

Finite, infinite, and countable sets

Recall: the set of natural numbers:

$$\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}, \text{ where } 0 = \emptyset, 1 = \emptyset^+ = \{\emptyset\}, 2 = 1^+$$

where the successor of the set X is $X^+ = X \cup \{X\}$

Not. if $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then we denote by the same n .

the cardinal number of n :

$$|n| = n \quad \text{so nat. numbers are also regarded as cardinal numbers.}$$

$$(\text{recall: } |A| = \{B \text{ set} \mid A \sim B\} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{equipotent.} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$2). \quad |\mathbb{N}| \stackrel{\text{not}}{=} \aleph_0 \quad \text{aleph zero}$$

$$3). \quad |\mathbb{R}| \stackrel{\text{not}}{=} \mathfrak{c} \quad \text{— the power of the continuum.}$$

Def Let A be a set.

1) We say that A is finite if A is equipotent to a nat. number (i.e. $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $A \sim n$)

2). A is infinite if A is not finite
(i.e. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad A \not\sim n$.)

3) A is countable if A is equipotent to a subset of \mathbb{N} .

Rem A is countable means that either A is finite
or A is infinite countable i.e. $A \sim \mathbb{N}$.

Theorem (characterization of infinite sets). Let A be a set.

The foll. statements are equivalent:

(i) A is infinite

(ii) A is equipotent to some proper subset of A

(ie. $\exists B \subsetneq A$ s.t. $A \sim B$)

(iii) $\exists f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ injective function.

Rem cond (iii) says that \aleph_0 is the smallest transfinite cardinal number.

Theorem (characterization of finite sets)

Let A be a set. The foll. statements are equivalent:

(i) A is finite

(ii) $\nexists B \subsetneq A$ $A \sim B$.

(iii) $\nexists f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ is not injective

Exple Consider $2\mathbb{N} = \{2k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\} \subsetneq \mathbb{N}$

Let $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2\mathbb{N}$, $f(k) = 2k$. Then f is bijective.

so $|\mathbb{N}| = |2\mathbb{N}|$ sub. $|\mathbb{N}| \sim |\mathbb{N}^*|$

Theorem (Cantor). 1). \mathbb{R} is not countable (ie. $\aleph_0 < c$)

2). More precisely: $c = 2^{\aleph_0}$.

Proof 1) we use the decimal representation of real numbers, and "Cantor's diagonal argument"

By an ex $\mathbb{R} \sim (a, b) \sim [a, b) \sim [a, b] \sim (a, b]$

So we will prove that the interval $[0, 1)$ is not countable

If $a \in [0, 1)$, then we may write:

$$a = 0.a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots \quad (1.0)$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{10^k}, \text{ where } a_k \in \{0, \dots, 9\}.$$

<http://paperkit.net> Recall also that the representation is unique if we

exclude period 9:

$$0.(9) = 0.999\dots = 1.000\dots = 1.(0)$$

So some rational numbers have two representations:

$$\begin{aligned} 0.a_1 a_2 \dots a_n \underset{\substack{+ \\ 9}}{(9)} &= 0.a_1 a_2 \dots a_{n-1} (a_n+1) \underset{(0)}{(0)} \\ &= \frac{a_1}{10} + \frac{a_2}{10^2} + \dots + \frac{a_{n-1}}{10^{n-1}} \in \mathbb{Q}. \end{aligned}$$

Assume by contradiction that $\exists f: \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow [0,1)$ bijective.

Let:

$$f(1) = 0. \textcircled{a_{11}} a_{12} a_{13} a_{14} a_{15} \dots$$

$$f(2) = 0. a_{21} \textcircled{a_{22}} a_{23} a_{24} a_{25} \dots$$

(without period 9)

$$f(3) = 0. a_{31} a_{32} \textcircled{a_{33}} a_{34} a_{35} \dots$$

$$f(4) = 0. a_{41} a_{42} a_{43} \textcircled{a_{44}} a_{45} \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(5) &= 0. a_{51} a_{52} a_{53} a_{54} \textcircled{a_{55}} \dots \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

Let $a = 0. a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4 a_5 \dots$, where we choose

$$a_1 \neq a_{11}, 0, 9$$

$$a_2 \neq a_{22}, 0, 9$$

$$a_n \neq a_{nn}, 0, 9.$$

We have $a \in [0,1)$, and by the argument of repetition,

we have that $a \neq f(k) \forall k \in \mathbb{N}^*$.

But this contradicts the surjectivity of f .

$$2) \text{ we know that } 2^{\aleph_0} = |\text{Hom}(\mathbb{N}^*, \{0,1\})|$$

Real that a function $f: \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ is just a

sequence $(a_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*}$, $a_k \in \{0,1\}$
 " (a_1, a_2, \dots)

As if we can let $\mathbb{R} \sim [0,1)$, i.e. $|[0,1)| = c$.
 We use the repetition of numbers for $[0,1)$ in base 2.

$$\text{well: } a = 0.a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots (2) \\ = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{2^k}, \text{ where } a_k \in \{0,1\}$$

We have \sum a word period 1 because

$$0.(1) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k} = 1 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2^n}}$$

$$\text{So } 0.a_1 a_2 \dots a_n 0.(1) = 0.a_1 a_2 \dots a_n 1(0) \in \mathbb{Q} \\ = \frac{a_1}{2} + \frac{a_2}{2^2} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{2^n} + \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}$$

So some rational numbers have exactly two representations,
 and if we avoid period 1 the representation is unique.

$$\text{Let } f: [0,1) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathbb{N}^*, \{0,1\}) = \{0,1\}^{\mathbb{N}^*}$$

$$\text{where if } a = 0.a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots (2)$$

$$\text{then we define } f(a) = (a_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*} \in \{0,1\}^{\mathbb{N}^*}.$$

By the uniqueness of repr. of a , we get that f is a
 well-defined function and f is injective.

$$\text{It follows that } c = |[0,1)| = |\text{Im } f|$$

Let $A \subseteq \{0,1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be the set of sequences being period 1. Then we have the disjoint union:

$$\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{N}} = \text{inf} \cup A, \text{ hence}$$

$$2^{\aleph_0} = |\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{N}}| = c + |A|$$

But sequences with period 1 represent rational numbers, and by ex we have $|A| = \aleph_0$.

$$\text{we get } 2^{\aleph_0} = c + \aleph_0 \quad \text{||} \quad \textcircled{2}$$

$$\stackrel{\textcircled{\text{ex}}}{=} c$$

Rem $c \stackrel{?}{=} \aleph_1$ the continuum hypothesis

is indep from other axioms of set theory.

(i.e. between \aleph_0 and c there are no other cardinals)

Combinatorics

We will compute the number of elements of certain finite sets.

Let $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Consider the totally ordered finite sets

$$A = \{a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_k\}$$

$$B = \{b_1 < b_2 < \dots < b_n\}.$$

1). Arrangements with repetition

Def A k-arrangement with repetition of n elements is

a sequence of length k of elements of B

Exmp let $k=2$, $n=4$. We write down all the 2-arrangements with rep. of 4 elem:

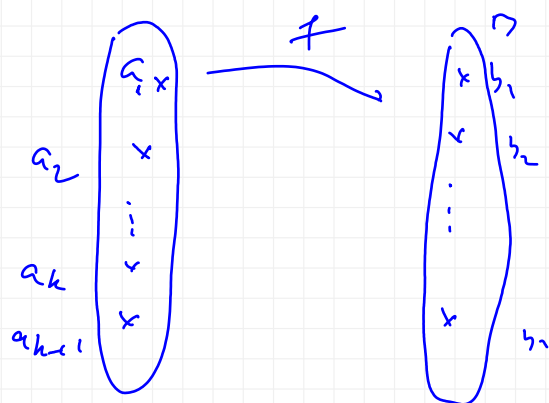
$b_1 b_1$	$b_2 b_1$	$b_3 b_1$	$b_4 b_1$
$b_1 b_2$	$b_2 b_2$	$b_3 b_2$	$b_4 b_2$
$b_1 b_3$	$b_2 b_3$	$b_3 b_3$	$b_4 b_3$
$b_1 b_4$	$b_2 b_4$	$b_3 b_4$	$b_4 b_4$

$$\bar{A}_4^2 = 16$$

Def \bar{A}_n^k = the number of k -arrangements with rep. of n elem.

Problem calculate $\bar{A}_n^k = ?$

Observe that a k -arrangement with rep. of n elem is identical with a function $f: A \rightarrow B$.



let $k=1$.

$$|B^A| = n$$

let $k=2$

$$|B^A| = n^2$$

induction on k : $P(k): \bar{A}_n^k = n^k$

Assume $P(k)$ is true. Then for any choice of $f(a_1), \dots, f(a_k)$, we have n choices for $f(a_{k+1})$.

$$\text{We set } \bar{A}_n^{k+1} = \bar{A}_n^k \cdot n \stackrel{P(k)}{=} n^{k+1}.$$

Conclg. $\boxed{\bar{A}_n^k = |H_{\text{on}}(A, B)| = n^k}$

2). Arrangements

Def a k -arrangement of n elements is a sequence of length n of elements of B , such that every

element occurs at most once.

Ex $n=4$, $k=2$ we write down all the 2-arrangements of 4 elements;

$b_1 b_2$	$b_2 b_1$	$b_3 b_1$	$b_4 b_1$
$b_1 b_3$	$b_2 b_3$	$b_3 b_2$	$b_4 b_2$
$b_1 b_4$	$b_2 b_4$	$b_3 b_4$	$b_4 b_3$

$A_4^2 = 12$

Not $A_n^k :=$ the nr of k -arrangements of n elements.

Problem: Calculate $A_n^k = ?$

Observe that a k -arrangement of n elements can be identified with an injective function $f: A \rightarrow B$

$$\text{hence } A_n^k = |\text{Hom}_{\text{inj}}(A, B)|$$

We proceed by induction on k .

- For $k=1$, any function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is injective
- For $k=2$, for any values of $f(e_1)$ we have $n-1$ possibilities for $f(e_2)$
- From k to $k+1$: for any values of $f(e_1), \dots, f(e_k)$ we have $n-k$ possibilities for $f(e_{k+1})$.

$$\text{we get } A_n^{k+1} = A_n^k \cdot (n-k).$$

$$\text{Hence } \boxed{A_n^k = n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots (n-k+1)}$$

Rem 1) if $k > n$, then $A_n^k = 0$

2) if $k=0$, i.e. $A = \emptyset$, then $\text{Hom}(\emptyset, B) = \{\emptyset\}$

hence $\overline{A}_n^0 = A_n^0 = 1$.

n part $0^0 = 1$
in this context!!

3) Permutation

Def A perm. of n elnts is a sequence of length n of elnts of B st each eln occur exactly once.

Rem a perm. of n elnts is identifiable with a bijection function $f: A \rightarrow B$, where $k=n$

Not $P_n =$ no. of perm. of n elnts.

we have:
$$P_n = A_n^n = n!$$

Rem $P_0 = 1$, so $0! = 1$ by convention.

$$|Hom_{bij}(\emptyset, \emptyset)|$$

4) Combinations

Def A k-combination of n elnts is a strictly increasing sequence of length k of eln of B.

EX $n=5$, $k=3$ We write down all the 3-combinations of 5 elements:

$b_1 b_2 b_3$

$b_1 b_3 b_4$

$b_2 b_3 b_4$

$b_3 b_4 b_5$

$b_1 b_2 b_4$

$b_1 b_3 b_5$

$b_2 b_3 b_5$

$b_1 b_2 b_5$

$b_1 b_4 b_5$

$b_2 b_4 b_5$

Not $\binom{n}{k} = C_n^k =$ no. of k-combinations of n elnts

Problem Calculate $\binom{n}{k} = ?$

Observe that from any k -subset of n elements we get P_k k-permutations of n elements.

$$\text{Hence } A_n^k = C_n^k \cdot P_k.$$

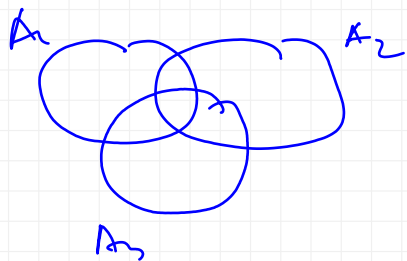
$$\text{Then } \binom{n}{k} = \frac{A_n^k}{P_k} = \frac{n(n-1)\dots(n-k+1)}{k!} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

(for $k \leq n$)
 (for $k > n$ $\binom{n}{k} = 0$)

Prop any k -subset of n elements is determined uniquely by a subset with k -elements of B .

hence $\binom{n}{k}$ = number of subsets with k -elements of a set with n elements.

5) The Inclusion exclusion principle



$$|A_1 \cup A_2| = |A_1| + |A_2| - |A_1 \cap A_2|$$

$$\begin{aligned} |A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3| &= |A_1| + |A_2| + |A_3| \\ &\quad - |A_1 \cap A_2| - |A_1 \cap A_3| - |A_2 \cap A_3| \\ &\quad + |A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3| \end{aligned}$$

Then let A_1, \dots, A_n be finite sets.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \left| \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i \right| &= \sum_{i=1}^n |A_i| - \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |A_i \cap A_j| + \sum_{1 \leq i < j < k \leq n} |A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k| \\ &\quad - \dots + (-1)^{k+1} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n} |A_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap A_{i_k}| + \dots + (-1)^{n+1} \left| \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i \right| \end{aligned}$$

Proof HW

Pr. 8.4.3 / 55

Homework: ex. 95 - 106.