

01:640:311H - Chapter 1

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What are the Real Numbers?

The real numbers are a **complete ordered field**.

This uniquely determines the real numbers.

No what do these words mean: complete, ordered, field.

0.1 field

A field is a set of numbers with two operations, addition and multiplication, that satisfy the following properties $\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$$

$$x + y = y + x$$

$$(x * y) * z = x * (y * z)$$

$$x * y = y * x$$

$$x * (y + z) = x * y + x * z$$

$$\exists 0 \text{ s.t. } x + 0 = x$$

$$\forall x \exists -x \text{ s.t. } x + (-x) = 0$$

$$\exists 1 \text{ s.t. } x * 1 = x$$

$$0 \neq 1$$

$$\forall x \neq 0 \exists x^{-1} \text{ s.t. } x * x^{-1} = 1$$

Theorem 1. For all real numbers x : $0x = 0$.

Proof.

$$0 * x + 0 * x = (0 + 0) * x$$

$$0 * x + 0 * x = 0 * x$$

$$0 * x + 0 * x = 0 * x + 0$$

$$0 * x = 0$$

□

0.2 ordered

For all $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$x < y \implies x + z < y + z$$

$$x < y \text{ and } y < z \implies x < z$$

Trichotomy Law: $x < y$ or $x = y$ or $x > y$

Theorem 2.

$$0 < 1$$

Proof. We do this by the Trichotomy Law.

We know that $0 \neq 1$

we can do this by contradiction: Suppose $1 < 0$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + (-1) &< 0 + (-1) \\ 0 &< -1 * (-1) &< 0 * (-1) \\ 1 * (-1) &< 0 * (-1) + (1 * 1) < 0 + (1 * 1) \\ 0 &< 1 \end{aligned}$$

□

Definition. If S is a set of real then we say b is an upper bound of S if $\forall x \in S : x \leq b$.

Definition. Given a set of S of reals. we say b is least upper bound or supremum of S when

1. b is an upper bound of S
2. If c is an upper bound of S then $b \leq c$

we denote this as $b = \sup S$

0.3 complete

Every non empty set of real numbers that is bounded above has a least upper bound.

Theorem 3. $x = \sup S$ if and only if x is an upper bound of S for all $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $s \in S$ such that $x - \epsilon < s$

Proof. \implies Suppose $x = \sup S$

Then x is an upper bound of S

We only need to show that for all $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $s \in S$ such that $x - \epsilon < s$

Let $\epsilon > 0$

Since $x = \sup S$ every other upper bound of S is greater than x

So $x - \epsilon$ is not an upper bound of S

So there exists $s \in S$ such that $x - \epsilon < s$

Suppose for all $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $s \in S$ such that $x - \epsilon < s$

We need to show that $x = \sup S$

We know that x is an upper bound of S

And we know that if $b < x$ then b is not an upper bound of S

So $x - \epsilon$ is not an upper bound of S

so there exists $s \in S$ such that $x - \epsilon < s$

\impliedby Now suppose x is an ub $\forall \epsilon > 0$ there exists $s \in S$ such that $x - \epsilon < s$

Since we know x is an upper bound of S we only need to show that if b is an upper bound of S then $b \geq x$

By contraposition, this is equivalent to showing that if $b < x$ then b is not an upper bound of

S

Let $\epsilon = x - b$

Then there exists an $s \in S$ such that $x - \epsilon < s$

and $x - \epsilon = b$

and b is not an upper bound of S

Thus $x = \sup S$

□

Note that we get that every non empty set of real numbers that is bounded below has a greatest lower bound for free from the completeness of the real numbers.

This is due to the fact multiplication by -1 is a reflection across the origin which maps upper bounds to lower bounds.

Theorem 4. Define $-S = \{-s \text{ s.t. } s \in S\}$

Then if b is an upper bound of S then $-b$ is a lower bound of $-S$

Proof.

□

Theorem 5. If $b = \sup S$ then $-b = \inf -S$

Proof. HW

□

Theorem 6 (Nested Interval).

Theorem 7 (Archimedean property).

0.4 Existence of $\sqrt{2}$

Lemma 1. If $a > 0$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}$ then $a^2 > b^2 \implies a > b$

Proof. By contrapositive, suppose $a \leq b$

Then $a^2 \leq ab < b^2$

So $a^2 < b^2$

□

Theorem 8. There is an $x > 0$ such that $x^2 = 2$

Proof. Let $S = \{s \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } s > 0 \text{ and } s^2 < 2\}$

We can see that $0 \in S$ so S is non empty

More over $2^2 = 4 > 2$ so $2 \notin S$ so S is bounded above

Let $x = \sup S$ then we WTS $x^2 = 2$

Suppose $x^2 > 2$

Let $\epsilon = \text{very small}$ Let us consider $(x - \frac{1}{n})^2$

$$\begin{aligned} (x - \frac{1}{n})^2 &= x^2 - 2x\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n}^2 \\ &\geq x^2 - 2x\frac{1}{n} \end{aligned}$$

We want $x^2 - 2x\frac{1}{n} > 2$

Know that $x^2 > 2$

Thus $x^2 - 2 > \frac{2x}{n}$ and $\frac{1}{n} < \frac{x^2-2}{2x}$

So by the Archimedean property there exists, We can take an n such that $\frac{1}{n} < \frac{x^2-2}{2x}$

Thus $(x - \frac{1}{n})^2 > 2$, so $x - \frac{1}{n}$ is an upper bound of S resulting in a contradiction.

Now consider $x^2 < 2$

Let $\epsilon = 2 - x^2$

Then there exists $s \in S$ such that $x < s$

Then $s^2 < 2$

Then $s^2 < x^2$

Then $s < x$

□

Definition. We say a set is countable if $A \sim \mathbb{N}$

Lemma 2. Any infinite subset of a countable set is countable

Proof. Let $A \subset \mathbb{N}$ be infinite and we define $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$

$$\begin{aligned} f(1) &= \min A \\ f(2) &= \min(A \setminus \{f(1)\}) \\ f(3) &= \min(A \setminus \{f(1), f(2)\}) \\ &\vdots \\ f(n) &= \min(A \setminus \{f(1), f(2), \dots, f(n-1)\}) \end{aligned}$$

This is a bijection between \mathbb{N} and A

□

Corollary. If there exists an inject form A to \mathbb{N} then either A is finite or $A \sim \mathbb{N}$ (countable)

Proof. If A is finite then we are done

If A is infinite the $f : A \rightarrow \text{Im}(f)$ stays injective and becomes surjective so $A \sim \text{Im}(f)$ Since $\text{Im}(f) \subset \mathbb{N}$ is infinite then $A \sim \text{Im}(f) \sim \mathbb{N}$

□

Proposition 1. $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ is countable

Proof. $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ is infinite, so if we could construct and inject $f : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ then $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \sim \mathbb{N}$

Let $f : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$$f(a, b) = 2^a 3^b$$

By unique prime factorization if $(a, b) \neq (c, d)$ then $f(a, b) \neq f(c, d)$

So f is injective and the corollary gives us that $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \sim \mathbb{N}$

□

Corollary. \mathbb{N}^n is countable for all n .

Theorem 9. If S_1, S_2, \dots is a sequence of sets each finite or countable then $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} S_n$ is finite or countable

Proof. By defining $\tilde{S}_i = \{s \in S : s \notin S_j \forall j < i\}$

We can assume WLOG that the S_i are disjoint

For each S_i we can enumerate the elements as $S_i = \{S_{i,1}, S_{i,2}, \dots\}$ and $S = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \{S_{1,1} \dots S_{1,n_1}, S_{2,1} \dots S_{2,n_2}, \dots\}$

Each element of S has a unique index, so the function is $f \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ by $f(S_{i,j}) = (i, j)$ is well defined and injective.

Since $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ is countable there is a bijection g and there is $h = g \circ f$ that is injective and so by the lemma S is either finite or countable \square

Theorem 10. \mathbb{Q} is countable

Proof. Write $\mathbb{Q} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$

where $A_i = \{\pm \frac{a}{n} : a \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, b \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ and } a + b = i\}$

Now each A_i is finite so by the previous theorem \mathbb{Q} is countable \square

Theorem 11. \mathbb{R} is not countable

Proof. Suppose $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ we will prove that f is not surjective

so $\mathbb{N} \not\sim \mathbb{R}$

First for each n write $x_n = f(n)$ before $n = 1$ we can find an interval I_1 not containing x_1 now by splitting I_1 into 3 pieces we can always find a piece excluding x_2 Call this closed bounded interval I_2 and so on.

Iterating we get a nested set of closed bounded intervals $I_1 \supset I_2 \supset I_3 \supset \dots$ with $x_n \notin I_n$

Thus $x_n \notin \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} I_m$

Property $\exists x \in \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} I_m$ by NIP Since $x \neq x_n \forall n$ f is not surjective. and thus \mathbb{R} is not countable \square

Theorem 12.

Theorem 13. for any set A , $\{0, 1\}^A \sim P(A)$

Theorem 14. For any set A , $A \not\sim \{0, 1\}^A$