

1) .

- a. Von Neumann's definition of ordinal: An *ordinal* is a set  $y$  that is transitive, connected, and well founded.
- b. Claim: the ordinals are well ordered by  $\in$ .  
Proof: For a set to be well ordered, every non-empty subset has to have a least element, which in our case is an  $\in$ -minimal element. This is well foundedness. Consider any nonempty set  $A$  of ordinals. Let  $a \in A$  be an arbitrary element of  $A$ . If  $a \cap A = \emptyset$ , then  $a$  is an  $\in$ -minimal element of  $A$  and we're done; if not, we need to show  $A$  has an  $\in$ -minimal element. We consider  $B = a^+ \cap A$ , where  $a^+ = a \cup \{a\}$  is the immediate successor of  $a$ . We know that  $a^+$  is also an ordinal (Proposition 9.1). We know that there's an  $\in$ -minimal  $b$  element in  $B$  because  $a^+$  is an ordinal, and we claim that  $b$  is also the  $\in$ -minimal element in  $A$ . So, we need to prove that  $\forall a' \in A$ , either  $b = a'$  or  $b \in a'$ . Regarding  $a^+$  and  $a'$ , we know that it's one of three cases:  $a' \in a^+$ ,  $a^+ = a'$ , or  $a^+ \in a'$ . If  $a' \in a^+$ , then we know  $a' \in B$ , so either  $b = a'$  or  $b \in a'$  because  $b$  is the  $\in$ -minimal element of  $B$ . For other two cases of if  $a^+ = a'$  or  $a^+ \in a'$ , then  $a^+ \subseteq a'$  due to transitivity of an ordinal, and because  $b \in a^+$ , it is so that  $b \in a'$ . QED.

Claim: the ordinals are not a set.

Proof: Assume for the sake of contradiction that there were a set  $O$  of all ordinals, then  $O$  would be an ordinal itself (Theorem 8.5), so  $O \in O$ , violating the well foundedness of ordinals, which is a contradiction.

2) .

- a. Axiom of choice: For every set  $A$  of nonempty sets there is a function  $f$  with domain  $A$  such that  $\forall x \in A, f(x) \in x$ .
- b. The 1-1 mapping  $g: \alpha \rightarrow A$ , where  $\alpha$  is an ordinal and  $A$  is any set. Let us set  $z$  to some set not in  $A$ . By the Axiom of Choice, there is a choice function  $f: P(A) \rightarrow \bigcup P(A)$  (where  $P(A)$  is the power set of  $A$ ) such that, for all nonempty  $B \subseteq A$ ,  $f(B) \in B$ . The functional property will be defined inductively (transfinite induction).

Base case:  $g(0) = f(A)$ .

Inductive case: Suppose  $g(\beta)$  has been defined for all  $\beta \in \alpha$ . If  $A \setminus \{g(\beta) | \beta \in \alpha\}$  is empty, then  $g(\alpha) = z$ ; otherwise  $g(\alpha) = f(A \setminus \{g(\beta) | \beta \in \alpha\})$ . It is clear that  $\forall a \in A$ , there exists at most one ordinal  $\alpha$  such that  $g(\alpha) = a$ . Thus,  $g$  is 1-1.

- 3) Consider if  $g$ 's domain was the collection of all ordinals, then  $g$  would be a 1-1 mapping from the collection of all ordinals into  $A$ . If there were no  $\alpha$  such that  $g(\alpha) = z$ , then  $g^{-1}$  (the inverse of  $g$ ) would be a 1-1 mapping from  $A$  into the collection of all ordinals, making the collection of all ordinals a set by the Replacement Axiom, contradicting what we proved in question 1 part b.

- 4) Thus, there must exist an  $\alpha$  who is the least ordinal such that  $g(\alpha) = z$ . We already proved in question 2 that  $g|_\alpha$  (restriction of  $g$  to  $\alpha$ ) is 1-1. We now claim that  $g$ 's range is all of  $A$  as required to prove the initial claim that every set  $A$  is well orderable. If  $g$ 's range does not include all of  $A$  (assuming that for the sake of contradiction), then  $A \setminus \{g(\beta) | \beta \in \alpha\}$  is not empty, and according to how we defined  $g$  earlier,  $g(\alpha) = f(A \setminus \{g(\beta) | \beta \in \alpha\})$ , which is an element of  $A$ , a contradiction.

Since there's some ordinal mapped 1-1 onto  $A$ , and ordinals are well ordered  $A$  can be well ordered. QED.