

Exercise 4.51. [1XY] *Difficulty:**. Let A be a well-ordered set^a by the order \leq ; let $m = \min A$; then for propositions $P(a)$ with $a \in A$ you can use a proof method, called transfinite induction, in which

- $P(m)$ is required to be true, and
- the following "inductive step" is proven:

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \left((\forall k < n, P(k)) \Rightarrow P(n) \right)$$

Show that if the proposition P satisfies the previous two requirements, then $\forall x \in A, P(x)$.

Prove also that if $A = \mathbb{N}$ then the "inductive step" is equivalent to the inductive step of strong induction (defined in [1XS]).

^aAs defined in [07R].