1993 Paper 9 Question 10

Semantics

Explain what is a *well-founded* binary relation, and state the principle of well-founded induction. [3 marks]

Show that the binary relation \triangleleft on the integers which is given by

 $m \triangleleft n$ if and only if $n < m \leq 100$

is well-founded.

[2 marks]

Consider the ML declarations

fun f(x) = if x > 100 then (x - 10) else f(f(x + 11));fun g(x) = if x > 100 then (x - 10) else 91;

Prove, by induction on the well-founded relation \triangleleft , that f and g determine equal integer-valued functions.

Hint: for the induction step you may find it helpful to consider separately the cases $x > 100, x = 100, 90 \le x < 100$ and x < 90. [15 marks]