

- 1 a. Show how Theorem 3.1 of the notes to Lecture 1 is a special case of Zorn's lemma.  
 b. Let  $A$  be nonempty and let  $X_\alpha$  be nonempty for every  $\alpha \in A$ . Let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be the collection of all pairs  $(B, \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in B})$  where  $B \subseteq A$  and  $x_\alpha \in X_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in B$ . Define a relation  $\preceq$  on  $\mathcal{Y}$  by:

$$(B, \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in B}) \preceq (C, \{y_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in C}) \iff B \subseteq C \text{ and } x_\alpha = y_\alpha \forall \alpha \in B.$$

Prove that  $\mathcal{Y}$  is nonempty and that  $\preceq$  is a partial order on  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

- c. Prove AC using Zorn's lemma.

**Solution** a. Zorn's lemma tells us that given a poset such that every chain has an *upper bound*, the poset must have a maximal element.

If we consider the poset  $(\mathcal{F}, \subseteq)$  ( $\mathcal{F}$  is as in the theorem statement). Condition (i) and (ii) demand that each chain has a *maximal element*, namely,  $\cup \mathcal{C}$ , which is an upper bound for the chain, since a chain is totally ordered. In this case,  $\mathcal{F}$  has a maximal element.

- b. Notice that  $(\emptyset, \emptyset) \in \mathcal{Y}$ , so  $\mathcal{Y}$  is non-empty.

Reflexivity:

It's clear that  $B \subseteq B$  and  $x_\alpha = x_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha$ , so reflexivity holds.

Transitivity:

Let

$$(B, \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in B}) \preceq (C, \{y_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in C}) \quad \text{and} \quad (C, \{y_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in C}) \preceq (D, \{z_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in D}).$$

For all  $\alpha \in B \subseteq C$ ,  $x_\alpha = y_\alpha = z_\alpha$ , by definition and transitivity of equality. Since  $\subseteq$  is a partial ordering on  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ , we get  $B \subseteq C \subseteq D$  by reflexivity. Thus,

$$(B, \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in B}) \preceq (D, \{z_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in D})$$

so transitivity holds.

Antisymmetry:

Let

$$(B, \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in B}) \preceq (C, \{y_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in C}) \quad \text{and} \quad (C, \{y_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in C}) \preceq (B, \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in B}).$$

By definition, we have  $B \subseteq C \subseteq B$ , so  $B = C$ . It follows that since  $x_\alpha = y_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in B = C$ , the two pairs are the same, so antisymmetry holds.

Thus,  $(\mathcal{Y}, \preceq)$  is a poset.

- c. Let  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{Y}$  be a chain and write  $\mathcal{C} = \{(B_1, \{x_\alpha^{(1)}\}), (B_2, \{x_\alpha^{(2)}\}), \dots\}$ . We claim that

$$(B, \{x_\alpha\}), \quad \text{where} \quad B = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$$

and  $x_\alpha = x_\alpha^{(i)}$  if  $\alpha \in B_i$ . This is well-defined since if  $\alpha \in B_i$  and  $\alpha \in B_j$ , then because chains are totally ordered, we have  $B_i \subseteq B_j$  or  $B_j \subseteq B_i$ . Either way, by definition of the partial ordering,  $x_\alpha^{(i)} = x_\alpha^{(j)}$ .

Given any  $(B_i, \{x_\alpha^{(i)}\}) \in \mathcal{C}$ , it's clear that  $B_i \subseteq B$ . Moreover, if  $\alpha \in B_i$ , then by definition,  $x_\alpha = x_\alpha^{(i)}$ , so  $(B_i, \{x_\alpha^{(i)}\}) \preceq (B, \{x_\alpha\})$ , so  $\mathcal{C}$  has an upper bound.

By Zorn's lemma,  $\mathcal{Y}$  has a maximal element, and this element must be of the form  $(B, \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in B})$ . We claim that  $B = A$ .

If not, then there exists  $\alpha_0 \in A \setminus B$ .  $X_{\alpha_0}$  is non-empty by assumption, so pick an element  $x_{\alpha_0} \in X_{\alpha_0}$ . But

$$(B, \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in B}) \preceq (B \cup \{\alpha_0\}, \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in B} \cup \{x_{\alpha_0}\}),$$

without equality. This is a contradiction, as we assumed that  $B$  was a maximal element, so  $B = A$ .

Thus, there exists a function  $f: A \rightarrow \cup X_\alpha$ , namely  $f(\alpha) = x_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in A$ , so the axiom of choice is proved.

2 For  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  and  $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , consider the **additivity equation**:

$$f(x+y) = f(x) + f(y) \quad \text{whenever } x, y, x+y \text{ all lie in } A. \quad (1)$$

a. Prove that, if  $A = \mathbb{R}$  and  $f$  satisfies (1), then  $f$  also satisfies

$$f(ax) = af(x) \quad \text{whenever } a \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

b. Prove that, if  $A = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f$  satisfies (1), and  $f$  is continuous, then  $f$  has the form  $f(x) = \lambda x$  for some fixed  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ .

c. Let  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}$  be linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , meaning that

$$\text{if } a, b \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } au + bv = 0 \text{ then } a = b = 0.$$

Let  $A := \{au + bv \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ . Prove that there exists a function  $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which satisfies (1) but is *not* of the form  $f(x) = \lambda x$  for any fixed  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ .

d. Prove that there is a function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which satisfies (1) but is not of the form  $f(x) = \lambda x$  for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Solution** a. First notice that (1) holds whenever  $a \in \mathbb{N}$ , by induction.

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $a/b \in \mathbb{Q}$ , with  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $(a/b)x \in \mathbb{R}$ , and

$$af(x) = f(ax) = f\left(b \cdot \frac{a}{b}x\right) = bf\left(\frac{a}{b}x\right) \implies f\left(\frac{a}{b}x\right) = \frac{a}{b}f(x),$$

so the equation holds for rational coefficients.

b. Let us first consider a function  $f|_{\mathbb{Q}}$  satisfying the hypotheses of the problem. Let  $\lambda = f|_{\mathbb{Q}}(1)$ . Then for any  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$f(r) = f(r \cdot 1) = rf(1) = \lambda r,$$

so  $f|_{\mathbb{Q}}$  has the desired form.

Let  $f$  be a continuous extension of  $f|_{\mathbb{Q}}$ , and pick  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ , there exists a sequence  $\{r_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$  with  $r_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} x$ . Since  $f$  is continuous,

$$f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(r_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda r_n = \lambda x,$$

by linearity of the limit. Hence,  $f$  has the desired form.

c. Let  $f(u) = v$  and  $f(v) = u$ , and extend  $f$  so that it satisfies that additivity equation, i.e., for any  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ , set

$$f(au + bv) = af(u) + bf(v).$$

Assume that there exists  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $f(x) = \lambda x$ . Then

$$v = f(u) = \lambda u \implies v - \lambda u = 0.$$

Since  $u$  and  $v$  are linearly independent and  $1 \neq 0$ , we have that  $\lambda = 0$ , which implies that  $f$  is identically 0. But this cannot be the case, since this implies that  $0 = f(u) = v$ , which means that  $u$  and  $v$  cannot be linearly independent, a contradiction. Hence,  $f$  does not have the form given in the question.

d. We will regard  $\mathbb{R}$  as a vector space over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Consider the set  $S = \{(A, f) \mid A \subseteq \mathbb{R}, f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ and satisfies (1), but is not of the form } \lambda x\}$  with the partial ordering

$$(A, f) \preceq (B, g) \iff A \subseteq B \text{ and } g|_A = f.$$

$S$  is non-empty, by part (c).

Let  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq S$  be a chain, and write  $\mathcal{C} = \{(A_1, f_1), \dots\}$ . Take  $A = \cup A_i$ . We claim that  $(A, f)$  is an upper bound, where

$$f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \text{and} \quad f|_{A_i} = f_i \quad \forall i.$$

$f$  is well-defined: if  $x \in A_i$  and  $x \in A_j$ , then because  $\mathcal{C}$  is a chain,  $A_i \subseteq A_j$  or  $A_j \subseteq A_i$ . Either way,  $f_j(x) = f_j|_{A_i}(x) = f_i|_{A_j}(x) = f_i(x)$ .

Let  $(A_i, f_i) \in \mathcal{C}$ . It's clear that  $A_i \subseteq A$  by definition, and furthermore,  $f|_{A_i} = f_i$ , by definition also. Hence,  $(A_i, f_i) \preceq (A, f)$ . This shows that  $f$  does not have the form  $\lambda x$ , since  $f_i$  does not have that form, so each chain has an upper bound.

By Zorn's lemma,  $S$  has a maximal element  $(A, f)$ . We claim that  $A = \mathbb{R}$ . If not, then there is  $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \text{span } A$ , and we can extend  $f$  to  $f'$  by setting  $f'(x)$  to be anything, and letting  $f'(x+y) = f'(x) + f(y)$ , for  $y \in A$ . Then  $f'|_A = f$  does not have the form  $\lambda x$ , which means that  $f'$  does not have the same form. But this implies that  $(A, f) \preceq (A \cup \text{span}\{x\}, f')$  without equality, a contradiction. So  $A = \mathbb{R}$ , and this completes the proof.

**3** Consider the set  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  of all subsets of  $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$  as a partially ordered set under set inclusion.

- a. Given an example of an infinite subfamily  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  which has all four of the following properties:
  - i. it is down-closed (meaning that  $A \subseteq B \in \mathcal{F} \implies A \in \mathcal{F}$ ),
  - ii. it is finite-chain-closed (meaning that if  $\{C_1, \dots, C_m\} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  is a chain, then  $C_1 \cup \dots \cup C_m \in \mathcal{F}$ ),
  - iii. it is not chain-closed, and
  - iv. it has no maximal element.
- b. Let  $\sigma: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  be a permutation, and let  $\mathcal{C}_\sigma$  be the family

$$\{\emptyset, \{\sigma(1)\}, \{\sigma(1), \sigma(2)\}, \{\sigma(1), \sigma(2), \sigma(3)\}, \dots, \mathbb{N}\}.$$

Prove that  $\mathcal{C}_\sigma$  is a maximal chain in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ .

- c. Prove that  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  contains a chain  $\mathcal{C}$  with the property that the set

$$\{C \in \mathcal{C} \mid A \subseteq C \subseteq B\}$$

is uncountable whenever  $A, B \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $A \subsetneq B$ .

**Solution** a. Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{N \subseteq \mathbb{N} \mid N \text{ is finite}\}$ .

(i) is clear.

(ii) follows from the fact that finite unions of finite sets are finite.

$\mathcal{F}$  satisfies (iii) since

$$\mathbb{N} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \{1, \dots, n\} \notin \mathcal{F}.$$

Lastly, it satisfies (iv) because given any element  $N$  in  $\mathcal{F}$ , we can add a new element  $n$  to it so that  $N \subsetneq N \cup \{n\}$  and  $N \cup \{n\}$  is finite.

- b. It's clear that it's a chain, since each succeeding element contains the previous.

Suppose it were not a maximal chain, so that there exists  $N \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) \setminus \mathcal{C}_\sigma$  such that  $\mathcal{C}_\sigma \cup \{N\}$  is a chain. If  $N$  is infinite, it must omit some  $\sigma(i)$ , or else it is  $\mathbb{N}$ . But in this case,  $N$  cannot be compared with  $\{\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(i)\}$ , a contradiction, so  $N$  must be finite.

By definition, there exists  $\{\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(n)\} \subseteq N \subseteq \{\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(m)\}$ , with  $0 \leq n < m$ , so  $N$  contains  $\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(n)$ .

But this means that  $N$  must contain  $\sigma(n+1), \dots, \sigma(m)$ . Otherwise, suppose  $N$  does not contain  $\sigma(i)$ , but contains  $\sigma(j)$ , with  $n+1 \leq i < j \leq m$ . This must be the case or else  $N \in \mathcal{C}_\sigma$ . But in this case also,  $N$  cannot be compared with  $\{\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(i)\}$ , a contradiction. Hence, no such  $N$  exists, so  $\mathcal{C}_\sigma$  is maximal.

- c. Notice that  $\mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1)$  is countably infinite, so there exists a bijection  $\varphi: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1)$ . Hence, we can consider  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1))$  instead of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ .

For any real number  $x \in (0, 1)$ , consider  $\mathcal{Q}_r = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} \mid x < r\}$ , and let  $\mathcal{C} = \{\mathcal{Q}_r \mid r \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . This is a chain, since  $\mathcal{Q}_r \subseteq \mathcal{Q}_s$  whenever  $r \leq s \in \mathbb{R}$ , which is totally ordered. Moreover, any interval  $(r, s)$  is uncountable, so there are uncountably many  $t$  so that  $\mathcal{Q}_r \subseteq \mathcal{Q}_t \subseteq \mathcal{Q}_s$ .

**4.8** If  $X$  is an infinite set with the cofinite topology and  $\{x_j\}$  is a sequence of distinct points in  $X$ , then  $x_j \rightarrow x$  for every  $x \in X$ .

**Solution** Let  $\{x_j\}$  be as in the problem, and let  $x \in X$  be arbitrary.

Let  $U$  be an open neighborhood of  $x$ , i.e.,  $U^c = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $\{x_j\}$  has infinitely many distinct points, there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $x_j \notin U^c \iff x_j \in U$  whenever  $j \geq k$ .

Since  $U$  arbitrary, it follows that  $x_j \xrightarrow{j \rightarrow \infty} x$ . Similarly, since  $x$  was arbitrary, it follows that  $x_j$  converges to every  $x$  in  $X$ .

**4.13** If  $X$  is a topological space,  $U$  is open in  $X$ , and  $A$  is dense in  $X$ , then  $\overline{U} = \overline{U \cap A}$ .

**Solution** “ $\subseteq$ ”

Let  $x \in \overline{U}$ , and let  $V$  be an open neighborhood of  $x$ .

Since  $A$  is dense,  $V \cap A \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $x \in \overline{U}$ , we have that  $U \cap V \neq \emptyset$ . Hence,  $V \cap (U \cap A) \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $V$  was arbitrary,  $x \in \overline{U \cap A}$ .

“ $\supseteq$ ”

Let  $x \in \overline{U \cap A}$ , and let  $V$  be an open neighborhood of  $x$ .

By definition,  $V \cap (U \cap A) \neq \emptyset$ . In particular,  $V \cap U \neq \emptyset$ , so as  $V$  was arbitrary,  $x \in \overline{U}$ .

**4.15** If  $X$  is a topological space,  $A \subseteq X$  is closed, and  $g \in C(A)$  satisfies  $g = 0$  on  $\partial A$ , then the extension of  $g$  to  $X$  defined by  $g(x) = 0$  for  $x \in A^c$  is continuous.

**Solution** Let  $g: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be as described in the problem.

Notice that  $\partial A = \partial(A^c)$ . We'll first show that  $(A^\circ)^c = \overline{A^c}$ .

Let  $x \in (A^\circ)^c$ . By definition, for all open neighborhoods  $U \ni x$ ,  $U \cap A^c \neq \emptyset$ . Otherwise,  $U \subseteq A \implies x \in A^\circ$ .

Now let  $x \in \overline{A^c}$ . By definition, for any open neighborhood  $U \ni x$ ,  $U \cap A^c \neq \emptyset$ , so  $U \not\subseteq A^\circ$  for any  $U$ , so  $x \in (A^\circ)^c$ , and equality is proved.

Then

$$\partial A = \overline{A} \setminus A^\circ = A \cap (A^\circ)^c = A \cap \overline{A^c} = \overline{A^c} \setminus A^c = \overline{A^c} \setminus (A^c)^\circ = \partial(A^c).$$

Also note that this shows that  $\overline{A^c} = \partial A \cup A^c$ .

Let  $C$  be closed in  $\mathbb{C}$ . If  $C$  does not contain 0, then

$$g^{-1}(C) = (g|_A)^{-1}(C)$$

is closed, since  $g$  doesn't take on any non-zero values on  $A^c$  and because  $g \in C(A)$ .

If  $C$  contains 0, then

$$g^{-1}(C) = (g|_A)^{-1}(C) \cup A^c \cup \partial A = (g|_A)^{-1}(C) \cup \overline{A^c}.$$

Indeed, let  $x \in g^{-1}(C)$ . If  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in (g|_A)^{-1}(C)$ . Otherwise,  $x \in A^c$ .

On the other hand, let  $x \in (g|_A)^{-1}(C) \cup A^c$ . If  $x \in A^c$ , then  $g(x) = 0 \in C \implies x \in g^{-1}(C)$ . Otherwise,  $x \in A$ , so  $x \in (g|_A)^{-1}(C) \subseteq g^{-1}(C)$ , so the two sets are equal.

Since  $g \in C(A)$ ,  $(g|_A)^{-1}(C)$  is closed and by definition,  $\overline{A^c}$  is closed. Since finite unions of finite sets are closed, it follows that  $g^{-1}(C)$  is closed. Hence,  $g$  is continuous.