

Recall: A set A has

finite $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \text{ size } n \text{ if there's a bijection } (n \in \mathbb{N}) \\ \quad \underline{\{1, \dots, n\}} \longrightarrow A \end{array} \right.$

denumerable. $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \text{ size } \aleph_0 \\ \quad \underline{\{1, 2, \dots\}} \longrightarrow A \end{array} \right.$

If A is either finite or denumerable, A is countable.

We proved $\bullet$ preserved by $\cup$, $\cap$, $\times$.

$\mathbb{N}$ denumerable (definition)

$\mathbb{Z}$ denumerable, $\mathbb{Q}$ denumerable.

Theorem (Cantor): $\mathbb{R}$ is not countable.

Proof will use "Cantor diagonalization".

Note denumerable $\equiv \exists$ bijection $\mathbb{N} \longrightarrow A$

countable $\equiv \exists$ surjection $\mathbb{N} \longrightarrow A$

uncountable $\equiv \nexists$ surjection $\mathbb{N} \longrightarrow A$

$\equiv \forall f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$, f is not a surjection.

Kronecker: "God made the natural numbers, everything else is the work of man."

$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$ used for counting.

$\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ "I want to subtract"

$\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} : a \in \mathbb{Z}, b \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$ "I want to divide."

$\mathbb{R} = \xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}}$ "I want to take limits of converging sequences."

Decimal representation:

Def: A decimal representation is an ^{infinite} sequence of digits

0 0 0 . $d_1 d_2 d_3 d_4 \dots$ with each $d_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$.

ie, decimal representations of $0 \leq x \leq 1$

The limit of $\frac{d_1}{10}, \frac{\overline{d_1 d_2}}{100}, \frac{\overline{d_1 d_2 d_3}}{1000}, \dots$ is $\begin{cases} \rightarrow \text{rational, if the sequence is eventually repeating} \\ \rightarrow \text{irrational if not.} \end{cases}$

Ex: ~~0~~ $\frac{3}{5} = 0.600000 \dots$

$$\frac{47}{200} = \frac{235}{1000} = .2350000 \dots$$

• If a decimal representation ends in an infinite tail of zeroes, it is of the form $\frac{\#}{10^n}$.

Ex: $\frac{1}{3} = .33333 \dots$

The reason is because

$$\frac{3}{10}, \frac{33}{100}, \frac{333}{1000} \dots \text{converges to } \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$.3, .33, .333, \dots$$

~~Ex: $\pi = 3.1415926535 \dots$ is the limit of a sequence~~

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$$3, \frac{31}{10}, \frac{314}{100}, \frac{3141}{1000}, \frac{31415}{10000}, \dots$$

Ex: $\frac{1}{11} = .09090909 \dots$

(*)

Slight wrinkle: If a rational number has a finite decimal representation, then it has two possible representations.

Ex: $.0236 = .02359999\dots$

Proof of Theorem: Let $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow [0,1]$ be any function. I will prove f is not surjective.

For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, write $f(n)$'s decimal representation.

$f(n) = .d_{n,1} d_{n,2} d_{n,3} \dots$ where $d_{n,k}$ = k -th digit of $f(n)$ after the decimal point.

$f(1) = .\boxed{d_{1,1}} d_{1,2} d_{1,3} d_{1,4} \dots$

$f(2) = .d_{2,1} \boxed{d_{2,2}} d_{2,3} d_{2,4} \dots$

$f(3) = .d_{3,1} d_{3,2} \boxed{d_{3,3}} d_{3,4} \dots$

$f(4) = .d_{4,1} d_{4,2} d_{4,3} \boxed{d_{4,4}} \dots$

$\vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \ddots$

Construct a new number

$x = .e_1 e_2 e_3 e_4 \dots$

according to the rule:

If $d_{n,n} = 0$, then $e_n = 4$

1	4
2	4
3	4
4	3
5	4
6	4
7	4
8	4
9	4

The choice made at ~~the~~ ^{right} was arbitrary and is just to ensure we never end up with x being a "finite decimal representation."

Note that $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$,

n -th digit of $x \neq n$ -th digit of $f(n)$

and therefore, $x \neq f(n)$ (Because x is not one of the numbers (*) with a finite representation.)

So it follows f is not surjective. ▀