## MA1201 - Assignment 2 Solutions

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1. Prove that the collection of all finite subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$  is countable.

**Solution :** Let  $N_n$  denote the set of all subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$  with n elements. Then consider the function  $f: N_n \to \mathbb{N}$  defined as,

$$f(S) = \sum_{n \in S} 10^n \ \forall S \in N_n$$

f can be shown to be injective. Since f is an injection from  $N_k$  to  $\mathbb{N}$  which is a countable set,  $N_k$  is also countable. The set of all finite subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$ ,

$$X := \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} N_n$$

is the countable union of countable sets, and hence is countable.

**Note:** The set X must not be confused with  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ . Even though both of them may seem similar as n grows larger and larger, it's easy to see that  $\mathbb{N} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  but  $\mathbb{N} \notin X$ . Hence,  $X \neq \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ 

2. Prove that  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  is countable.

**Solution :** Let us define a function  $f: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$  as

$$f((x,y)) = 2^x 3^y \ \forall (x,y) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$$

Let  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  such that,  $f((x_1, y_1)) = f((x_2, y_2))$ . Then,

$$f((x_1, y_1)) = f((x_2, y_2)) \Rightarrow 2^{x_1} 3^{y_1} = 2^{x_2} 3^{y_2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^{x_1 - x_2} = 3^{y_2 - y_1}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 & y_1 = y_2$$
(Since 2 and 3 are prime numbers)

Hence, f is injective. Since, f is an injection from  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$ , and  $\mathbb{N}$  is countable,  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  is also countable.

3. Show that the set  $F = \{p + q\sqrt{2} : p, q \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  is countable.

**Solution :** Let us define  $f: \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} \to F$  as,

$$f((x,y)) := x + y\sqrt{2} \ \forall (x,y) \in \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$$

Now we claim that f is a bijection. Let  $(a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2) \in \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $f((a_1, b_1)) = f((a_2, b_2))$ . Then,

$$f((a_1, b_1)) = f((a_2, b_2)) \Rightarrow a_1 + b_1 \sqrt{2} = a_2 + b_2 \sqrt{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow (a_1 - a_2) = (b_2 - b_1) \sqrt{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = a_2 \& b_1 = b_2$$

$$\Rightarrow (a_1, b_1) = (a_2, b_2)$$
(Q is closed under addition)

Hence, f is injective. Now, let  $z \in F$  be arbitrary. Then,  $z = p + q\sqrt{2}$  for some  $p, q \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then,  $f((p,q)) = p + q\sqrt{2} = z$ . Hence f is onto. Thus, f is bijective. Hence,  $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} \sim F$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$  is countable, F is also countable.

4. Prove that the set of all polynomials of degree  $\leq 3$  with integer coefficients is countable.

**Solution :** Let S be the set of all polynomials of degree  $\leq 3$  with integer coefficients. Let us define  $f: \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \to S$  as,

$$f((a, b, c, d)) := P(x) \ \forall (a, b, c, d) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$$

Where  $P(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ . We claim that f is a bijection. Let  $(a_1, b_1, c_1, d_1), (a_2, b_2, c_2, d_2) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $f((a_1, b_1, c_1, d_1)) = f((a_2, b_2, c_2, d_2)) \Rightarrow a_1x^3 + b_1x^2 + c_1x + d_1 = a_2x^3 + b_2x^2 + c_2x + d_2 \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Since the polynomials are equal for all values of x, the coefficients must be equal i.e.  $(a_1, b_1, c_1, d_1) = (a_2, b_2, c_2, d_2)$ . Hence,  $f((a_1, b_1, c_1, d_1)) = f((a_2, b_2, c_2, d_2)) \Rightarrow (a_1, b_1, c_1, d_1) = (a_2, b_2, c_2, d_2)$  thus, f is injective. Now, let  $P(x) \in S$  defined as  $P(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$  be arbitrary. Then let  $z = (a, b, c, d) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ . Then, clearly, f(z) = P(x). Thus, f is surjective. Hence, f is bijective. Thus,  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  is countable, S is also countable.  $\Box$ 

5. Prove that the sets  $(0, \infty)$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are equipotent.

**Solution :** Let us define  $f:(0,\infty)\to\mathbb{R}$  as,

$$f(x) := \ln(x) \ \forall x \in (0, \infty)$$

Now, we claim that f is a bijection.

Let  $x_1, x_2 \in (0, \infty)$  such that  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ .

$$f(x_1) = f(x_2) \Rightarrow \ln(x_1) = \ln(x_2)$$
$$\Rightarrow e^{\ln(x_1)} = e^{\ln(x_2)}$$
$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2$$

Hence, f is injective. Let  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  be arbitrary. Then let us define  $x := e^y \in (0, \infty)$ . Then,  $\ln(x) = \ln(e^y) = y$ . Hence, f is surjective. Thus, f is a bijection. This proves our claim. Since f is a bijection, the sets  $(0, \infty)$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are equipotent.

- 6. Prove that if A and B are countable then  $A \times B$  is countable. In general for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  if  $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_n$  are countable then  $A_1 \times A_2 \times \cdots \times A_n$  is countable.
- 7. Prove or disprove that  $A_1 \times A_2 \times \ldots$  is countable, where  $A_i$  is a countable set.

**Hint**: This set will be uncountable (if each  $A_i$  has at least 2 elements). Use Cantor's diagonal argument. (See Problem 13)

- 8. Prove or disprove that countable union of countable sets in countable.
- 9. Prove that the set  $A = \{a \in \mathbb{R} : \exists a^4 + pa^3 + qa^2 + ra + s = 0\}$  is countable.

**Solution :** We know that  $\mathbb{Z}^4$  is countable. Let  $\mathbb{Z}^4 = \{z_1, z_2, \dots\}$ . Then, for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let us construct  $A_n$  as,

$$A_n = \{a \in \mathbb{R} : pa^3 + qa^2 + ra + s = 0, (p, q, r, s) = z_n \in \mathbb{Z}^4\}$$

Since,  $A_n$  can have at most 4 elements,  $A_n$  is finite and hence countable for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Also,

$$A = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n$$

Hence, A is also countable since the countable union of countable sets is countable.

10. Let A be a finite set. Prove that the set of all sequences of elements in A of finite length is countable.

**Solution:** Each finite sequence of elements in A of length  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  can be written as an element of  $A^n$ . Since A is countable,  $A^n$  is also countable  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  Hence, the set of all sequences of elements in A of finite length,

$$X:=\bigcup_{n\in\mathbb{N}}A^n$$

is the countable union of countable sets and hence, is countable.

11. Prove that if X is countable and  $f: X \to Y$  is a surjective function then Y is countable.

**Solution:** Look at the solution of 23(c).

12. Let A be an infinite set. If there is an infinite sequence in which each element of A appears at least once, then show that A is countable.

**Solution :** Since there is an infinite sequence in which each element of A appears at least once,  $\exists f : \mathbb{N} \to A$  such that f is surjective. Since  $\mathbb{N}$  is countable, A must also be countable.

13. Prove that the set of all functions from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$  is uncountable.

**Solution :** Let S be the set of all functions from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$ . We claim that S is uncountable. Let us assume to the contrary that, S is countable. Then, the set S can be written as

$$S = \{f_1, f_2, \dots\}$$

Now, let us construct  $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$  as,

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } f_n(n) \neq 1\\ 2 & \text{if } f_n(n) = 1 \end{cases}$$

Then,  $f(n) \neq f_n(n) \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , i.e.  $f \neq f_n \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  Hence,  $f \notin S$ . This is a contradiction since, S is the set of all functions from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$ . Hence, the set S is uncountable.

**Note:** This approach of constructing an element by making all the diagonal elements unequal to prove the uncountability of a set is known as Cantor's diagonal argument. This approach will be used multiple times throughout the solutions.

14. Prove that the set of all decreasing functions from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$  is countable.

**Solution:** Let the set of all decreasing functions from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$  be A and, let  $f \in A$  be arbitrary. As a consequence of well-ordering principle,  $\exists m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k \geq n$ , f(k) = m i.e. the function becomes a constant function after n. We can uniquely represent this function as an ordered tuple  $(f(1), f(2), f(3), \ldots f(n)) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ . Let  $A_n$  be the collection of all decreasing functions that become constant after some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then,  $A_n \subseteq \mathbb{N}^n \Rightarrow A_n$  is countable.  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

Then, the collection of all decreasing functions from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}$ 

$$A = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n$$

is the countable of union of countable sets and hence countable.

15. Let X and Y be two nonempty finite sets. Then, is the set of all functions from X to Y (i) finite (ii) countably infinite (iii) uncountable? Give justifications

**Solution:** Let's assume that the set X has m elements and the set Y has n elements. Then, For each element in X, there are n possible elements it can map to. Hence, the total number of functions will be  $n^m$ . Hence, the set of all functions from X to Y is finite.

16. Prove that a set is infinite iff it is bijective with a proper subset of itself.

**Solution:** Let's assume S is an infinite set. Let  $A \subset S$  be countable. We know such a subset exists because, every infinite set has a countable subset. Then, the set A can be written as  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots\}$ . Let us split thus sets into two sets  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ , as  $A_1 = \{a_1, a_3, \dots\}$  and  $A_2 = \{a_2, a_4, \dots\}$ . Now, let us consider the function  $f: S \to S \setminus A_1$  defined as,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \in S \setminus A \\ a_{2n} & \text{if } x = a_n \in A \end{cases}$$

f can be shown to be a bijection and hence,  $S \sim S \setminus A_1 \subset S$ 

Now, let us assume that S is equipotent to a proper subset of itself. We shall show that S is ininite. Let's assume to the contrary that, S is finite. Then, Let S have  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  elements. Then any proper subset of S has  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  elements with m < n. Then, it is impossible to find a bijection between them since, for a bijection to exist between two finite sets, the number of elements in the sets must be equal. But, this is a contradiction. Hence, S must be inifinte.

17. Prove that if  $A \cap B = \phi$  then  $\mathcal{P}(A \cup B) \sim \mathcal{P}(A) \times \mathcal{P}(B)$ 

**Solution :** Consider the function  $f: \mathcal{P}(A \cup B) \to \mathcal{P}(A) \times \mathcal{P}(B)$  defined as,

$$f(S) = (\{x : x \in S \cap A\}, \{y : y \in S \cap B\}) \ \forall S \in \mathcal{P}(A \cup B)$$

Let  $S_1, S_2 \in \mathcal{P}(A \cup B)$  such that  $S_1 \neq S_2$ . WLOG we can assume that,  $\exists x \in S_1$  such that  $x \notin S_2$ 

Case 1  $x \in A$ 

 $x \in A \Rightarrow x \in S_1 \cap A \text{ and } x \notin S_2 \cap A \text{ Hence}, \{a : a \in S_1 \cap A\} \neq \{b : b \in S_2 \cap A\} \Rightarrow f(S_1) \neq f(S_2)$ 

## Case 2 $x \in B$

 $x \in B \Rightarrow x \in S_1 \cap B \text{ and } x \notin S_2 \cap B \text{ Hence}, \{a : a \in S_1 \cap B\} \neq \{b : b \in S_2 \cap B\} \Rightarrow f(S_1) \neq f(S_2)$ 

Hence, f is injective. Now, let  $(S_A, S_B) \in \mathcal{P}(A) \times \mathcal{P}(B)$  be arbitrary. Then,  $S_A \subseteq A$  and  $S_B \subseteq B$ . Let  $S = S_A \cup S_B$ . Then,  $S \cap A = S_A \cup S_B \cap A = S_A \cup \phi = S_A$  (since  $A \cap B = \phi$ ). Similarly  $S \cap B = S_B$ . Then,

$$f(S) = (\{x : x \in S \cap A\}, \{y : y \in S \cap B\})$$
  
=  $(\{x : x \in S_A\}, \{y : y \in S_B\})$   
=  $(S_A, S_B)$ 

Hence, f is onto. Thus f is a bijection and thus,  $\mathcal{P}(A \cup B) \sim \mathcal{P}(A) \times \mathcal{P}(B)$ 

18. Is the set of all infinite sequences of 0's and 1's finite, countably infinite or uncountable? Give justification.

**Solution :** Let S be the set of all infinite sequences of 0's and 1's. We claim that S is uncountable. Let us assume to the contrary that, S is countable. Then, the set S can be written as,

$$S = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots\}$$

Also,  $i^{th}$  element in S can be indexed as well like this,

$$a_i = a_{i1}a_{i2}a_{i3}\dots \text{ where } a_{ij} \in \{0,1\} \ \forall i,j \in \mathbb{N}$$

Now, let us construct  $a_0$  as .

$$a_{0n} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a_{nn} = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } a_{nn} \neq 0 \end{cases} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Clearly  $a_0 \neq a_n \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence,  $a_0 \notin S$ . But this is a contradiction since S is the set of all infinite sequences of 0's and 1's. Hence, our assumption is wrong and the set S is uncountable.

19. Give an example of two sets A and B such that  $B \subset A$  and B is bijective with A but  $B \neq A$ .

**Solution :** Let  $A := \mathbb{N}$  and  $B := \{2n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Then, clearly  $B \subset A$  and  $B \neq A$  but the function  $f : A \to B$  defined as  $f(a) = 2a \ \forall a \in A$  is bijective i.e.  $A \sim B$ .

20. Prove that if there exists an injective function from (0,1) to a set A then the set A is uncountable.

**Solution**: Let  $f:(0,1)\to A$  be injective. Since, (0,1) is uncountable, A is uncountable.

Now we shall prove that (0,1) is uncountable. Let us assume to the contrary that (0,1) is countable. Let X = (0,1). Then, the set X can be written as,  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$ . Also, since  $x_i \in (0,1)$ , each  $x_i$  can be written as,

$$x_i = 0.x_{i1}x_{i2}\dots$$

where  $x_{ij}$  refers to the  $j^{th}$  digit after the decimal point in the decimal expansion of  $x_i$ . Now, let us construct  $x_0$  as,

$$x_{0n} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_{nn} \neq 1 \\ 2 & \text{if } x_{nn} = 1 \end{cases} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Then,  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have,  $x_{0n} \neq x_{nn} \Rightarrow x_0 \in x_n \Rightarrow x \notin B$ . This is a contradiction. Hence, B cannot be countable. Hence the set (0,1) is uncountable.

- 21. Suppose that  $A \subseteq B$  then prove that
  - (a) B is finite  $\implies A$  is finite.

**Solution:** We shall prove this using induction on the number of elements in B. When the number of elements in B is 1, The two subsets are  $\phi$  and B which are trivially finite. This is our base case. Now, let's assume any subset of a set containing n elements is finite. Let the set B have n+1 elements. Then, let  $A \subseteq B$ . If A = B, then A is trivially finite since B is finite. If  $A \neq B$ , then  $\exists x \in B$  such that  $x \notin A$ . Then,  $A \subseteq B \setminus \{x\}$ . The set  $B \setminus \{x\}$  has n elements and hence, A is again countable. Thus the statement is true for n+1 whenever it's true for n. By the principle of mathematical induction, the statement holds true  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

- (b) A is infinite  $\implies$  B is infinite.
- (c) B is countable  $\implies A$  is countable.

**Hint**: First show that any subset of  $\mathbb{N}$  is countable. Then, use that fact to prove the given problem by finding a bijection between a subset of  $\mathbb{N}$  and A.

- (d) A is uncountable  $\implies B$  is uncountable.
- 22. Suppose  $f: A \to B$  is injective then prove that
  - (a) B is finite  $\implies A$  is finite.
  - (b) A is infinite  $\implies B$  is infinite.
  - (c) B is countable  $\implies A$  is countable.
  - (d) A is uncountable  $\implies B$  is uncountable.

**Hint**: Since f is injective, observe the function  $h:A\to f(A)$  defined as h(x)=f(x)  $\forall x\in A$  is a bijection. Hence,  $A\sim f(A)\subseteq B$ . Now, use the results from Problem 21 on f(A) and B.

- 23. Suppose  $f:A\to B$  is surjective then prove that
  - (a) A is finite  $\implies B$  is finite.
  - (b) B is infinite  $\implies A$  is infinite.
  - (c) A is countable  $\implies B$  is countable.
  - (d) B is uncountable  $\implies A$  is uncountable.

**Hint**: Consider the function  $F: B \to A$  defined as,

$$F(y) = \min\{x : f(x) = y\}$$

F can be shown to be a injection, since f is a function. Then, use the results in Problem 22.

24. Show that the sets [0,1] and (0,1) are equipotent.

**Solution:** Let us define a function  $f:[0,1] \to (0,1)$  as,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } x = 0\\ \frac{1}{n+2} & \text{if } \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } x = \frac{1}{n}\\ x & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

f can be shown to a bijection (see the proof in the alternate solution for hints). Hence,  $[0,1] \sim (0,1)$ 

**Alternate Solution :** Let us define  $f:(0,1)\to(0,1],\ g:[0,1)\to[0,1]$  and  $h:(0,1]\to[0,1)$  as,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{n-1} & \text{,if } \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } x = \frac{1}{n} \\ x & \text{,if } x \neq \frac{1}{n} \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{n-1} & \text{,if } \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } x = \frac{1}{n} \\ x & \text{,if } x \neq \frac{1}{n} \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

$$h(x) = 1 - x \ \forall x \in (0, 1]$$

Let  $x, y \in (0, 1)$  such that  $x \neq y$ .

Case 1  $x = \frac{1}{m}$  and  $y = \frac{1}{n}$  for some  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

$$x \neq y \Rightarrow \frac{1}{m} \neq \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\Rightarrow m \neq n$$

$$\Rightarrow m - 1 \neq n - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{m - 1} \neq \frac{1}{n - 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) \neq f(y)$$

Case 2  $x \neq \frac{1}{m}, y \neq \frac{1}{n} \ \forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

$$f(x) = x \& f(y) = y$$
 and since,  $x \neq y$  we have  $f(x) \neq f(y)$ 

Case 3  $x = \frac{1}{m}$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $y \neq \frac{1}{n} \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{n-1} \& f(y) = y \neq \frac{1}{n-1} \Rightarrow f(x) \neq f(y)$$

Hence f is one-one. Now, let  $z \in (0,1]$  be arbitrary

Case 1  $z = \frac{1}{n}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

Let us define  $x := \frac{1}{n+1}$  then  $f(x) = \frac{1}{n} = z$ 

Case 2  $z \neq \frac{1}{n} \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

Let us set x = z. Then we have f(x) = x = z

Hence f is surjective. Thus, f is a bijection.

Similarly, g can be shown to be a bijection. Also, h is clearly a bijection And thus, the function F:  $(0,1) \rightarrow [0,1]$  defined as,

$$F(x) = q \circ h \circ f(x) \ \forall x \in (0,1)$$

is a bijection. Hence,  $(0,1) \sim [0,1]$ 

**Alternate Solution :** The set [0,1] can be written as  $(0,1) \cup \{0,1\}$ . Since (0,1) is infinite and  $\{0,1\}$  finite and countable,  $(0,1) \sim (0,1) \cup \{0,1\} \Rightarrow (0,1) \sim [0,1]$ .

25. Show that the sets [0,1] and  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  are equipotent.

**Solution :** Consider the function  $f: \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) \to [0,1]$  deifned as,

$$f(S) = \sum_{n \in S} 10^{-n} \ \forall S \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$$

It can be shown that f is injective. Consider the function  $g:[0,1]\to\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  defined as,

$$g(x) = \{ \lfloor 10^n (x)_2 \rfloor : n \in \mathbb{N} \}$$

where  $(x)_2$  denotes the binary expansion of the number x. For numbers with non-unique decimal expansions (i.e. the numbers of the form  $\frac{a}{2^k}$  where  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ), we choose the representation that ends in infinte 0's. Since the binary expansion of the numbers is unique, g is also an injection.

Since both  $f: \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) \to [0,1]$  and  $g: [0,1] \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  are injective, by Schröder-Bernstein theorem, it is possible to find a bijection from  $[0,1] \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ . Hence,  $[0,1] \sim \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ 

26. Are the sets  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$  equipotent? Give justification.

**Solution :** We know from questions 24 and 25,  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) \sim [0,1] \sim (0,1)$ . Also consider the function  $f:(0,1)\to\mathbb{R}$  defined as  $f(x)=\tan(\sin^{-1}(2x-1))$ . It can be shown to be a bijection. Hence,  $(0,1)\sim\mathbb{R}$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})\sim\mathbb{R}$ . Now, by Cantor's theorem we know that  $P(\mathbb{R})\not\sim\mathbb{R}$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})\not\sim\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$