

# Counting Infinite Sets

Given infinite time, a computer can do infinitely many things...  
but can it do everything? ... will answer in 301. Today, tools.

$$|\mathbb{N}| = \infty$$

$$|\{x > 0 : x \text{ is even}\}| = \infty \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \swarrow E \\ \end{array} \right\} \text{Same infinity?}$$

Q:  $|\mathbb{N}| = |E|$ ?

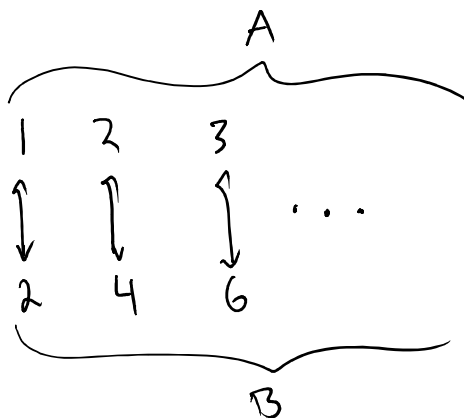
A)  $|\mathbb{N}| < |E|$     B)  $|\mathbb{N}| = |E|$     C)  $|\mathbb{N}| > |E|$



For sets  $A, B$ ,  $|A| = |B| \iff \exists f: A \rightarrow B$  where  $f$  is bijective.

eg.  $f(x) = 2x$ ,  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow E$

Another way to see bijection:



Another way to see infinities are same

Hotel w/infinite rooms, all occupied

New guy

Everyone moves down, new guy gets room, all rooms occupied

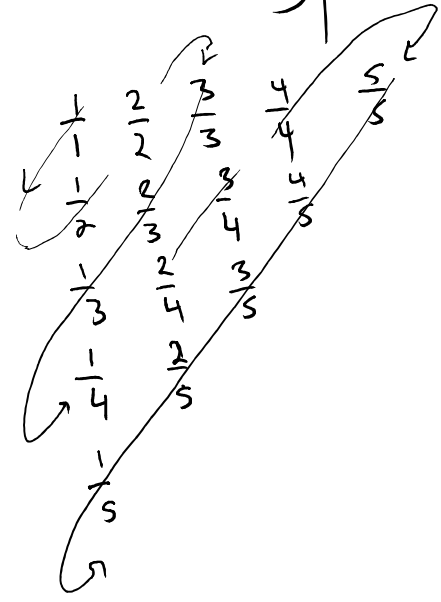


$$|\mathbb{N}| = |\mathbb{N}+1|$$

Q: Show  $|\mathbb{N}| = |\{x \in \mathbb{Z} : x > 10\}|$        $f(x) = x+10$

Show  $|\mathbb{N}| = |\mathbb{Z}|$        $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{2}, & x \text{ even} \\ -(\frac{x+1}{2}), & x \text{ odd} \end{cases}$

Show  $|\mathbb{N}| = |\{\frac{x}{y} : x, y \in \mathbb{Z}, |x| < |y|\}|$



We call any set that has the same size as  $\mathbb{N}$ , Countably infinite

Fact:  $|\mathbb{N}| < |\{x \in \mathbb{R} : 0 < x < 1\}|$   $\mathbb{R}_1$

We call sets that are larger than  $\mathbb{N}$  uncountably infinite

Proof uses Diagonalization:

1. QUIET
2. STONE
3. OFFER
4. CLEAR
5. PHONE

New Word not on list:

<u>S</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>T</u>
↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
Not	Not	Not	Not	Not
Q	T	F	A	E

Pf: Suppose for contradiction there is a bijection from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{R}_1$

- 1  $\leftrightarrow$  0. $d_{11}$  $d_{12}$  $d_{13}$ ...
- 2  $\leftrightarrow$  0. $d_{21}$  $d_{22}$  $d_{23}$ ...
- 3  $\leftrightarrow$  0. $d_{31}$  $d_{32}$  $d_{33}$ ...

$d_{ij}$  =  $j^{\text{th}}$  decimal place of  $i^{\text{th}}$  real #

↖ continue to infinity

$\frac{1}{2} = 0.500000\dots$

Now consider the number

$d = 0.d_1d_2d_3d_4\dots$

$d_k = \begin{cases} 4 & \text{if } d_{kk} \neq 4 \\ 5 & \text{if } d_{kk} = 4 \end{cases}$

$$1 \leftrightarrow 0.15434\dots$$

$$2 \leftrightarrow 0.41198\dots$$

$$3 \leftrightarrow 0.97422\dots$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.445\dots$$

$d$  is a number in  $\mathbb{R}_1$ , but  $d$  is not in the list! But we claimed all numbers in  $\mathbb{R}_1$  are on the list  $\rightarrow$  contradiction

If  $|A| = |\mathbb{N}|$ , we call  $A$  countably infinite

If  $|A| > |\mathbb{N}|$ , we call  $A$  uncountably infinite

Q: Let  $F = \{f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}\}$

Show  $|F| > |\mathbb{N}|$

Pf: Suppose for contradiction there is a bijection between  $F$  and  $\mathbb{N}$

$$1 \leftrightarrow f_1 = f_1(1), f_1(2), f_1(3) \dots$$

$$2 \leftrightarrow f_2 = f_2(1), f_2(2), f_2(3) \dots$$

$$\vdots$$

Can create a new function that differs at every position