

If A is _____,
then $\exists f \dots$

countable (ctbl.)

| | empty | finite, nonempty | countably infinite | uncountable |
|--|-------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| $\exists f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ injective | yes | yes | yes | no |
| $\exists f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ surjective | no | no | yes | yes |
| $\exists f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ bijective | no | no | yes | no |
| $\exists f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ injective | no | no | yes | yes |
| $\exists f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ surjective | no | yes | yes | no |
| $\exists f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ bijective | no | no | yes | no |

finite

infinite

$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad A_n \text{ countable}) \Rightarrow \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \text{ countable}$

$B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n \text{ ctbl.} \Rightarrow B_1 \times B_2 \times \dots \times B_n \text{ ctbl.}$

$C \text{ ctbl.} \ \& \ D \subset C \Rightarrow D \text{ ctbl.}$

$\& B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_n \text{ ctbl.}$

$E \text{ unctbl.} \ \& \ F \text{ ctbl.} \Rightarrow E - F \text{ unctbl.}$

$(\hookrightarrow \text{Proof: } E - F \ \& \ F \text{ ctbl.} \Rightarrow E \subset (E - F) \cup F \text{ ctbl.} \Rightarrow E \text{ ctbl.})$

Warning

- Do not confuse different "levels" of sets:

$A = \{ [x, x+1) \mid x \in \mathbb{Q} \}$ is a countable set of uncountable sets.

$B = \{ \{ [n, x] \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \} \mid x \in \mathbb{R} \}$ is an uncountable set of countable sets.

- $\cup A$ is a countable union of unctbl. sets;

$\cup A$ is an uncountable set: $\cup A = \mathbb{R}$.

- $\cup B$ is an uncountable union of countable sets.

But $\cup B$ is a countable set: $\cup B = \mathbb{Z}$.