Part IA — Extra Countability Questions

Supervised by Dr Forster Examples worked through by Christopher Turnbull

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(i)

Proposition.

$$\aleph_0 + 2^{\aleph_0} = 2^{\aleph_0}$$

Proof. It is clear that $2^{\aleph_0} \leq \aleph_0 + 2^{\aleph_0}$. Going the other direction,

$$2^{\aleph_0} + \aleph_0 \leq \aleph_0^{\aleph_0} + \aleph_0 \leq \aleph_0^{\aleph_0 + 1} \leq (2^{\aleph_0})^{\aleph_0 + 1} \leq 2^{\aleph_0}$$

as $(\aleph_0 + 1)\aleph_0 = \aleph_0$. Hence we infer the proof by Cantor-Bernstein on

$$\aleph_0 + 2^{\aleph_0} \le 2^{\aleph_0}$$
 and $2^{\aleph_0} \le \aleph_0 + 2^{\aleph_0}$

(ii) Bernstein's Lemma says

$$\delta + \gamma = \alpha \cdot \beta \Rightarrow \text{ surjection } \gamma \to \alpha \text{ or injection } \beta \to \delta$$

Want to show that if $\aleph_0 + \alpha = 2^{\aleph_0}$ then α must be equal to 2^{\aleph_0} .