# Solutions to Jech's Set Theory, The Third Millenium Edition, Revised and Expanded

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# Part I Basic Set Theory

# Chapter 1

# Axioms of Set Theory

#### 1.1 Exercise 1

Verify (1.1).

Solution. If a = c and b = d, then (a, b) = (c, d) as a consequence of an axiom of first-order logic with equality, namely, that equals may be substituted for equals in a formula.

Conversely, suppose that (a, b) = (c, d). Then

$$\{\{a\},\{a,b\}\} = \{\{c\},\{c,d\}\}.$$

If a = b, then

$$\{\{a\},\{a,b\}\} = \{\{a\},\{a,a\}\} = \{\{a\}\}.$$

Therefore  $\{a\} = \{c\}$  and  $\{a\} = \{c,d\}$ . Hence, a = c = d, from which it follows that a = c and b = d. If  $a \neq b$ , then  $\{a\} = \{c\}$  and  $\{a,b\} = \{c,d\}$ . Therefore a = c, and from this it follows that  $\{a,b\} = \{a,d\}$ . Hence b = d.

#### 1.2 Exercise 2

There is no set X such that  $P(X) \subset X$ .

Solution. Suppose there exists a set X such that  $P(X) \subset X$ . Let  $Y = \{x : x \in X \text{ and } x \notin x\}$ . Clearly,  $Y \subset X$ , hence  $Y \in P(X)$  and therefore  $Y \in X$ . However  $Y \in Y$  if and only if  $Y \notin Y$ . We have therefore reached a contradiction and conclude that no such set X exists.

Let

$$N = \bigcap \{X : X \text{ is inductive}\}.$$

N is the smallest inductive set. Let us use the following notation:

$$0 = \emptyset$$
,  $1 = \{0\}$ ,  $2 = \{0, 1\}$ ,  $3 = \{0, 1, 2\}$ , ....

If  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $n+1 = n \cup \{n\}$ . Let us define < (on  $\mathbb{N}$ ) by n < m if and only if  $n \in m$ .

A set T is transitive if  $x \in T$  implies  $x \subset T$ .

#### 1.3 Exercise 3

If X is inductive, then the set  $\{x \in X : x \subset X\}$  is inductive. Hence **N** is transitive, and for each  $n, n = \{m \in \mathbf{N} : m < n\}$ .

Solution. Let X be inductive. Let  $Y = \{x \in X : x \subset X\}$ . Since X is inductive,  $\emptyset \in X$ . Since  $\emptyset \subset X$ ,  $\emptyset \in Y$ . Let  $x \in Y$ , then  $x \in X$  and  $x \subset X$ . Since X is inductive,  $x \cup \{x\} \in X$ . If  $y \in x \cup \{x\}$ , then  $y \in x$  or y = x. If  $y \in x$ , then since  $x \subset X$ , we have  $y \in X$ . If y = x, then clearly  $y \in X$ . Hence  $x \cup \{x\} \subset X$ . Thus, it follows that  $x \cup \{x\} \in Y$  and therefore Y is inductive.

Since N is inductive, the set  $M = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \subset \mathbb{N}\}$  is inductive. Clearly,  $M \subset \mathbb{N}$ , and since M is inductive,  $\mathbb{N} \subset M$ , and therefore  $M = \mathbb{N}$ . From this it follows that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \subset \mathbb{N}$ . Hence,  $\mathbb{N}$  is transitive. If  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $n \subset \mathbb{N}$ . Hence if  $m \in n$ , then  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , and by definition, m < n. Therefore  $n \subset \{m \in \mathbb{N} : m < n\}$ . Conversely, if  $k \in \{m \in \mathbb{N} : m < n\}$ , then k < n and consequently  $k \in n$ . It follows that  $\{m \in \mathbb{N} : m < n\} \subset n$  and therefore that  $n = \{m \in \mathbb{N} : m < n\}$ .

#### 1.4 Exercise 4

If X is inductive, then the set  $\{x \in X : x \text{ is transitive}\}$  is inductive. Hence every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is transitive.

Solution. Let X be inductive. Let  $Y = \{x \in X : x \text{ is transitive}\}$ . Since X is inductive,  $\emptyset \in X$ . Since  $\emptyset$  is transitive (vacuously),  $\emptyset \in Y$ . Let  $x \in Y$ , then  $x \in X$  and x is transitive. Since X is inductive,  $x \cup \{x\} \in X$ . If  $y \in x \cup \{x\}$ ,

1.5. EXERCISE 5

then  $y \in x$  or y = x. If  $y \in x$ , then since x is transitive,  $y \subset x$  and therefore  $y \subset x \cup \{x\}$ . If y = x, then clearly  $y \subset x \cup \{x\}$ . Hence  $x \cup \{x\}$  is transitive, from which it follows that  $x \cup \{x\} \in Y$ . Therefore Y is inductive.

Since N is inductive, the set  $M = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \text{ is transitive}\}$  is inductive. Clearly,  $M \subset \mathbb{N}$ , and since M is inductive,  $\mathbb{N} \subset M$ , and therefore  $M = \mathbb{N}$ . From this it follows that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , n is transitive.

#### 1.5 Exercise 5

If X is inductive, then the set  $\{x \in X : x \text{ is transitive and } x \notin x\}$  is inductive. Hence  $n \notin n$  and  $n \neq n+1$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Solution. Let X be inductive. Let  $Y = \{x \in X : x \text{ is transitive and } x \notin x\}$ . Since X is inductive,  $\emptyset \in X$ . Since  $\emptyset$  is transitive and  $\emptyset \notin \emptyset$ ,  $\emptyset \in Y$ . Let  $x \in Y$ , then  $x \in X$ , x is transitive, and  $x \notin x$ . Since X is inductive,  $x \cup \{x\} \in X$ . If  $y \in x \cup \{x\}$ , then  $y \in x$  or y = x. If  $y \in x$ , then since x is transitive,  $y \subset x$  and therefore  $y \subset x \cup \{x\}$ . If y = x, then clearly  $y \subset x \cup \{x\}$ . Hence  $x \cup \{x\}$  is transitive. Suppose that  $x \cup \{x\} \in x \cup \{x\}$ . Then  $x \cup \{x\} \in x$  or  $x \cup \{x\} = x$ . If  $x \cup \{x\} \in x$ , then since x is transitive, we have  $x \cup \{x\} \subset x$ . Therefore, since  $x \in x \cup \{x\}$ , we have  $x \in x$ , which is a contradiction. If  $x \cup \{x\} = x$ , then since  $x \in x \cup \{x\}$ , we again have  $x \in x$ . Thus in either case we have reached a contradiction, and conclude that  $x \cup \{x\} \notin x \cup \{x\}$ . Therefore  $x \cup \{x\} \in Y$ . Hence Y is inductive.

Since N is inductive, the set  $M = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \text{ is transitive and } n \notin n\}$  is inductive. Clearly,  $M \subset \mathbb{N}$ , and since M is inductive,  $\mathbb{N} \subset M$ , and therefore  $M = \mathbb{N}$ . Therefore  $n \notin n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $n \in n \cup \{n\}$ , but  $n \notin n$ , it follows that  $n \neq n + 1$ .

#### 1.6 Exercise 6

If X is inductive, then the set  $\{x \in X : x \text{ is transitive and every nonempty } z \subset x \text{ has an } \in \text{-minimal element}\}$  is inductive (t is  $\in \text{-minimal in } z$  if there is no  $s \in z$  such that  $s \in t$ ).

Solution. Let X be inductive. Let  $Y = \{x \in X : x \text{ is transitive and every nonempty } z \subset x \text{ has an } \in \text{-minimal element}\}$ . Since X is inductive,  $\emptyset \in X$ . Since  $\emptyset$  is transitive and since  $\emptyset$  has no nonempty subsets,  $\emptyset \in Y$ . Let  $x \in Y$ ,

then  $x \in X$ , x is transitive, and every nonempty subset of x has an  $\in$ -minimal element. Since X is inductive,  $x \cup \{x\} \in X$ . If  $y \in x \cup \{x\}$ , then  $y \in x$  or y = x. If  $y \in x$ , then since x is transitive,  $y \subset x$  and therefore  $y \subset x \cup \{x\}$ . If y = x, then clearly  $y \subset x \cup \{x\}$ . Hence  $x \cup \{x\}$  is transitive. Let z be a nonempty subset of  $x \cup \{x\}$ . If  $z - \{x\}$  is empty, then clearly  $z = \{x\}$ , hence z has an  $\in$ -minimal element, namely, x. If  $z - \{x\}$  is nonempty, then since  $z - \{x\} \subset x$ , it follows that  $z - \{x\}$  has an  $\in$ -minimal element. Let t be an  $\in$ -minimal element of  $z - \{x\}$ . Then t is also an  $\in$ -minimal element of z. To see this, suppose that  $x \in t$ . Since x is transitive,  $t \in x$  implies  $t \subset x$ . Hence,  $x \in t$  implies  $x \in x$ . This means that x has no  $\in$ -minimal element, which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $x \cup \{x\} \in Y$ . Hence Y is inductive.  $\square$ 

#### 1.7 Exercise 7

Every nonempty  $X \subset \mathbb{N}$  has an  $\in$ -minimal element. [Pick  $n \in X$  and look at  $X \cap n$ .]

Solution. Let  $X \subset \mathbb{N}$  be nonempty. Since X is nonempty, let  $n \in X$ . If  $n \cap X = \emptyset$ , then  $m \in n$  implies  $m \notin X$ . Hence n is an  $\in$ -minimal element of X. If  $n \cap X$  is nonempty, then since  $n \cap X$  is a nonempty subset of n, by Exercise 1.6,  $n \cap X$  has an  $\in$ -minimal element. Let t be an  $\in$ -minimal element of  $n \cap X$ . Suppose that  $s \in X$  such that  $s \in t$ . Since, n is transitive,  $t \in n$  implies  $t \subset n$ , and therefore  $s \in n$ . This contradicts the minimality of t. Therefore, no such s exists and we conclude that t is an  $\in$ -minimal element of X.

#### 1.8 Exercise 8

If X is inductive then so is  $\{x \in X : x = \emptyset \text{ or } x = y \cup \{y\} \text{ for some } y\}$ . Hence each  $n \neq 0$  is m+1 for some m.

Solution. Let X be inductive. Let  $Y = \{x \in X : x = \emptyset \text{ or } x = y \cup \{y\} \text{ for some } y\}$ . Clearly,  $\emptyset \in Y$ . Let  $x \in Y$ , then  $x \in X$ . Since X is inductive,  $x \cup \{x\} \in X$ , and it follows that  $x \cup \{x\} \in Y$ .

Hence  $\mathbf{N} \subset Y$ . Therefore, either  $n = \emptyset = 0$  or  $n = m \cup \{m\}$  for some m. If the latter, then  $m \in n$  and therefore  $m \in \mathbf{N}$ . Hence n = m + 1.

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#### 1.9 Exercise 9

**Induction**. Let A be a subset of N such that  $0 \in A$ , and if  $n \in A$  then  $n + 1 \in A$ . Then A = N.

Solution. Suppose that  $A \neq N$ . Then N-A is a nonempty subset of N. Therefore, by Exercise 1.7, N-A has an  $\in$ -minimal element. Let t be an  $\in$ -minimal element of N-A. Since  $0 \in A$ , we have  $t \neq 0$ . Therefore, by Exercise 1.8, t = s + 1 for some  $s \in N$ . Suppose that  $s \notin A$ . Then  $s \in N-A$ . However, since  $s \in t$ , this contradicts the minimality of t in N-A. Hence  $s \in A$ , from which it follows that  $t = s + 1 \in A$ . But this is another contradiction, and we conclude that A = N.

#### 1.10 Exercise 10

Each  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  is T-finite.

Solution. Let  $A = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \text{ is T-finite}\}$ . Clearly 0 is T-finite, since if X is a nonempty subset of  $P(0) = \{0\}$ , then  $X = \{0\}$ , where obviously 0 is  $\subset$ -maximal in X. Let  $n \in A$  and X a nonempty subset of P(n+1). Consider the set  $Y = \{y : y = x - \{n\} \text{ for some } x \in X\}$ . Clearly  $Y \subset P(n)$  and Y is nonempty because X is. Therefore let u be a  $\subset$ -maximal element of Y. If  $u \cup \{n\} \notin X$ , then u is a  $\subset$ -maximal element of X. To see this, suppose that  $v \in X$  with  $u \subset v$ . Then  $v - \{n\} \in Y$ , and since  $n \notin u$ , we have  $u \subset v - \{n\}$ , which contradicts the maximality of u. On the other hand, if  $u \cup \{n\} \in X$ , then  $u \cup \{n\}$  is a  $\subset$ -maximal element of X. In this case, we suppose that  $v \in X$  with  $u \cup \{n\} \subset v$ . Then  $u = (u \cup \{n\}) - \{n\} \subset v - \{n\}$ . Since  $v - \{n\} \in Y$ , this contradicts the maximality of u. Hence X has a  $\subset$ -maximal element. Therefore  $v \in X$  is T-finite.  $\square$ 

#### 1.11 Exercise 11

N is T-infinite; the set  $N \subset P(N)$  has no  $\subset$ -maximal element.

Solution. Suppose that N has a  $\subset$ -maximal element k. Since  $k+1=k\cup\{k\}\in N$  and since  $k\subset k+1$ , we have reached a contradiction. Hence N has no  $\subset$ -maximal element.

#### 1.12 Exercise 12

Every finite set is T-finite.

Solution. Let X be a finite set. Then there exists an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there exists a one-to-one mapping, f, of X onto n, i.e.,  $f: X \to n$ . Let  $A \subset P(X)$  be nonempty. Thus, for each  $x \in A$ , we have  $f(x) \subset n$ . Let  $M = \{y : y = f(x) \text{ for some } x \in A\}$ . Then M is a nonempty collection of subsets of n, and since n is T-finite, M has a  $\subset$ -maximal element k. The claim is that  $u = f_{-1}(k)$  is  $\subset$ -maximal in X. Indeed, let  $v \in A$  with  $u \subset v$ . Since f is one-to-one, we therefore have  $f(u) \subset f(v)$ . However, this contradicts the maximality of f(u). Hence every nonempty collection of subsets of X has a  $\subset$ -maximal element, and hence X is T-finite.  $\square$ 

#### 1.13 Exercise 13

Every infinite set is T-infinite. [If S is infinite, consider  $X = \{u \subset S : u \text{ is finite}\}.$ ]

Solution. Let S be infinite and  $X = \{u \subset S : u \text{ is finite}\}$ . Since  $\emptyset \subset S$  and  $\emptyset$  is finite, we have  $\emptyset \in X$  and hence X is nonempty. Suppose that X has a  $\subset$ -maximal element, v. Then S-v is nonempty, hence, let  $x \in S-v$ . It follows that  $v \subset v \cup \{x\}$ . However,  $v \cup \{x\}$  is finite since v is finite. Therefore, we have reached a contradiction and conclude that X has no  $\subset$ -maximal element, i.e., X is T-infinite.

#### 1.14 Exercise 14

The Separation Axioms follow from the Replacement Schema. [Given  $\phi$ , let  $F = \{(x, x) : \phi(x)\}$ . Then  $\{x \in X : \phi(x)\} = F(X)$  for every X.]

Solution. Let p and X be sets and let  $\phi(u, p)$  be a formula. Let  $F = \{(x, x) : \phi(x, p)\}$ . Clearly,  $\{x \in X : \phi(x, p)\} = F(X)$ . Therefore, by Replacement,  $\{x \in X : \phi(x, p)\}$  is a set.

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#### Exercise 15 1.15

Instead of Union, Power Set, and Replacement Axioms consider the following weaker versions:

$$\forall X \exists Y \bigcup X \subset Y, \qquad \text{i.e., } \forall X \exists Y \ (\forall x \in X)(\forall u \in x)u \in Y,$$
 
$$\forall X \exists Y \ P(X) \subset Y, \qquad \text{i.e., } \forall X \exists Y \ \forall u(u \subset X \to u \subset Y),$$
 
$$(1.8)$$

$$\forall X \exists Y \ P(X) \subset Y$$
, i.e.,  $\forall X \exists Y \ \forall u (u \subset X \to u \subset Y)$ , (1.9)

If a class 
$$F$$
 is a function, then  $\forall X \exists Y \ F(X) \subset Y$ . (1.10)

Then axioms 1.4, 1.5, and 1.7 can be proved from (1.8), (1.9), and (1.10), using the Separation Schema (1.3).

Solution. Using (1.8), let X and Y be such that  $(\forall x \in X)(\forall u \in x) \ u \in Y$ . Let  $Z = \{u \in Y : (\exists x \in X) \ u \in x\}$ . Then by the Separation Schema, Z is a set, and  $Z = \bigcup X$ .

Similarly, using (1.9), consider  $Z = \{u \in Y : u \subset X\}$  And using (1.10), consider  $Z = \{u \in Y : (\exists x \in X) \ \phi(x, u, p)\}.$ 

# Chapter 2

### Ordinal Numbers

#### 2.1 Exercise 1

The relation "(P, <) is isomorphic to (Q, <)" is an equivalence relation (on the class of all partially ordered sets).

Solution. Let (P, <) be a partially ordered set. Let  $\mathrm{id}_P : P \to P$  be the identity function, i.e.,  $\mathrm{id}_P(p) = p$  for every  $p \in P$ . Clearly,  $\mathrm{id}_P$  is a one-to-one function of P onto itself. Also,  $\mathrm{id}_P$  is obviously order-preserving, and since  $\mathrm{id}_P = \mathrm{id}_P^{-1}$ , it follows that  $\mathrm{id}_P^{-1}$  is order-preserving. Therefore,  $\mathrm{id}_P$  is an automorphism of (P, >). Hence, (P, >) is isomorphic to itself.

Let P(,<) be isomorphic to Q(,<) and let  $f:P\to Q$  be an isomorphism. Then  $f^{-1}:Q\to P$  is one-to-one, onto, and order-preserving.  $f^{-1}$  is therefore an isomorphism, and hence, (Q,<) is isomorphic to (P,<).

Let (P,<) be isomorphic to (Q,<) and (Q,<) be isomorphic to (R,<). Then there exist isomorphisms  $f:P\to Q$  and  $g:Q\to R$ . Therefore the composition  $g\circ f$  is one-to-one and onto since f and g are. Furthermore,  $g\circ f$  is order-preserving, since x>y implies f(x)>f(y) which further implies g(f(x))>g(f(y)). The inverse composition,  $f^{-1}\circ g^{-1}$  is also order-preserving. Hence  $g\circ f$  is an isomorphism and thus (P,<) is isomorphic to (R,<).

#### 2.2 Exercise 2

 $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal if and only if  $\beta < \alpha$  implies  $\beta + 1 < \alpha$ , for every  $\beta$ .

Solution. Let  $\alpha$  be a limit ordinal. If  $\alpha=0$ , then there is no  $\beta$  such that  $\beta<\alpha$ . On the other hand, if  $\alpha\neq 0$ , then let  $\beta$  be an ordinal such that  $\beta<\alpha\leq \beta+1$ . Let  $x\in\beta+1$ . Then, either  $x\in\beta$ , whereupon  $x\in\alpha$ , or  $x=\beta$ , where again we have  $x\in\alpha$ . Hence,  $x\in\beta+1$  implies  $x\in\alpha$ , or,  $\beta+1\subset\alpha$ . If  $\beta+1=\alpha$ , then  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal and therefore not a limit ordinal, which is a contradiction. If  $\beta+1\neq\alpha$ , then by Lemma 2.11(iii), we have  $\beta+1<\alpha$ , which is also a contradiction and we therefore conclude that  $\beta<\alpha$  implies  $\beta+1<\alpha$ 

Conversely, suppose that  $\alpha$  is not a limit ordinal, i.e.,  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal. Then  $\alpha = \beta + 1$  for some  $\beta$ . Clearly,  $\beta < \alpha$ . However,  $\beta + 1 \not< \alpha$ .  $\square$ 

#### 2.3 Exercise 3

If a set X is inductive, then  $X \cap Ord$  is inductive. The set  $\mathbf{N} = \bigcap \{X : X \text{ is inductive}\}\$  is the least limit ordinal  $\neq 0$ .

Solution. Let X be an inductive set. Then, by the Separation Schema, we have that  $X \cap Ord$  is a set. Since X is inductive,  $\emptyset \in X$ . Clearly,  $0 = \emptyset \in Ord$ . Hence  $\emptyset \in X \cap Ord$ . Let  $x \in X \cap Ord$ . Since X is inductive,  $x+1 = x \cap \{x\} \in X$ . Using (2.5), we have  $x+1 \in Ord$ . Therefore  $x+1 \in X \cap Ord$ . Hence,  $X \cap Ord$  is inductive.

By Exercise 1.3, N is transitive. By Exercise 1.7,  $(N, \in)$  is well-founded. Since  $X \cap Ord$  is inductive, we have  $N \subset X \cap Ord \subset Ord$ . Therefore, by Lemma 2.11(iv), it follows that N is linearly ordered by  $\in$ . Hence, N is transitive and well-ordered by  $\in$ , that is, N is an ordinal. Since  $\emptyset \in N$ , we have  $N \neq 0$ . Let  $n \in N$  be a nonzero ordinal. Then, by Exercise 1.8, there exists  $m \in N$  such that n = m + 1. Thus, n is a successor ordinal. Therefore, by Exercise 2.2, N is a limit ordinal, in fact, it is the least nonzero limit ordinal.

#### 2.4 Exercise 4

(Without the Axiom of Infinity). Let  $\omega = \text{least limit } \alpha \neq 0$  if it exists,  $\omega = Ord$  otherwise. Prove that the following statements are equivalent:

- 1. There exists an inductive set.
- 2. There exists an infinite set.

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3.  $\omega$  is a set.

[For (ii)  $\rightarrow$  (iii), apply Replacement to the set of all finite subsets of X.]

Solution. (i)  $\rightarrow$  (ii). Suppose that there exists an inductive set. Let  $\mathbf{N} = \bigcap \{X : X \text{ is inductive}\}$ . By Exercise 1.11,  $\mathbf{N}$  is T-infinite. Hence, by Exercises 1.12 and 1.13,  $\mathbf{N}$  is infinite.

(ii)  $\rightarrow$  (iii). Suppose that there exists an infinite set, X, and that  $\omega = Ord$ . Let  $Y = \{y \in P(Y) : y \text{ is finite}\}$ . If  $y \in Y$ , then y is finite; therefore there exists a one-to-one mapping, f, of y onto some  $n \in \omega$ . By Replacement, we have f(Y) is a set. Clearly  $\emptyset \in Y$  and  $f(\emptyset) = 0$ . Thus, f(Y) is nonempty, since  $0 \in f(Y)$ . Suppose that  $n \in f(Y)$ . Then there exists  $y \in Y$  such that f(y) = n. Since X is infinite, it follows that X - y is nonempty. Hence, let  $z \in X - y$ . Therefore,  $y \cup \{z\} \in Y$  and thus  $f(y \cup \{z\}) = n + 1$ . It follows that  $n + 1 \in f(Y)$ . Therefore, by induction,  $f(Y) = \omega$ , and we have  $\omega$  is a set

(iii)  $\rightarrow$  (i). Let  $\omega$  be a set. Then  $0 < \omega$ , and for every  $n \in \omega$ ,  $n+1 \in \omega$  since  $\omega$  is a limit ordinal. Hence  $\omega$  is inductive.

#### 2.5 Exercise 5

If W is a well-ordered set, then there exists no sequence  $\langle a_n : n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle$  in W such that  $a_0 > a_1 > a_2 > \dots$ 

Solution. Suppose that there exists such a sequence. Let  $X = \{a_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Then X is a nonempty subset of W. Therefore, let x be the least element of X. Let n be the least  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $a_n = x$ . Hence,  $a_{n+1} \geq a_n$ . We have therefore reached a contradiction, and conclude that no such sequence exists.

#### 2.6 Exercise 6

There are arbitrarily large limit ordinals; i.e.,  $\forall \alpha \; \exists \beta > \alpha \; (\beta \text{ is a limit.})$  [Consider  $\lim_{n\to\omega} \alpha_n$ , where  $\alpha_{n+1} = \alpha_n + 1$ .]

Solution. Suppose that there exists a largest limit ordinal, and let  $\alpha_0$  be this ordinal. For every  $n < \omega$ , let  $\alpha_{n+1} = \alpha_n + 1$ . Since  $\langle \alpha_n : n < \omega \rangle$  is clearly

a nondecreasing sequence of ordinals, we may define the limit  $\lim_{n\to\omega}\alpha_n=\sup\{\alpha_n:n<\omega\}$ . By (2.4),  $\sup\{\alpha_n:n<\omega\}$  is an ordinal, hence, let  $\alpha_\omega=\sup\{\alpha_n:n<\omega\}$ . If  $\alpha_\omega$  is a successor, then there exists an ordinal  $\xi<\alpha_\omega$  such that  $\xi+1=\alpha_\omega$ . However, if  $\xi<\alpha_\omega$ , then  $\xi\in\alpha_\omega$ , and it follows that  $\xi+1\in\alpha_\omega$ . We have therefore reached a contradiction and conclude that  $\alpha_\omega$  is a limit ordinal. Since  $\alpha_0<\alpha_\omega$ , we see that  $\alpha_0$  is not the largest limit ordinal, which is yet another contradiction. Hence, we find that there indeed arbitrarily large limit ordinals.

#### 2.7 Exercise 7

Every normal sequence  $\langle \gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in Ord \rangle$  has arbitrarily large fixed points, i.e.,  $\alpha$  such that  $\gamma_{\alpha} = \alpha$ .

[Let 
$$\alpha_{n+1} = \gamma_{\alpha_n}$$
, and  $\alpha = \lim_{n \to \omega} \alpha_n$ .]

Solution. First, since it is not done in the text, we state explicitly that Ord is well-ordered as a class. That is, if C is any nonempty class of ordinals, then C has a least element. By virtue of remark (2.3) following Lemma 2.11,  $\bigcap C$  is the least element of C.

Given this declaration, it is necessary to verify the following extension of Lemma 2.4. If  $\langle \gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in Ord \rangle$  is an increasing sequence of ordinals, then  $\gamma_{\alpha} \geq \alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in Ord$ . To see this, suppose that the class  $X = \{\gamma_{\alpha} : \gamma_{\alpha} < \alpha\}$  is nonempty, and let  $\beta$  be the least element of X. Then  $\gamma_{\beta} < \beta$ , and since  $\langle \gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in Ord \rangle$  is an increasing sequence, we have  $\gamma_{\gamma_{\beta}} < \gamma_{\beta}$ . But this contradicts the fact that  $\beta$  is the least ordinal such that  $\gamma_{\alpha} < \alpha$ . We therefore conclude that X is empty, and therefore that  $\gamma_{\alpha} \geq \alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in Ord$ .

Next, if  $\langle \gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in Ord \rangle$  is a normal sequence and X is any nonempty set of ordinals, then  $\gamma_{\sup X} = \sup \{ \gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in X \}$ . For this, let  $\beta = \sup X$ . By remark (2.4) following Lemma 2.11,  $\beta$  is an ordinal. If  $\beta = 0$ , then  $X = \{0\}$ , and clearly  $\gamma_0 = \sup \{ \gamma_0 \}$ . If  $\beta$  is a successor ordinal, then  $\beta = \delta + 1$  for some ordinal  $\delta$ . Since  $\beta = \sup X$ , we have  $\beta \geq \xi$  for every  $\xi \in X$ . Suppose, in addition, that  $\delta \geq \xi$  for every  $\xi \in X$ . Then  $\delta$  is an upper bound of X, and since  $\delta < \beta$ , we have a contradiction of the fact that  $\beta = \sup X$ . We therefore conclude that there exists  $\epsilon \in X$  such that  $\delta < \epsilon$ . Since  $\beta = \sup X$ , we have  $\beta \geq \epsilon$ . Since  $\beta = \inf \{ \zeta : \zeta > \delta \}$ , we have  $\epsilon \geq \beta$ . Therefore  $\beta = \epsilon$ , and it follows that  $\beta \in X$ . Since  $\langle \gamma_{\alpha} \rangle$  is increasing, it follows that  $\gamma_{\beta} \geq \gamma_{\xi}$  for every

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 $\xi \in X$ . Since  $\gamma_{\beta} \in \{\gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in X\}$ , it follows that  $\gamma_{\beta} = \sup \{\gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in X\}$ . If  $\beta$  is a nonzero limit ordinal, then let  $\delta$  be an ordinal such that  $\delta < \beta$ . Since  $\beta$  is a limit and since  $\beta = \sup X$ , there exists  $\epsilon \in X$  such that  $\delta < \epsilon$ . Since  $\langle \gamma_{\alpha} \rangle$  is increasing, we have  $\gamma_{\delta} < \gamma_{\epsilon}$ . Hence,  $\gamma_{\delta} < \sup \{\gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in X\}$ , which yields, since  $\langle \gamma_{\alpha} \rangle$  is continuous,  $\gamma_{\beta} = \sup \{\gamma_{\delta} : \delta < \beta\} \leq \sup \{\gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in X\}$ . However, since  $\langle \gamma_{\alpha} \rangle$  increasing and  $\beta = \sup X$ , we have  $\sup \{\gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in X\} \leq \gamma_{\beta}$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{\beta} = \sup \{\gamma_{\alpha} : \alpha \in X\}$ , as desired.

We are now in a position to prove the main result. We define a sequence,  $\langle \alpha_n : n < \omega \rangle$  recursively, as follows: Let  $\alpha \in Ord$  and let  $\alpha_0 = \alpha$ , and  $\alpha_{n+1} = \gamma_{\alpha_n}$ . Let  $\beta = \sup \{\alpha_n : n < \omega\}$ . Thus,  $\beta > \alpha$ . Moreover,  $\gamma_{\beta} = \gamma_{\sup\{\alpha_n : n < \omega\}} = \sup \{\gamma_{\alpha_n} : n < \omega\} = \sup \{\alpha_{n+1} : n < \omega\} = \beta$ .

We may then find an even larger fixed point by taking  $\alpha = \gamma_{\beta}$  and repeating the process. Hence  $\langle \gamma_{\alpha} \rangle$  has arbitrarily large fixed points.