

**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  $a, f(a), g(f(a)), f(g(f(a))), g(f(g(f(a)))), \dots$ . 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 ( $\mathbf{C}_\infty$ ): 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  $a \in \mathcal{C}_{g^{-1}} = C_B$ ,  $a$  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  $|(0, 1)| = |\mathbb{R}|$ .