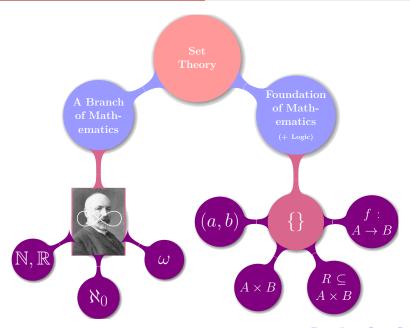
(八) 集合: 无穷 (Infinity)

魏恒峰

hfwei@nju.edu.cn

2021年04月29日





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 $Georg\ Cantor\ (1845-1918)$



Georg Cantor (1845 – 1918)



Leopold Kronecker (1823 – 1891)



Georg Cantor (1845 – 1918)



Leopold Kronecker (1823 - 1891)



Henri Poincaré (1854 - 1912)

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Georg Cantor (1845 – 1918)



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Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889 - 1951)

2021年04月29日



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David Hilbert (1862 - 1943)



Leopold Kronecker (1823 – 1891)



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From his paradise that Cantor with us unfolded, we hold our breath in awe; knowing, we shall not be expelled.

— David Hilbert

"没有人能把我们从 Cantor 创造的乐园中驱逐出去"

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"das wesen der mathematik liegt in ihrer freiheit"



"das wesen der mathematik liegt in ihrer freiheit"

"The essence of mathematics lies in its freedom"

Before Cantor











公理: "整体大于部分"

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Galilei (1564 – 1642)



"关于两门新科学的对话" (1638)





Galilei (1564 – 1642)

"关于两门新科学的对话" (1638)

"用我们有限的心智来讨论无限…"

$$S_1 = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots\}$$

 $S_2 = \{1, 4, 9, \dots, n^2, \dots\}$

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 $S_2 \subset S_1$ "部分等于全体"

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说到底, "等于"、"大于"和"小于"诸性质不能用于无限, 而 只能用干有限的数量。 — Galileo Galilei

> 2021 年 04 月 29 日

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无穷数是不可能的。

— Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz

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这些证明一开始就期望那些数要具有有穷数的一切性质,或者 甚至于把有穷数的性质强加于无穷。

相反,这些无穷数,如果它们能够以任何形式被理解的话,倒 是由于它们与有穷数的对应,它们必须具有完全新的数量特征。

这些性质完全依赖于事物的本性, · · · 而并非来自我们的主观任意性或我们的偏见。

— Georg Cantor (1885)

Definition (Dedekind-infinite & Dedekind-finite (Dedekind, 1888))

A set A is $\underbrace{Dedekind\text{-}infinite}$ if there is a bijective function from A onto some proper subset B of A.

A set is *Dedekind-finite* if it is not Dedekind-infinite.

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This is a theorem in our theory of infinity.



We have not defined "finite" and "infinite"!

Comparing Sets

Comparing Sets





Comparing Sets





Function



Definition ($|A| = |B| (A \approx B) (1878)$)

A and B are equipotent if there exists a bijection from A to B.

Definition (
$$|A| = |B| (A \approx B) (1878)$$
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 \overline{A} (two abstractions)

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Abstract from elements: $\{1, 2, 3\}$ vs. $\{a, b, c\}$

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Abstract from elements: $\{1, 2, 3\}$ vs. $\{a, b, c\}$

Abstract from order: $\{1, 2, 3, \cdots\}$ vs. $\{1, 3, 5, \cdots, 2, 4, 6, \cdots\}$

Definition $(|A| = |B| (A \approx B) (1878))$

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Q: Is " \approx " an equivalence relation?

Definition (
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A and B are equipotent if there exists a bijection from A to B.

Q: Is " \approx " an equivalence relation?

For any sets A, B, C:

- (a) $A \approx B$
- (b) $A \approx B \implies B \approx A$
- (c) $A \approx B \wedge B \approx C \implies A \approx C$

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Theorem (The "Equivalence Concept" of Equipotent)

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- (a) $A \approx B$
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Definition (Finite)

X is finite if

$$\exists n \in \mathbb{N} : |X| = \underline{n}.$$

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Theorem

Let A be a finite set. There is a unique $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $A \approx \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$.

X is infinite if it is not finite:

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} : |X| \neq n.$$

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Theorem

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$$g \triangleq f|_{\{0,1,\dots,n\}} : \{0,1,\dots,n\} \to \{0,1,\dots,n-1\}$$



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By the Pigeonhole Principle : g is not 1-1



X is infinite if it is not finite:

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Theorem

 \mathbb{N} is infinite. (So are \mathbb{Z} , \mathbb{Q} , \mathbb{R} .)

By Contradiction.

$$\exists n \in \mathbb{N} : |\mathbb{N}| = n.$$

$$\exists f: \mathbb{N} \xrightarrow[onto]{1-1} \{0, 1, \cdots, n-1\}$$

$$g \triangleq f|_{\{0,1,\dots,n\}} : \{0,1,\dots,n\} \to \{0,1,\dots,n-1\}$$

By the Pigeonhole Principle : g is not 1-1 $\implies f$ is not 1-1



For any set X,

Countably Infinite

Countable

Uncountable

$$|X| = |\mathbb{N}| \triangleq \aleph_0$$

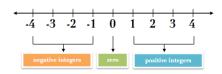
(finite \lor countably infinite)

 $(\neg \text{ countable})$

(infinite) $\land \left(\neg \text{ (countably infinite)} \right)$



$$|\mathbb{Z}| = |\mathbb{N}|$$



$$|\mathbb{Z}| = |\mathbb{N}|$$



$$0 \quad 1 \quad -1 \quad 2 \quad -2 \quad \cdots$$



Theorem (\mathbb{Q} is Countable. (Cantor 1873-11; Published in 1874))

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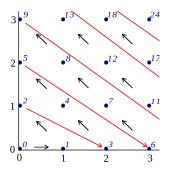
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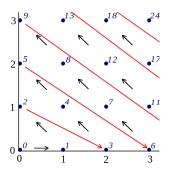
$$q \in \mathbb{Q}^+ : a/b \ (a, b \in \mathbb{N}^+)$$



$$|\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}| = |\mathbb{N}|$$

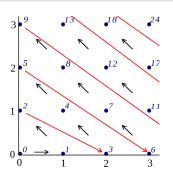


$$|\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}| = |\mathbb{N}|$$



 $\pi: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$

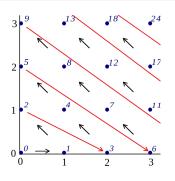
$$|\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}| = |\mathbb{N}|$$



$$\pi: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$$

$$\pi(k_1, k_2) = \frac{1}{2}(k_1 + k_2)(k_1 + k_2 + 1) + k_2$$

$$|\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}| = |\mathbb{N}|$$



$$\pi: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$$

$$\pi(k_1, k_2) = \frac{1}{2}(k_1 + k_2)(k_1 + k_2 + 1) + k_2$$

Cantor Pairing Function

$$|\mathbb{N}^n|=|\mathbb{N}|$$

$$|\mathbb{N}^n| = |\mathbb{N}|$$

Theorem

The Cartesian product of finitely many countable sets is countable.

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 \mathbb{N}^n vs. $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$

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The Cartesian product of finitely many countable sets is countable.

$$\mathbb{N}^n$$
 vs. $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$

$$\pi^{(n)}: \mathbb{N}^n \to \mathbb{N}$$

$$|\mathbb{N}^n| = |\mathbb{N}|$$

Theorem

The Cartesian product of finitely many countable sets is countable.

$$\mathbb{N}^n$$
 vs. $\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$

$$\pi^{(n)}: \mathbb{N}^n \to \mathbb{N}$$

$$\pi^{(n)}(k_1,\ldots,k_{n-1},k_n)=\pi(\pi^{(n-1)}(k_1,\ldots,k_{n-1}),k_n)$$



Any finite union of countable sets is countable.

Any finite union of countable sets is countable.

$$A = \{a_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \quad B = \{b_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \quad C = \{c_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

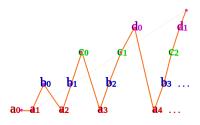
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$$A = \{a_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$
 $B = \{b_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ $C = \{c_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

$$a_0 \quad b_0 \quad c_0 \quad a_1 \quad b_1 \quad c_1 \cdots$$

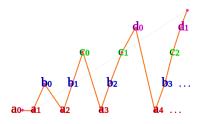
The union of countably many countable sets is countable.

The union of countably many countable sets is countable.



Counting by Diagonals.

The union of countably many countable sets is countable.



Counting by Diagonals.

We need Axiom of (Countable) Choice!

Beyond



 $|\mathbb{R}| \neq |\mathbb{N}|$

 $|\mathbb{R}| \neq |\mathbb{N}|$



 $|\mathbb{R}| \neq |\mathbb{N}|$



Different "Sizes" of Infinity

 $|\mathbb{R}| \neq |\mathbb{N}|$



Different "Sizes" of Infinity

Cantor's Diagonal Argument (1890)

 $|\mathbb{R}| \neq |\mathbb{N}|$

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By Contradiction.

$$|\mathbb{R}| \neq |\mathbb{N}|$$

By Contradiction.

$$f: \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow[onto]{1-1} \mathbb{N}$$

$$|\mathbb{R}| \neq |\mathbb{N}|$$

By Contradiction.

$$f: \mathbb{R} \xleftarrow{1-1}_{onto} \mathbb{N}$$

$$3.14159...$$

$$1.41421...$$

$$1.73205...$$

$$2.23606...$$

$$2.71828...$$

$$0.14285...$$

$$1$$

$$3.43625...$$

$$1$$

$$2.32514...$$

$|\mathbb{R}| \neq |\mathbb{N}|$

By Contradiction.

By Diagonal Argument.

2021年04月29日



$$|(0,1)| = |\mathbb{R}| = |\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}| = |\mathbb{R}^{n \in \mathbb{N}}|$$

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$$f(x) = \tan \frac{(2x-1)\pi}{2}$$
$$|(0,1)| = |(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})| = |\mathbb{R}|$$

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 $\mathbb{R}\times\mathbb{R}\approx\mathbb{R}$

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Was Cantor Surprised?

$$|(0,1)| = |\mathbb{R}| = |\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}| = |\mathbb{R}^n|$$

"Je le vois, mais je ne le crois pas!"

"I see it, but I don't believe it!"

— Cantor's letter to Dedekind (1877).

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Q: Then, what is "dimension"?

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— Cantor's letter to Dedekind (1877).

Q: Then, what is "dimension"?

Theorem (Brouwer (Topological Invariance of Dimension))

There is no continuous bijections between \mathbb{R}^m and \mathbb{R}^n for $m \neq n$.

Beyond



Theorem (Cantor's Theorem (1891))

$$|A| \neq |\mathcal{P}(A)|$$

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$$|A| \neq |\mathcal{P}(A)|$$

Theorem (Cantor Theorem)

If $f: A \to \mathcal{P}(A)$, then f is not onto.

Theorem (Cantor Theorem)

$$|A| < |\mathcal{P}(A)|$$

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$$A \qquad \mathcal{P}(A) \qquad \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(A)) \qquad \dots$$

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$$|A| < |\mathcal{P}(A)|$$

$$A \qquad \mathcal{P}(A) \qquad \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(A)) \qquad \dots$$

There is no largest infinity.



Definition $(|A| \leq |B|)$

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$$|B| \le |A|$$
 (Axiom of Choice)

Definition (|A| < |B|)

 $|A|<|B|\iff |A|\leq |B|\wedge |A|\neq |B|$

Definition (|A| < |B|)

$$|A|<|B|\iff |A|\leq |B|\wedge |A|\neq |B|$$

$$|\mathbb{N}| < |\mathbb{R}|$$

$$|X| < |2^X|$$

$$|\mathbb{N}| < |2^{\mathbb{N}}|$$

Definition (Countable Revisited)

X is countable:

$$(\exists n \in \mathbb{N} : |X| = n) \vee |X| = |\mathbb{N}|$$

X is countable:

$$(\exists n \in \mathbb{N} : |X| = n) \lor |X| = |\mathbb{N}|$$

Theorem (Proof for Countable)

X is countable iff

$$|X| \le |\mathbb{N}|.$$

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Subsets of Countable Set

Every subset B of a countable set A is countable.

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$$f: A \xrightarrow{1-1} \mathbb{N} \qquad g = f|_B$$

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Slope

(a) The set of all lines with rational slopes

Slope

(a) The set of all lines with rational slopes

 (\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R})

Slope

(a) The set of all lines with rational slopes

$$(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R})$$

$$|\mathbb{R}| \le |\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{R}| \le |\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}| = |\mathbb{R}|$$

 $Q: Is "\leq " a partial order?$

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Theorem (Cantor-Schröder-Bernstein (1887))

$$|X| \le |Y| \land |Y| \le |X| \implies |X| = |Y|$$

Q: Is "<" a partial order?

Theorem (Cantor-Schröder-Bernstein (1887))

$$|X| \leq |Y| \wedge |Y| \leq |X| \implies |X| = |Y|$$

 $\exists \ one\text{-}to\text{-}one \ f:X \to Y \land g:Y \to X \implies \exists \ bijection \ h:X \to Y$

$Q: Is "\leq" a partial order?$

Theorem (Cantor-Schröder-Bernstein (1887))

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 $\exists \ \textit{one-to-one} \ f: X \to Y \land g: Y \to X \implies \exists \ \textit{bijection} \ h: X \to Y$

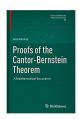


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 $\exists \ \textit{one-to-one} \ f: X \to Y \land g: Y \to X \implies \exists \ \textit{bijection} \ h: X \to Y$





$Q: Is "\leq" a partial order?$

Theorem (Cantor-Schröder-Bernstein (1887))

$$|X| \leq |Y| \wedge |Y| \leq |X| \implies |X| = |Y|$$

 $\exists one\text{-}to\text{-}one \ f:X \to Y \land g:Y \to X \implies \exists bijection \ h:X \to Y$







Schröder-Bernstein theorem @ wiki

 $Q: Is \leq "a total order?"$

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Theorem (PCC)

 $Principle \ of \ Cardinal \ Comparability \ (PCC) \iff Axiom \ of \ Choice$

$$|\mathbb{R}|=|\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})|$$

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$$|\mathbb{R}| \leq |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})| \qquad |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})| \leq |\mathbb{R}|$$

$$|\mathbb{R}| = |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})|$$

$$|\mathbb{R}| \le |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})| \qquad |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})| \le |\mathbb{R}|$$

$$\mathfrak{c} \triangleq |\mathbb{R}| = |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})| = |2^{\mathbb{N}}| \triangleq 2^{\aleph_0}$$

$$|\mathbb{R}| = |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})|$$

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$$\mathfrak{c} \triangleq |\mathbb{R}| = |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})| = |2^{\mathbb{N}}| \triangleq 2^{\aleph_0}$$

Continuum Hypothesis (CH)

$$\exists A: \aleph_0 < |A| < \mathfrak{c}$$





Dangerous Knowledge (22:20; BBC 2007)





Dangerous Knowledge (22:20; BBC 2007)

Independence from ZFC:

Kurt Gödel (1940) CH cannot be disproved from ZF.

Paul Cohen (1964) CH cannot be proven from the ZFC axioms.

Thank You!



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