

**Math 1010C Term 1 2014**  
**Supplementary exercises 1**

The following exercises are optional, and for your own enjoyment only.

1. A function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be *even* if  $f(x) = f(-x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , and *odd* if  $f(x) = -f(-x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .  
(a) Suppose  $p: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the polynomial function

$$p(x) = \sum_{n=0}^d a_n x^n.$$

Show that  $p$  is even if and only if  $a_n = 0$  for all odd integers  $n$ .

- (b) Let  $p$  be as in part (a). Find a necessary and sufficient condition on the coefficients of  $p$ , such that  $p$  is odd.  
(c) Is there a function  $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is neither even nor odd?  
(d) Is there a function  $h: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is both even and odd?  
(e) Show that every function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  can be written as the sum of an odd function and an even function.  
(f) For those who know derivatives already: show that the derivative of an odd function is even, and the derivative of an even function is odd.  
(g) For those who know some linear algebra: Does the set of all even functions from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  form a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ ? What about the set of all odd functions?
2. The following generalizes the concept of odd and even functions defined above. Suppose  $X$  is a set, and  $\theta: X \rightarrow X$  is an *involution*, in the sense that  $\theta \circ \theta$  is the identity function on  $X$  (i.e.  $\theta(\theta(x)) = x$  for all  $x \in X$ ).  
(a) Show that  $\theta: X \rightarrow X$  is a bijection.  
(b) A function  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be even with respect to  $\theta$  if  $f(\theta(x)) = f(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . A function  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be odd with respect to  $\theta$  if  $f(\theta(x)) = -f(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ .  
(i) Find all functions  $F: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is both even with respect to  $\theta$ , and odd with respect to  $\theta$ .  
(ii) Show that every function  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  can be written as the sum  $g + h$ , where  $g: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is odd with respect to  $\theta$ , and  $h: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is even with respect to  $\theta$ .  
(c) How is all this relevant to Question 1?  
(d) For those who know complex numbers already: Did it matter that we considered functions that took values in  $\mathbb{R}$ ? What if we considered complex-valued functions?
3. (a) Is there a bijection from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$ ? If yes, construct one.  
(b) Is there a bijection from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ ? (The latter is the set of ordered pairs  $(m, n)$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are both positive integers.) If yes, construct one. (Hint: Draw a picture to visualize  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ .)  
(c) Is there a bijection from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{Q}$ ? If yes, construct one. (Hint: Use part (b).)

- (d) (Challenge) A sequence of positive integers is an ordered list  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots)$ , where each  $a_i$  is a positive integer. Let's denote the set of all sequences of positive integers by  $Y$ . Is there a bijection from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $Y$ ?