

## APPENDIX A

## 'A SUBSET OF A FINITE SET IS FINITE' - PROOF

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets, with  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B$  finite. Let us define  $[n]$  to be the set of all elements of  $\mathbb{N}$  less than  $n$ , i.e.  $[n] = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ .

Since  $B$  is finite, by the definition of finiteness there is  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there exists a bijection between  $B$  and  $[n]$ . Hence it suffices to prove that any subset of  $[n]$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is finite. We proceed by induction.

When  $n = 0$ ,  $[n] = \emptyset$ , and trivially all subsets of the empty set are finite.

Let  $n > 0$  and assume that all subsets of  $[n-1]$  are finite.

Note that  $[n] = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\} = \{0, 1, \dots, n-2\} \cup \{n-1\} = [n-1] \cup \{n-1\}$ . Let  $x \subseteq [n]$ . Then either  $n-1 \notin x$  or  $n-1 \in x$ . In the first case,  $x \subseteq [n-1]$ , and thus it is finite.

Otherwise,  $x \setminus \{n-1\} \subseteq [n-1]$  and is finite. Therefore there exists a  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there is a bijection  $f : x \setminus \{n-1\} \rightarrow [k]$ . Then  $f' = f \cup \{(n-1, k)\}$  is a bijection  $f' : x \rightarrow [k+1]$  and by the inductive property of the natural numbers,  $k+1 \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Hence, any  $x \subseteq n$  is finite.

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