

Probability, Week 1, exercise 10

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1 The proof of AC \leftrightarrow Well-order principle

Proof: 1. The well-ordering principle can be constructed by choosing an element x_S from the set S , then choose $x_{S'}$ from $S' = S/\{x_S\}$...In this way, $x_S \leq x_{S'} \leq x_{S''}$... is a well-order. (the check is too trivial to write, maybe someone can help me do this?)

2. And if the well-ordering principle is correct, in every set, simply choosing the minimum element can make AC proved. \square

2 Well-order principle \rightarrow Zorn's lemma

Here is the proof of Well-Ordering principle \rightarrow Zorn's Lemma. It uses the General Principle of Recursive Definition, which is also proved below.

The Zorn's Lemma is represented by:

Definition 1. Let \mathcal{U} be a set. If for every chain $C \subseteq \mathcal{U}$ there is a maximum element, Then \mathcal{U} has a maximal element T .

Proof: Claim that the General Principle of Recursive Definition is correct.(which will be proved at the end)

By well-order principle, we can construct a well order \leq in \mathcal{U} . Denote $S_\alpha = \{\beta | \beta \leq \alpha\}$.

For the \prec relation on the chain, define a function $h : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow Pow(\mathcal{U})$ that:

$$h(\alpha) = \begin{cases} \{\alpha\} & \text{if } S_\alpha = \emptyset \\ h(S_\alpha) & \text{if for some } \beta \text{ in } S_\alpha, \text{ there is neither } \alpha \prec \beta \text{ nor } \beta \prec \alpha \\ h(S_\alpha) \cup \alpha & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

By the General Principle of Recursive Definition the definition is available. The initial step is the first condition in the definition.

This is function aims to construct a chain long enough, so if any element can be added, simply add it. Otherwise do not add it, so keep the chain be the same.

Now denote

$$C = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{U}} h(\alpha)$$

it is obvious that C is a chain with respect to \mathcal{U} . We now prove it is a maximal element in \mathcal{U} :

For every element $\gamma \in \mathcal{U}$, it is either a member of C or an element that fits:

$$\exists \alpha \in C, (\neg \alpha \prec \gamma) \cap (\neg \gamma \prec \alpha)$$

Otherwise, by the definition of h , $\gamma \in h(\gamma) \subseteq C$.

In this way, the maximum element of C is a maximal element of \mathcal{U} □

3 appendix about Well-Ordering principle \rightarrow Zorn's lemma

This section prove the General Principle of Recursive Definition:

1. First prove the principle of transfinite induction. Its definition is:

Definition 2. *if J is a well-order set and J_0 is an inductive subset of J , there is $J_0 = J$.*

Proof: This principle is proved by contradiction. Assume the set $J' = J - J_0$ is not empty, since J is well-ordered, there is a minimum element in J' (denote the element as x), as x is the minimum one, $S_x \subset J_0$. By the definition of the inductive set (if $S_x \subset J_0$, then $x \in J_0$), x should be in J_0 , which is contradicted with $x \in J'$. □

2. Now give the detailed definition of the General Principle of Recursive Definition:

Definition 3. *Assume J is a well-ordered set and C is a set, \mathcal{F} is the set of all functions from J or $S_\alpha (\alpha \in J)$ to C , then for an unique function $\rho : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow C$, there is an unique $h : J \rightarrow C$, which satisfies that $\forall \alpha \in J, h(\alpha) = \rho(h_{S_\alpha})$.*

Proof: 1)if k and g are in $dom(\rho)$, then for all $x \in dom(k) \cap dom(g)$, there is $k(x) = g(x)$. Otherwise, we can find a smallest x by which $k(x) \neq g(x)$, and we can prove such x actually satisfy $k(x) = g(x)$;

2)if there is $k : S_\alpha \rightarrow C$ which is in $dom(\rho)$, then $k' : S_\alpha \cup \{\alpha\} \rightarrow C$ is in $dom(\rho)$, which can be defined by extending the k .(adding α by definition);

3)if for all $\alpha \in K \subset J$ there is $h_\alpha : S_\alpha \rightarrow C$ in $dom(\rho)$, then there is:

$$k : \bigcup_{\alpha \in K} S_\alpha \rightarrow C, k \in dom(\rho)$$

This can be proved by using 1) to prove that when the domains of two function overlap, choosing any one is acceptable;

4)by the principle of the transfinite induction, there is:

$$\forall \beta \in J, \text{there is } h_\beta : S_\beta \rightarrow C, h_\beta \in dom(\rho)$$

This can be proved by selecting a minimum element not satisfying it, then using 2) and 3) to prove that it actually satisfies it.

5)then the General Principle of Recursive Definition is proved by the set of all elements do not satisfy it is empty. (still choose a minimum to prove it) \square