

Cardinality



Countable sets

Recall that S is *countable* if S is finite or denumerable.
 S is *uncountable* if S is not countable.



Theorem (5.2.4)

The open interval $(0, 1)$ is uncountable.



Definition

A set S has *cardinality* \mathfrak{c} (or *cardinal number* \mathfrak{c}) if S is equivalent to $(0, 1)$. We write $\overline{\overline{S}} = \mathfrak{c}$, which stands for *continuum*.



Theorem (5.2.5)

- a) *Every open interval (a, b) is uncountable and has cardinality \mathfrak{c} .*
- b) *The set \mathbb{R} is uncountable and has cardinality \mathfrak{c} .*







COUNTABLE SETS

Theorem (5.3.1)

The set \mathbb{Q}^+ of positive rational numbers is denumerable.



Theorem (5.3.2)

Every subset of a countable set is countable.



Corollary (5.3.3)

A set A is countable iff A is equivalent to some subset of \mathbb{N} .



Theorem (5.3.4)

If A is denumerable, then $A \cup \{x\}$ is denumerable.





Theorem (5.3.5)

If A is denumerable and B is finite, then $A \cup B$ is denumerable.

Theorem (5.3.6)

If A and B are disjoint denumerable sets, then $A \cup B$ is denumerable.



Theorem (5.3.7)

The set \mathbb{Q} of all rational numbers is denumerable.



Theorem (5.3.8)

Let \mathcal{A} be a countable collection of countable sets. Then $\bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{A}} A$ is countable.

Corollary (5.3.9)

- If \mathcal{A} is a finite pairwise disjoint family of denumerable sets, then $\bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{A}} A$ is countable.
- If A and B are countable sets, then $A \cup B$ is countable.
- If \mathcal{A} is a finite collection of countable sets, then $\bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{A}} A$ is countable.
- If \mathcal{A} is a denumerable family of countable sets, then $\bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{A}} A$ is countable.





