

**MATH455 HOMEWORK 10**  
**DUE FRIDAY, APRIL 24**

These exercises outline an alternate proof of Gödel’s beta lemma. Do Exercises 1 and your choice of one of Exercises 2, 3, or 4.

*Exercise 1.* Show that “ $x$  is a power of 2” is expressible over  $\mathcal{N}$  as a  $\Delta_0$  formula. [Hint: first show that “ $y$  divides  $x$ ” and “2 divides  $y$ ” are expressible as  $\Delta_0$  formulae.]

Each natural number  $n$  can be represented by its *dyadic numeral*, the word  $\varepsilon_{k-1} \cdots \varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_0$  where:  $k$  is a natural number (possibly  $k = 0$ , in which case the word is the empty word), each  $\varepsilon_i$  is 1 or 2, and  $n = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \varepsilon_i 2^i$ . This representation gives a bijection between the natural numbers and the set of words in the alphabet  $\{1, 2\}$ .

*Exercise 2.* Show that “the dyadic numeral representing  $y$  consists of all 2s” and “the dyadic numerals representing  $x$  and  $y$  have the same length” are both expressible over  $\mathcal{N}$  as  $\Delta_0$  formulae. [Hint: by Exercise 1 you can express “ $z$  is a power of 2” in a  $\Delta_0$  way. How do powers of 2 relate to dyadic numerals?]

*Exercise 3.* Show that “the dyadic numeral for  $z$  is the concatenation of the dyadic numerals for  $x$  and  $y$ ” and “the dyadic numeral for  $x$  is an initial segment of the dyadic numeral for  $z$ ” are both expressible over  $\mathcal{N}$  as  $\Delta_0$  formulae.

Let “ $z = x \frown y$ ” abbreviate “the dyadic numeral for  $z$  is the concatenation of the dyadic numerals for  $x$  and  $y$ ” and  $x \subseteq z$  abbreviate “the dyadic numeral for  $x$  is an initial segment of the dyadic numeral for  $z$ ”.

Consider the following two formulae:

- $\psi(x, y)$  holds iff  $\exists u, w \leq y$  so that
  - $u \neq 1$ ,  $u \subseteq y$  and  $u$ ’s dyadic numeral is a string of all 2s; and
  - $\forall z \leq y$  if  $z \subseteq y$  and  $z$ ’s dyadic numeral is a string of all 2s then  $z \subseteq u$ ; and
  - $w = u \frown 1 \frown x \frown 1 \frown u$  and  $w \subseteq y$  and  $u \not\subseteq x$ .
- $\theta(x, y, z)$  holds iff either
  - $\psi(\pi(z, y), x)$  and  $\forall v < z \neg \psi(\pi(v, y), x)$ ; or
  - $z = 0$  and  $\forall u \leq x \neg \psi(\pi(u, y), x)$ .<sup>1</sup>

By inspection plus the previous exercises,  $\psi$  and  $\theta$  are both expressible as  $\Delta_0$  formulae.

*Exercise 4.* Show that the formula  $\theta(x, y, z)$  satisfies the conclusion to Gödel’s beta lemma. That is, show that  $\mathcal{N} \models \forall x \forall y \exists! z \theta(x, y, z)$  and for all sequences  $\langle s_0, \dots, s_{\ell-1} \rangle$  of natural numbers there is  $s \in \mathcal{N}$  so that for all  $i < \ell$  we have  $\mathcal{N} \models \theta(s, i, s_i)$ .

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<sup>1</sup>Recall that  $\pi : \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is Cantor’s pairing function, which is  $\Delta_0$  definable.