Unit 2

Functions

Albert Sung

Outline of Unit 2

- 2.1 Compositions of Functions
- 2.2 One-to-One and Onto
- 2.3 Some Properties
- 2.4 Countable Sets

Natural Numbers vs Even Numbers

- The set of natural numbers

  {1, 2, 3, 4, …}

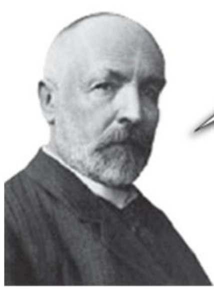
- The set of even numbers

  {2, 4, 6, 8…}

Which set has a larger size (i.e., more members)?

a) Natural numbers
b) Even numbers
c) They have the same size.
d) Their sizes cannot be compared.

Hilbert's Hotel

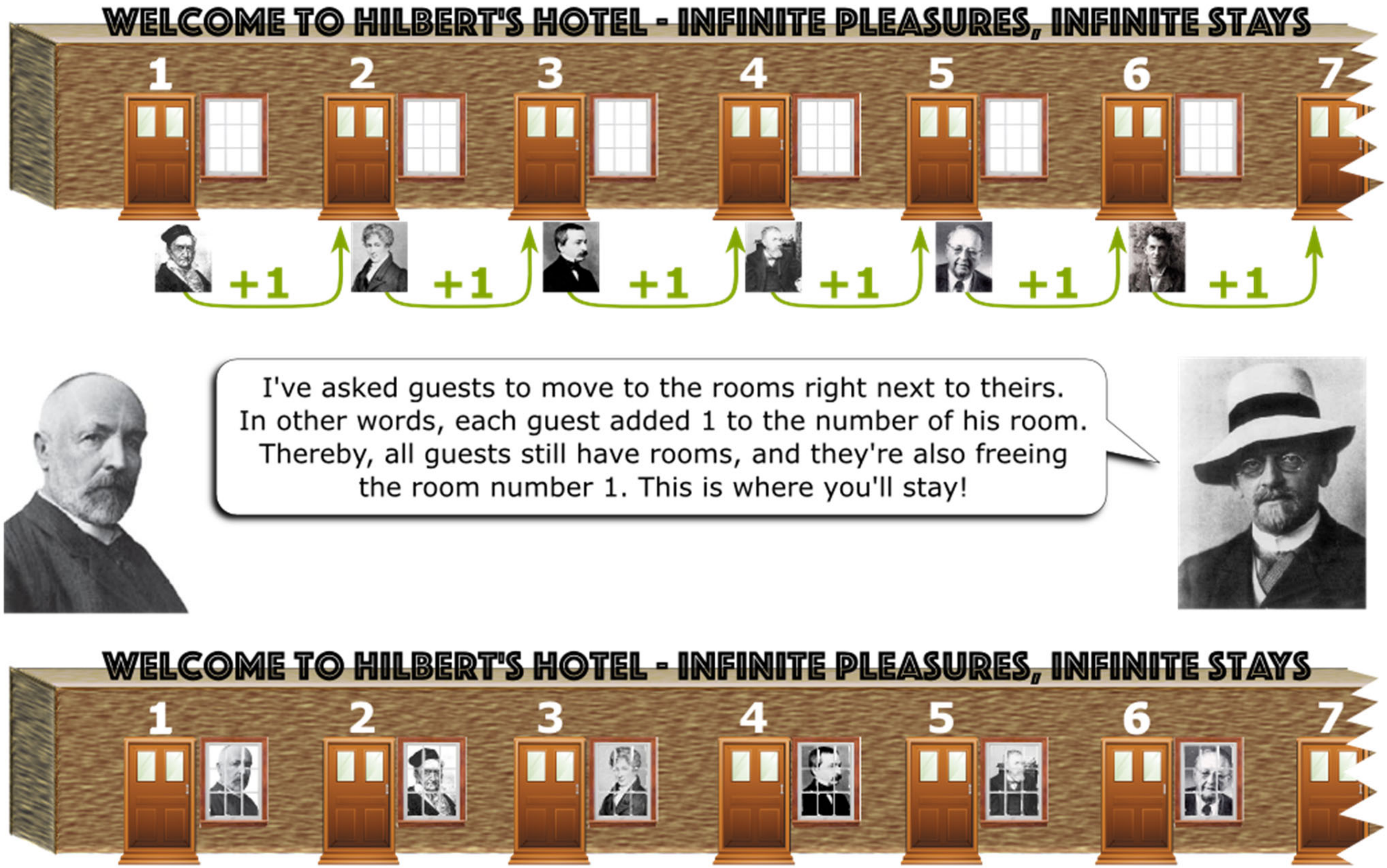


Georg Cantor (1845-1918), a mathematician who has proved that there are different infinities, some are bigger than others.

David Hilbert (1862-1943), a mathematician who has proposed a clever thought experiment to illustrate Cantor's idea on infinities.

Hilbert's Hotel (~1 min video)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=faQBrAQ87l4&list=PL73A886F2DD959FF1&index=4



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=faQBrAQ87l4&list=PL73A886F2DD959FF1&index=4
(~1 min video)

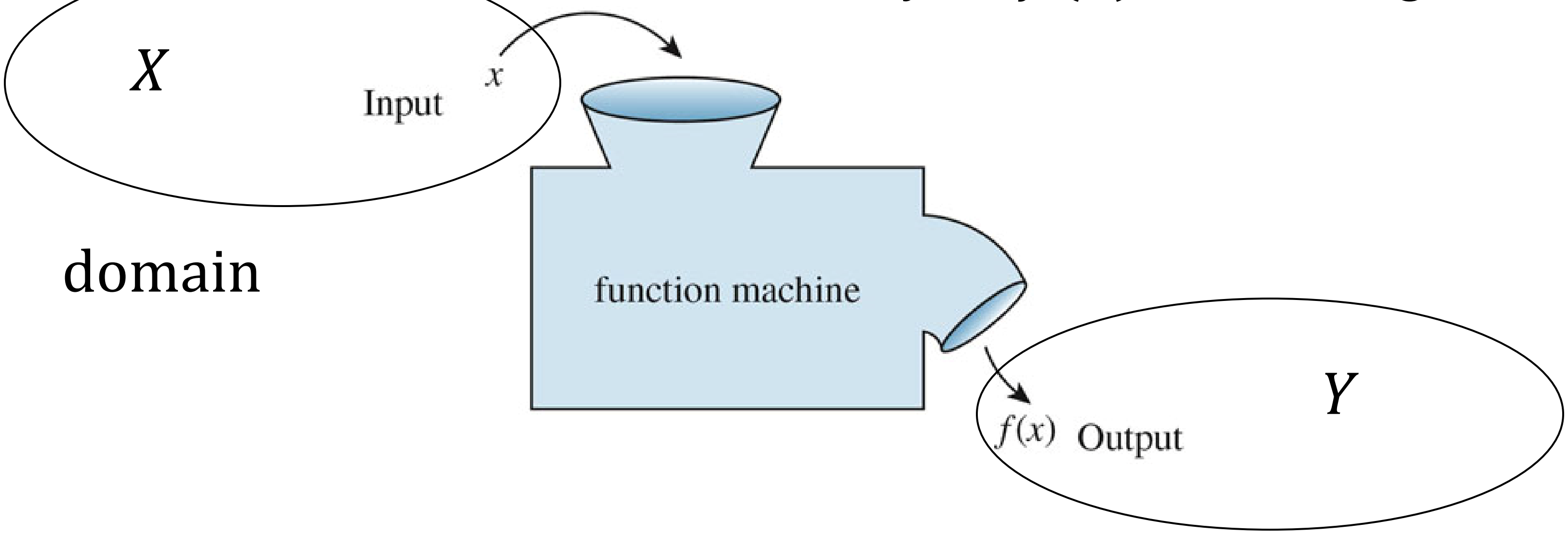
Unit 2.1

Composition of Functions

Functions

- Consider a function $f: X \to Y$.

$y = f(x)$ is the image of x.



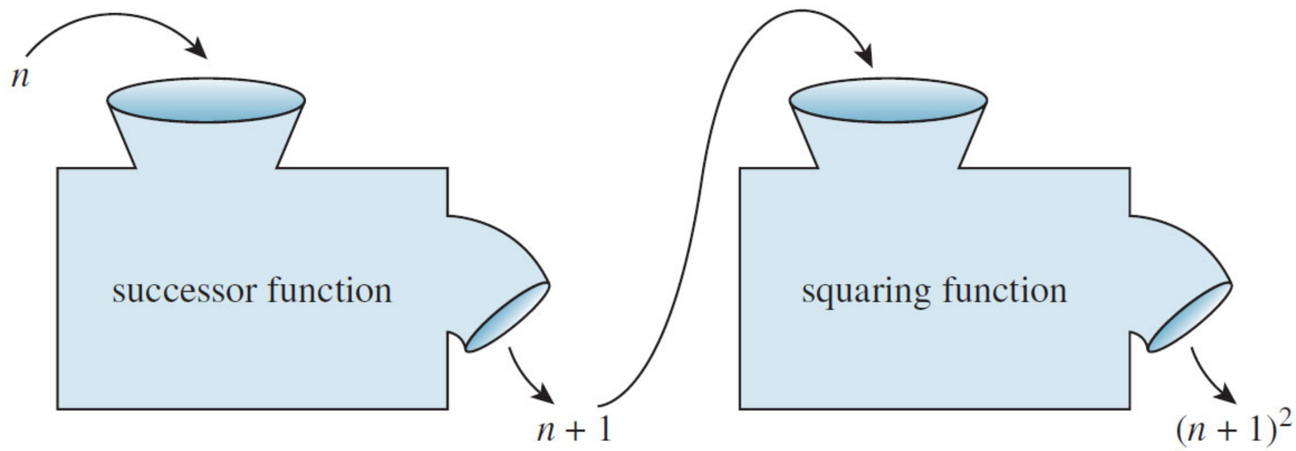
domain

co-domain

$R = \{y \in Y \mid y = f(x)$ for some $x \in X\}$ is the range of f.

Composition of Functions

- If we link two function machines in series as follows, the resultant function is called the composition of them.



What if we change the order of these two machines? Will we get the same output?

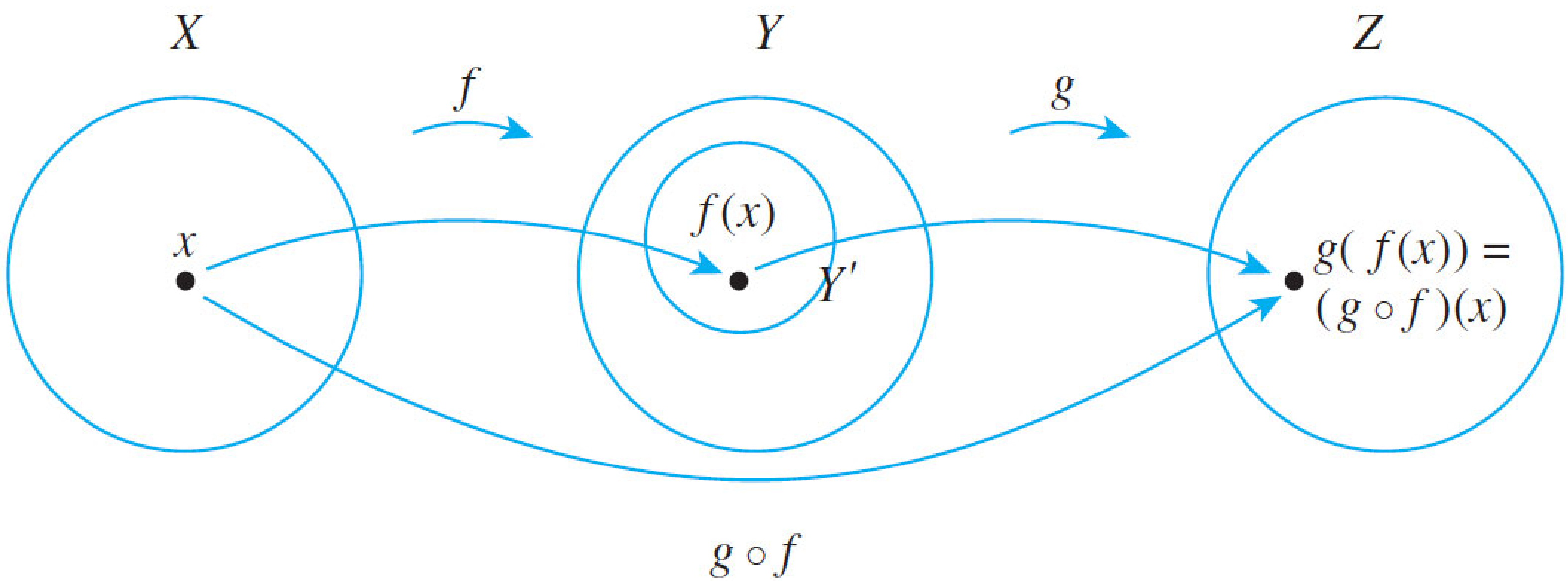
- **Definition**

Let $f: X \to Y'$ and $g: Y \to Z$ be functions with the property that the range of f is a subset of the domain of g. Define a new function $g \circ f: X \to Z$ as follows:

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) \quad \text{for all } x \in X,$$

where $g \circ f$ is read "g circle f" and $g(f(x))$ is read "g of f of x." The function $g \circ f$ is called the **composition of f and g.**

Note that $Y' \subseteq Y$.



Example

Let $f(n) = n + 1$ and $g(n) = n^2$, where the domains and co-domains of both functions are ***Z***.

a) Find $g \circ f$ and $f \circ g$.

b) Are they equal?

Solution:

a) $(g \circ f)(n) = g\big(f(n)\big) = g(n+1) = (n+1)^2$

$(f \circ g)(n) = f\big(g(n)\big) = f(n^2) = n^2 + 1$

b) No, they are not equal:

$$g \circ f \neq f \circ g.$$

Unit 2.2

One-to-One and Onto

One-to-One Function (Injection)

• Definition

Let F be a function from a set X to a set Y. F is **one-to-one** (or **injective**) if, and only if, for all elements x_1 and x_2 in X,

Useful for proof.

$$\text{if } F(x_1) = F(x_2), \text{ then } x_1 = x_2,$$

or, equivalently, $$\text{if } x_1 \neq x_2, \text{ then } F(x_1) \neq F(x_2).$$

(contrapositive)

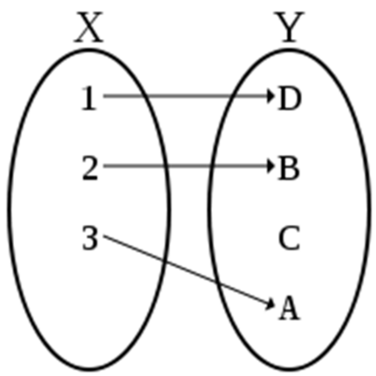
Symbolically,

$$F\colon X \to Y \text{ is one-to-one} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \forall x_1, x_2 \in X, \text{if } F(x_1) = F(x_2) \text{ then } x_1 = x_2.$$

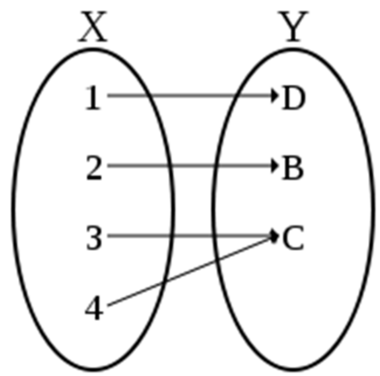
It looks complicated. It's easier (for understanding and for memorization) to use an informal one…

What is an Injection?

- A 1-to-1 function maps distinct elements in its domain to distinct elements in its co-domain.
- Are they injections?



(a)



(b)

How to Prove it?

Proposition: $f: X \to Y$ is an injection.

Proof: Assume $x_1, x_2 \in X$ and $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$.

$\vdots$

$\vdots$ *apply algebra, logic, ...*

$\vdots$

Therefore, $x_1 = x_2$.

Since $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ implies $x_1 = x_2$, f is injective.

Q.E.D.

Classwork

- Is it injective? Prove or disprove it.
  - (To disprove it, you can simply give a counter-example.)

a) $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $f(x) = 4x - 1$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

b) $g : \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$ such that $g(n) = n^2$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Onto Function (Surjection)

• Definition

Let F be a function from a set X to a set Y. F is **onto** (or **surjective**) if, and only if, given any element y in Y, it is possible to find an element x in X with the property that $y = F(x)$.

Symbolically:

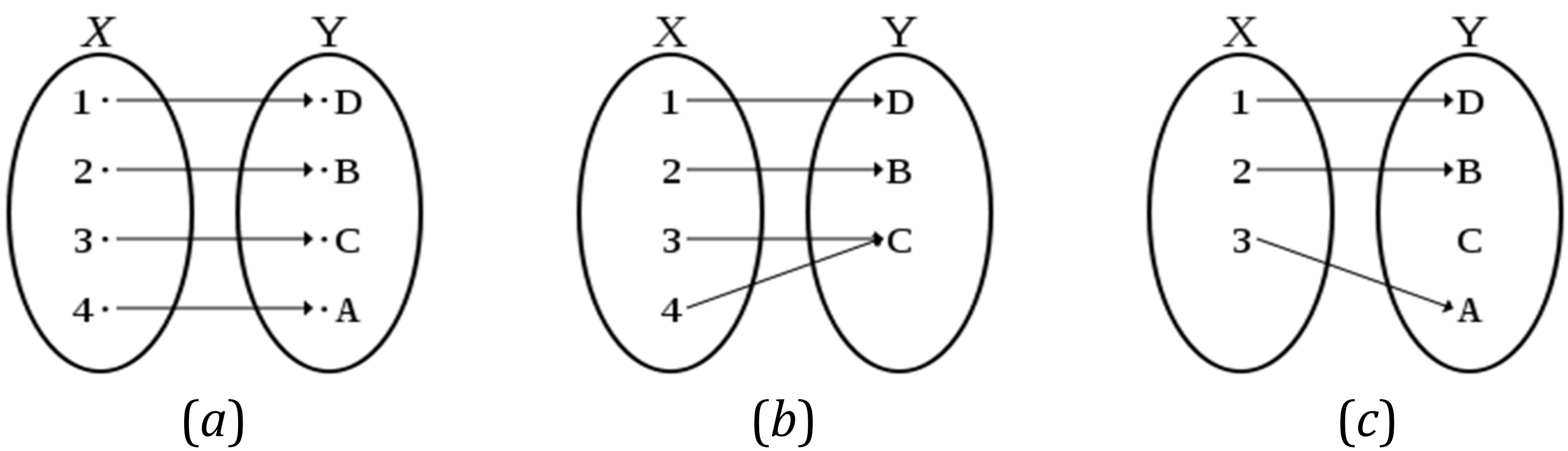
Useful for proof.

$$F: X \to Y \text{ is onto} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \forall y \in Y, \exists x \in X \text{ such that } F(x) = y.$$

Again we also consider an informal one, in the next slide...

What is a Surjection?

- An onto function has its range equal to its co-domain.
  - i.e. every element in its co-domain has one or more inverse images in its domain.
- Are they surjections?



How to Prove it?

Proposition: $f: X \to Y$ is a surjection.

Proof: Assume $y \in Y$.

$\vdots$

$\vdots$ *find* $x \in X$ *such that* $f(x) = y$

$\vdots$

Since for every $y \in Y$, there exists $x \in X$ such that $f(x) = y$, f is surjective.

Q.E.D.

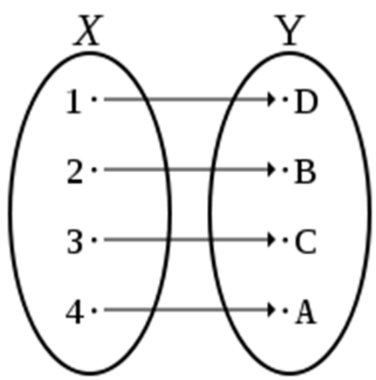
Classwork

- Is it surjective? Prove or disprove it.
  a) $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $f(x) = x + 10$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

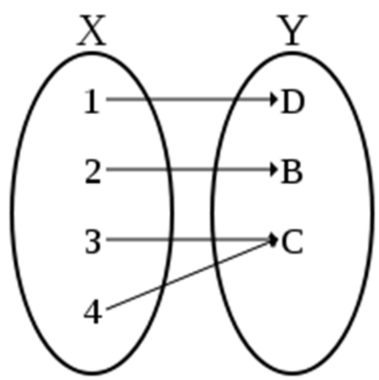
  b) $g : \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$ such that $g(n) = n^2$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

What is a Bijection?

- A function is a one-to-one correspondence (or bijection) iff it is both 1-to-1 and onto.
- Are they bijections?



(a)

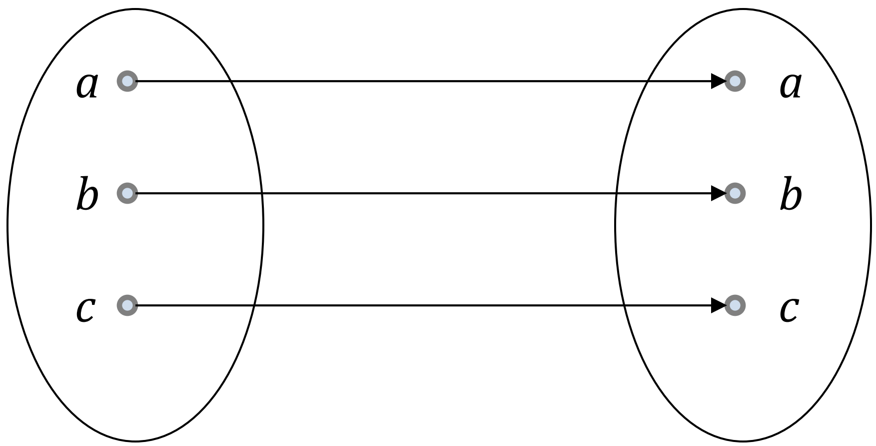


(b)

Identity Function

- The identity function I_X on a set X is defined as

$$I_X(x) = x \text{ for all } x \in X.$$



- Any identity function is a bijection.

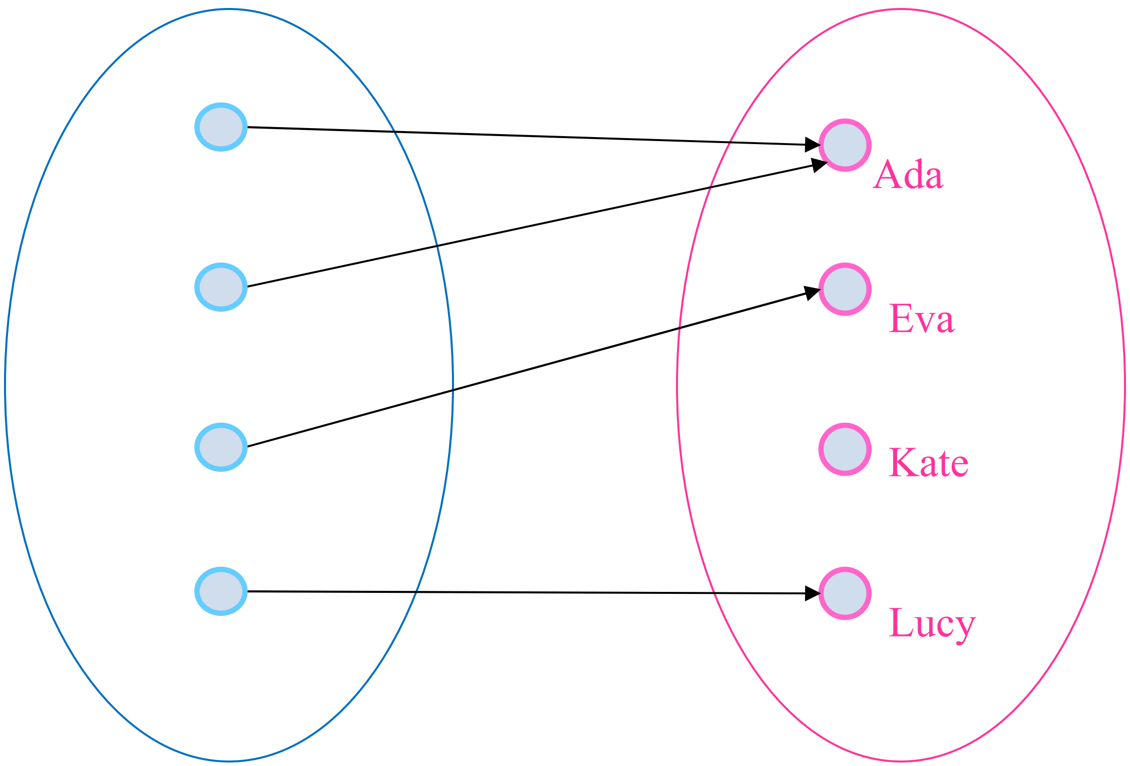
How to Prove it?

- Two different methods to prove f is a bijection.
  a) Show that f is both an injection and a surjection.

  b) Find the inverse function (to be discussed later).

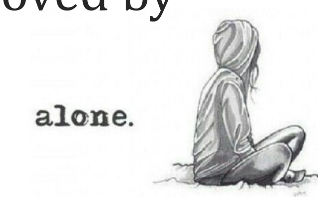
Quick Summary

- **Injection** = No girl is loved by more than one boys.
- **Surjection** = Every girl is loved by some boy.



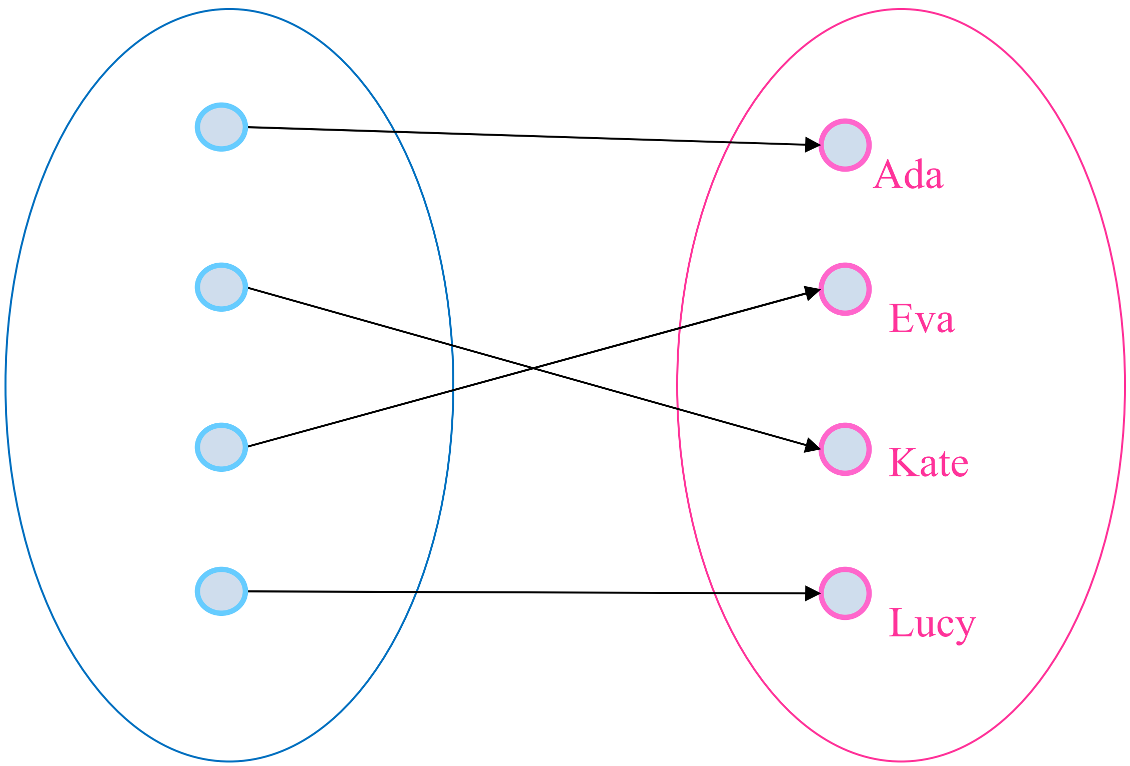
Not 1-to-1 because Ada is torn between two lovers.

Not onto because Kate is loved by none.



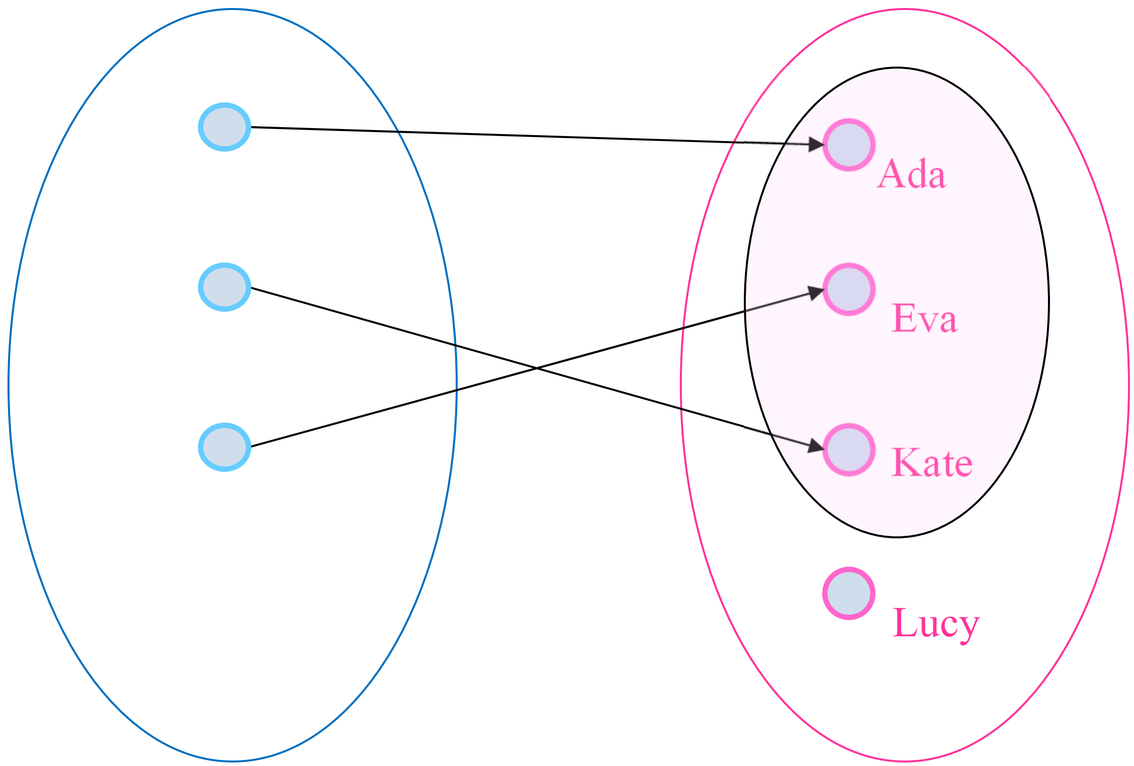
Quick Summary

- Bijection = Perfect Matching!



Quick Summary

- Injection = Bijection to a subset of the co-domain

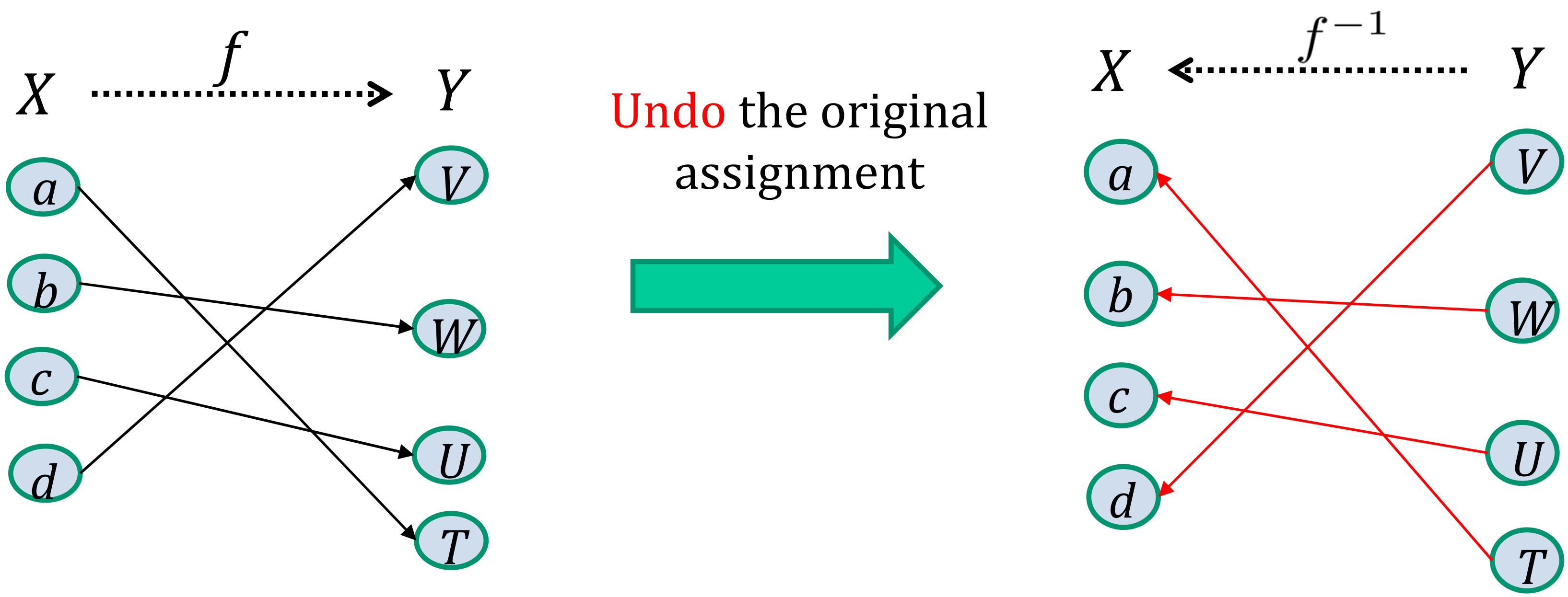


Unit 2.3

Some Properties

Inverse Functions

- Given a bijection f, we can "undo" the action of f by defining an inverse function f^{-1}.



f^{-1} is also a bijection.

Example

- Consider $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $f(x) = 4x - 1$. Find the inverse function of f.
  - Note: its inverse function exists because f is bijective.
- Solution:

$$f(x) = y$$

$$4x - 1 = y \qquad \text{by definition of } f$$

$$x = \frac{y+1}{4} \qquad \text{by algebra.}$$

$$f^{-1}(y) = \frac{y+1}{4}$$

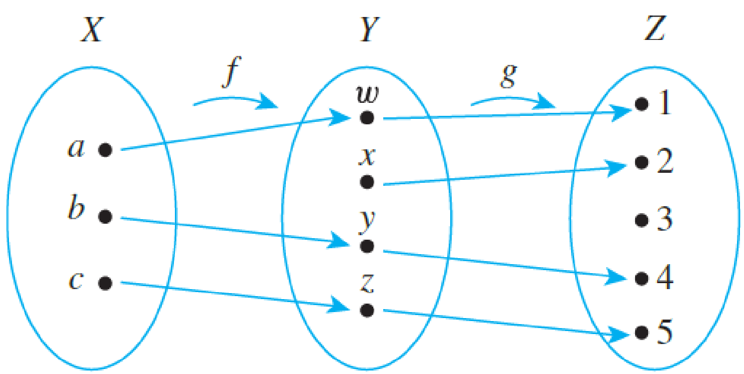
Classwork

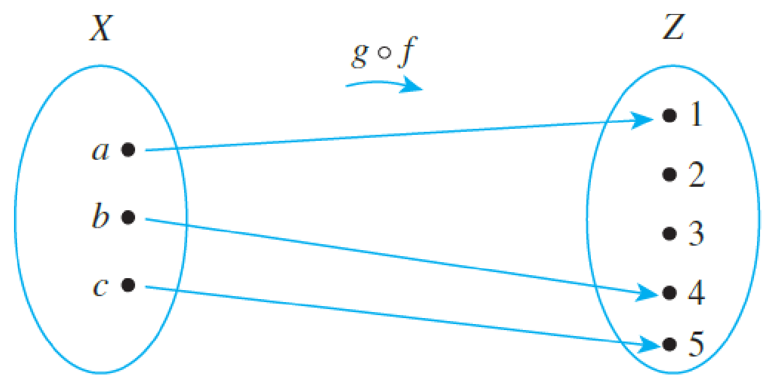
- Consider $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f(x) = x^2$. Is it invertible? Why?

Composition of Injections

Theorem: If $f\colon X \to Y$ and $g\colon Y \to Z$ are both injections, then $g \circ f$ is an injection.

Proof Idea:

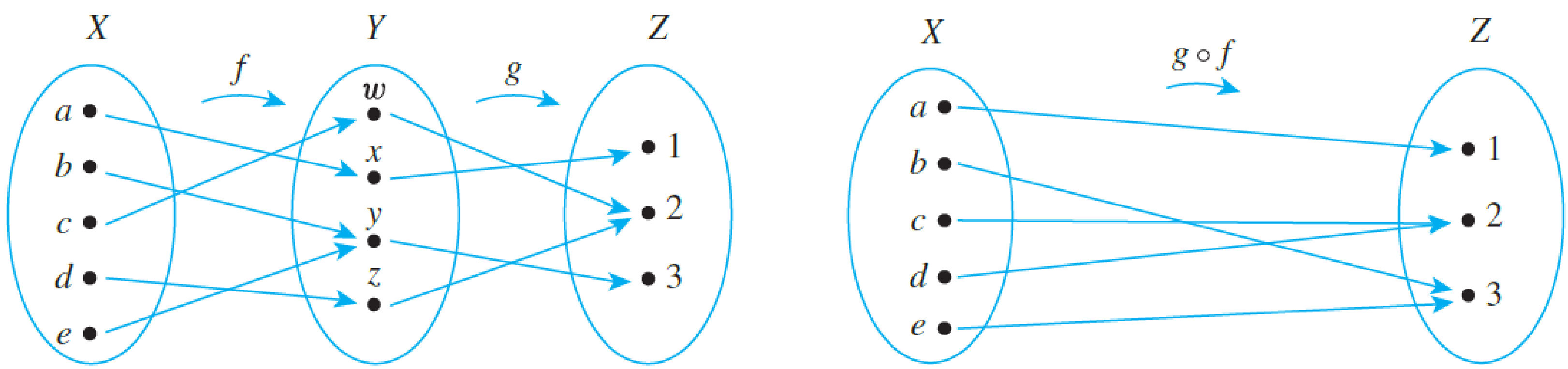




Composition of Surjections

Theorem: If $f: X \to Y$ and $g: Y \to Z$ are both surjections, then $g \circ f$ is a surjection.

Proof Idea:



Composition of Bijections

Theorem: If $f: X \to Y$ and $g: Y \to Z$ are both bijections, then $g \circ f$ is a bijection.

Proof: A direct consequence of the two previous results.

Q.E.D.

Unit 2.4

Countable Sets

Finite and Infinite Sets

- A set S is said to be finite if there exists a bijection
$$f: S \to \{1, 2, \ldots, n\}$$
for some natural number n.
- The number n is called the cardinality of S, denoted as $|S|$.
  - i.e., $|S|$ represents the number of elements in S.
- The empty set, $\emptyset$, is considered finite, with cardinality 0.
- A set S is said to be infinite if it is not finite.

Comparison of Cardinalities

- **Definition 1**
  - The sets A and B have the same cardinality (denoted by $|A| = |B|$) iff there is a bijection from A to B.

- **Definition 2**
  - $|A| \leq |B|$ if there is an injection from A to B.
  - $|A| < |B|$ if $|A| \leq |B|$ and $|A| \neq |B|$.

Countable Sets

- A set S is countable if
  - it is finite, or
  - it can be placed in a one-to-one correspondence (i.e., bijection) with the set of natural numbers, {1, 2, 3, …}.
- The cardinality of the set of natural numbers is denoted by $\aleph_0$ (read as aleph-null)
  - א is the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

Example: Even Numbers

- Show that the set of even numbers is countable.

Solution: True because of the bijection $f(n) = 2n$.

$$\begin{array}{c}\{1,\ 2,\ 3,\ 4,\ 5, \dots,\ n, \dots\} \\ \downarrow\ \downarrow\ \downarrow\ \downarrow\ \downarrow\qquad\downarrow \\ \{2,\ 4,\ 6,\ 8, 10, \dots, 2n, \dots\}\end{array}$$

Q.E.D.

Example: All Integers

- Show that the set of all integers is countable.

Solution: True because of the following bijection:

$$\{1,\ 2,\ 3,\ 4,\ 5, \ldots\}$$

$$\downarrow\ \downarrow\ \downarrow\ \downarrow\ \downarrow$$

$$\{0,\ 1,\ -1,\ 2, -2, \ldots\}$$

Q.E.D.

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} -\frac{n-1}{2} & n \text{ is odd} \\ \frac{n}{2} & n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

Note: To prove a set is countable, it is not needed to write down the bijection explicitly. We only need to list its members.

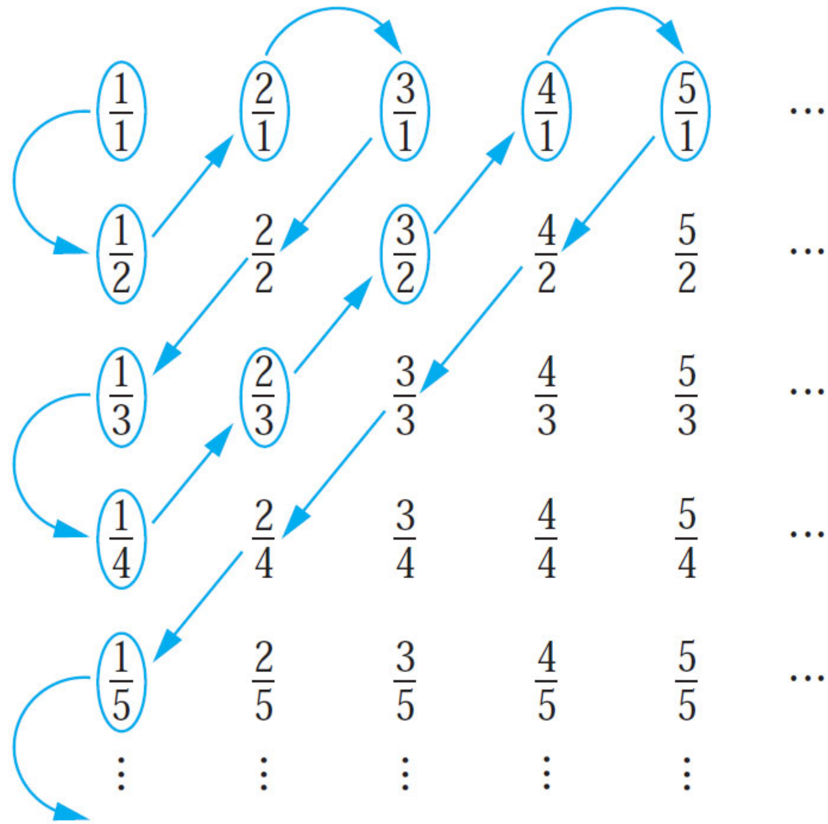
Example: Positive Rationals

Show that the set of positive rational numbers is countable.

Solution:

- By definition, a rational number can be written as p/q, for integers p and $q \neq 0$.
- We can list all rational numbers in the way shown in the next slide.

Terms not circled are not listed because they repeat previously listed terms



There is no need to specify an explicit formula for the bijection.

Stating a rule to pair up the numbers is sufficient.

$$\{1,\quad 2,\quad 3,\quad 4,\quad 5,\quad 6,\quad 7,\quad 8,\quad 9,\quad \ldots\}$$

$$\downarrow\quad\downarrow\quad\downarrow\quad\downarrow\quad\downarrow\quad\downarrow\quad\downarrow\quad\downarrow\quad\downarrow$$

$$\left\{1,\quad \frac{1}{2},\quad 2,\quad 3,\quad \frac{1}{3},\quad \frac{1}{4},\quad \frac{2}{3},\quad 4,\quad 5,\quad \ldots\right\}$$

Q.E.D.

Union of Countable Sets

Theorem: If A and B are countable, then $A \cup B$ is countable.

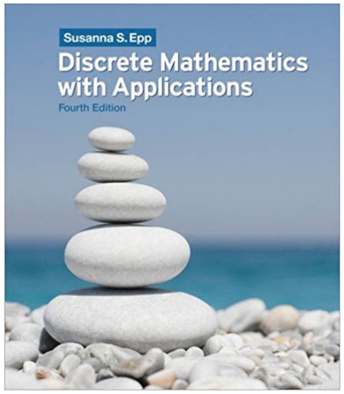
***Proof*:**

- $A = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \ldots\}$
- $B = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \ldots\}$
- $A \cup B = \{a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2, a_3, b_3 \ldots\}$
  - Common elements of A and B, if any, are listed only once.

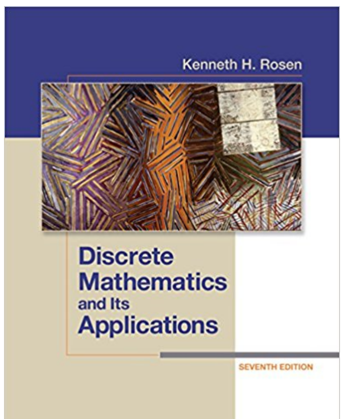
Q.E.D.

We will discuss uncountable sets in Unit 4.

Recommended Reading



- Chapter 7, S. S. Epp, *Discrete Mathematics with Applications*, 4th ed., Brooks Cole, 2010.



- Sections 2.3 and 2.5, K. H. Rosen, *Discrete Mathematics and its Applications*, 7th ed., McGraw-Hill Education, 2011.