Classifying Relations Based on its Graph

function: if it has [$\leq$ 1 arrow **out**] property

total: if it has [$\geq$ 1 arrow **out**] property

surjective: if it has [$\geq$ 1 arrow **in**] property

injective: if it has [$\leq$ 1 arrow **in**] property

bijective: if it has *all of the above properties*
i.e., it has [$=$ 1 arrow **out**] and [$=$ 1 arrow **in**].

Using Injection and Surjection to Relate Set Cardinalities

A surj B iff there is a *surjective* function from A to B

A inj B iff there is a *injective, total* function from A to B

A bij B iff there is a *bijection* from A to B

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For *finite* sets

- $|A| \geq |B|$ iff A *surj* B
- $|A| \leq |B|$ iff A *inj* B
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Counting Infinite Sets (Textbook §7.1)

Can we use the same ideas as finite sets?

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Basically. But:

- There are some unintuitive things about the “size” of infinite sets
- We don’t know how to say one set is stricly larger
- We don’t know how to measure the size of an infinite set.

We will ignore the third problem, and just talk about comparing sizes.

Infinite Sets are Different ...

For finite sets, adding an element strictly increases its size

- i.e., if A is finite, and $b \notin A$, there is no bijection from A to $A \cup \{b\}$

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This is not true for infinite sets In fact:

A set A is infinite iff there is a bijection from A to $A \cup \{b\}$

Countable and Infinite Sets

Countability of set A

- A is countable if its elements can be listed in some order $c_0, c_1, c_2, \ldots$ such that *every element will eventually appear in the list.*
- Equivalently, there is a surjection from $\mathbb{N}$ to A.

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Countably infinite: Infinite and countable.

- In other words, there is a bijection from $\mathbb{N}$ to A.

Countable: Finite or countably infinite

Proving Countability of Sets

Strategy 1

- Identify an enumeration order for the set
- Show that every element will eventually occur in that order.

Example: The set $\mathbb{Z}$

Properties of Countable Sets

Countable sets are closed under union, intersection and set product

If A and B are countable, then the following sets are countable as well:

- $A \cup B$
- $A \cap B$
- $A \times B$

Proving Countability of Sets

Strategy 2

- Use closure properties.

Examples: The set $\mathbb{Q}$

Proving Countability of Sets

Strategy 2

- Use closure properties.

Examples: The set of complex rational numbers of the form $p + qi$ where p and q are rational

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Example: The set of all finite-length strings over a finite alphabet

Proving Countability of Sets

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- Identify an enumeration order for the set
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Example: The set of all finite-length strings over a countably infinite alphabet

Strict Inequality on Infinite Set Cardinality

$$\boxed{A \text{ strict } B \text{ iff } \neg(A \text{ surj } B)}$$

- On finite sets, "strict" obviously means strictly smaller. But what about infinite sets?

Strict Inequality on Infinite Set Cardinality

$$\boxed{A \text{ strict } B \text{ iff } \neg(A \text{ surj } B)}$$

- On finite sets, “strict” obviously means strictly smaller. But what about infinite sets? We will take it as a given that it holds for infinite sets as well.

Power Sets are Strictly Larger

Theorem [Cantor]

A strict $\wp(A)$

- So far, our proofs involved constructing a surjective or bijective mapping
- But now, we need to show no such mapping is possible. How in the world can we do that?

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Answer: We need new proof techniques

We use *Diagonalization*, a particular form of proof by contradiction.

Diagonalization: Uncountability of infinite strings over {0,1}

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
s_1 & = & \color{red}{0}\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0 \ldots \\
s_2 & = & 1\ \color{red}{1}\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1 \ldots \\
s_3 & = & 0\ 1\ \color{red}{0}\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0 \ldots \\
s_4 & = & 1\ 0\ 1\ \color{red}{0}\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1 \ldots \\
s_5 & = & 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ \color{red}{0}\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1 \ldots \\
s_6 & = & 0\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0\ \color{red}{1}\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0 \ldots \\
s_7 & = & 1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 0\ \color{red}{0}\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 0 \ldots \\
s_8 & = & 0\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 1\ \color{red}{1}\ 0\ 0\ 1 \ldots \\
s_9 & = & 1\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 0\ \color{red}{1}\ 1\ 0 \ldots \\
s_{10} & = & 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 1\ \color{red}{0}\ 1 \ldots \\
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\vdots & & \vdots\ \vdots\ \vdots\ \vdots\ \vdots\ \vdots\ \vdots\ \vdots\ \vdots\ \vdots\ \vdots\ \ddots
\end{array}
$$

$$
s = \color{blue}{1\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 1} \ldots
$$

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Can prove uncountability of real numbers using this

- Focus on real numbers over [0, 1)
  - We can define a bijection from $\mathbb{R}$ to real numbers of [0, 1), so they contain the same number of elements.
- Each real number over [0, 1) can be expressed as a binary number $0.d_1d_2d_3\cdots$ where each d_i is a 0 or 1.

Diagonalization: Proving that $\wp(\mathbb{N})$ is uncountable

Idea

- List $\wp(\mathbb{N})$ in some order $S_1, S_2, \ldots$
- Construct S by drawing at least one element in $n_i \in \mathbb{N}$ that is not included in S_i
  - n_i is a *witness* to verify $S \neq S_i$
- $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ but will never appear in the enumeration – a contradiction.. ∎

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Unfortunately, this is not a correct proof.

- What if some set includes every element?

Proving that $\wp(\mathbb{N})$ is uncountable: 2nd Attempt

- Why not apply our idea of a bijection between subsets and bitstrings that we used for counting $\wp(A)$?

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Diagonalization: Proof of Cantor's Theorem (A strict $\wp(A)$)

- We can't use the proof from slide because it relies on A being enumerable.
  - The bit strings we use contain countably infinite digits
- Instead, we need to think directly in terms of surjections:
  - *Assume, contrary to the theorem, there is a surjection* $g\colon A \longrightarrow \wp(A)$

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- *Now, who will point to S?*

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As we have reached a contradiction in all cases, our original assumption about the existence of g must be false.

- No surjective function from A to $\wp(A)$ is possible. ■