

## Lecture 2: Set Theory Cont.

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Some features of the natural numbers  $N = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

- 1). contains zero ( $0 \in N$ )
- 2). if  $x \in N$  then  $x+1 \in N$  also
- 3).  $N$  is the minimal set satisfying 1). & 2).  $\rightarrow$  if  $X$  is a set enjoying 1). & 2). then  $X \supseteq N$

### An aside

→ Can model  $N$  in the language of set theory.

↳ So let's model 0 as the empty set  $\emptyset$   $0 \rightsquigarrow \emptyset = \{\}$

↳ Can also model 1 as the all the elements we already have 1  $\rightsquigarrow \{\emptyset\}$

↳ or 2  $\rightsquigarrow \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$  3  $\rightsquigarrow \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}\}$  → it's like thinking of numbers as the  
we can then say  $n+1 \rightsquigarrow \{\text{all actors} \leq n\}$  # of elements  $n$  in the set  
Just a place holder

- 3). let  $\phi(\_)$  be a property that any given number might or might not have.  
thus  $\phi(n) \rightarrow "n \text{ has property } \phi"$

Example:  $\phi = \text{"is even"}$  Suppose  $\phi(0)$  is true and suppose  $\phi(n) \Rightarrow \phi(n+1)$   
then  $\phi(n)$  is true for every  $n \in N$

Proof: consider  $\Phi = \{n \in N \text{ s.t. } \phi(n)\}$   $\Phi \subseteq N \Rightarrow \Phi$  satisfies 3)  $\Rightarrow \Phi \supseteq N \therefore \Phi = N$   
well ordering principle

- 4). Suppose  $X \subseteq N$  and  $X \neq \emptyset$  then  $X$  has a smallest element

### Method of infinite descent

Theorem: Suppose  $\phi(\_)$  is a property s.t. if  $\phi(n)$  is false (i.e. a counterexample) then  $\exists y < n$  s.t.  
 $\phi(y)$  is false (note  $x, y \in N$ ) then  $\phi(n)$  is true  $\forall n \in N$

Proof:  $\Phi' = \{n \in N \text{ s.t. } \neg \phi(n)\} \subseteq N$  does not have a smallest element so must be  $\emptyset$  by well ordered principle (WOP)

$$\emptyset = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$$

→ Given  $n \in N$  consider the set  $N_{\leq n} \subseteq N \rightarrow$  the idea is that this set has exactly  $n$  elements

→ Recall from last time  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is bijective if  $\forall y \in Y \exists! x \in X$  s.t.  $f(x) = y$  AND that any  
bijection has an inverse defined by  $f^{-1}(y) = x$  (unique  $x$ )

Lemma: if  $f$  is invertible then it is bijective.

$$f \circ f^{-1} = \text{id}_Y \quad f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_X$$

proof:

→ if  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  :  $g: Y \rightarrow Z$  are bijective then  $g \circ f: X \rightarrow Z$  is a bijection  $(gf) \circ (f^{-1}g^{-1}) = \text{id}_Z$

$$(f^{-1}g^{-1}) \circ (gf) = \text{id}_X$$

→ Consider the collection of all sets define symbol  $X \cong Y$  to mean  
 $\exists$  bijection  $X \rightarrow Y$

$$f^{-1}g^{-1}gf = f^{-1}f$$

Definition:  $X$  is finite if  $\exists n$  s.t.  $X \cong N_n$  else it is infinite. →  $X$  is countable if it is  
finite and  $\cong N$   $|X| < \infty$

Property: if  $|X| < \infty$  then there is exactly one  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $X \cong \mathbb{N}_{\leq n}$  in this case write  $|X| = n$

→ In other words, we want to rule out the possibility that  $X \cong \mathbb{N}_{\leq n}$  and  $X \cong \mathbb{N}_{\leq m}$  and that  $m \neq n$

→ Suffices to show that if  $\mathbb{N}_m \cong \mathbb{N}_m$  then  $n = m$  → We'll prove a theorem that will imply this

Theorem: (Pigeonhole principle)

Suppose  $m > n$   $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  then any  $f: \mathbb{N}_m \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_n$  is not injective

equiv: if  $\exists$  injective map  $\mathbb{N}_m \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_n$  then  $m \leq n$

Proof: induction in  $n$  base case:  $n = 0$  then  $\mathbb{N}_0 = \emptyset$  if  $\exists f: X \rightarrow \emptyset$  then  $X = \emptyset$  and if  $m > 0$  then  $\mathbb{N}_m \neq \emptyset$  because it contained  $m-1$ .

TBC