SF1611 Introductory course in mathematics I. 1.5 cr Suggested solutions to the exam on August 29, 2014. Duration: 60 minutes. No aids allowed

The problems are worth 1 credit each and you are only required to provide answers, not complete derivations. In order to pass, you must get at least 5 credits.

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1. Write in words how the following statement is pronounced.

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \ (\sqrt{x} \in \mathbb{Q} \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x} \in \mathbb{N})$$

Answer: For any real x, the square root of x is rational if and only if the square root of x is a natural number.

- 2. Write the set $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \geq x^2\}$ as an interval. **Answer:** [0,1]
- 3. Find a quadratic polynomial whose constant term is 2 and whose zeros are -1 and 1. **Answer:** $-2x^2 + 2$
- 4. Perform the division

$$\frac{2x^3 - x + 1}{x + 1}.$$

Answer: $2x^2 - 2x + 1$

5. Find an integer n < 10 such that |n+1| > 10.

Answer: n = -12 (or any smaller integer)

6. Simplify $\ln \sqrt{e^3}$ as much as possible.

Answer: 3/2

7. Find all real solutions to the equation $\sin^2 x = 1$.

Answer: $x = \pi(\frac{1}{2} + n)$, where n runs over all integers.

8. Fill in the gap in the following proof that $1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + (n-1)n = \frac{1}{3}(n-1)n(n+1)$ for any positive integer n.

We will argue by induction over n. If n=1 the statement is true because the sum has no terms at all and the right-hand side vanishes. Under the supposition that the statement holds for n, our task is to show that it holds for n+1. We have $1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + \cdots + n \cdot (n+1) = (1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + \cdots + (n-1) \cdot n) + n(n+1)$ which, by the induction assumption, equals

$$\frac{1}{3}(n-1)n(n+1) + n(n+1).$$

Factoring out $\frac{1}{3}n(n+1)$ we obtain $\frac{1}{3}n(n+1)\big((n-1)+3\big)=\frac{1}{3}n(n+1)(n+2)$, so the statement holds for n+1 too.