

## Two problem solutions

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April 17, 2007

Page 184, number 9. Prove (11.1.4) that if there is an injection  $f : X \mapsto N_n$  then  $X$  is finite and the cardinality of  $X$  is at most  $n$ .

Proof. We work by induction on  $n$ . If  $n = 1$ , then an injection into  $N_1$  must be onto. So  $f$  is invertible and  $X$  is a finite set with cardinality  $n$ .

**Induction Hypothesis:** Suppose that for any  $X$  if there is an injection  $f$  from  $X$  into  $N_k$  then  $X$  is finite and the cardinality of  $X$  is at most  $k$ .

**Induction step:** We must prove for any  $X$  if there is an injection  $f$  from  $X$  into  $N_{k+1}$  then  $X$  is finite and the cardinality of  $X$  is at most  $k + 1$ .

Case 1:  $k + 1$  is not in the range of  $f$ . Then  $f$  is an injection into  $N_k$  and the result is immediate from the induction hypothesis.

Case 2:  $k + 1$  is in the range of  $f$ . Say  $f(a) = k + 1$ . Now let  $g$  be the restriction of  $f$  to  $X - \{a\}$ . Then  $g$  is an injection of  $X - \{a\}$  into  $N_k$ . So again by induction,  $X - \{a\}$  is finite and  $|X - \{a\}|$  is some  $m \leq k$ . Then by 10.2.1 (the addition principle),  $X = X \cup \{a\}$  is a disjoint union of finite sets, so  $X$  is finite and  $|X| = m + 1 \leq k + 1$ .

Page 184 number 10. Prove (11.1.6) that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are non-empty finite sets with  $|X| < |Y|$ , there is no surjection from  $X$  onto  $Y$ .

Proof. Suppose for contradiction that such  $f$  exists. By the definition of finite there exists an  $m < n$  and functions  $g_1, g_2$  such that  $g_1$  is a bijection from  $N_m$  onto  $X$  and  $g_2$  is a bijection from  $N_m$  onto  $Y$ . But then  $h = g_2^{-1} \circ f \circ g_1$  is a surjection from  $N_m$  onto  $N_n$ . Now we can find an injection  $h' : N_n \mapsto N_m$ ;  $h'(y)$  is defined to be the least  $k < m$  such that  $h(k) = y$ . Now by 11.1.1 the existence of  $h'$  implies  $m \leq n$ . This contradiction completes the proof.