

Note that I am operating under the convention that N, n, m, i, j are natural numbers unless otherwise specified.

Exercise : Let A and B be nonempty sets that are bounded above. Suppose $\sup A < \sup B$. Prove that there is an element of B that is an upper bound for A .

Proof. Suppose A and B are nonempty sets that are bounded above. Further suppose $\sup A < \sup B$. Define $a = \sup A$ and $b = \sup B$. Note that a is less than the supremum of B thus a is not an upper bound on B . Since a is not an upper bound on B there must exist at least one element of B greater than a , take one of these elements let's call it k , $k \in B$, $a < k$. Choose an arbitrary element $c \in A$. Since $a = \sup A$ we know that a is an upper bound on A therefore $c \leq a < k$. Since we chose an arbitrary element from A and showed that it is less than k we can say that all elements in A are less than k thus k is an upper bound on A . \square

Exercise : In class we proved that \mathbb{N}^2 is countably infinite. Use this fact and a proof by induction to show that \mathbb{N}^n is countably infinite for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. We want to show that for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, \mathbb{N}^n is countably infinite. I will proceed with a proof by induction.

Base case $n = 1$. There is a bijective map, the identity map, mapping $\mathbb{N}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$. So the statement holds in the $n = 1$ case.

Suppose \mathbb{N}^m is countably infinite for all $m \leq n$ where $n \geq 1$. There must exist a bijective map from $\mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, the definition of countably infinite. Note that \mathbb{N}^{n+1} can trivially be bijectively mapped to $\mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}$, by mapping the first term to \mathbb{N} and the next terms to \mathbb{N}^n . Note that there exists a bijective map from $\mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ since \mathbb{N}^2 is countably infinite. Note that we can bijectively map $\mathbb{N}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$. Thus \mathbb{N}^{n+1} is countably infinite.

By induction we can conclude that for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, \mathbb{N}^n is countably infinite. \square

Exercise : Compute

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n}{n!}$$

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Define $a_n = 0, b_n = \frac{3^n}{n!}, c_n = \frac{3^n}{4^{n-4}}$. Note that for $1 \leq n \leq 4$, $b_n = \frac{3^n}{n!} \leq 3^n \leq \frac{3^n}{4^{n-4}} = c_n$. Note that for $n = 4$, $b_n \leq c_n$. Suppose for some $n \geq 4$, $b_n \leq c_n$. Note that $b_{n+1} = \frac{3^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = \frac{3^n}{n!} \cdot \frac{3}{n+1} = b_n \cdot \frac{3}{n+1} \leq c_n \cdot \frac{3}{n+1} \leq c_n \cdot \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3^n}{4^{n-4}} \cdot \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3^{n+1}}{4^{(n+1)-4}} = c_{n+1}$. By induction I conclude that for all $n \geq 4$, $b_n \leq c_n$. So for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $b_n \leq c_n$. Also note that b_n is always positive and thus $a_n \leq b_n$. Note that $a_n \rightarrow 0$. Note that c_n is bounded below by 0. Also note that $c_{n+1} = \frac{3}{4}c_n \leq c_n$, so c_n is monotone decreasing and bounded below, by the MCT it must converge. Define l as the limit of c_n . Note that $c_{n+1} \rightarrow l$ also note that $c_{n+1} = \frac{3}{4}c_n \rightarrow \frac{3}{4}l$. So $l = \frac{3}{4}l$ therefore $l = 0$. By the squeeze theorem $\frac{3^n}{n!} \rightarrow 0$.

Exercise : Suppose F is a collection of open intervals such that if $I, J \in F$ and $I \neq J$, then $I \cap J = \emptyset$. Prove that F is countable.

Proof. Suppose F is a collection of open intervals such that if $I, J \in F$ and $I \neq J$, then $I \cap J = \emptyset$.

If F is finite then it is at most countable.

Suppose F is non-finite. Select one element of F , let's call it d (for default). Consider the mapping $f : \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow G$ where $G = P(F)$, the power set of F , so that G is the set of all subsets of F .

$$f(q) = \begin{cases} \{f \in F : q \in f\} & \{f \in F : q \in f\} \neq \emptyset \\ \{d\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Suppose there existed a q such that $f(q)$ did not have cardinality 1. Note that $f(q) \neq \emptyset$, since we map anything that would have mapped to the emptyset to the set containing the default set. Thus $f(q)$ must have at least two elements $I, J \in f(q)$. Also note that $f(q) \neq \{d\}$ since that has cardinality of one, $f(q) = \{f \in F : q \in f\}$. Note that by our above construction $I, J \in F$ and $I \neq J$ and $q \in I, q \in J$, since $f(q) \neq \{d\}$. Thus $q \in I \cap J$ so $I \cap J \neq \emptyset$. This is a contradiction since our initial upposition tells us $I \cap J = \emptyset$, we conclude the negation of our supposition, that $f(q)$ has one element for all $q \in \mathbb{Q}$.

We can now construct a function $g : \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow F$, where $g(q)$ is the one element in $f(q)$, noting that $f(q) \in G$ means that $f(q) \subseteq F$ and thus the one element in $f(q)$ is a element of F .

Choose $I \in F$. Note that by the density of the rationals there is a rational in the open interval I , select one of these elements and call it q , $q \in I$ and $q \in \mathbb{Q}$. Note that $g(q)$ is the element in $f(q)$, and $I \in \{f \in F : q \in f\} \neq \emptyset$ thus $f(q) = \{f \in F : q \in f\}$ and $I \in f(q)$ thus $g(q) = I$. Since we chose a arbitrary element in F and found a $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ that maps to it via f we can say f is onto. We know that there is a onto map $h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ since \mathbb{N} and \mathbb{Q} have the same cardinality. Consider the map $m : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow F$ where $m(n) = g(h(n))$. Note that m is onto. Since there is a onto map from $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow F$ we know that F is at most countably infinite. \square