

Theorem: The Countable union of countable sets is countable
 If I is countable and for every $\alpha \in I$ the set A_α is also countable, then

$$\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha \text{ is countable.}$$

Applications

\mathbb{Z} is countable.

$$\mathbb{Z} = \{0\} \cup \{1, 2, 3, \dots\} \cup \{-1, -2, -3, \dots\}$$

\uparrow finite
 \uparrow countable
 \uparrow also countable

finite union of countable sets

$$\mathbb{Q} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \left\{ \frac{m}{n} : m \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

\uparrow countable union
 \uparrow countable sets

$\left\{ \frac{m}{n} : m \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \sim \mathbb{Z}$
 bijection $f(m) = \frac{m}{n}$

Thus \mathbb{Q} is countable...

$$\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Q}^2 = \bigcup_{q \in \mathbb{Q}} \{ (p, q) : p \in \mathbb{Q} \}$$

\uparrow countable union
 \uparrow countable set

$\{ (p, q) : p \in \mathbb{Q} \} \sim \mathbb{Q}$
 bijection $f((p, q)) = p$

Thus $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$ is countable...

$$\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Q} \times (\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q})$$

$$(p, q, r) \quad (p, (q, r))$$

↑ a little different but never mind

$$= \mathbb{Q}^3 = \bigcup_{r \in \mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}^2 \times \{r\}$$

$r \in \mathbb{Q}$

Countable since \mathbb{Q} is countable.

Countable union.

$$\mathbb{Q}^{n+1} = \bigcup_{r \in \mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}^n \times \{r\}$$

↑

by induction \mathbb{Q}^n is countable for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$

Theorem 2.17

The closed interval $[0, 1]$ is uncountable...

Proof:

For contradiction, suppose $[0, 1]$ were countable..

Then there would be a bijection

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

Countable means can write them as a sequence.

$$f(1) = y_1 = 0.a_{11}a_{12}a_{13}\dots = 0.246\dots$$

$$f(2) = y_2 = 0.a_{21}a_{22}a_{23}\dots = 0.597\dots$$

$$f(3) = y_3 = 0.a_{31}a_{32}a_{33}\dots = 0.693\dots$$

where $a_{ij} \in \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$ are digits in the expansion.

Idea find a number in $[0, 1]$ that's not in the list..

$$\text{Let } b_n = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } a_{nn} \neq 3 \\ 4 & \text{if } a_{nn} = 3 \end{cases}$$

For example on the diagonal shown

$$b_1 = 3, b_2 = 3, b_3 = 4, \dots$$

Let $b = 0.b_1b_2b_3\dots$

Then $b \neq y_n$ for any n because its decimal expansion differs in the n^{th} place.

Since $b \in [0,1]$ and $b \notin f(\mathbb{N})$ this is a contradiction.

Thus $[0,1]$ is uncountable..

Note we used 3's and 4's to avoid the non-uniqueness of decimal representation with tails of 9's or 0's.

Recall

$$0.3\bar{9} \approx \frac{3}{10} + \frac{9}{100} \left(1 + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{10^2} + \dots \right)$$

$\frac{10}{9}$ sum the geometric series...

$$0.3\bar{9} = \frac{3}{10} + \frac{9}{100} \frac{10}{9} = \frac{3}{10} + \frac{1}{10} = .4$$

So that's why we avoid 9's and 0's when constructing $b = 0.b_1b_2b_3\dots$ using the diagonal...

$$S = 1 + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{10^2} + \dots$$
$$\frac{1}{10}S = \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{10^2} + \frac{1}{10^3} + \dots$$

$$(1 - \frac{1}{10})S = 1$$

$$S = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{10}} = \frac{10}{9}$$

Limits, sequences ...

Definition

Definition 3.1 A sequence of real numbers (or a sequence in \mathbb{R}) is a function whose domain is \mathbb{N} and whose range is a subset of \mathbb{R} .

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

↖ the sequence f ,

Notation write .

$$f(1) = x_1$$

$$f(2) = x_2$$

$$f(3) = x_3$$

$$\vdots$$
$$f(n) = x_n$$

Also talk about the sequence $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$

Definition 3.2 A sequence $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ eventually has a certain property if there exists an n_0 in \mathbb{N} such that

$$(x_n)_{n \geq n_0} = (x_{n_0}, x_{n_0+1}, x_{n_0+2}, \dots)$$

has this property.

↖ tail of a sequence

$$g: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{and } g(1) = x_{n_0} = f(n_0)$$

$$g(2) = x_{n_0+1} = f(n_0+1)$$

$$g(n) = x_{n_0+n-1} = f(n_0+n-1)$$

Thus g is the tail of f starting at n_0 .

Definition 3.3 For x in \mathbb{R} and $\varepsilon > 0$, the open interval

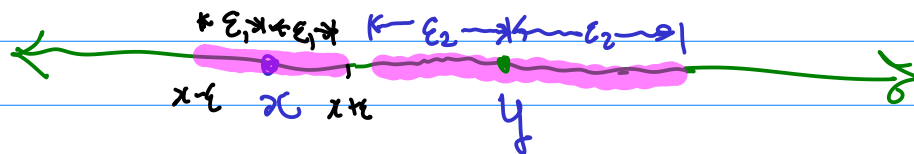
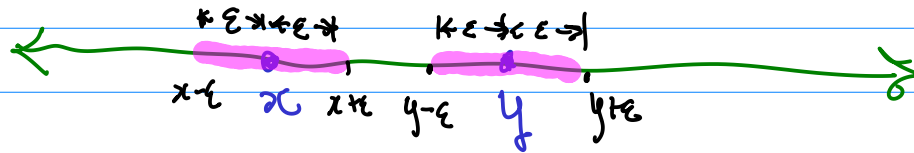
$$(x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon) = \{y \in \mathbb{R} : |y - x| < \varepsilon\}$$

centered at x of radius ε is a *neighborhood* of x .

Sometimes called an ε -neighborhood of x

Separation property of the real numbers:

If $x \neq y$ then there is a neighborhood U of x and a neighborhood V of y such that $U \cap V = \emptyset$.



Note that $\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 < |x - y|$ for the neighborhoods to be disjoint.

Proof Let x and y be in \mathbb{R} with $x \neq y$. Let $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2}|x - y|$. Let $U = (x - \varepsilon, x + \varepsilon)$ and $V = (y - \varepsilon, y + \varepsilon)$. We claim that $U \cap V = \emptyset$. Suppose that z is in $U \cap V$. Then, by the triangle inequality,

$$|x - y| \leq |x - z| + |z - y| < \varepsilon + \varepsilon = 2\varepsilon = |x - y|.$$

This is a contradiction, because a real number cannot be less than itself. Therefore, U and V are disjoint neighborhoods of x and y . (The reader should compare this with Exercise 11 in Section 2.1.) ■