Mathematics 300

You must show your work to get full credit.

1. Show that for all integers n that $n^3 - n^2$ is even.

2. Define for any real number x define:

$$\operatorname{sgn}(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x > 0; \\ 0, & x = 0; \\ -1, & x < 0. \end{cases}$$

Show for
$$x \neq 0$$
 that $\frac{x}{|x|} = \operatorname{sgn}(x)$.