

**Theorem (2.4.43).** *The set of all finite bit strings is countable.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{a_{n-1}\}$  be the sequence of bits for any finite bit string  $a(\text{base-2})$  of length  $n$ . The unique base-2 expansion for  $\{a_{n-1}\}$  is the integer  $a(\text{base-10}) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}}^{n-1} a_i 2^i$ . Also, this integer can be converted to the unique base-2 bit string for  $a(\text{base-10})$  by  $a(\text{base-2}) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}}^{n-1} [a(\text{base-10})(\text{mod } 2^{i+1})] 10^i$ . Hence, there exists a one-to-one correspondence between  $\mathbb{Z}$  and the set of all finite bit strings. So the cardinality for the set of all finite bit strings is  $\aleph_0$ . It follows that the set of all finite bit strings is countably infinite, by definition. ■