

Introduction to Abstract Mathematics Spring 2017

Assignment 4.3 Due February 10

Exercise 1. What amounts of money can be formed using \$2 and \$5 bills? Be sure to prove your answer is correct!

Exercise 2. Let $x \neq 0$ be a real number and suppose that x + 1/x is an integer. Prove that $x^n + 1/x^n$ is an integer for all $n \geq 1$.

Exercise 3. Prove that for any sequence $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_{2n+1}$ of real numbers satisfying

$$a_1 \ge a_2 \ge \cdots \ge a_{2n+1},$$

one has

$$a_1^2 - a_2^2 + a_3^2 - \dots + a_{2n+1}^2 \ge (a_1 - a_2 + a_3 - \dots + a_{2n+1})^2.$$

[Suggestions: Induct on n and prove both the n = 0 and n = 1 cases directly. Then (cleverly) use the n = 1 case during the inductive step.]