

15/05 ~ San Isidro!

## Cantor's Theory of Cardinality (Size)

Q: When do two sets,  $A$  and  $B$ , have the same size?

A (kind of, given by Cantor): when the elements of the two sets can be paired off. (Theory of Cardinality).

Functions:

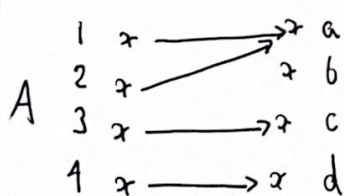
Defn: If  $A, B$  are sets, a function  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a mapping that assigns to each  $x \in A$  a unique element  $f(x) \in B$ .

Defn: let  $f: A \rightarrow B$ .

1) If  $C \subset A$ , we define  $f(C) = \{y \in B : \exists x \in C \text{ s.t. } y = f(x)\}$   
 $= \{f(x) : x \in C\}$

2) If  $D \subset B$ , we dfn  $f^{-1}(D) = \{x \in A : f(x) \in D\}$ . Inverse image always exist.

Ex)  $f$ :



$$f(\{1, 2\}) = \{a, b\}$$

$$f(\{1, 3\}) = \{a, c\}$$

$$f^{-1}(\{a\}) = \{1, 2\}$$

$$f^{-1}(\{a, c, d\}) = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

Defn: let  $f: A \rightarrow B$ .

1)  $f$  is injective, one-to-one, if  $f(x_1) = f(x_2) \rightarrow x_1 = x_2$  (or  $x_1 \neq x_2 \rightarrow f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ )

2)  $f$  is surjective or onto if  $f(A) = B$ . Everything in  $B$  gets mapped by something in  $A$ .  
 $\forall y \in B, \exists x \in A : f(x) = y$

3)  $f$  is bijective if  $f$  is 1-1 and surjective

Defn: If  $f: A \rightarrow B$ ,  $g: B \rightarrow C$

1)  $g \circ f: A \rightarrow C$  is defined by  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$   $\rightarrow$  composition

2) if  $f$  is bijective, then  $f^{-1}: B \rightarrow A$  by: if  $y \in B$ , then  $f^{-1}(y) \in A$  is the unique element in  $A$  s.t.  $f(f^{-1}(y)) = y$

\* Bijections is what we'll mean when saying sets can be paired off!

Cardinality:

Defn: Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  have the same cardinality if  $\exists$  bijective function  $f: A \rightarrow B$

• Notation: 1) If  $A, B$  have same cardinality, we write  $|A| = |B|$

2) If  $|A| = |\{1, \dots, n\}|$ , we write  $|A| = n$ . The natural numbers up to  $n$ .  $\downarrow$   
 $A$  is finite

3) If  $\exists$  injective fnc  $f: A \rightarrow B$ , we write  $|A| \leq |B|$

4) If  $|A| \leq |B|$ , but  $|A| \neq |B|$ , we write  $|A| < |B|$ .

Thm (Cantor ~~Sk~~ - Schroder-Bernstein): If  $|A| \leq |B|$  and  $|B| \leq |A|$ ,  $|A| = |B|$

Defn: If  $|A| = |\mathbb{N}|$ , then  $A$  is countably infinite.

If  $A$  is finite or countably infinite, we say  $A$  is countable.

Otherwise, we say  $A$  is uncountable.

Thm:  $|\{2n: n \in \mathbb{N}\}| = |\mathbb{N}|$   $\leftarrow$  this means is countable

$2 \{2n-1: n \in \mathbb{N}\} = |\mathbb{N}|$  interessante

Feynman: "There are twice as many numbers as numbers"

Pf: We want to find a bijective function from one set to the other:

One quick theorem before: Thm: If  $|A| = |B|$ , then  $|B| = |A|$

Pf: Sps  $|A| = |B|$ . Then  $\exists$  bijective fnc  $f: A \rightarrow B$ . Then  $f^{-1}: B \rightarrow A$  is a bijection.  
 $\therefore |B| = |A|$ .  $\square$

Thm: If  $|A| = |B|$  and  $|B| = |C|$ , then  $|A| = |C|$ .



Pf: Sps  $|A| = |B|$  and  $|B| = |C|$ . Then  $\exists$  bijections  $f$  from  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $g$  from  $B \rightarrow C$ . Let  $h: A \rightarrow C$  be the fct.  $h(x) = (g \circ f)(x)$ .

We want to prove  $h$  is a bijection.

①:  $h$  is 1-1. If  $h(x_1) = h(x_2)$ , then  $x_1 = x_2$ .

$$\text{If } h(x_1) = h(x_2), \text{ then } g(f(x_1)) = g(f(x_2))$$

Since  $g$  is 1-1,  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ .

Since  $f$  is 1-1,  $x_1 = x_2$ .  $\therefore h$  is injective

②:  $h$  is surjective.  $h(A) = C$ ,  $\forall z \in C, \exists x \in A$  s.t.  $h(x) = z$ .

Let  $z \in C$ . Since  $g$  is surjective,  $\exists y \in B$  s.t.  $g(y) = z$ . Since  $f$  is surjective,

$\exists x \in A$  s.t.  $f(x) = y$ . Then  $h(x) = g(f(x)) = g(y) = z$ .  $\therefore h$  is surjective

$\therefore h$  is bijective.  $\square$

Now, back to Thm:  $|\{2n: n \in \mathbb{N}\}| = |\mathbb{N}|$

Pf: We want to find a bijective function from one set to the other

Let  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{2n: n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . That is,  $f(n) = 2n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

recall that  $|\{2n: n \in \mathbb{N}\}| = |\mathbb{N}|$  is the same as  $|\mathbb{N}| = |\{2n: n \in \mathbb{N}\}|$ .

①: Let  $f(n_1) = f(n_2)$ . Then  $2n_1 = 2n_2 \rightarrow n_1 = n_2$

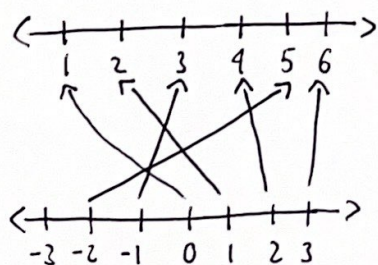
$\therefore f$  is injective

②: Let  $m$  be an even integer,  $m \in \{2k: k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Then  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $m = 2n$ .

Then  $f(n) = 2n = m$ .  $\therefore f$  is onto.

$\therefore f$  is bijection  $\therefore$  the two sets have the same cardinality!

Thm:  $|\mathbb{Z}| = |\mathbb{N}|$  (we'll prove it in HW)



basically, pos. ints. get mapped to even numbers  
and neg. ints. get mapped to odd numbers.



Thm:  $|\{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q > 0\}| = |\mathbb{N}|$  (prove it in HW too).

remark:  $\forall q \in \mathbb{Q}$ , we have  $q = \frac{p_1^{r_1} p_2^{r_2} \dots p_n^{r_n}}{q_1^{s_1} q_2^{s_2} \dots q_m^{s_m}}$ \*,  $r_j, s_k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\forall j, k$   $q_j = p_k$

\*this gets mapped to  $p_1^{2r_1} \dots p_n^{2r_n} q_1^{2s_1-1} \dots q_m^{2s_m-1}$  basically, the fundamental theorem of arithmetic.

Corollary:  $|\mathbb{Q}| = |\mathbb{N}|$

Pf: (Sketch) We have  $|\{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q > 0\}| = |\{r \in \mathbb{Q} : r < 0\}|$

since  $f(q) = -q$  is a bijection from 1st set to 2nd set.

Thus  $|\{r \in \mathbb{Q} : r < 0\}| = |\mathbb{N}|$ . Then  $\exists f: \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q > 0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and

$g: \{r \in \mathbb{Q} : r < 0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ . Define  $h: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  by  $h(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ f(x) & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -g(x) & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$

Then  $h$  is a bijection.

$\therefore |\mathbb{Q}| = |\mathbb{Z}| \Rightarrow |\mathbb{Q}| = |\mathbb{N}|$

Q: Is there a set  $A$  s.t.  $|\mathbb{N}| < |A|$ ?

Def: If  $A$  is a set, the power set of  $A$  is  $\mathcal{P}(A) = \{B : B \subset A\}$

That is, the set of all subsets.

Thm: If  $|A| = n$ , then  $|\mathcal{P}(A)| = 2^n$  (prove it in HW)

Thm (Cantor): If  $A$  is a set, then  $|A| < |\mathcal{P}(A)|$

$\therefore \exists$  a set ~~greater~~ with cardinality greater  $|\mathbb{N}|$ .

A: Thm:  $|\mathbb{N}| < |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})| < |\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}))| < |\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})))| < \dots$

$\hookrightarrow$  infinity of infinitudes

\* Q: Is there a set  $A$  s.t.  $|\mathbb{N}| < |A| < |\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})|$ ?

Continuum hypothesis.

$\hookrightarrow$  Outside of the scope of the course.