

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
ID: \_\_\_\_\_

**ECS 17: Data, Logic, and Computing**  
**Midterm**  
**February 23, 2022**

**Notes:**

- 1) Midterm is open book, open notes...
- 2) You have 50 minutes, no more: I will strictly enforce this.
- 3) You can answer directly on these sheets (preferred), or on loose paper.
- 4) Please write your name at the top right of at least the first page that you turn in!
- 5) Please, check your work!

**Proofs**

**Exercise 1 (1 question, 10 points)**

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two real numbers, with  $a \neq 0$  and  $b \neq 0$ . Use a **proof by contradiction** to show

that if  $ab > 0$ , then  $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} \geq 2$ .

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**Exercise 2 (2 questions, each 10 points; total 20 points)**

1) Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two integers. Show that if  $a + b\sqrt{2} = 0$ , then  $a = 0$  and  $b = 0$ .

2) Let  $m, n, p, q$  be four integers. Show that  $m + n\sqrt{2} = p + q\sqrt{2}$  if and only if  $m = p$  and  $n = q$ .

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**Exercise 3 (1 question, 10 points)**

Let  $x$  be a real number. Show that  $|x - 1| \leq x^2 - x + 1$ ,

where  $| \cdot |$  stands for the absolute value, defined as

$$|y| = \begin{cases} y & \text{if } y \geq 0 \\ -y & \text{if } y < 0 \end{cases}$$

for  $y$  real number.

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**Exercise 4 (1 question, 10 points)**

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two integers. Show that if  $(a^2 + b^2)^2$  is even, then  $a+b$  is even.

**Exercise 5 (1 question, 10 points)**

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two real numbers. Show that if  $a \neq -1$  AND  $b \neq -1$  then  $a + b + ab \neq -1$   
(Hint:  $a + b + ab = (a + 1)(b + 1) - 1$ ).

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**Exercise 6 (1 question, 10 points)**

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two integers. Show that  $a^2 - 4b \neq 2$

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## Appendix

*Theorems that you are allowed to use:*

- a) Let  $n$  be an integer.  $n^2$  is even if and only if  $n$  is even
- b) Let  $a$  and  $b$  be two integers. If  $a^2 + b^2$  is even, then  $a + b$  is even
- c)  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n(n+1)$  is even
- d)  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational
- e) Let  $n$  be an integer.  $n$  is even if and only if there exists an integer  $k$  such that  $n = 2k$ .
- f) Let  $n$  be an integer.  $n$  is odd if and only if there exists an integer  $k$  such that  $n = 2k+1$ .
- g) Let  $n$  be a positive integer.  $n$  is a perfect square if and only if there exists an integer  $k$  such that  $n = k^2$ .