

**ORDER PRESERVING OR INCREASING MAPPINGS  
FREEDOM OR INCOMPARABILITY PRESERVING MAPPINGS**

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**Summary.** One recalls the definitions of increasing, SI, (s. 2:0) ASI(s. 3:0) mappings of ordered sets and introduces FP mappings (s. 4:0). Main theorems 2:2, 2:2:7, 3:1, 3:5:1, 4:8 are established.

**0. Introduction**

**0:0.** In 1937:4 was introduced a very important notion of increasing (decreasing) mappings between ordered sets accompanied by statements—solution of some problems which were put earlier. At the same time were submitted the papers 1937:2, 1940:1, 1940:2, 1941:1, 1945:1, concerning ASI mappings (sf. no 3:0). It was proved that every uncountable tree in which there exists a real strictly increasing transformation is equinumerous to a free subset.

**0:1.** In the present paper analogous statements are proved for SI transformations of trees into linearly ordered sets  $L$ . Almost SI transformations from  $T$  into  $L$  are examined as well and in this area a very interesting theorem 3:5:1 is found showing a great difference in the behavior of SI and ASI transformations of ordered sets. In particular, the transfer of the main corolary 2:2:7 concerning SI transformations to the statement 3:5. concerning ASI transformations  $T \rightarrow L$  has a postulational character.

**0:2.** Terminology and notations are as in other author's papers. In particular,  $T$  and  $L$  denote any tree and any chain (=linearly ordered set) respectively; unless otherwise stated,  $T$  is assumed to be infinite.

**0:3.** In particular the rank or the height  $\gamma T$  is defined as the first ordinal which is not embeddable into  $T$ ; one has the fundamental partition  $T = \cup R_i T, (i < \gamma T)$  into rows or levels  $R_i T$  of  $T$ ; one puts

**0:4.**  $mT := \sup pR_i T, (i < \gamma T)$ ;  $pX$  denotes the power (=cardinality) of  $X$ .

**0:5.**  $(i)(E, \leq)$  is said to be degenerate or a  $d$ -set if for every  $x \in E$  the corresponding cone  $Ea := E(\cdot, a] \cup E[a, \cdot)$  is a chain;  $E[a, \cdot) := \{x; x \in E, a \leq x\}$ ,  $E(\cdot, a] := (E, \geq)[a, \cdot)$ . The vacuous set is denoted by  $v$  or  $\emptyset$ . If  $E$  is finite or if  $(i)$  contains a  $d$ -subset of power  $pE$ , we say that  $(i)$  is  $d$ -reflexive. A free subset of  $(i)$  is any subantichain of  $(i)$ .  $b(E, \leq) := \sup\{pD : D \text{ is degenerate in } (E, \leq)\}$ .

## 1. Generalities

**1:0.** LEMMA. *Every tree  $T$  satisfies  $pT \leq mT \cdot p\gamma T$ ; if  $T$  is infinite, then  $pT = mT \cdot p\gamma T$  and  $pT \in \{mT, p\gamma T\}$ .*

The proof is obvious.

**1:1.** LEMMA. *Let  $T$  be infinite; if  $c$  is any cardinal number  $< pT$ , then  $T$  contains a  $D$ -subset  $X$  such that  $pX = c$ .*

*Proof.* By L. 1:0 one has  $pT = mT$  or  $pT = p\gamma T$ . If  $pT = mT$ , then the relations  $c < pT = mT$  and  $mT = \sup pR_i T (i < \gamma T)$  imply that some  $i < \gamma T$  satisfies  $pR_i T \geq c$ . If  $c < pT = p\gamma T$ , then for the first ordinal  $i < \gamma T$  such that  $pi = c$  and for every  $x \in R_i T$  the left cone  $T(\cdot, x)$  is a chain of power  $c$ .

**1:1:1.** COROLLARY. *If  $T$  is infinite, then  $bT = pT$  or  $pT = (bT)^+$ ; the former holding for every limit  $pT$ .*

**1:2.** LEMMA. *If (0)  $pT[x, \cdot) < pT(x \in T)$ , then  $T$  is  $d$ -reflexive.*

*Proof.* The disjoint partition (1)  $T = \cup T[x, \cdot) (x \in RT_0)$  and (0) imply that (2)  $pR_0 T = pT$  or at least (3)  $pR_0 \geq cf pT := n$ . If (2), everything is done; in particular, if  $pT$  is regular, then necessarily (2) holds. Therefore, there remains the case that  $pT$  is singular and that (2) does not hold; then  $n \leq pR_0 T < pT$  and  $\sup pT[x, \cdot) = pT(x \in R_0 T)$ ; therefore, there exists a set  $A \subset R_0 T$  such that  $pA = n$  and  $\sup pT(a, \cdot) = pT(a \in A)$ . Let  $(a_i; i < n)$  be a well ordering of  $A$  and  $(k_i, i < n)$  an  $n$ -sequence of isolated strictly increasing cardinals such that  $\sup k_i = pT$  thus also  $\sup k_i^- = pT (i < n)$ . Let  $b_0$  be the first  $a_i$  such that  $pT[a_i, \cdot) > k_0$ ; if for every  $0 < j < n$  and every  $i < j$  a member  $b_i$  of  $A$  is determined such that  $pT[b_i, \cdot) > k_i$ , let us define also  $b_j$  as the first member in the well-ordering of  $A$  such that  $b_j \neq b_i (i < j)$  and (3)  $pT[b_j, \cdot) > k_j$ . Of course,  $b_j$  exists; so by (transfinite) induction we have an  $n$ -subsequence  $b_j (j < n)$  of the  $n$ -sequence  $a_i (i < n)$  such that (3) holds. Now, in virtue of Lemma 1:1, the relation (3) implies that  $(3)_1$  contains a  $d$ -subset  $D_j$  for every  $j < n$ ; then the union  $D := \cup D_j, (j < n)$ , is a required  $d$ -subset of  $T$  such that  $pD = pT$ .

**1:3.** LEMMA. *If  $T$  is infinite and  $mT > p\gamma T$ , then  $T$  is equinumerous to a free subset  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $U := \{x : x \in T, pT[x, \cdot) < pT\}$ . If  $pU = pT$ , then (v. L. 1:2)  $T$  is equinumerous to a free subset  $D$ . The equality  $pT = pD$ , the disjoint partition of  $D$  into chains  $D[x, \cdot) (x \in R_0 D)$  and the relation  $pT = mT < p\gamma T$  imply  $pR_0 D = pD = pT$ . If  $pU < pT$ , then  $V := T \setminus U$  satisfies (0)  $pV(x, \cdot) = mV = pV = pT$  for every  $x \in V$ . The case when  $mT (= mV)$  is regular is settled like in the proof

in no 1:2. If  $mV$  is singular, then some  $i < \gamma V$  satisfies  $pR_i V \geq n$ ; let then  $A = (a_i, i < n)$  be a subset of  $R_i V$  of power  $n$ . Since  $mV(x, \cdot) = pV = pT = mT = mV = m(x \in V)$ , for any fixed cardinal  $c < m$  there is a free subset  $A(x)$  in  $V(x, \cdot)$  such that  $pA(x) \geq c$ . By arguments like those in no. 1:2 one constructs the free sets  $D_i$  in  $V(a_i, \cdot)$  of power  $\geq c_i$ , and the free subset  $D = \cup A_i \subset V$  such that  $pD = mV = pT$ .

**1:3:1. COROLLARY.** *If  $T$  is infinite and  $pT > p\gamma T$ , then  $T$  is equinumerous to a free subset.*

**1:4. LEMMA.** *If  $\text{cf } \gamma T \in \{1, \aleph_0\}$ , then  $T$  is  $d$ -reflexive (cf. 1935:2,3 no. 11:2a)).*

*Proof.* In virtue of 1:3 Lemma, it is sufficient to settle the case when  $pT = p\gamma T$  and  $pR_i T < pT (i < \gamma T)$ . In addition we can suppose, like in the proof of 1:3 Lemma, that the corresponding set  $U$  satisfies  $pU < pT$ . Thus  $V := T \setminus U$  satisfies 1:3:(0). Let  $\alpha_i (i < \omega)$  be a strictly increasing sequence of ordinals  $\rightarrow \gamma T$ . Let  $x_i \in R_i T$ ,  $(i < \omega)$  be a strictly increasing sequence in  $T$ ; the existence of such a sequence is obvious (by induction argument); then  $L := \cup T(\cdot, x_i] (i < \omega)$  is a chain in  $T$  of power  $p\gamma T (= pT)$ .

**1:5. Remark.** Unless stated otherwise, we shall assume in the sequel that  $pT = p\gamma T \geq \aleph_0$  and that every subchain of  $T$  is  $< pT$ .

## 2. Increasing and strictly increasing mappings.

**2:0. Definition.** Let  $((E, \leq), (F, \leq_F))$  be a 2-un of ordered sets; every mapping  $f : E \rightarrow F$  such that  $x \leq y [x < y]$  in  $(E, \leq)$  implies  $fx \leq_F fy [fx <_F fy]$  in  $(F, \leq_F)$  is called increasing or orderpreserving [strictly increasing, SI, or strictly orderpreserving mapping] from  $(E, \leq)$  into  $(F, \leq_F)$  (cf. Kurepa 1937:4, 1940:1,2, 1941:1, 1945:1). E. g. each constant automapping of  $(E, \leq)$  is increasing. For every  $T$  the mapping  $x \in T \rightarrow \gamma(x, T)$  where  $x \in R_{\gamma(x, T)} T$  is SI, from  $T$  onto the section  $O[0, \gamma T)$  of all ordinals  $< \gamma T$ . It is interesting to notice the following.

**2:1. THEOREM.** *If there is a SI selfmapping  $f$  of an infinite  $T$  into a subchain  $L \subset T$ , then  $T$  is not only  $d$ -reflexive, but in addition  $T$  is equinumerous: to a free subset  $A$  (case  $mT > p\gamma T$ ) or to  $L$  (case  $mT \leq p\gamma T$ ). Let  $F_i := fR_i T$ ,  $c_i = \inf F_i (i < \gamma T)$ ; then  $c_i < c_j$  for  $i < j < \gamma T$ ; the set  $L_0 = \cup T(\cdot, o_i], (i < \gamma T)$  is a branch of  $T$  such that  $L_0 \cap R_i T \neq \emptyset (i < \gamma T)$ . Although  $L$  is a universal chain in  $T$ —for every chain  $K$  in  $T$ ,  $f/K$  is an isomorphism of  $K$  onto the part  $fK$  of  $L$ — $L$  need not be a branch in  $T$ . The sets  $L, L_0$  and  $C := \{o_i : i < \gamma T\}$  are cofinal.*

*Proof.* First of all, if  $i < \gamma T$ ,  $F_i$  is a nonempty part of the given wellordered subset  $L$  of  $T$ ; therefore,  $c_i$  is the minimal point of  $F_i$ . Let us prove that  $c_i < c_j$  for  $i < j < \gamma T$ . As a matter of fact, let  $y \in R_j T$  such that  $fy = c_j$ ; since  $i < j$  there is a unique  $x \in R_i T$  such that  $x <_T y$  and  $x \in R_i T$ ; thus  $c_i \leq_T fx <_T fy = c_j$ , and  $c_i <_T c_j$ ;  $C := \{c_i : i < \gamma T\}$  is a chain in  $T$  and its order type is  $\gamma T$ ; therefore, in particular, (0)  $pT \geq pC = p\gamma T$  and the well-ordered sets  $C, L, L_0, O[0, \gamma T)$  are

pairwise order-isomorphic; therefore  $C, L, L_0$  are cofinal, i. e. if  $X, Y \in \{C, L, L_0\}$  then  $X = \cup X(\cdot, y)$ , ( $y \in Y$ ).

What about  $pT$ ? Since  $T$  is infinite,  $pT = mT$  or  $pT = p\gamma T$ . If  $mT > p\gamma T$ , then  $pT = mT$  and, in virtue of *L. 1:3*,  $T$  contains a free set  $A$  of power  $pT$ . If  $mT \leq p\gamma T$ , then (1)  $pT = p\gamma T$ ; therefore (0) yields  $pT = pC = pL$ . This completes the proof of *2:1 Theorem*.

**2:1:1. COROLLARY.** *An SI mapping  $f : T \rightarrow L \subset T$  exists if and only if  $T$  is attained in the sense that  $T$  contains a chain intersecting every level of  $T$ .*

**2:2. MAIN THEOREM.** *Let  $\aleph_\sigma$  be any aleph and  $(L, \leq_L)$  any ordered chain such that the density (=separability) number  $dL$  equals  $\aleph_\sigma$ . Every tree  $T$  of power  $pT > \aleph_\sigma$  such that there exists an SI mapping  $f$  of  $E$  into  $L$  contains a free subset  $mA$  of power  $pT$  (for the case  $\sigma = 0$  see *Kurepa 1937:4 Th. I, 1941:1 Th. 6*).*

The proof of *2:2*, is implied by the following facts *2:2:0—2:2:6*.

**2:2:0. LEMMA.** *If  $D$  is a  $d$ -subset of  $T$  of power  $pT$ , then  $A : R_0D$  is a required free subset  $A$  of  $T$  of power  $pT$ .*

As a matter of fact, every summand  $a' := D[a, \cdot]$  in  $D = \cup D[x, \cdot]$ , ( $x \in R_0D$ ), is order-similar to the well-ordered subset  $fa'$  of  $L$ ; therefore  $pa' \leq dL$  and consequently (0)  $pt = pD \leq pR_0D \cdot dL$ .

Now,  $pR_0D = pT$ . In the opposite case one would have  $pR_0T < pT$  and therefore  $pD < pT$  because both factors in the last term of the relation (0) are  $< pT$ .

**2:2:1.** In virtue of *Lemma 1:3* we may suppose that  $mT \leq p\gamma T$  and consequently ( $T$  being infinite)  $pT = p\gamma T$ . Now,  $T$  contains no chain  $C$  of cardinality  $p\gamma T$ , because otherwise  $fC$  would be a well-ordered subset of  $L$  of power  $p\gamma T = pT$ ; this is impossible because every well-ordered subset of  $L$  is  $\leq dL < pT$ .

**2:2:2.** Let  $U := \{x : x \in T, pT[x, \cdot] < pT\}$ . If  $pU = pT$ , then, by *L. 1:2*,  $U$  (and a fortiori  $T$ ) is  $d$ -reflexive. If  $pU < pT$ , the tree  $V := T \setminus U$  is of power  $pT$  and satisfies  $pV(a, \cdot) = pV = pT$ , ( $a \in V$ ). Therefore, there is no restriction to assume that  $U = \text{empty}$  (it is sufficient to change the notation to write  $T$  instead of  $T \setminus U$ ). In other words, we have just proved the following.

**2:2:3. LEMMA.** In order to prove the *Main Theorem 2:2* it is sufficient to prove the statement *2:2* under the following conditions (0)—(4):

- (0)  $pT = \aleph_\tau$ ,  $\gamma T = \omega_\tau$
- (1)  $pR_i T < pT$  ( $i < \gamma T$ )
- (2) Every chain in  $T$  is  $< \aleph_\tau$ ;
- (3)  $pT[x, \cdot] = pT$  ( $x \in T$ );
- (4) There is an SI mapping  $f$  of  $T$  into a chain  $L$  such that  $dL = \aleph_\sigma < pT = \aleph_\tau$ .

**2:2:4. LEMMA.** *A consequence of (0)—(3) is the following.*

(5)  $mT := \sup pR_iT$ , ( $i < \gamma T$ ),  $is \geq n^- := (cf p\gamma T)^-$ .

As a matter of fact, if  $mT < n^-$ , then, by Theor. 5 bis in 1935:2,3 p. 80,  $T$  would contain a chain of power  $p\gamma T$ , contrary to (2).

**2:2:5. LEMMA.** *T which satisfies (0)–(5) contains a free subset  $A_0$  of power  $n := cf p\gamma T$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $r_j(j < \omega_\sigma)$  be a normal one-to-one well-order of a density base  $S$  of  $L$ . Thus  $S$  is a subset of  $L$  of minimal power  $dS$  such that every non-empty open interval of  $L$  contains a point of  $S$ . Let  $g$  be a mapping of  $T$  such that  $gt \in R_1T(t, \cdot)(t \in T)$ ; then obviously  $ft <_L fgt$  ( $t \in T$ ). For every  $j < \omega_\sigma$  let

(6)  $T^j = \{t : t \in T, ft \leq_L r_j <_L fg^2t\}$ .

Then  $T^j \neq v \neq L(ft, fg^2t)(t \in T)$  and

(7)  $T = \cup T^j(j < \omega_\sigma)$ .

I. *First case:*  $\gamma T$  is regular:  $n = \aleph_\tau$ . Since, by assumption (4),  $\tau > 0$ , the partition (7) implies the existence of a  $j < \omega_\sigma$  such that

(8)  $pT^j = pT$ .

Therefore it suffices to prove that  $T^j$  contains a free set  $A_0$  of power  $n$ . If some row  $R$  of  $T^j$  has  $n$  points, it is sufficient to put  $A_0 := R$ . Therefore, let us suppose that  $pR_iT^j < n(i < \gamma T^j)$  and consequently

(9)  $\gamma T^j = \gamma T = \omega_\tau$ .

By induction procedure, we are going to define a 1–1 sequence

(10)  $(a_i, i < \omega_\tau)$  of incomparable points of  $T^j$  such that  $\gamma a_i(i < \omega_\tau)$ , where  $a_i \in R_{\gamma a_i}T$ , is SI and  $\rightarrow \omega_\tau$  and

(11)  $\gamma a_i < \gamma g a_i < \gamma a_{i+1}(i < \omega_\tau)$ .

To start with, let  $a_0$  be a point in  $R_0T^j$ . Let  $\nu$  be any ordinal such that  $0 < \nu < \omega_\tau$  and that the  $\nu$ -initial segment of (10) is defined in such a way that the conditions (11) for  $i < \nu$  are satisfied. Then we consider the ordinal  $\beta := \sup \gamma a_i(i < \nu)$ ; since  $\nu < n$  and since  $n$  is regular, one has  $\beta < n$ ; therefore, the level  $R_{\beta+2}T^j$  is  $\neq \nu$  (cf. (9)). We denote by  $a_\nu$  any point of this level. Consequently, the induction procedure of the construction of (10) is going on for every  $i < \omega_\tau$  and the conditions (11) are satisfied. Let us prove that the points  $g^2a_i(i < \omega_\tau)$  are incomparable. First, the  $\omega_\tau$ -sequence  $\gamma g^2a_i(i < \omega_\tau)$  is SI: if  $x < y < \omega_\tau$ , then  $\gamma g^2a_x < \gamma g^2a_y$ . Therefore, one does not have  $g^2a_y \leq g^2a_x$ . One has

(12)  $g^2a_x \leq g^2a_y$  neither. In the opposite case, the relation (12) would be possible and the point  $g^2a_y$  would be preceded by  $a_y$  as well as by  $g^2a_x$ . Therefore, the points  $g^2a_x, a_y$  would be comparable; now, for their ranks  $\gamma g^2a_x, \gamma a_y$ , in virtue of (12), one has (because  $x < y$ )  $\gamma g^2a_x < \gamma a_y$ ; therefore, the relation  $a_y \leq g^2a_x$  is excluded; one would have  $g^2a_x <_T a_y$  and  $fg^2a_x <_L fa_y$ ; the last inequality with  $fa_y \leq_L r_y <_L fg^2y$  (cf(6)) would imply  $fg^2a_x \leq_L r_y$ , contrary to the defining relation (6) for every element  $a_x \in T^j$ .

II *Second case:*  $\gamma T = \omega_\tau$  is singular:  $n < \aleph_\tau$ . Since by condition (4),  $dL = \aleph_\sigma < \aleph_\tau$  there is a regular  $\aleph_\rho < \aleph_\tau$  which is  $> n$ ,  $dL$ ; in particular, the tree

$X := T^j(\cdot, \omega_\rho) := \cup R_i T^j(i < \omega_\rho)$  is a tree satisfying (0)—(4) with  $\rho$  instead of  $\tau$ ;  $\gamma$  is regular; and the above first case of L. 2:2:5. applied to this set  $X$  yields an antichain  $A_0$  in  $X \subset T^j \subset T$  of power  $n$ . This proves L. 2:2:5 completely.

**2:2:6.** Final step in the proof of the Main Theorem 2:2. From the free subset  $A_0 \subset T$  of cardinality  $n := \text{cf } pT$  it is easy to deduce a free subset  $A \subset T$  of cardinality  $pT$ . If  $pT$  is regular, it suffices to put  $A := A_0$ . If  $pT$  is singular, let  $A_0 = (a_i, i < \omega_{(n)})$  be a 1–1 well-ordering of the free subset  $A_0 \subset T$  of cardinality  $n$  (s. L. 2:2:5). Let  $(c_i, i < \omega_{(n)})$  be an SI  $\omega_{(n)}$ -sequence of cardinals  $< pT$  such that  $\sup c_i = pT$ ; let  $b_i \in R_{\omega(c_i)} T(a_i, \cdot)$ ; then  $D := \cup T(a_i, b_i)(i < \omega_{(n)})$  is degenerate of power  $pT$ ; by L. 2:2:0 the first level  $R_0 D$  is a free subset of  $T$  of power  $pT$  as was required in the Main Theorem 2:2. Q. E. D.

**2:2:7.** Main Corollary= Wording obtained from 2:2 on replacing “free subset A” by “degenerate subset D”.

### 3. Almost Strictly Increasing (ASI) Mappings.

**3:0. Definition.** An increasing mapping  $f : (E, \leq_E) \rightarrow (F, \leq_F)$  such that  $x \in E$ ,  $pE[x, \cdot] > 1$  implies  $pfE[x, \cdot] > 1$  is said to be ASI (Almost Strictly Increasing); in other words, unless  $x$  is a terminal point of  $E$  there is some  $x <_E y \in E$  such that  $fx <_F fy$ . The notion was introduced at the same time when was introduced the notion of increasing and strictly increasing [SI] mappings (s. Definition 2:0).

Here is a theorem concerning a connection between ASI and SI mappings of trees  $T$  on chains  $L$ .

**3:1. THEOREM.** Let  $f : (T, \leq) \rightarrow (L, \leq_L)$  be ASI and

(0)  $Tf := R_0(T, \leq) \cup R_0(T, \geq) \cup \cup_c R_0\{y : C <_T y \in T \& fC <_L fy\}$ ,  $C$  running through the class  $IT$  of all subchains of  $T$ .

- (1) The set  $Tf$  is the most extensive subset  $X$  of  $T$  such that  $f \upharpoonright X$  is SI;
- (2)  $Tf$  is cofinal with  $T$ , i. e.  $T = \cup T(\cdot, x] (x \in Tf)$ .

*Proof of (1).* First,  $f$  is SI in  $Tf$ : if  $x < y$  in  $Tf$ , then  $fx <_L fy$  in  $L$ . As a matter of fact,  $fx \leq_L fy$ . Now, since  $x, y \in Tf$  and  $x < y$ , the set  $\cup T(\cdot, t](t < y)$  such that  $ft <_L fy$  is a chain  $C$ ; one has  $x \in C < y$  and  $fC <_L fy$ , thus  $fx <_L fy$ .

Secondly, assume that there exists a subset  $X \subset T$  such that  $Bf \subsetneq Tf$  and that  $f \upharpoonright X$  is SI; thus there would exist a point (3)  $x \in X \setminus Tf$ . The point  $x$  is neither initial nor final in  $T$ ; thus the chain  $T(f)(\cdot, x)$  is  $\neq \emptyset$ ; the more is  $T(\cdot, x) \neq v$ ; let  $C := C(x)$  denote the most extensive initial section of  $T(\cdot, x)$  such that  $C <_L fx$ . The set  $Y$  of all points  $t \in T$  such that  $C < t$  is well determined: so is  $R_0 T$  as well. By definition of  $Tf$  this set is a part of  $Tf$ ; therefore, the unique point  $x'$  in  $R_0 Y$  which is  $< x$  is a well determined point in  $Tf$ , thus also in  $X$ . Consequently,  $x', x$  would be two points in  $X$  such that  $x' < x$ . Since  $f$  is SI in  $X$ ,  $fx' <_L fx$ ; therefore, by definition of  $C(x)$ ,  $x' \in C$ , contrary to the fact  $C < Y$  and in particular to the fact that  $C < x' \in R_0 Y$ . This contradiction eliminates the assumption (3) as false.

*Proof of (2):* if  $t \in T$  then some  $x \in Tf$  satisfies  $t \leq x$ . First, if  $t$  is a terminating point in  $T$  i. e. if  $t \in R_0(T, \geq)$ . then by definition of  $Tf$  one has  $t \in Tf$ . If  $t \notin R_0(T, \geq)$ , then by definition of the ASI  $f$  there exists a  $y \in T$  such that  $t < y \in T$ ,  $fT <_L fy$ ; the first point  $x$  of the well ordered set  $T(t, y]$  for which  $ft <_L fx$  is a required member of  $Tf$  such that  $t \leq x$ . This finishes the proof.

**3:2. THEOREM.** *Let  $f : T \rightarrow L$  be ASI; whenever  $pTf > dL$ , the set  $Tf$  is not only  $d$ -reflexive but also equinumerous to a free subset of  $T$  (cf. 3:1(0)).*

*Proof.* The  $d$ -reflexivity of  $Tf$  is implied by the Main Corollary 2:2:7 and the Theorem 3:1. Thus there is a  $d$ -set  $D$  in  $Tf$  such that  $pTf = pD$ . We claim that  $pD = pR_0D$ . This is implied by the decomposition  $D = \cup D[a, \cdot)$  ( $a \in R_0D$ ) of  $D$  into disjoint chains and the fact that each summand is  $\leq dL$ , whence one has  $pD \leq pR_0D \cdot dL$ ; therefore if  $pR_0D < pD$ , the number  $pTf (= pD)$  would be  $\leq$  the product of numbers  $pR_0D, dL$  each  $\leq pTf$ , contrary to the hypothesis that  $pTf > dL$ .

**3:3. THEOREM.** *Let  $f : T \rightarrow L$  be ASI and  $pT > dL$ ; if  $pT$  is regular, then  $T$  is equinumerous to a free subset.*

*Proof.* Due to the decomposition 3:1:(2) one has cf  $pT \leq pTf$  (recall that by remark 1:5 we assume that every chain in  $T$  is  $< pT$ ) i. e.  $pT = pTf$  and  $pTf > dL$ ; therefore, one can apply the Main Theorem 2:2 for the tree  $Tf$  and get a free subset  $F$  of  $Tf \subset T$  such that  $pF = pTf = pT$ .

**3:4. THEOREM.** *Let  $T$  be a sequence-tree (i. e.  $\gamma T = \gamma T(t)$ , where  $T(t) = T(\cdot, t) \cup T[t, \cdot)$  for every  $t \in T$ ); if  $f : T \rightarrow L$  is ASI and  $pTf > dL$ , then  $T$  is  $d$ -reflexive.*

*Proof.* Since  $f$  is SI in  $Tf$  and since  $pT > dL$ , the Main Theorem 2:2 yields a free subset  $D$  of  $Tf$  such that  $pD = pTf$ . As above in 2:2:0 one proves that  $pR_0D = pD$ . On the other hand, the decomposition 3:1 (2) implies that  $n : cf pT \leq pTf$ ; thus  $n < pR_0D$ . Let  $A$  be any subset of  $R_0D$  such that  $pA = n$ ; let  $\beta_i := \omega_{(c_j)}(i < n)$  be an  $n$ -sequence of ordinals  $\rightarrow \gamma T$ ; for every  $a \in A$  let  $b(a) \in R_{\beta_i}T(a, \cdot)$ ; then  $\cup b(a)$  ( $a \in A$ ) is a required  $d$ -subset of  $T$  of power  $pT$ .

**3:5.** Proposition  $P_{49}$  is the statement obtained from the statement of the Main Theorem 2:2 writing ASI instead of SI and a degenerate subset  $D$  instead of a free subset  $A$ ; thus

**3:5:0. Definition of  $P_{49}$ .** Let  $\aleph_\sigma$  be any aleph and  $(L, \leq_L)$  any linearly ordered set such that the density number  $dL$  equals  $\aleph_\sigma$ . Every tree  $T$  of power  $pT > \aleph_\sigma$  such that there exists an ASI mapping  $f : E \rightarrow L$  contains a degenerate subset  $D$  of power  $pT$ .

**3:5:1. THEOREM.**  $P_{49}$  and the RH (Ramification Hypothesis) are equivalent.

The implication  $RH \Rightarrow P_{49}$  being obvious, let us prove the converse implication  $P_{49} \Rightarrow RH$ .

1. If this implication were false, there would exist an infinite tree  $S$  in which every  $d$ -subset is  $< pS$ ; in particular every subchain and every free set of  $S$  would

be  $< pS$  and necessarily  $cf \gamma S > \aleph_0$  (cf. no 11:3 pp. 108–109 Kurepa 1935:2,3; s. also the above 1:4. Lemma).

2. Let  $S' := \cup R_{i+1} S (i < \gamma T)$ . Let  $La (a \in S')$  be an  $S'$ — un of disjoint well ordered sets of order type  $\beta$  each, where  $\beta := \omega(2^{pS}) :=$  the first ordinal of cardinality  $2^{pS}$ . Let  $Z := S \cup La (a \in S')$ ; we order  $Z$  in such a way that  $Z(a^-, a) := La (a \in S')$  and that for incomparable points  $a, b$  in  $S$  one has  $\gamma(a, S) = \gamma(b, S) \Rightarrow La \parallel Lb$  in  $Z$ . Then one checks readily that  $Z$  is a tree such that  $\gamma Z = \beta$ ,  $mZ = mS = (p\gamma S)^-$ ; in addition,  $S$  is cofinal to  $Z$ .

3.  $Z$  is not  $d$ -reflexive.

In the opposite case there would exist a  $d$ -subset  $D$  of  $Z$  such that  $pD = pZ$  and  $pR_0 D \geq cf p\gamma Z = cf p\gamma S := n$ . If then for every  $x \in R_0 D$  one denotes by  $gx$  a point of  $S$  such that  $x \leq gx$ , then the set  $A := \{gx, x \in R_0 D\}$  would be an antichain in  $S$  such thau (0)  $pA \geq n$ .

The last relation does not hold if  $\gamma S$  is regular because by definition of  $S$  every antichain in  $S$  is of a power  $< p\gamma S$ . The relation (0) holds neither if  $\gamma S$  is singular because in this case one would establish (by usual procedure) a  $d$ -subset  $A'$  of  $\cup S[a, \cdot) (a \in A)$  such that  $pA' = pS$ , i. e.  $S$  would be  $d$ -reflexive, contrary to the initial assumption.

4. On the other hand, let us define a mapping  $f : Z \rightarrow L := O[0, \gamma S)$  by  $fx = \gamma(x, S) (x \in S)$ ,  $fx = \gamma(a, S) (x \in La, a \in S')$ . One checks readily that  $f$  is ASI in  $Z$ . In addition  $pZ = 2^{pS} > pS = pL$ . Thus we should be allowed to apply the statement  $P_{49}$  and conclude that  $Z$  would be  $d$ -reflexive, contrary to the fact 3. This contradiction proves the requered implication  $P_{49} \Rightarrow RH$ .

#### 4. Freedom (Incomparability or Antijoin) Preserving [FP] mappings between ordered sets.

**4:0. Definition.** A mapping  $f : (E, \leq_E) \rightarrow (F, \leq_F)$  is said to be *FP* provided  $x \parallel y$  in  $(E, \leq_E)$  implies  $fx \parallel fy$  in  $(F, \leq_F)$ .

Consequently, in every free subset  $A \subset E$  the *FP* mapping  $f$  is bijective; on any chain  $L \subset E$ ,  $f$  could be even constant.

**4:1. LEMMA.** Let  $a(E, \leq)$  denote the system of all antichains of  $(E, \leq)$ ;  $a(E, \leq)$  is monotone additive in the sense that for any linearly ordered subsystem  $(M, \subset)$  of  $a(E, \leq)$  the union  $\cup M$  is an antichain.

The proof is straightforward because it  $a, b$  are 2 distinct points of  $\cup M$  let  $A, B, \in M$  be such that  $a \in A, b \in B$ ; then  $A \subset B$  thus  $\{a, b\} \subset B$  or  $B \subset A$  thus  $\{a, b\} \subset A$ ; consequently in either case,  $a, b$  belong to a member of  $M$ , and therefore  $a \parallel b$ .

**4:2. LEMMA.** The system  $a(E, \leq)$  contains various disjoint subsystems  $D$  such that  $\cup D = \cup a(E, \leq) = E$ .

*Proof.* Such a system is the system of all singletons  $\{x\} (x \in E)$ . One can proceed also in the following typical way. Let  $D_0$  be a maximal antichain in  $(E, \leq)$ ;



let  $D_1$  be a maximal antichain in  $(E \setminus D_0, \leq)$ ; if disjoint antichains (1)  $D_i (i < j)$  are formed; let us consider the set (2)  $E \setminus \cup D_i (i < j)$ ; if (2) is  $v$ , then (1) is a required disjoint system of antichains exhausting  $E$ ; if (2)  $\neq v$ , let  $D_j$  be a maximal antichains of (2). By induction procedure one gets in this way a maximal sequence of disjoint nonempty antichains.

Similary one proves the following.

**4:3. LEMMA.** *The system  $l(E, \leq)$  of all chains of  $(E, \leq)$  contains various subsystems of pairwise disjoint chains exhausting  $E$ ; in particular, there is a disjoint system  $F$  of chains exhausting  $F$  and such that  $pT = st(E, \leq) :=$  the least cardinal  $c$  such that there exists a system  $F$  of subchains such that  $pF = n$  and  $\cup F = E$ .*

*Proof* of the last phrase of the Lemma. Let  $G$  be a system of chains exhausting  $E$  and such that  $pG = st(E, \leq)$ . Let (0)  $g_i (i < \beta)$  be a normal well-order of  $G$ . Let  $h_0$  be a maximal chain  $\supset g_0$ ; assume  $0 < \alpha < \beta$  and that disjoint chains  $h_i (i < \alpha)$  are formed such that  $h_i \supset g_{ni}$ ; let us define  $h_\alpha$ : let  $g_{n_\alpha}$  be the first member of (0) such that  $g_{n_\alpha}$  is not contained in (1)  $\cup g_{ni} (i < \alpha)$ ; we denote by  $h_\alpha$  any maximal chain  $L$  such that  $g_{n_\alpha} \subset L \subset E \setminus (1)$ . The procedure is going on for every  $\nu < \beta$  because otherwise if it stopped for some  $\gamma < \beta$ , the system of sets  $g_{ni} (i < \gamma)$  would exhaust  $E$  and would be of a power  $< st E$  and this is a contradiction.

**4:4. THEOREM.** *Given  $((E, \leq), (F, \leq_F))$ , if  $(F, \leq_F)$  contains an antichain  $M$  of power  $st(E, \leq)$ , then there exists a freedom preserving mapping  $f$  of  $(E, \leq)$  into  $(F, \leq_F)$  such that  $fE \subset M$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $H$  be any disjoint system of chains exhausting  $E$  and such that  $pH = stE$ ; let  $h$  be a one-to-one mapping of  $H$  into  $M$ ; if for every  $e \in E$  we define  $fe := h(eH)$  where  $e \in eH \in H$ , the mapping  $f \upharpoonright E$  is  $FP$ . As a matter of fact, if  $a \parallel_e b$  then  $a, b$  belong to distinct members  $aH, bH$  of  $H$ , thus  $h(aH) := fa, h(bH) = fb$  are distinct members of  $M$ .

**4:5. Remark.** All preceding considerations are transferable to binary graphs, where "sub chain" should be replaced by "complete subgraphs".

**4:6. Problem.** Is it legitimate to replace in the wording of the theorem 4:4 the phonem  $st(E, \leq)$  by  $p_s(E, \leq)$ ?

Let us examine this for trees.

If  $p_s(T, \leq)$  is finite, then  $p_s = st(T)$ , and everything is O. K. If  $p_s(T)$  is infinite and attained then  $RH$  implies  $p_s T = st T$  and everything is O.K.

**4:7.** Statement TFPSFS (Tree FP Selfmapping into Free Subset): *For any tree  $T$  there is an FP selfmapping  $g$  into a free subset  $A$  of  $(T, \leq)$ .*

**4:8. THEOREM.** *TFPSFS is a consequence of the RH and is independent of the usual axioms of the Set Theory.*

*Proof.* According to the theorem 4:4, statement 4:7 holds for every tree  $T$  containing a free subset  $M$  of power  $st(T, \leq)$ . Now, the last condition is verified if  $\gamma T$  is finite or countable. If  $\gamma T = \omega_1$ , then  $st T = p_s T$  if and only if "The answer

to the Suslin problem is affirmative" (s. 1963:3 Theor. 3:3); and one knows that this answer SH (Suslin Hypothesis) is a postulate. On the other hand, TFPSPS implies that the free number  $p_s T$  is attained for every  $T$ ; (obviously,  $gT$  should be an antichain of power  $p_s T$ ). Now, the last fact is provable for every  $T$  for which  $p_s T$  is not a regular infinite limit cardinal (cf. Kurepa 1987:1 Theor. 2:4). The attainability of  $p_s T$  for the case when  $p_s T$  is regular limit non countable is implied by the RH and in this case  $T$  is a union of  $p_s T$  chains and one can apply the theorem 4:4.

**4:9.** The dual of TFPSPS obtained by substitutions FP|SI, Free subset | chain does not hold: it is violated each time when  $\gamma T$  is not attained (s. 2:1 Theorem, 2:1:1 Corollary). Such is the case e. g. for the tree  $w(Q, \leq) :=$  set of all well-ordered subset of  $(Q, \leq)$  ordered by the relation "to be an initial segment of".

**4:10. Remark.** ASI [FP] mappings are a particular case of Chain [Antichain] Preserving mapping carrying every chain [antichain] $\subset (E, \leq)$  into a chain [antichain]: one agrees that  $\emptyset$  and every singleton are chains and antichains. In a next paper we shall examine such transformations.

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