

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

MATH1010 I/J University Mathematics 2015-2016  
Problem Set 1

1. Sketch the graphs of the following functions.

(a)  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } x \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

(b)  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0, \\ -1 & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

(c)  $f : \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1}$ .

(d)  $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  defined by  $f(x) = \sin^{-1} x$ .

(e)  $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow [0, \pi]$  defined by  $f(x) = \cos^{-1} x$ .

(f)  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$  defined by  $f(x) = \tan^{-1} x$ .

2. Prove that  $1 \times 2 + 2 \times 3 + 3 \times 4 + \dots + n \times (n + 1) = \frac{n(n + 1)(n + 2)}{3}$  for all natural numbers  $n$ .

3. Prove that  $8^n - 3^n$  is divisible by 5 for all natural numbers  $n$ .

4. A sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is defined by

$$a_1 = 3 \text{ and } a_{n+1} = \sqrt{a_n + 5} \text{ for } n \geq 1.$$

Show that  $a_n \geq a_{n+1}$  for all natural numbers  $n$ .

5. A sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is defined by

$$a_1 = 4 \text{ and } a_{n+1} = \frac{6(a_n^2 + 1)}{a_n^2 + 11} \text{ for } n \geq 1.$$

(a) Show that  $a_n > 3$  for all natural numbers  $n$ .

(b) Show that  $a_n \geq a_{n+1}$  for all natural numbers  $n$ .

6. Show that  $\cos 20^\circ \cdot \cos 40^\circ \cdot \cos 80^\circ = \frac{1}{8}$ .

7. If  $\sin(A + B) = 3 \sin(A - B)$ , prove that  $\tan A = 2 \tan B$ .

8. Prove that  $\frac{\cos(A + B) + \cos(A - B)}{\sin(A - B) - \sin(A + B)} = -\cot B$ .

9. (a) Prove that  $\frac{\sin 5A}{\sin A} - \frac{\cos 5A}{\cos A} = 4 \cos 2A$ .

(b) Hence, solve the equation  $\frac{\sin 5A}{\sin A} - \frac{\cos 5A}{\cos A} = 2$  where  $0^\circ < A < 180^\circ$  and  $A \neq 90^\circ$ .

10. Prove the triple angle formulas:

(a)  $\sin 3A = 3 \sin A - 4 \sin^3 A$ ;

(b)  $\cos 3A = 4 \cos^3 A - 3 \cos A$ ;

(c)  $\tan 3A = \frac{3 \tan A - \tan^3 A}{1 - 3 \tan^2 A}$ .

11. If  $A + B + C = 180^\circ$ , prove that

(a)  $\sin 2A + \sin 2B + \sin 2C = 4 \sin A \sin B \sin C$ ;

(b)  $\tan A + \tan B + \tan C = \tan A \tan B \tan C$ ;

(c)  $\cot A \cot B + \cot B \cot C + \cot C \cot A = 1$ .