

# Naive Set Theory

## cardinal arithmetic and number

**Def 1** We use  $\text{card } A$  to describe the comparative sizes of a set  $A$ , which is called the cardinal number of  $A$ .

**Def 2** we use  $=, <, >, \leq, \geq$  to describe the order of cardinal number, which defined by following sentences.

$$\text{card } A = \text{card } B \iff A \sim B$$

$$\text{card } A > \text{card } B \iff A \succ B$$

$$\text{card } A < \text{card } B \iff A \prec B$$

$$\text{card } A \geq \text{card } B \iff A \succeq B$$

$$\text{card } A \leq \text{card } B \iff A \preceq B$$

**Def 3**  $A, B$  are disjoint sets and  $\text{card } A = a, \text{card } B = b$ , then we use  $a + b$  to describe  $\text{card } A \cup B$

*Remark:* If we use  $C \sim A, D \sim B$ , and  $C, D$  are pairwise disjoint, then  $\text{card } C \cup D = a + b$ , which means  $a + b$  is well-defined and it's independent of the choice of  $A, B$

### Prop 1

- commutative:  $a + b = b + a$
- associative:  $a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$

proof: use the definition of set union

**Exe 1**  $a, b, c, d$  are cardinal numbers of some set. If  $a \leq b, c \leq d$ , then  $a + c \leq b + d$

proof: assume  $\text{card } A = a, \text{card } B = b, \text{card } C = c, \text{card } D = d$ .  $A, B, C, D$  are all disjoint, then

$$\exists B_1 \subset B, A \sim B_1$$

$$\exists D_1 \subset D, C \sim D_1$$

for  $B_1, D_1$  are disjoint, we have  $a + c = \text{card } A \cup C = \text{card } B_1 \cup D_1$ , and we have  $b + d = \text{card } B \cup D$ . because  $B_1 \cup D_1 \preceq B \cup D$ , we have  $a + c \leq b + d$ .  $\square$

**Def 4** for  $\{A_i\}$  is a correspondingly indexed family of pairwise disjoint sets such that  $\text{card } A_i = a_i$ , then

$$\sum_i a_i = \text{card } \cup_i A_i$$

**Def 5**  $A, B$  are sets and  $\text{card } A = a, \text{card } B = b$ , then we use  $ab$  to describe  $\text{card } A \times B$

**Prop 2**

- commutative:  $ab = ba$
  - associative:  $a(bc) = (ab)c$
  - multiplication distribute over addition  $a(b + c) = ab + ac$
- proof: use the definition of set union and Cartesian product

**Exe 2**  $a, b, c, d$  are cardinal numbers of some set. If  $a \leq b, c \leq d$ , then  $ac \leq bd$

proof: similar to Exe1

**Def 6** for  $\{A_i\}$  is a correspondingly indexed family of sets such that  $\text{card } A_i = a_i$ , then

$$\prod_i a_i = \text{card } \times_i A_i$$

**Exe 3** if  $\{a_i\}, \{b_i\}, i \in I$  are families of cardinal numbers such that  $a_i < b_i$  for each  $i \in I$ , then  $\sum_i a_i < \prod_i b_i$

proof: assume that  $\sum_i a_i \geq \prod_i b_i$ , then for pairwise disjoint sets  $A_i, B_i, \text{card } A_i = a_i, \text{card } B_i = b_i$ , there exists an onto map:

$$f : \cup_i A_i \rightarrow \times_i B_i$$

for  $u \in \times_i B_i$ , denote  $\pi_i(u)$  as the  $i_{th}$  component of  $u$

then we have  $\pi_i(f(A_i)) \subset B_i$  and by  $a_i < b_i$ , there exists  $v_i \in B_i - \pi_i(f(A_i))$

then  $\times_i \{v_i\}$  is not in  $\cup_i f(A_i)$ , it's contractive.  $\square$

**Def 4** for  $\text{card } A = a, \text{card } B = b, a^b = \text{card } (A^B)$ , by  $A^B = \{f : f \text{ is a map from } B \text{ to } A\}$

**Prop 3**

- $a^{b+c} = a^b a^c$
- $(ab)^c = a^c b^c$
- $a^{bc} = (a^b)^c$

*hint:* we can divide  $f$  into two parts.

#### Exe 4

- if  $a, b, c$  are cardinal numbers such that  $a \leq b$ , then  $a^c \leq b^c$
- if  $a, b$  are finite, greater than 1, and  $c$  is infinite, then  $a^c = b^c$

proof: we refer a result  $cc = c$  then  $b^c \leq c^c \leq (2^c)^c = 2^{cc} = 2^c \leq a^c$

by **Schroder Bernstein Thm.**  $a^c = b^c$   $\square$

*remark:*  $2^c = c^c$

#### Prop 4

- $a$  is finite and  $b$  is infinite, then  $a + b = b$
- $a$  is infinite, then  $a + a = a$
- $a, b$  are cardinal number at least one of which is infinite,  $c$  is the larger one, then  $a + b = c$
- $a$  is infinite, then  $aa = a$

#### Exe 5

- if  $a, b$  are at least one of which is infinite, then  $a + b = ab$
- if  $a$  is infinite and  $b$  is finite, then  $a^b = a$

**Prop 5** for each set  $X$ , the ordinal numbers equivalent to  $X$  constitute a set

**Def 5**  $\text{card } X$  is an ordinal number  $\alpha$  such that if  $\beta$  is an ordinal number equivalent to  $\alpha$ , then  $\alpha \leq \beta$

**Thm 1** (Cantor's paradox) there is not an upper bound over all ordinal number

**Exe 6** each infinite cardinal number is a limit number

#### Exe 7

- if  $\text{card } A = a$ , what is the cardinal number of the set of all one-to-one mappings of  $A$  onto itself
- what is the cardinal number of the set of all countably infinite subsets of  $A$

*remark:*

- continuum hypothesis:  $\aleph_1 = 2^{\aleph_0}$
- generalized continuum hypothesis:  $\aleph_{\alpha+1} = 2^{\aleph_\alpha}$ , for all ordinal number  $\alpha$