\sqrt{3}} - \sqrt{3}$

$$\begin{aligned}(x + \sqrt{3})^2 &= x^2 + 3 + 2\sqrt{3}x = 4 + 2\sqrt{3} \\ x^2 + 2\sqrt{3}x &= 1 + 2\sqrt{3} \\ x^2 - 1 &= 2\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{3}x \\ (x + 1)(x - 1) &= -2\sqrt{3}(x - 1)\end{aligned}$$

Before we divide out the  $(x - 1)$  term, we need to make sure  $x \neq 1$ . So let's try  $x = 1$  and see where that leads us.

Suppose  $x = 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}1 &= \sqrt{4 + 2\sqrt{3}} - \sqrt{3} \\ 1 + \sqrt{3} &= \sqrt{4 + 2\sqrt{3}} \\ 1 + 3 + 2\sqrt{3} &= 4 + 2\sqrt{3} \text{ (after squaring both sides)} \\ 4 &= 4\end{aligned}$$

As shown above,  $x = 1$  works. Therefore, recalling the definition of  $x$ ,  $x = \sqrt{4 + 2\sqrt{3}} - \sqrt{3} = 1 \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

(b) Define  $x = \sqrt{6 + 4\sqrt{2}} - \sqrt{2}$ , then we have  $x + \sqrt{2} = \sqrt{6 + 4\sqrt{2}}$ . Similarly to part (a), it is easy to find that  $x = 2$ .

3.6

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}|a + b + c| &= |(a + b) + c| \text{ (by associativity of addition)} \\ &\leq |a + b| + |c| \text{ (by triangle inequality)} \\ &\leq |a| + |b| + |c| \text{ (by triangle inequality)}\end{aligned}$$

(b) Let  $P_n$  be the proposition that  $|a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n| \leq |a_1| + |a_2| + \dots + |a_n|$ , where  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Suppose  $P_n$  is true, then

$$\begin{aligned}|a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n + a_{n+1}| &= |(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n) + a_{n+1}| \text{ (by associativity of addition)} \\ &\leq |a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n| + |a_{n+1}| \text{ (by triangle equality)} \\ &\leq |a_1| + |a_2| + \dots + |a_n| + |a_{n+1}| \text{ (by the assumption)}\end{aligned}$$

i.e we have shown that if  $P_n$  holds, then  $P_{n+1}$  also holds. Now we show the case for when  $n=1$ , then the rest will follow.

Suppose  $n = 1$ .  $|a_1| \leq |a_1|$ . (proof by duh)

4.11

Suppose there are  $N$  rationals between  $a$  and  $b$ , where  $N \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .

$\mathbb{R}$  can be ordered (Ross Chapter 3, property O1), so we can write the  $N$  rational numbers as  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N\}$ , where  $a < r_1 < r_2 < \dots < r_N < b$ .

Since  $r_N \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  $r_N \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $r_N \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $r_N < b$ , by Denseness of  $\mathbb{Q}$  theorem there must exist another rational number, call it  $r_{N+1}$ , such that  $r_N < r_{N+1} < b$ . This is in contradiction with the assumption we started with, which is that there are only  $N$  rationals between  $a$  and  $b$ . So the assumption is nonsense, which means there are infinitely many rationals between  $a$  and  $b$ .

4.14

(a)

( $\leq$ )

$\forall a \in A, b \in B : a \leq \sup(A), b \leq \sup(B)$  by definition of sup

So  $a + b \leq \sup(A) + \sup(B)$  for any  $a$  from  $A$  and  $b$  from  $B$

So  $\sup(A) + \sup(B)$  is an upper bound of  $A + B$ , by definition of upper bound

So  $\sup(A + B) \leq \sup(A) + \sup(B)$  by definition of sup (1)

( $\geq$ )

$\forall a \in A, b \in B : a + b \leq \sup(A + B)$  by definition of  $A+B$  and definition of sup

Therefore  $a \leq \sup(A + B) - b$  for any  $a$  from  $A$  and  $b$  from  $B$

Therefore  $\sup(A + B) - b$  is an upper bound of  $A$ , by definition

Therefore  $\sup(A) \leq \sup(A + B) - b$  by definition of sup

Therefore  $b \leq \sup(A + B) - \sup(A)$

Since  $b \in B$  was arbitrary,  $\sup(A + B) - \sup(A)$  is an upper bound of  $B$ .

Therefore  $\sup(B) \leq \sup(A + B) - \sup(A)$  by definition of sup.

Therefore  $\sup(A + B) \geq \sup(A) + \sup(B)$  (2)

(1)and(2) jointly implies  $\sup(A + B) = \sup(A) + \sup(B)$ .

(b)

QED [hb]

part b is very similar to part a.

( $\geq$ )

$a \geq \inf A, b \geq \inf B, \forall a \in A, b \in B$

$\implies a + b \geq \inf A + \inf B$

$\implies (\inf A + \inf B)$  is a lower bound of  $A + B$

$\implies \inf(A + B) \geq \inf A + \inf B$

( $\leq$ )

$a + b \geq \inf(A + B) \forall a \in A, b \in B$

$\implies a \geq \inf(A + B) - b$

$\implies \inf(A + B) - b$  is a lower bound of  $A, \forall b \in B$

$\implies \inf A \geq \inf(A + B) - b$

$\implies b \geq \inf(A + B) - \inf A$

$\implies \inf(A + B) - \inf A$  is a lower bound of  $B$

$\implies \inf B \geq \inf(A + B) - \inf A$

$\implies \inf A + \inf B \geq \inf(A + B)$

Since  $\inf A + \inf B \geq \inf(A + B)$  and  $\inf A + \inf B \leq \inf(A + B)$ , it must be that  $\inf A + \inf B = \inf(A + B)$ . QED

7.5

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{n^2 + 1} - n &= (\sqrt{n^2 + 1} - n) \frac{\sqrt{n^2 + 1} + n}{\sqrt{n^2 + 1} + n} \\ &= \frac{n^2 + 1 - n^2}{\sqrt{n^2 + 1} + n} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2 + 1} + n} \\ &= \frac{1/n}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n^2}}}\end{aligned}$$

In the limit of big n, the above expression obviously tends to 0.

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{n^2 + n} - n &= (\sqrt{n^2 + n} - n) \frac{\sqrt{n^2 + n} + n}{\sqrt{n^2 + n} + n} \\ &= \frac{n^2 + n - n^2}{\sqrt{n^2 + n} + n} \\ &= \frac{n}{\sqrt{n^2 + n} + n} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}}}\end{aligned}$$

In the limit of big n, the above expression obviously tends to  $\frac{1}{2}$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{4n^2 + n} - 2n &= (\sqrt{4n^2 + n} - 2n) \frac{\sqrt{4n^2 + n} + 2n}{\sqrt{4n^2 + n} + 2n} \\ &= \frac{4n^2 + n - 4n^2}{\sqrt{4n^2 + n} + 2n} \\ &= \frac{n}{\sqrt{4n^2 + n} + 2n} \\ &= \frac{1}{2 + \sqrt{4 + \frac{1}{n}}}\end{aligned}$$

In the limit of big n, the above expression obviously tends to  $\frac{1}{2 + \sqrt{4}} = \frac{1}{4}$