

Solutions to HW 8.

1. Show that “ $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$ implies $A = B$ ” in each of the following two ways.

(i) With a direct proof.

Assume that $A \subseteq B$ and that $B \subseteq A$.

Choose any $a \in A$. Since $A \subseteq B$, it follows that $a \in B$. Now choose any $b \in B$. Since $B \subseteq A$, it follows that $b \in A$. We have shown that A and B have the same elements, so $A = B$ by the Axiom of Extensionality.

(ii) With a proof by contradiction.

Assume that $A \subseteq B$ and that $B \subseteq A$, but $A \neq B$.

Since $A \neq B$, then by the Axiom of Extensionality it is not true that $\forall z((z \in A) \leftrightarrow (z \in B))$, so there is some $z \in A \setminus B$ or some $z \in B \setminus A$. The two cases are similar, so assume that there is some $z \in A \setminus B$. This z witnesses that $A \not\subseteq B$, contrary to our assumption.

2. Show that “any nonconstant, real, linear function $f(x) = ax + b$ has a unique root” in each of the following two ways.

(i) With a direct proof.

Assume that $f(x) = ax + b$ is a nonconstant function.

If $f(x) = ax + b$ is nonconstant, then it must be that $a \neq 0$ (since, when $a = 0$, $f(x) = 0x + b = b$ is constant). Now, using the arithmetic of the real numbers, $f(x) = 0$ holds exactly when $ax + b = 0$, or $ax = -b$, or $x = -b/a$.

The fact that the equation $ax + b = 0$ is solvable shows that a root exists, the fact that the equation is uniquely solvable shows that the root is unique.

(ii) With a proof by contradiction.

Assume that $f(x) = ax + b$ is nonconstant, but does not have a unique root. If $a = 0$, then $f(x) = ax + b = 0x + b = b$ is constant which is not true, so we may assume that $a \neq 0$.

If $f(x) = ax + b$ does not have a unique root, then either (1) it has no root at all, or (2) it has multiple roots.

Case 1. $f(x) = ax + b$ has no root at all.

By substitution we see that $f(-b/a) = 0$, so f has at least one root when $a \neq 0$. Thus our assumptions place us in

Case 2. f has multiple roots.

If $r_1 \neq r_2$ are roots of f , then $f(r_1) = ar_1 + b = 0$ and $f(r_2) = ar_2 + b = 0$. Subtracting these equations yields $0 = (ar_1 + b) - (ar_2 + b) = a(r_1 - r_2)$. Dividing through by $r_1 - r_2$ yields $0 = a$, contrary to an earlier conclusion. This contradiction completes the proof.

3. The goal of this problem is to prove that the composition of two surjective functions is surjective. The type of structure involved looks like $\mathbb{X} = \langle A, B, C; f, g \rangle$ where $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$ are functions. Let the variable a range over the set A , the variable b range over the set B , and the variable c range over the set C .

The functions (i) f , (ii) g , (iii) $g \circ f$ are surjective if the following sentences hold in \mathbb{X} :

- (i) $(\forall b)(\exists a)(f(a) = b)$.
- (ii) $(\forall c)(\exists b)(g(b) = c)$.
- (iii) $(\forall c)(\exists a)(g \circ f(a) = c)$.

To prove that the composition of surjective functions is surjective, you must give a winning strategy for \exists in the sentence in (iii). YOU ARE ALLOWED TO USE the fact that there exist winning strategies for \exists in the sentences in (i) and (ii). Write a proof that indicates the winning strategy for \exists in (iii), which accesses the information of the strategies for \exists in (i) and (ii).

We must provide a winning strategy for \exists for Game (iii). We are allowed to use that there exist winning strategies for \exists in Games (i) and (ii).

How do we access the strategies for \exists in Games (i) and (ii) when developing a strategy for \exists in Game (iii)?

Imagine that Games (i) and (ii) are played by the “earlier self” of \exists . When \exists needs information about those games, she will ask her earlier self to *reveal those winning strategies*. She does this by pretending to be \forall , and playing Games (i) and (ii) against her earlier self, and watching how her earlier self responds to each move. Then she uses that information while developing a strategy for the current game, Game (iii).

Let’s start developing the winning strategy for \exists for Game (iii): $(\forall c)(\exists a)(g \circ f(a) = c)$.

- \forall chooses some $c = c_0 \in C$.
- \exists chooses some $a = a_0 \in A$ using the following strategy:
 - \exists pretends to be the earlier self of \forall in Game (ii), and plays $c = c_0$.
 - the earlier self of \exists in Game (ii) has a winning strategy for Game (ii), so has a way to respond with some $b = b_0 \in B$ such that $g(b_0) = c_0$.
 - Now \exists pretends to be the earlier self of \forall in Game (i), and plays $b = b_0$.
 - the earlier self of \exists in Game (i) has a winning strategy for Game (i), so has a way to respond with some $a = a_0 \in A$ such that $f(a_0) = b_0$.

This choice of $a = a_0 \in A$ is a winning response for \exists against \forall ’s choice of $c = c_0 \in C$, since if \exists chooses $b = b_0 \in B$ and $a = a_0 \in A$ in these ways, then according to the strategies of Games (i) and (ii) we will have $f(a_0) = b_0$ and $g(b_0) = c_0$, so $c = c_0 = g(f(a_0)) = g \circ f(a)$.