Math 432: Set Theory and Topology

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Homework 3
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Due: Feb 21 (Thu)

Other (mandatory) exercises.

- **1.** Let < be a strict partial order on a set X and let $Y \subseteq X$. Call $y_0 \in Y <$ -minimal in Y if for any $y \in Y$, $y \not< y_0$. Call $y_1 \in Y <$ -least (or <-minimum) in Y if for any $y \in Y$, $y_1 \leq y$.
 - (a) Prove that if $y_0 \in Y$ is <-least then it is <-minimal.
 - (b) Give an example of (X, <) and $Y \subseteq X$ such that Y admits a <-minimal element, but does not admit a <-least element.
 - (c) Give an example of (X, <) and $Y \subseteq X$ such that Y does not admit any <-minimal elements.
 - (d) Prove that if < is a total order, then the converse of part (a) holds: if $y_0 \in Y$ is <-minimal, then it is <-least.
 - (e) Conclude that if < is total, then every $Y \subseteq X$ admits at most one <-minimal element.
- 2. Determine which pairs of sets are isomorphic as ordered sets with their usual ordering <. Prove your answers.
 - (a) \mathbb{N} and $\left\{-\frac{1}{n}: n \in \mathbb{N} \{0\}\right\}$
 - (b) \mathbb{Z} and $\left\{\frac{1}{n}: n \in \mathbb{Z} \{0\}\right\} \cup \{0\}$
 - (c) \mathbb{R} and (0,1)
 - (d) \mathbb{Q} and $[0,1) \cap \mathbb{Q}$
 - (e) (0,2) and $(0,1) \cup (1,2)$
 - (f) (0,2) and $(0,1) \cup [2,3)$.
- **3.** (a) Let (A, <) be a well-ordering and let $f : A \to A$ be an order-homomorphism, i.e.

$$a_0 < a_1 \implies f(a_0) < f(a_1)$$

for all $a_0, a_1 \in A$. Prove that f progressive, i.e., $a \leq f(a)$ for all $a \in A$.

(b) Deduce directly from part (a) that $(A, <) \neq (A, <)$ for any well-ordering (A, <).

Remark. We proved this statement in class as a corollary of the uniqueness lemma for isomorphisms witnessing \leq . The purpose of this exercise is to give a more direct proof.

- (c) Ordering \mathbb{N}^2 lexicographically, give an example of an order-homomorphism $f : \mathbb{N}^2 \to \mathbb{N}^2$ (other than the identity map) such that f(n,m) = (n,m) for all $(n,m) \ge_{\text{lex}} (2,0)$.
- 4. Let (A, <) and (B, <) be well orderings.
 - (a) Prove that there is a set F such that
 - $F = \{f : f \text{ is an order isomorphism between initial segments of } (A, <) \text{ and } (B, <)\}.$
 - (b) Prove that for any $f, g \in F$, $f \subseteq g$ or $g \subseteq f$.

- (c) Conclude that $f := \bigcup F$ is an order isomorphism (in particular, a function) of an initial segment A' of (A, <) with an initial segment of B' of (B, <).
- (d) Prove that A' = A or B' = B.