

### Some initial proofs

You may want to use Theorem 1.7 to solve these problems.

1. Suppose that  $a$  is a real number. Prove that if  $a^3 > a$  then  $a^5 > a$ .
2. Consider the following theorem:

Suppose  $x$  is a real number and  $x \neq 4$ . If  $\frac{2x-5}{x-4} = 3$ , then  $x = 7$ .

- (a) What's wrong with the following proof of the theorem?

Suppose  $x = 7$ . Then  $\frac{2x-5}{x-4} = \frac{2(7)-5}{7-4} = 9/3 = 3$ . Therefore if  $\frac{2x-5}{x-4} = 3$ , then  $x = 7$ .

- (b) Give a correct proof of the theorem.

3. Prove that if  $x^2 + y = 13$  and  $y \neq 4$ , then  $x \neq 3$ .
4. Suppose that  $x$  and  $y$  are real numbers. Prove that if  $x^2y = 2x + y$ , then if  $y \neq 0$ , then  $x \neq 0$ .
5. Suppose  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are sets, and  $A \setminus B \subseteq C$ . Then  $A \setminus C \subseteq B$ .
6. Prove that for every real number  $x$ , if  $x > 0$  then there is a real number  $y$  such that  $y(y+1) = x$ .
7. Suppose  $x$  is an integer. Prove that  $x$  is even iff  $x^2$  is even.
8. Show that  $\sqrt{2}$  is not a rational number.