

2. Show that if  $\kappa$  and  $\lambda$  are infinite cardinals and  $\kappa < \lambda$ , then there is an infinite cardinal  $\mu$  such that  $\mu^\kappa < \mu^\lambda$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mu$  be the limit of the sequence  $(\mu_\alpha)_{\alpha < \kappa^+}$ , which is defined below by transfinite recursion:

- $\mu_0 = \lambda$ ,
- $\mu_1 = 2^\lambda$ ,
- $\mu_{\alpha+1} = (\mu_\alpha^+)^\lambda$ ,
- for any limit ordinal  $\alpha$ ,  $\mu_\alpha = \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} \mu_\beta$ .

Clearly  $\mu$  is a strong limit cardinal since whenever  $\eta < \mu$ ,  $\eta < \mu_\alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in \text{On}$ , hence  $2^\eta \leq (\mu_\alpha)^\eta \leq (\mu_\alpha^+)^\eta = \mu_{\alpha+1} < \mu$ . Moreover,  $\text{cf}(\mu) = \kappa^+$  since  $\mu$  is the limit of a strictly increasing  $\kappa^+$ -sequence of cardinals. It follows that  $\text{cf}(\mu) > \kappa$ , and  $\kappa^+ \leq \lambda$  since there are no cardinals in  $(\kappa, \kappa^+)$ . Finally,  $\mu$  is  $\lambda$ -unreachable from below since for any  $\eta \leq \mu_\alpha < \mu$ , with  $\alpha \in \text{On}$ ,  $\eta^\lambda \leq (\mu_\alpha)^\lambda \leq (\mu_\alpha^+)^\lambda = \mu_{\alpha+1} < \mu$ . By part (iii) of the Main Theorem of Cardinal Arithmetic,  $\mu^\lambda = \mu^{\text{cf}(\mu)}$  and  $\mu = \mu^\kappa$ , and by König's Theorem,  $\mu^\lambda = \mu^{\text{cf}(\mu)} > \mu = \mu^\kappa$ .  $\square$