

## Lecture 2

### Zorn's lemma

Axiom of choice :- Given  $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  a collection of non-empty sets,  $\exists$  a function  $f: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} X_\alpha$  such that  $f(\alpha) \in X_\alpha \forall \alpha \in \mathcal{A}$ .

ie. product of non-empty sets is non-empty.

A <sup>partial</sup> order on a set  $S$  is a relation denoted by  $\leq$  s.t.  
 $x \leq x$ ;  $x \leq y \& y \leq x \Leftrightarrow x = y$ .

And  $x \leq y \& y \leq z \Rightarrow x \leq z$ .

A chain in an ordered set is a subset  $K$  such that given  $x, y \in K$ , either  $x \leq y$  or  $y \leq x$ .

Zorn's lemma :- If in an ordered set every chain is bounded above then,  $\exists$  a maximal elt.  
 ie. an elt.  $m$  s.t.  $x \geq m \Rightarrow x = m$ .

ex ① In the set  $T$  of all proper subsets of a set  $S$  of size  $n$  inclusion is  $\leq$ .  
 $2^n - 2$ ,  
 any  $A \in T$  with  $|A| = n-1$  is maximal.

② maximal ideals in a ring are max. elts in the set of ideals which are not the whole ring.

Well-ordering let  $(S, \leq)$  be an ordered set. It is called well-ordered if ① given  $x, y \in S$  we have  $x \leq y$  or  $y \leq x$ .

& ② Every non-empty subset contains a minimum elt. ie  $\forall T \subseteq S, T \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \exists t_0 \in T$  s.t.  $t \geq t_0 \forall t \in T$ .

ex.  $\mathbb{N}$  is well ordered but  $\mathbb{Z}$  is not.

Theorem :- (Induction Principle) :- Let  $S$  be a well ordered set.  
Let  $A(k)$  be some assertion about  $k \in S$ .

example  $A(n) = \{ n < 1000 \}$ .  
 $A(n)$  is true  $\forall n < 1000$   
 false  $\forall n \geq 1000$ .  
 $2 \mid n(n+1) \Rightarrow A(n)$   
 $\forall n \geq 1$   
 If we know that " $A(l)$  is true  $\forall l < k$ "  
 $\Rightarrow A(k)$  is true"

Then  $A(s)$  is true  $\forall s \in S$ .

pf.  $\exists t_0 \in S$  be st.  $A(t)$  is not true  $\forall t \in T_0$   
 If  $T_0 \neq \emptyset$  then it has a least elt.  $t_0 \in T_0$ .  
 $\Rightarrow A(k)$  is true  $\forall k < t_0$ .  
 $\Rightarrow A(t_0)$  is true.  $\Rightarrow t_0 \notin T_0$  contradiction  
QED.

"Proof" of Zorn's lemma (using Axiom of choice)

Lemma :- Every chain bounded above  $\Rightarrow \exists$  maximal elt.

Assume the statement is false. i.e.  $\forall s \in S \exists s_1 \in S$  st.  
 $s_1 > s$  (if  $m \geq m_1$  &  $m \neq m_1$ , then we write) as  $m > m_1$

Axiom of choice : For every chain  $K \subset S$  choose  $m(K)$   
 st.  $m(K) > k \forall k \in K$ .

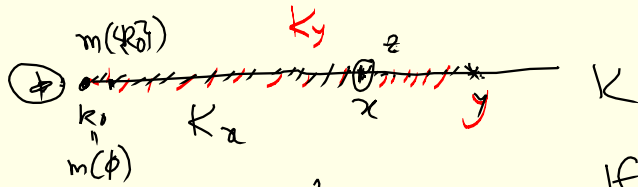
$\rightarrow$  Indexing set is all chains  $K$  in  $S$ .  
 Given any  $K \rightarrow X_K = \{ s \in S \mid s > k \forall k \in K \}$   
 $X_K \neq \emptyset$  by assumption.  
 $m = \text{Set of all chains} \rightarrow \bigcup_{K \in \mathcal{C}} \{ \text{strict upper bounds on } K \}$   
 $\cup \emptyset$

$\emptyset \rightarrow m(\emptyset)$   $m(\{s \leq t\}) \rightarrow \text{fixed.}$   
 $\{s\} \rightarrow m(\{s\})$

Call a chain  $K \subset M$  distinguished if ①  $K$  is well-ordered

②  $\forall$  "initial part"  $K_x = \{k \in K \mid k < x\}$   $x \in K$

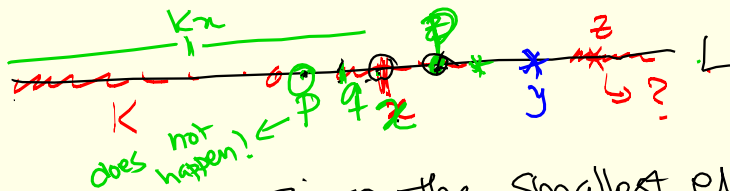
we have  $m(K_x) = x$ .



Lemma :- If  $K, L$  are distinguished chains, then we must have  $K=L$ ;  $K_x=L$  for  $x \in K$  or  $L_y=K$  for some  $y \in L$ .

proof. Assume that the first two assertions are not true.

The subset of  $L$  consisting of elts not in  $K$  is non-empty.  
 $\Rightarrow \exists y \in L$  s.t.  $y$  is the least elt s.t.  $y \notin K$ .



Assume that the third assertion is also false. i.e.  $\nexists y$  s.t.  $L_y=K$ .

Since the smallest elt of  $K$  &  $L$  are same ( $= m(\phi)$ )

there exist smallest  $x \in K$  s.t.  $x \notin L$  or  $K_x \neq L_x$ .

(contrapositive of  $x \in L$  and  $K_x = L_x$ )

$\therefore$  we must have  $K_x \subset L$  &  $K_x \neq L$  by our assumption.

$\Rightarrow p \in L$  Then  $p > K_x$ ; (other wise  $\exists q \in K_x$  s.t.  $p < q$  but then  $K_q = L_q \Rightarrow p \in K$  cont.)

Clearly  $K_x = L_p$  & since  $K \neq L$  are distinguished

we have  $m(K_x) = x$  in  $K$

$m(L_p) = p$  in  $L$ .

$\Rightarrow p \in K$  contradiction.

$\Rightarrow K_x = L_p \uparrow$

This proves Zorn's lemma !!

QED.

Lemma :- Zorn's lemma  $\Rightarrow$  Axiom of choice.

pf. Let  $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  be collection of non-empty set.

[SP]  $\exists f: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} X_\alpha$  s.t.  $f(\alpha) \in X_\alpha \forall \alpha \in \mathcal{A}$ .

Let  $S = \{(\Gamma, \phi) \mid \phi: \Gamma \rightarrow \bigsqcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} X_\alpha \text{ with } \Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{A} \text{ \& } \phi(x) \in X_x \forall x \in \Gamma\}$

$\exists$  an elt of the type  $(\mathcal{A}, \phi) \in S$ .

Define  $\leq$  on  $S$  by

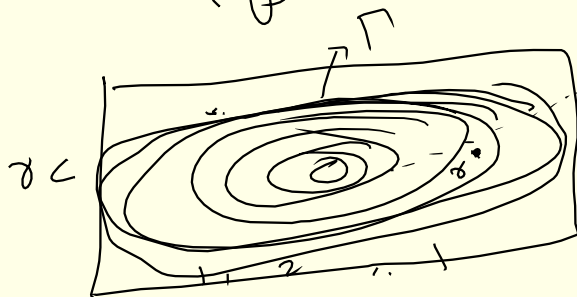
$$(\Gamma_1, \phi_1) \leq (\Gamma_2, \phi_2) \text{ iff } \Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma_2 \\ \& \phi_2|_{\Gamma_1} = \phi_1$$

note:-  $(\Gamma_1, \phi) \neq (\Gamma_1, \psi)$  if  $\phi \neq \psi$ .

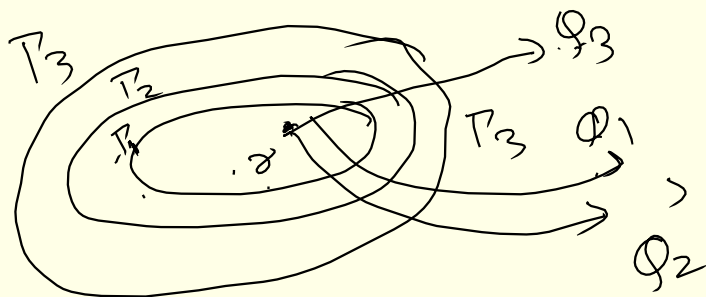
Let  $K$  be a chain in  $S$   $K = \{(\Gamma_\beta, \phi_\beta)\}_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}}$

s.t.  $\beta_1, \beta_2 \in \mathcal{B} \Rightarrow (\Gamma_{\beta_1}, \phi_{\beta_1}) \leq (\Gamma_{\beta_2}, \phi_{\beta_2})$   
or other way round.

Define  $\Gamma = \bigcup_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}} \Gamma_\beta$ ,  $\phi(x) = \phi_\beta(x)$  if  $x \in \Gamma_\beta$ .



$$\phi: \bigsqcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} X_\alpha$$



$$\bigsqcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} X_\alpha$$

$$\phi(x) = \phi_2(x) \\ \text{or } \phi_1(x) \\ \text{or } \phi_3(x)$$

$\phi$  is well-defined &  $\phi(x) \in X_x \forall x \in \Gamma$ .

$\Rightarrow (\Gamma, \phi) \geq (\Gamma_\beta, \phi_\beta) \forall \beta \in \mathcal{B}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  every chain is bounded above.

$\Rightarrow \exists$  maximal element  $(S_0, f_0)$ .

Now if  $S_0 \subsetneq \mathcal{I}$ ; then  $\exists \alpha \in \mathcal{I} \setminus S_0$ .

$S_1 = S_0 \cup \{\alpha\}$ , define  $f$  to be  $f|_{S_0} = f_0$

&  $f(\alpha)$  any elt of  $X_\alpha$ .

Then  $(S_1, f) > (S_0, f_0)$  contradiction.

$\therefore f_0 \in \prod_{\alpha \in \mathcal{I}} X_\alpha \Rightarrow$  Axiom of choice is true!

— x — x — x —  
To use Zorn's lemma we ① Construct a set  $S$ .  
prove it is non-empty

② construct partial order on  $S$

③ prove that every chain is bounded above.

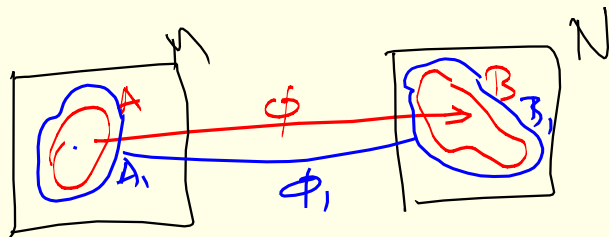
$\hookrightarrow \exists$  a maximal elt.  
which usually proves what one wants.

— x — x — x —  
Schröder-Bernstein

② Given  $M, N$  two sets  
either  $|M| \leq |N|$  or  
 $|N| \leq |M|$ .

(Note) the first part of S-B  $\Rightarrow$   
 $|M| \leq |N| \& |N| \leq |M| \Rightarrow |M| = |N|$

PS - ①  $S = \{ (A, B, \phi) \mid A \subseteq M, B \subseteq N \& \phi \text{ - bijection bet } A \& B \}$



②  $(A_1, B_1, \phi_1) \leq (A_2, B_2, \phi_2)$   
if  $\{ A_1 \subseteq A_2 \& B_1 \subseteq B_2 \}$   
&  $\phi_2|_{A_1} = \phi_1$

③ Every chain has a max. elt.

$K = \{(A_\alpha, B_\alpha, \phi_\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  is a chain

then look at  $(\bigcup A_\alpha, \bigcup B_\alpha, \bigcup \phi_\alpha)$ .

this bounds  $K$ .

④  $\therefore \exists$  a max. elt.  $(S_1, S_2, f)$

If ①  $S_1 = M$  or ②  $S_2 = N$  then we are done.

①  $f: S_1 \rightarrow S_2 \subseteq N$  is injective.

②  $S_2 = N \Rightarrow f^{-1}: S_2 \rightarrow S_1 \subseteq M$  is injective.

If  $S_1 \subsetneq M$  &  $S_2 \subsetneq N$  then choose  $m_1 \in M - S_1$   
&  $n_1 \in N - S_2$ .

$$\tilde{S}_1 = S_1 \cup \{m_1\}$$

$$\tilde{S}_2 = S_2 \cup \{n_1\}$$

$$\tilde{f} = f \text{ on } S_1$$

$$\tilde{f}(m_1) = n_1$$

$\tilde{f}$  is bijective  $\Leftarrow (\tilde{S}_1, \tilde{S}_2, \tilde{f}) > (S_1, S_2, f)$

contradiction to the maximality.

Theorem :- Every set is well-ordered.

Exercise