

Lecture - 6

Recall :- Cantor's Thm

Def'n :- A has less than or equal cardinality than B if \exists an injection $f: A \rightarrow B$.

A has strictly lesser cardinality than B if A has lesser or equal cardinality than B but A does not have equal cardinality w.r.t B.

Corollary :- $2^{\mathbb{N}}$ is uncountable


Corollary :- There is no largest set.

Thm :- \mathbb{R} is uncountable

Proof :- Cantor's diagonal argument.

Recall that cartesian products of 2 sets A and B is a set. Thus, is also the cartesian product of a finite sets.

Def'n :- Let I be a (possibly infinite) set, and for $\alpha \in I$, let X_α be a set. The cartesian product,

$$\prod_{\alpha \in I} X_\alpha = \left\{ (x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in I} \in \left(\bigcup_{\beta \in I} X_\beta \right)^I \mid x_\alpha \in X_\alpha \forall \alpha \in I \right\}$$


Recall :- is the set of functions $I \rightarrow \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} X_\alpha$

Exercise :- For any set I and X , $\prod_{\alpha \in I} X = X^I$

Recall the Lemma following the axiom of single choice.

ZFC axioms (cont'd) :-

13, Let I be a set and $X_\alpha \neq \emptyset \forall \alpha \in I$. Then $\prod_{\alpha \in I} X_\alpha$ is non-empty. (Axiom of Choice)

- Counter-intuitive because it is non-constructive
- Useful because it allows one to suppose the existence of functions, on \mathbb{R} (eg).

Def'n:- A choice function on X is a function $f: 2^X \setminus \{\emptyset\} \rightarrow X$ st $f(S) \in S \forall S \subseteq X, S \neq \emptyset$.

Exercise:- Existence of a choice function is equivalent to axiom of choice.

Application:-

Lemma:- Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}, E \neq \emptyset$ st $\sup(E) < \infty$ i.e., E is bdd above. Then \exists a sequence, $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}, a_n \in E \forall n \geq 1$ st $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \sup(E)$

Proof of Lemma:- Let, for $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$X_n = \{x \in E \mid \sup(E) - \frac{1}{n} \leq x \leq \sup(E)\}$$

Note that $X_n \neq \emptyset$ as $\sup(E) - \frac{1}{n}$ is not an upper bound for E .

By AOC, we pick $a_n \in X_n$.

By the sandwich thm, we are done.

Recall:- Posets AKA partially ordered sets are of the form (X, \leq)

Def'n:- Let (X, \leq) be a poset. A subset $Y \subseteq X$ is called a chain/totally ordered if for any $y, z \in Y$ either $y \leq z$ or $z \leq y$.

Def'n:- Let (X, \leq) be a poset and let $Y \subseteq X$. We say that y is a minimal (resp maximal) element of Y if $y \in Y$ and there is no $z \in X$ st $z < y$ (resp $z > y$)

Example:-

1. $X = 2^{[3]}, (X, \subseteq)$ Min \emptyset
2. $Y = \{\{1,2\}, \{2\}, \{2,3\}, \{2,3,4\}, \{5\}\}$
 Min:- $\{2\}, \{5\}$
 Max:- $\{2,3,4\}, \underbrace{\{5\}, \{1,2\}}_{??}$
3. $(X = \mathbb{N}, \leq)$ Min:- 0
 Max:- Doesn't exist.

Def'n:- Let (X, \leq) be a poset and $Y \subseteq X$ be a chain. We say that Y is well-ordered if every non-empty subset of Y has a minimal element and \leq is a well-ordering, if it is a total order and X is well ordered.

Example:- \mathbb{N} is well-ordered but \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q} are not.

Well-Ordering Principle (or Axiom 13'):- Given any set X , \exists a well-ordering on X .

Zorn's Lemma (or Axiom 13''):- Let (X, \leq) be a non-empty poset st every chain Y of X has an upper bound. Then X contains at least one maximal element. $\rightarrow \exists x \in X$ st $y \leq x \forall y \in Y$

Axiom 13, 13', 13'' are equivalent.

Proof of 13 \Rightarrow 13'':- Let P be a poset st every chain has an upper bound. Suppose P has no maximal element. Using choice function, pick $x_0 \in P$. Since x_0 is not maximal $\Rightarrow \exists x_1$ st $x_0 < x_1$. If x_1 is not maximal $\Rightarrow \exists x_2$ st $x_0 < x_1 < x_2$... etc.

Thus, we get a chain $x_0 < x_1 < \dots$. Let x_ω be the upper bound. But x_ω is not maximal $\Rightarrow \exists x_{\omega+1}$ st $x_\omega < x_{\omega+1}$. Continue this way.

At some point, we will get a chain "larger" than the cardinality of P which is a contradiction. Thus P has a maximal element.

