

Exam 2 Discrete Mathematics 1 Solutions**Name:** Valen Li **Due Date:** 10/15/25

Code snippet

P 1) In this exercise, you prove the Schröder-Bernstein theorem. Suppose that A and B are sets where $|A| \leq |B|$ and $|B| \leq |A|$. This means that there are injections $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow A$. To prove the theorem, we must show that there is a bijection $h : A \rightarrow B$, implying that $|A| = |B|$. To build $h : A \rightarrow B$, we construct the chain of an element $a \in A$. This chain contains the elements $a, f(a), g(f(a)), f(g(f(a))), g(f(g(f(a))))$, It also may contain more elements that precede a , extending the chain backwards. So, if there is an element $b \in B$ with $g(b) = a$, then the element b will be the term of the chain just before the element a . Because $g : B \rightarrow A$ may not be a surjection, there may not be any such b , so that a is the first element of the chain. If such an element b exists, because $g : B \rightarrow A$ is an injection, it is the unique element of B mapped by g to a ; hence we denote it by $g^{-1}(a)$. We extend the chain backwards as long as possible in the same way, adding $f^{-1}(g^{-1}(a)), g^{-1}(f^{-1}(g^{-1}(a))), \dots$ To construct the proof, complete these five parts.

(a) Each element in $A \cup B$ belongs to exactly one chain. The functions $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow A$ define a partition of $A \cup B$ into disjoint chains (sequences or cycles). The relationship is defined by $a \rightarrow f(a)$ for $a \in A$ and $b \rightarrow g(b)$ for $b \in B$. Since f and g are injective, each element has at most one predecessor and one successor, ensuring the set is partitioned into these unique sequences.

(b) Chains are categorized by their backward structure (origin):

- Type 1 (Loop) / Type 2 (\mathbf{C}_∞): Cyclic or infinite both ways.
- Type 3 (\mathbf{C}_A): Ends backward at $a_0 \in A$ (no $b \in B$ such that $g(b) = a_0$).
- Type 4 (\mathbf{C}_B): Ends backward at $b_0 \in B$ (no $a \in A$ such that $f(a) = b_0$).

Let \mathcal{C}_f be the union of Type 1, 2, 3 chains, and $\mathcal{C}_{g^{-1}}$ be Type 4 chains.

(c) Define the bijection candidate $h : A \rightarrow B$:

$$h(a) = \begin{cases} f(a) & \text{if } a \text{ is in } \mathcal{C}_f, \\ g^{-1}(a) & \text{if } a \text{ is in } \mathcal{C}_{g^{-1}}. \end{cases}$$

For $a \in \mathcal{C}_{g^{-1}} = \mathbf{C}_B$, a is necessarily of the form $g(b)$ for some $b \in B$ (since the chain begins at $b_0 \in B$, a cannot be the chain's origin), so $g^{-1}(a)$ is well-defined in B .

(d) To show h is injective, let $h(a_1) = h(a_2)$.

- Same Type: If $a_1, a_2 \in \mathcal{C}_f$, $f(a_1) = f(a_2) \implies a_1 = a_2$ (by injectivity of f).
If $a_1, a_2 \in \mathcal{C}_{g^{-1}}$, $g^{-1}(a_1) = g^{-1}(a_2) \implies a_1 = a_2$ (by injectivity of g).

- *Mixed Types: If $a_1 \in \mathcal{C}_f$ and $a_2 \in \mathcal{C}_{g^{-1}}$, then $f(a_1) = g^{-1}(a_2)$. Applying g gives $g(f(a_1)) = a_2$. This establishes a connection $a_1 \rightarrow f(a_1) \rightarrow a_2$, meaning a_1 and a_2 are in the same chain. This is a contradiction, as connected elements must be in the same type of chain (\mathcal{C}_f vs $\mathcal{C}_{g^{-1}}$).*

Thus, h is one-to-one.

(e) To show h is onto, take $b \in B$.

- *If $b \in \mathcal{C}_f$: Every $b \in B$ in these chains must have a predecessor $a \in A$ such that $f(a) = b$. For this a , $h(a) = f(a) = b$.*
- *If $b \in \mathcal{C}_{g^{-1}}$: Let $a = g(b)$. Then $a \in A$ and a is also in $\mathcal{C}_{g^{-1}}$. By definition, $h(a) = h(g(b)) = g^{-1}(g(b)) = b$.*

All $b \in B$ are covered, so h is onto. Thus, h is a bijection, proving $|A| = |B|$.

P 2) To show $|(0, 1)| = |\mathbb{R}|$, construct a bijection $h : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, defined as:

$$h(x) = \tan\left(\pi x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right).$$

- *Domain:* For $x \in (0, 1)$, $\pi x - \frac{\pi}{2} \in (-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$, where \tan maps to \mathbb{R} .
- *Injectivity:* If $h(x_1) = h(x_2)$, then $\tan(\pi x_1 - \frac{\pi}{2}) = \tan(\pi x_2 - \frac{\pi}{2})$. Since \tan is injective on $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$, $\pi x_1 - \frac{\pi}{2} = \pi x_2 - \frac{\pi}{2}$, so $x_1 = x_2$.
- *Surjectivity:* For $y \in \mathbb{R}$, solve $h(x) = y$: $\tan(\pi x - \frac{\pi}{2}) = y$, so $\pi x - \frac{\pi}{2} = \arctan(y)$, hence $x = \frac{\arctan(y) + \frac{\pi}{2}}{\pi}$. Since $\arctan(y) \in (-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$, $x \in (0, 1)$, and $h(x) = y$.

Thus, h is a bijection, so $|(0, 1)| = |\mathbb{R}|$.