

## Well-founded sets

**Exercise 1** Assume  $f$  is a function from  $A$  to  $B$  with  $\text{rank}(A) = \alpha$  and  $\text{rank}(B) = \beta$ . What can you say about  $\text{rank}(f)$ ? Argue that we can calculate  $\text{rank}(f)$  in the case when  $f$  is onto  $B$  (surjective).

**Exercise 2** For which  $\alpha$  is  $|R(\alpha)| = \beth_\alpha$ ?

**Exercise 3** If  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible, then  $|R_\kappa| = \kappa$ . Are there cardinals  $\kappa$  with this property which are not inaccessible?

**Exercise 4** Find a set  $x$  so that  $|x| < |\text{trcl}(x)|$ .

**Exercise 5** Work in ZFC without the Axiom of Foundation. Show that every proper class  $\mathbf{A}$  for which  $x \subseteq \mathbf{A} \rightarrow x \in \mathbf{A}$  holds is a superclass of  $\mathbf{WF}$  (in the obvious sense that  $x \in \mathbf{WF}$  implies  $x \in \mathbf{A}$ ).

*Hint:*  $\emptyset \subseteq \mathbf{A}$ .

**Definition 1** A set  $x$  is called hereditarily finite (in german “hereditär endlich”) iff  $|\text{trcl}(x)| < \omega$ .  $H_\omega$  denotes the set of all hereditarily finite sets.

**Exercise 6** Show that  $H_\omega = R(\omega)$ .

## A simplified approach to exercise 3 from last time

**Exercise 7** Let  $\lambda$  be any infinite cardinal and show that<sup>1</sup>

$$|\{X \subseteq \lambda : |X| = \lambda\}| = 2^\lambda.$$

*Hint:* Assume not and use that whenever  $X \subseteq \lambda$  has size less than  $\lambda$ , its complement (within  $\lambda$ ) has size  $\lambda$ .

**Exercise 8** Assume  $\lambda \leq \kappa$  and show that there are  $\kappa^\lambda$ -many injective functions from  $\lambda$  to  $\kappa$  (i.e.  $|\{f \in {}^\lambda\kappa : f \text{ injective}\}| = \kappa^\lambda$ ).

*Hint:* Given  $f \in {}^\lambda\kappa$ , find a way to construct an injective  $g_f \in {}^\lambda\kappa$  in an injective way, i.e. it should be the case that whenever  $f_0 \neq f_1 \in {}^\lambda\kappa$ ,  $g_{f_0} \neq g_{f_1}$ .

*Note:* Almost the same proof shows that whenever  $\lambda$  is an infinite cardinal, there are  $2^\lambda$  many bijections from  $\lambda$  to  $\lambda$ . We will need (and use) this in the following but I suggest to omit the exact proof.

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<sup>1</sup>this is the special case where  $\kappa = \lambda$  of exercise 3 from last time

**Exercise 9** Show that whenever  $\lambda \leq \kappa$  are infinite ordinals,<sup>2</sup>

$$|\{X \subseteq \kappa : |X| = \lambda\}| = \kappa^\lambda.$$

*Hint:* Let  $A := \{X \subseteq \kappa : |X| = \lambda\}$ . Argue that  $|A| \leq \kappa^\lambda$  is pretty obvious. We have to show that  $\kappa^\lambda \leq |A|$ . We want to find an injection from  ${}^\lambda\kappa$  to  $A$ . By exercise 8, it suffices to find an injection from the injective functions from  $\lambda$  to  $\kappa$  to  $A$ . Note that every injective  $f: \lambda \rightarrow \kappa$  is naturally connected to an element of  $A$ , namely to  $\text{range}(f)$ . As there are  $2^\lambda$  many bijections from  $\lambda$  to  $\lambda$  (see note above),  $2^\lambda$ -many functions  $f$  are connected to the same element of  $A$  for each element of  $A$ . This gives rise to the equation  $|A| \otimes 2^\lambda = \kappa^\lambda$ . Use this to obtain the desired result distinguishing the cases  $2^\lambda < \kappa^\lambda$  and  $2^\lambda = \kappa^\lambda$ .<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>this is exactly exercise 3 from last time

<sup>3</sup>I apologize for posing this problem in the last exercise without any hints or initial steps, it seems too hard - but maybe there's an easier solution?