

ANALYSIS I EXTENSION LECTURE 2. CONSTRUCTION OF \mathbb{N}

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Remark. Remember: In this world, everything is strictly a set.

Start with 0. We define $0 := \emptyset$. Recall $\text{succ}(x) := x \cup \{x\}$. Accordingly,

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &:= \emptyset \cup \{\emptyset\} = \text{succ}(\emptyset) = \{\emptyset\} \\ 2 &:= \text{succ}(1) = \text{succ}(\{\emptyset\}) = \{\emptyset\} \cup \{\{\emptyset\}\} = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\} \\ 3 &:= \text{succ}(2) = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\} \cup \{\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}\} = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}\} \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

But what is \mathbb{N} ? We can define \mathbb{N} by using the Axiom of Infinity — We want \mathbb{N} to contain $0 = \emptyset$, successor of 0, the successor of that, and so on, and nothing else.

Let S be a set such that $\emptyset \in S$ and if $x \in S$ then $\text{succ}(x) \in S$. However, S could be a lot bigger than \mathbb{N} , so we have to do some more work.

Definition.

$$\begin{aligned} I_S &= \{T \in \mathbb{P}(S) \mid \emptyset \in T \text{ and } x \in T, \text{succ}(x) \in S\} \\ \mathbb{N} &= \{x \in S \mid \forall T \in I_S, x \in T\} = \bigcup_{u \in I_S} u \end{aligned}$$

That is I_S is set of all inductive subset of S . $I_S \neq \emptyset$ because $S \in I_S$.

Theorem (Principle of Mathematical Induction). *Let p be a predicate (function that returns TRUE/FALSE defined on \mathbb{N} . Assume that $p(0)$ is true and $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, p(k) \implies p(\text{succ}(k))$, then $p(n)$ holds for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.*

Proof. Fix p , with the above properties, and set $S := \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid p(n)\}$. We want to show $S = \mathbb{N}$. i.e. the element of S are exactly the element of \mathbb{N} .

We observe that S is inductive. Specifically,

- (1) $0 \in S$ because $p(0) = p(\emptyset)$ holds.
- (2) If $x \in S$, it means $p(x)$ holds. But p has the property that $p(x) \implies p(x^+)$. Then by definition of S , $x^+ \in S$.

By (1) and (2), S is inductive, and therefore $\mathbb{N} \subseteq S$. By the definition of S , it is a subset of \mathbb{N} , therefore $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$.

$\therefore S = \mathbb{N}$ □

Theorem. *If m, n are two natural numbers such that $m^+ = n^+$, then $m = n$.*

Lemma. *Let $x, n \in \mathbb{N}$. If $x \in n$, then $x \subset n$.*

Proof. Define $p(n)$ as $p(n) = \forall x(x \in n \implies x \subset n)$

□