

Counting.

Undecidability.

# Countability

Cantor Size:  $A$  and  $B$  have the same size if there is a bijection between  $A$  and  $B$ .

A set is **countable** if there is a bijection from  $A$  to a subset of the natural numbers.

A set is countably infinite if it is countable and not finite.

A set is countable if one can enumerate it; output elements in a list where every element appears in the list in a specific finite position.

$0, 1, -1, 2, -2, \dots$   $\mathbb{Z}$  is countable.

$\emptyset, 0, 00, 01, 10, 11, \dots$  Binary strings are countable.

Be careful:  $0, 00, 000, 0000, \dots$  never gets to 1!

Computer Science: Stream interleaving.

The union of two countable sets is countable!

## More fractions?

Are rationals countable.

Enumerate the rational numbers in order...

$0, \dots, 1/2, \dots$

Where is  $1/2$  in list?

After  $1/3$ , which is after  $1/4$ , which is after  $1/5$ ...

A thing about fractions:

any two fractions has another fraction between it.

Can't even get to "next" fraction!

Can't list in "order".

## Pairs of natural numbers.

Consider pairs of natural numbers:  $N \times N$

E.g.: (1,2), (100,30), etc.

For finite sets  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ ,

then  $S_1 \times S_2$

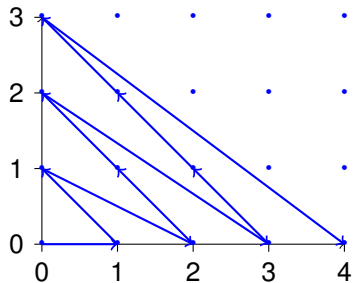
has size  $|S_1| \times |S_2|$ .

So,  $N \times N$  is countably infinite squared ???

## Pairs of natural numbers.

Enumerate in list:

$(0,0), (1,0), (0,1), (2,0), (1,1), (0,2), \dots$



The pair  $(a, b)$ , is within the first  $(a+b)(a+b)$  elements of list!  
(i.e., “square containing triangle”).

Countably infinite.

Same size as the natural numbers!!

## Rationals?

Positive rational number.

Lowest terms:  $a/b$

$$a, b \in \mathbb{N}$$

with  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ .

Infinite subset of  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ .

Countably infinite!

All rational numbers?

Negative rationals are countable. (Same size as positive rationals.)

Put all rational numbers in a list.

First negative, then nonnegative ??? No!

Repeatedly and alternatively take one from each list.

Interleave Streams in 61A

The rationals are countably infinite.

## Real numbers..

Real numbers are same size as integers?

# The reals.

Are the set of reals countable?

Lets consider the reals  $[0, 1]$ .

Each real has a decimal representation.

.500000000...  $(1/2)$

.785398162...  $\pi/4$

.367879441...  $1/e$

.632120558...  $1 - 1/e$

.345212312... Some real number



# Diagonalization.

If countable, there a listing,  $L$  contains all reals. For example

0: .500000000...

1: .785398162...

2: .367879441...

3: .632120558...

4: .345212312...

⋮

Construct “diagonal” number: .77677...

Diagonal Number: Digit  $i$  is 7 if number  $i$ 's  $i$ th digit is not 7  
and 6 otherwise. 6 is apparently isn't afraid!

Diagonal number for a list differs from every number in list!

Diagonal number not in list.

Diagonal number is real.

Contradiction!

Subset  $[0, 1]$  is not countable!!

## All reals?

Subset  $[0, 1]$  is not countable!!

What about all reals?

No.

Any subset of a countable set is countable.

If reals are countable then so is  $[0, 1]$ .

## Diagonalization.

1. Assume that a set  $S$  can be enumerated.
2. Consider an arbitrary list of all the elements of  $S$ .
3. Use the diagonal from the list to construct a new element  $t$ .
4. Show that  $t$  is different from all elements in the list  
 $\implies t$  is not in the list.
5. Show that  $t$  is in  $S$ .
6. Contradiction.

## Another diagonalization.

The set of all subsets of  $N$ .

Example subsets of  $N$ :  $\{0\}$ ,  $\{0, \dots, 7\}$ , evens, odds, primes, ...

Assume that it is countable.

There is a listing,  $L$ , that contains all subsets of  $N$ .

Define a diagonal set,  $D$ :

If  $i$ th set in  $L$  does not contain  $i$ ,  $i \in D$ .

otherwise  $i \notin D$ .

$D$  is different from  $i$ th set in  $L$  for every  $i$ .

$\implies D$  is not in the listing.

$D$  is a subset of  $N$ .  $L$  does not contain all subsets of  $N$ .

Contradiction.

**Theorem:** The set of all subsets of  $N$  is not countable.

(The set of all subsets of  $S$ , is the **powerset** of  $N$ .)

## Diagonalize Natural Number.

Natural numbers have a listing,  $L$ .

Make a diagonal number,  $D$ :

differ from  $i$ th element of  $L$  in  $i$ th digit.

Differs from all elements of listing.

$D$  is a natural number... **Not.**

Any natural number has a finite number of digits.

“Construction” requires an infinite number of digits.

# The Continuum hypothesis.

There is no set with cardinality between the naturals and the reals.

First of Hilbert's problems!

## Cardinalities of uncountable sets?

Cardinality of  $(0, 1]$  smaller than all the reals?

$f: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow (0, 1]$ .

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x + \frac{1}{2} & 0 \leq x \leq 1/2 \\ \frac{1}{4x} & x > 1/2 \end{cases}$$

One to one.  $x \neq y$

If both in  $[0, 1/2]$ , a shift  $\implies f(x) \neq f(y)$ .

If neither in  $[0, 1/2]$  a division  $\implies f(x) \neq f(y)$ .

If one is in  $[0, 1/2]$  and one isn't, different ranges  $\implies f(x) \neq f(y)$ .

Onto. Every element in  $(0, 1]$  has pre-image.

Bijection!

$[0, 1]$  is same cardinality as nonnegative reals.

## Generalized Continuum hypothesis.

There is no infinite set whose cardinality is between the cardinality of an infinite set and its power set.

The powerset of a set is the set of all subsets.



# Resolution of hypothesis?

Gödel. 1940.

Can't use math!

If math doesn't contain a contradiction.

This statement is a lie.

Is the statement above true?

The barber shaves every person who does not shave themselves.

Who shaves the barber?

Self reference.

Can a program refer to a program?

Can a program refer to itself?

Uh oh....

## Next Topic: Undecidability.

- ▶ Undecidability.

# Barber paradox.

Barber announces:

“The barber shaves every person who does not shave themselves.”

Who shaves the barber?

Get around paradox?

The barber lies.

## Russell's Paradox.

Naive Set Theory: Any definable collection is a set.

$$\exists y \forall x (x \in y \iff P(x)) \tag{1}$$

$y$  is the set of elements that satisfies the proposition  $P(x)$ .

$$P(x) = x \notin x.$$

There exists a  $y$  that satisfies statement 1 for  $P(\cdot)$ .

Take  $x = y$ .

$$y \in y \iff y \notin y.$$

Oops!

What type of object is a set that contain sets?

Axioms changed.

## Changing Axioms?

Goedel: Any set of axioms is either  
**inconsistent** (can prove false statements) or  
**incomplete** (true statements cannot be proven.)

Concrete example:

Continuum hypothesis: “no cardinality between reals and naturals.”

Continuum hypothesis not disprovable in ZFC(Goedel 1940.)

Continuum hypothesis not provable. (Cohen 1963: only Fields medal in logic)

BTW:

Cantor ..bipolar disorder..

Goedel ..starved himself out of fear of being poisoned..

Russell .. was fine.....but for ...two schizophrenic children..

Dangerous work?

See Logicomix by Doxiadis, Papadimitriou (professor **here?**), Papadatos, Di Donna.

# Is it actually useful?

Write me a program checker!

Check that the compiler works!

How about.. Check that the compiler terminates on a certain input.

$HALT(P, I)$

$P$  - program

$I$  - input.

Determines if  $P(I)$  ( $P$  run on  $I$ ) halts or loops forever.

Notice:

Need a computer

...with the notion of a stored program!!!!

(not an adding machine! not a person and an adding machine.)

Program is a text string.

Text string can be an input to a program.

Program can be an input to a program.

# Implementing HALT.

$HALT(P, I)$

$P$  - program

$I$  - input.

Determines if  $P(I)$  ( $P$  run on  $I$ ) halts or loops forever.

Run  $P$  on  $I$  and check!

How long do you wait?

Something about infinity here, maybe?

# Halt does not exist.

$HALT(P, I)$

$P$  - program

$I$  - input.

Determines if  $P(I)$  ( $P$  run on  $I$ ) halts or loops forever.

**Theorem:** There is no program HALT.

**Proof:** Yes! No! Yes! No! No! Yes! No! Yes! ..



What is Rao talking about?

- (A) Rao is confused.
- (B) Fermat's Theorem.
- (C) Diagonalization.
- (C). maybe (A) too.



# Halt and Turing.

**Proof:** Assume there is a program  $HALT(\cdot, \cdot)$ .

Turing(P)

1. If  $HALT(P, P)$  = "halts", then go into an infinite loop.
2. Otherwise, halt immediately.

Assumption: there is a program HALT.

There is text that "is" the program HALT.

There is text that is the program Turing. [See above!](#)

Can run Turing on Turing!

Does Turing(Turing) halt?

Case 1: Turing(Turing) halts

⇒ then HALTS(Turing, Turing) = halts

⇒ Turing(Turing) loops forever.

Case 2: Turing(Turing) loops forever

⇒ then HALTS(Turing, Turing)  $\neq$  halts

⇒ Turing(Turing) halts.

**Contradiction.** Program HALT does not exist!



Questions?

Wow.

A lot of mind bending stuff.

See you on Friday to regroup!