

A **finite set** is a set that is the empty set or is the same size as $\{1, \dots, n\}$ for some nonnegative integer n .

A **countably infinite set** is a set that is the same size as \mathbb{Z}^+ or \mathbb{N} .

An **uncountable set** is a set that is not finite and is not countably infinite.

Comparing \mathbb{Q} and \mathbb{R}

Circle correct selection for each property.

Finite?	Neither set	Only \mathbb{Q}	Only \mathbb{R}	Both sets
Countably infinite?	Neither set	Only \mathbb{Q}	Only \mathbb{R}	Both sets
Uncountable?	Neither set	Only \mathbb{Q}	Only \mathbb{R}	Both sets
Has greatest element?	Neither set	Only \mathbb{Q}	Only \mathbb{R}	Both sets
Has least element?	Neither set	Only \mathbb{Q}	Only \mathbb{R}	Both sets
$\forall x \forall y (x < y \rightarrow \exists z (x < z < y))$	Neither set	Only \mathbb{Q}	Only \mathbb{R}	Both sets
Least upper bound?	Neither set	Only \mathbb{Q}	Only \mathbb{R} ?	Both sets

The set of real numbers

Order axioms (Rosen Appendix 1):

Reflexivity	$\forall a \in \mathbb{R} (a \leq a)$
Antisymmetry	$\forall a \in \mathbb{R} \forall b \in \mathbb{R} ((a \leq b \wedge b \leq a) \rightarrow (a = b))$
Transitivity	$\forall a \in \mathbb{R} \forall b \in \mathbb{R} \forall c \in \mathbb{R} ((a \leq b \wedge b \leq c) \rightarrow (a \leq c))$
Trichotomy	$\forall a \in \mathbb{R} \forall b \in \mathbb{R} ((a = b \vee b > a \vee a < b))$

Completeness axioms (Rosen Appendix 1):

Least upper bound	Every nonempty set of real numbers that is bounded above has a least upper bound
Nested intervals	For each sequence of intervals $[a_n, b_n]$ where, for each n , $a_n < a_{n+1} < b_{n+1} < b_n$, there is at least one real number x such that, for all n , $a_n \leq x \leq b_n$.

Each real number $r \in \mathbb{R}$ is described by a function to give better and better approximations

$$x_r : \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \{0, 1\} \quad \text{where } x_r(n) = n^{\text{th}} \text{ bit in binary expansion of } r$$

r	Binary expansion	x_r
0.1	0.00011001...	$x_{0.1}(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n > 1 \text{ and } (n \bmod 4) = 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \text{ or if } n > 1 \text{ and } (n \bmod 4) = 3 \\ 1 & \text{if } n > 1 \text{ and } (n \bmod 4) = 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } n > 1 \text{ and } (n \bmod 4) = 1 \end{cases}$
$\sqrt{2} - 1 = 0.4142135\dots$	0.01101010...	Use linear approximations (tangent lines from calculus) to get algorithm for bounding error of successive operations. Define $x_{\sqrt{2}-1}(n)$ to be n^{th} bit in approximation that has error less than $2^{-(n+1)}$.

Claim: $\{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq r \wedge r \leq 1\}$ is uncountable.

Approach 1: Mimic proof that $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Z}^+)$ is uncountable.

Proof: By definition of countable, since $\{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq r \wedge r \leq 1\}$ is not finite, **to show** is $|\mathbb{N}| \neq |\{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq r \wedge r \leq 1\}|$.

To show is $\forall f : \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq r \wedge r \leq 1\}$ (f is not a bijection). Towards a proof by universal generalization, consider an arbitrary function $f : \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq r \wedge r \leq 1\}$. **To show:** f is not a bijection. It's enough to show that f is not onto. Rewriting using the definition of onto, **to show:**

$$\exists x \in \{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq r \wedge r \leq 1\} \forall a \in \mathbb{N} (f(a) \neq x)$$

In search of a witness, define the following real number by defining its binary expansion

$$d_f = 0.b_1b_2b_3\dots$$

where $b_i = 1 - b_{ii}$ where b_{jk} is the coefficient of 2^{-k} in the binary expansion of $f(j)$. Since* $d_f \neq f(a)$ for any positive integer a , f is not onto.

Approach 2: Nested closed interval property

To show $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq r \wedge r \leq 1\}$ is not onto. **Strategy:** Build a sequence of nested closed intervals that each avoid some $f(n)$. Then the real number that is in all of the intervals can't be $f(n)$ for any n . Hence, f is not onto.

Consider the function $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{r \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq r \wedge r \leq 1\}$ with $f(n) = \frac{1+\sin(n)}{2}$

n	$f(n)$	Interval that avoids $f(n)$
0	0.5	
1	0.920735...	
2	0.954649...	
3	0.570560...	
4	0.121599...	
\vdots		

*There's a subtle imprecision in this part of the proof as presented, but it can be fixed.