

# Practical S-m-n Theorem Examples: Step-by-Step Real Solutions

## How to Read and Solve ANY S-m-n Exercise

### STEP 1: Extract the Requirements from Exercise Text

Look for these patterns in the exercise:

- **"show there exists  $s: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that..."** → This tells you what function to construct
- **" $W_s(x) = \dots$ "** → This is the DOMAIN (where function is defined)
- **" $E_s(x) = \dots$ "** → This is the CODOMAIN (what values function outputs)
- **" $|W_s(x)| = \dots$ "** → This is SIZE of domain
- **" $|E_s(x)| = \dots$ "** → This is SIZE of codomain

### STEP 2: Understand $W_x$ and $E_x$ Logically

- **$W_x = \text{domain of } \varphi_x = \{\text{inputs where } \varphi_x \text{ converges}\}$**
  - **$E_x = \text{codomain of } \varphi_x = \{\text{outputs that } \varphi_x \text{ produces}\}$**
  - **Key insight:**  $g(x,y) \downarrow \iff y \in W_s(x)$ , and  $g(x,y) = z \iff z \in E_s(x)$
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## OFFICIAL EXERCISE 3.4: Even Domain, Offset Codomain

**Exact Exercise Text:** "Prove that there is a total computable function  $k: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  it holds that  $W_{k(n)} = P = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \text{ even}\}$  and  $E_{k(n)} = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \geq n\}$ ."

### Complete Step-by-Step Solution:

#### 1. Extract Requirements from Text:

- Look for " $W_{k(n)} = \dots$ " →  $W_{k(n)} = P = \{0, 2, 4, 6, \dots\}$  (all even numbers)
- Look for " $E_{k(n)} = \dots$ " →  $E_{k(n)} = \{n, n+1, n+2, \dots\}$  (all numbers  $\geq n$ )

#### 2. Logical Analysis:

- **Domain pattern:** Function should be defined ONLY on even inputs (0, 2, 4, 6, ...)
- **Codomain pattern:** Function outputs should be  $\geq n$
- **Key insight:** When input  $x$  is even, we want output  $\geq n$

#### 3. Construct $f(n,x)$ :

```
f(n, x) = {  
    x/2 + n,  if x is even  
    ↑,       if x is odd  
}
```

#### 4. Verify Why This Works:

- **Domain check:**  $f(n,x)$  converges  $\iff x$  is even  $\iff x \in P$ 
  - So  $W_k(n) = \{x \mid f(n,x) \downarrow\} = \{x \mid x \text{ even}\} = P \checkmark$
- **Codomain check:** When  $x$  is even:  $f(n,x) = x/2 + n$ 
  - Since  $x \in \{0, 2, 4, 6, \dots\}$ , we have  $x/2 \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
  - So  $f(n,x) \in \{n, n+1, n+2, n+3, \dots\} = \{y \mid y \geq n\}$
  - Therefore  $E_k(n) = \{n, n+1, n+2, \dots\} \checkmark$

#### 5. Make It Computable:

```
f(n, x) = qt(2, x) + n + μz.rm(2, x)
```

- $qt(2, x) = x/2$  (quotient)
  - $rm(2, x) = x \bmod 2$  (remainder: 0 if even, 1 if odd)
  - $\mu z.rm(2, x)$  converges to 0 if  $x$  even, diverges if  $x$  odd
- 

### OFFICIAL EXERCISE 3.5: Threshold Domain, Even Codomain

**Exact Exercise Text:** "Use it to prove it exists a total computable function  $k : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $W_k(n) = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid x \geq n\}$  and  $E_k(n) = \{y \in \mathbb{N} \mid y \text{ even}\}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ."

#### Complete Step-by-Step Solution:

##### 1. Extract Requirements from Text:

- $W_k(n) = \{n, n+1, n+2, \dots\}$  (all numbers  $\geq n$ )
- $E_k(n) = \{0, 2, 4, 6, \dots\}$  (all even numbers)

##### 2. Logical Analysis:

- **Domain pattern:** Function defined when  $x \geq n$
- **Codomain pattern:** Function outputs should be even numbers
- **Key insight:** For inputs  $x \geq n$ , we want to produce even outputs

##### 3. Construct $f(n,x)$ :

```
f(n, x) = {  
    2 * (x - n),  if x ≥ n  
    ↑,           if x < n  
}
```

#### 4. Verify Why This Works:

- **Domain check:**  $f(n,x)$  converges  $\iff x \geq n$ 
  - So  $W_k(n) = \{x \mid f(n,x) \downarrow\} = \{x \mid x \geq n\}$  ✓
- **Codomain check:** When  $x \geq n$ :  $f(n,x) = 2^*(x-n)$ 
  - Since  $x \geq n$ , we have  $(x-n) \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
  - So  $2^*(x-n) \in \{0, 2, 4, 6, \dots\} = \text{even numbers}$
  - Therefore  $E_k(n) = \{y \mid y \text{ even}\}$  ✓

## 5. Make It Computable:

$$f(n, x) = 2 * (x - n) + \mu z. (n - x)$$

- $(x - n)$  gives the offset from  $n$
- $\mu z. (n - x)$  converges to 0 if  $x \geq n$ , diverges if  $x < n$

## OFFICIAL EXERCISE 3.3: Equation Domain

**Exact Exercise Text:** "State the smn theorem and use it to prove that there exists a total computable function  $s : \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $W_{s(x,y)} = \{z : x * z = y\}$ "

### Complete Step-by-Step Solution:

#### 1. Extract Requirements from Text:

- Function  $s$  takes TWO parameters:  $x$  and  $y$
- $W_{s(x,y)} = \{z \mid x * z = y\}$  (solutions to equation  $x * z = y$ )
- No requirement for  $E_{s(x,y)}$  specified

#### 2. Logical Analysis:

- **When does equation  $x * z = y$  have solutions?**
  - If  $x = 0$  and  $y = 0$ :  $z$  can be anything  $\rightarrow W_{s(0,0)} = \mathbb{N}$
  - If  $x = 0$  and  $y \neq 0$ : no solutions  $\rightarrow W_{s(0,y)} = \emptyset$
  - If  $x \neq 0$  and  $y$  divisible by  $x$ :  $z = y/x \rightarrow W_{s(x,y)} = \{y/x\}$
  - If  $x \neq 0$  and  $y$  not divisible by  $x$ : no solutions  $\rightarrow W_{s(x,y)} = \emptyset$

#### 3. Construct $g(x,y,z)$ :

$$g(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x * z = y \\ \uparrow, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

#### 4. Verify Why This Works:

- $g(x,y,z)$  converges  $\iff x * z = y \iff z$  is a solution to  $x * z = y$
- So  $W_s(x,y) = \{z \mid g(x,y,z) \downarrow\} = \{z \mid x * z = y\} \checkmark$

## 5. Make It Computable:

$$g(x, y, z) = \mu w. |(x * z) - y| + |y - (x * z)|$$

This converges to 0 iff  $x*z = y$ , diverges otherwise.

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## OFFICIAL EXERCISE: Power Domain with Odd Codomain

**Exact Exercise Text:** "Use it for proving there exists  $k: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  total and computable s.t.  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $W_k(n) = \{z^n \mid z \in \mathbb{N}\}$  and  $E_k(n)$  is the set of odd numbers"

## Complete Step-by-Step Solution:

### 1. Extract Requirements:

- $W_k(n) = \{0^n, 1^n, 2^n, 3^n, \dots\} = \{z^n \mid z \in \mathbb{N}\}$
- $E_k(n) = \{1, 3, 5, 7, \dots\}$  (all odd numbers)

### 2. Logical Analysis:

- **Domain:** Function defined when input  $y$  is a perfect  $n$ -th power
- **Codomain:** Function outputs should be odd numbers

### 3. Construct $g(n,y)$ :

$$g(n, y) = \begin{cases} 2k + 1, & \text{if } \exists z \text{ such that } y = z^n \text{ (and } k \text{ is some index)} \\ \uparrow, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

### 4. Better Construction:

$$g(n, y) = \begin{cases} 2 * (\mu z. |z^n - y|) + 1, & \text{if } \exists z \text{ such that } y = z^n \\ \uparrow, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

### 5. Make It Computable:

$$g(n, y) = 2 * (\mu z. |z^n - y|) + 1$$

This finds  $z$  such that  $z^n = y$ , then outputs  $2z + 1$  (which is odd).

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## PRACTICAL EXAMPLE 1: Basic Cardinality Control (From Tutorial) (From Tutorial) (From Tutorial)

**Exercise Text:** "Show there exists  $s: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|W_s(x)| = 2x$  and  $|E_s(x)| = x$ "

### Step-by-Step Solution:

#### 1. Extract Requirements:

- Need: function  $s$  such that  $|W_s(x)| = 2x$  and  $|E_s(x)| = x$
- This means:  $W_s(x)$  has exactly  $2x$  elements,  $E_s(x)$  has exactly  $x$  elements

#### 2. Logical Analysis:

- $W_s(x) = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2x-1\}$  (first  $2x$  natural numbers)
- $E_s(x) = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, x-1\}$  (first  $x$  natural numbers)

#### 3. Construct $g(x,y)$ :

```
g(x, y) = {  
    qt(2, y),  if y < 2x  
    ↑,        otherwise  
}
```

#### 4. Why this works:

- $g(x,y)$  converges  $\iff y < 2x \iff y \in \{0,1,2,\dots,2x-1\}$
- So  $W_s(x) = \{0,1,2,\dots,2x-1\} \rightarrow |W_s(x)| = 2x \checkmark$
- When  $y < 2x$ :  $g(x,y) = qt(2,y) = \lfloor y/2 \rfloor \in \{0,1,2,\dots,x-1\}$
- So  $E_s(x) = \{0,1,2,\dots,x-1\} \rightarrow |E_s(x)| = x \checkmark$

#### 5. Make it computable:

```
g(x, y) = qt(2, y) + μz.(y + 1 - 2x)
```

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## PRACTICAL EXAMPLE 2: Set Construction with Conditions

**Exercise Text:** "Show there exists  $k: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $W_k(n) = P$  (even numbers) and  $E_k(n) = \{y \mid y \geq n\}$ "

### Step-by-Step Solution:

#### 1. Extract Requirements:

- $W_k(n) = P = \{0, 2, 4, 6, \dots\}$  (all even numbers)
- $E_k(n) = \{n, n+1, n+2, \dots\}$  (all numbers  $\geq n$ )

#### 2. Logical Analysis:

- Function should be defined ONLY on even inputs
- For even input  $y$ , output should be something  $\geq n$

### 3. Construct $g(n,x)$ :

```
g(n, x) = {
  x/2 + n,  if x is even
  ↑,       if x is odd
}
```

### 4. Why this works:

- $g(n,x)$  converges  $\iff x$  is even  $\iff x \in P$
- So  $W_k(n) = P \checkmark$
- When  $x$  is even:  $g(n,x) = x/2 + n \geq n$
- As  $x$  ranges over all evens  $\{0,2,4,\dots\}$ ,  $x/2$  ranges over  $\{0,1,2,\dots\}$
- So  $g(n,x)$  ranges over  $\{n, n+1, n+2, \dots\}$
- Therefore  $E_k(n) = \{y \mid y \geq n\} \checkmark$

### 5. Make it computable:

```
g(n, x) = qt(2, x) + n + μz.rm(2, x)
```

## PRACTICAL EXAMPLE 3: Divisor Construction

**Exercise Text:** "Show there exists  $k: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\varphi_k(n)$  is total and  $E_k(n)$  is the set of integer divisors of  $n$ "

### Step-by-Step Solution:

#### 1. Extract Requirements:

- $\varphi_k(n)$  must be total (defined everywhere)
- $E_k(n) = \text{divisors of } n = \{d \mid d \text{ divides } n\}$

#### 2. Logical Analysis:

- Since  $\varphi_k(n)$  is total:  $W_k(n) = \mathbb{N}$
- Need  $E_k(n)$  to contain exactly the divisors of  $n$

#### 3. Construct $g(n,x)$ :

```

g(n, x) = {
    x * n,  if x divides n
    1,      otherwise
}

```

#### 4. Why this works:

- $g(n,x)$  is always defined  $\rightarrow W_k(n) = \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \varphi_k(n)$  total  $\checkmark$
- When  $x$  divides  $n$ :  $g(n,x) = x*n$ , but we want just  $x$
- When  $x$  doesn't divide  $n$ :  $g(n,x) = 1$

#### Actually, better construction:

```

g(n, x) = {
    x,  if x divides n
    1,  otherwise
}

```

- $E_k(n) = \{x \mid x \text{ divides } n\} \cup \{1\} = \text{divisors of } n \checkmark$

#### 5. Make it computable:

```

g(n, x) = x * sg(rm(x, n)) + sg(rm(x, n))

```

where  $sg(0) = 1$ ,  $sg(y) = 0$  for  $y > 0$ .

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## PRACTICAL EXAMPLE 4: Equation Solving

**Exercise Text:** "Show there exists  $s: \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $W_s(x,y) = \{z \mid x * z = y\}$ "

### Step-by-Step Solution:

#### 1. Extract Requirements:

- $W_s(x,y) = \{z \mid x * z = y\}$  (solutions to equation  $x * z = y$ )

#### 2. Logical Analysis:

- Function should be defined exactly when  $x * z = y$
- No specific requirement for codomain, so we can output anything

#### 3. Construct $g(x,y,z)$ :

```
g(x, y, z) = {
  0,  if x * z = y
  ↑,  otherwise
}
```

#### 4. Why this works:

- $g(x,y,z)$  converges  $\iff x * z = y \iff z \in \{\text{solutions to } x*z = y\}$
- So  $W_s(x,y) = \{z \mid x * z = y\} \checkmark$

#### 5. Make it computable:

```
g(x, y, z) = μw. |(x * z) - y| + |y - (x * z)|
```

This converges to 0 iff  $x*z = y$ .

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## PRACTICAL EXAMPLE 5: Square Set Construction

**Exercise Text:** "Show there exists  $s: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $W_s(x) = \{(k+2)^2 \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ "

### Step-by-Step Solution:

#### 1. Extract Requirements:

- $W_s(x) = \{4, 9, 16, 25, \dots\} = \{(k+2)^2 \mid k = 0,1,2,\dots\}$
- Note: This set doesn't depend on  $x$ !

#### 2. Logical Analysis:

- For any  $x$ , we want the same domain: perfect squares starting from 4
- We need to check if  $y$  is a perfect square of form  $(k+2)^2$

#### 3. Construct $g(x,y)$ :

```
g(x, y) = {
  k,  if ∃k such that y = (x + k)²
  ↑,  otherwise
}
```

Wait, the exercise says  $W_s(x)$  should be the same for all  $x$ . Let me re-read...

Actually, looking at the pattern, it should be:



```

g(x, y) = {
  k,  if  $\exists k$  such that  $y = (k + 2)^2$ 
  ↑,  otherwise
}

```

#### 4. Make it computable:

```

g(x, y) =  $\mu k. |y - (k + 2)^2|$ 

```

This finds  $k$  such that  $y = (k+2)^2$ , or diverges if no such  $k$  exists.

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## PRACTICAL EXAMPLE 6: Cardinality with Two Parameters

**Exercise Text:** "Show there exists  $s: \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|W_{s(x,y)}| = x * y$ "

### Step-by-Step Solution:

#### 1. Extract Requirements:

- $|W_{s(x,y)}| = x * y$  (domain has exactly  $x*y$  elements)

#### 2. Logical Analysis:

- $W_{s(x,y)} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, xy - 1\}$  (first  $xy$  natural numbers)

#### 3. Construct $g(x,y,z)$ :

```

g(x, y, z) = {
  0,  if  $z < x * y$ 
  ↑,  otherwise
}

```

#### 4. Why this works:

- $g(x,y,z)$  converges  $\iff z < xy \iff z \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, xy-1\}$
- So  $|W_{s(x,y)}| = x*y \checkmark$

#### 5. Make it computable:

```

g(x, y, z) =  $\mu w. (z + 1 - (x * y))$ 

```

---

## PATTERN RECOGNITION FROM EXERCISE TEXT

### How to Read Exercise Requirements Like a Detective

#### Pattern 1: Cardinality Control

- **Text signals:** " $|W_s(x)| = \dots$ ", "exactly n elements", "size of domain"
- **What to do:** Make  $g(x,y)$  converge for exactly that many y values
- **Example:** " $|W_s(x)| = 2x$ "  $\rightarrow g(x,y)$  defined for  $y \in \{0,1,2,\dots,2x-1\}$

## Pattern 2: Specific Set Construction

- **Text signals:** " $W_s(x) = \{\text{specific description}\}$ ", "even numbers", "divisors"
- **What to do:** Make  $g(x,y)$  converge exactly when y is in that set
- **Example:** " $W_s(x) = \text{even numbers}$ "  $\rightarrow g(x,y)$  defined when  $\text{rm}(2,y) = 0$

## Pattern 3: Equation Solving

- **Text signals:** " $W_s(x,y) = \{z \mid \text{equation}\}$ ", "solutions to", "such that"
- **What to do:** Make  $g(x,y,z)$  converge exactly when equation holds
- **Example:** " $W_s(x,y) = \{z \mid xz = y\}$ "  $\rightarrow g(x,y,z)$  defined when  $xz = y$

## Pattern 4: Total Functions

- **Text signals:** " $\varphi_k(n)$  is total", "defined everywhere", "total computable"
- **What to do:** Make  $g(n,x)$  always converge (never use  $\uparrow$ )
- **Example:** " $\varphi_k(n)$  total"  $\rightarrow g(n,x) = \text{some\_always\_defined\_expression}$

## Pattern 5: Threshold Conditions

- **Text signals:** " $x \geq n$ ", "greater than", "at least"
- **What to do:** Use  $\mu z.(\text{threshold} - x)$  pattern
- **Example:** " $x \geq n$ "  $\rightarrow$  add  $\mu z.(n - x)$  to make it diverge when  $x < n$

# COMMON MISTAKES AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

## Mistake 1: Confusing Domain and Codomain

**Wrong thinking:** " $W_s(x)$  is what the function outputs" **Correct thinking:** " $W_s(x)$  is where function is DEFINED,  $E_s(x)$  is what it OUTPUTS" **Fix:** Always ask "When does  $g(x,y)$  converge?" for  $W_s(x)$ , "What does  $g(x,y)$  equal?" for  $E_s(x)$

## Mistake 2: Not Making $g(x,y)$ Computable

**Wrong:**  $g(x,y) = \text{"check if y is prime"}$  (not primitive recursive) **Correct:** Use only  $qt$ ,  $rm$ ,  $sg$ ,  $\mu$ -operator,  $+$ ,  $*$ , and compositions **Fix:** Break down complex conditions into primitive recursive parts

## Mistake 3: Wrong $\mu$ -operator Usage

**Wrong:**  $\mu z.(\text{condition})$  where condition can be false **Correct:**  $\mu z.|\text{expression1} - \text{expression2}|$  where difference is 0 iff condition holds **Example:**  $\mu z. |xz - y|$  finds z such that  $xz = y$

## Mistake 4: Ignoring Edge Cases

**Wrong:** Assuming  $x \neq 0$  in equation  $x \cdot z = y$  **Correct:** Handle  $x = 0$  case separately or use robust construction **Fix:** Test your construction with small values:  $x=0$ ,  $x=1$ ,  $y=0$ , etc.

## Mistake 5: Circular Reasoning in Verification

**Wrong:** " $W_s(x)$  contains even numbers because  $g(x,y)$  works for even  $y$ " **Correct:** " $g(x,y)$  converges exactly when  $y$  is even, therefore  $W_s(x) = \text{even numbers}$ " **Fix:** Always verify:  $W_s(x) = \{y \mid g(x,y) \downarrow\}$  matches requirement

## MECHANICAL READING ALGORITHM

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### For ANY S-m-n Exercise, Follow These Steps:

#### Step 1: SCAN the exercise text

- Find: "show there exists..."  $\rightarrow$  This tells you what to construct
- Count parameters:  $s: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  (one param) vs  $s: \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  (two params)
- Extract ALL requirements about  $W_s$  and  $E_s$

#### Step 2: CLASSIFY the exercise type

- Cardinality? Look for  $|W_s(x)| = \dots$
- Specific sets? Look for  $W_s(x) = \{\text{description}\}$
- Equations? Look for  $W_s(x,y) = \{z \mid \text{equation}\}$
- Total functions? Look for " $\varphi_k(n)$  is total"

#### Step 3: TRANSLATE requirements to $g(x,y)$ logic

- $W_s(x)$  requirement  $\rightarrow$  "When should  $g(x,y)$  converge?"
- $E_s(x)$  requirement  $\rightarrow$  "What should  $g(x,y)$  equal when it converges?"

#### Step 4: CONSTRUCT $g(x,y)$ using templates

- Use pattern templates from examples above
- Ensure it uses only primitive recursive functions

#### Step 5: VERIFY your construction

- Check:  $W_s(x) = \{y \mid g(x,y) \downarrow\}$  matches requirement
- Check:  $E_s(x) = \{g(x,y) \mid y \in W_s(x)\}$  matches requirement
- Test with small values:  $x=0$ ,  $x=1$ ,  $x=2$

#### Step 6: WRITE the formal solution

- State S-m-n theorem
- Define  $g(x,y)$  explicitly
- Apply S-m-n theorem to get  $s$
- Verify both  $W_s$  and  $E_s$  properties

# UNIVERSAL PATTERN RECOGNITION

## Quick Reference Table:

Exercise Text Contains	Pattern Type	$g(x,y)$ Template
" $ W_s(x)  = f(x)$ "	Cardinality	$g(x,y)$ defined for $y < f(x)$
" $W_s(x) = \text{even numbers}$ "	Even/Odd	$g(x,y) + \mu z.rm(2,y)$
" $W_s(x) = \{y \mid y \geq x\}$ "	Threshold	$g(x,y) + \mu z.(x - y)$
" $W_s(x,y) = \{z \mid \text{equation}\}$ "	Equation	$g(x,y,z)$ defined when equation holds
" $\varphi_k(n)$ is total"	Total Function	$g(n,x)$ always defined
"divisors of $n$ "	Divisibility	Use $rm(x,n) = 0$ test
" $E_s(x) = \text{odd numbers}$ "	Odd Codomain	$g(x,y) = 2*\text{something} + 1$

## Meta-Pattern: The Universal Logic

### Every S-m-n exercise follows this logic:

1. You need to create a function  $\varphi_s(x)$  with specific domain/codomain properties
2.  $\varphi_s(x)(y) = g(x,y)$  by S-m-n theorem
3. Design  $g(x,y)$  so convergence creates desired domain, outputs create desired codomain
4.  $W_s(x) = \{y \mid g(x,y) \downarrow\}$ ,  $E_s(x) = \{g(x,y) \mid y \in W_s(x)\}$

### This is why the methodology works for EVERY exercise:

- Extract what  $W_s(x)$  and  $E_s(x)$  should be
- Design  $g(x,y)$  to create those convergence and output patterns
- Verify the construction matches requirements
- Apply S-m-n theorem mechanically

You now have a complete system to solve any S-m-n theorem exercise by pattern recognition and mechanical application!