

Th. 2. A subset of a countable set is countable (17)

Proof:- let A be a countable set.

Finite	Infinite
↓	↓
<p>If true, we can have $B \subset A$</p> <p>\Rightarrow Since B is finite</p> <p>$\Rightarrow B$ is not countable</p>	<p>$\nexists B$ is infinite</p> <p>↓</p> <p>elements of B will be among the elements of A</p>

But elements of A are in the form of sequence \Rightarrow elements of B can be considered / taken

$$\text{as } B = \{ a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, \dots \}$$

choose n_1 be the least positive integer st. $a_{n_1} \in B$.

Again let n_2 be the next least integer greater than n_1 st. $a_{n_2} \in B$.

In this way, we can arrange the elements of B like that

$$B = \{ a_{n_1}, a_{n_2}, a_{n_3}, \dots \}$$

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow B \quad \text{st.} \quad f(k) = a_{n_k} \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\Rightarrow B \sim \mathbb{N} = \text{Denumerable}$

$\Rightarrow B$ is countable \leftarrow

Th. The union of a finite set and a countable set is countable.

Proof:- let A be a finite set.
Again let B be a countable set.
To prove that $A \cup B$ is countable.

Case (i) let B is finite
 $\Rightarrow A \cup B$ is again finite
 $\Rightarrow A \cup B$ is countable. H.P. - I

Case (ii) let B is infinite

Subcase (a): If $A \cap B$ is \emptyset
 \Rightarrow No element is common between A and B.

let $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\}$ \because A is finite.

let $B = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots\}$

$A \cup B = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_m; b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots\}$.

Now, we a mapping f, from \mathbb{N} to $A \cup B$ as follows.

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A \cup B$$

$$\text{st. } f(x) = \begin{cases} a_n & ; 1 \leq n \leq m \\ b_{n-m} & ; m < n \end{cases}$$

This is a one-one-onto mapping

$\Rightarrow \mathbb{N} \sim A \cup B$

$\Rightarrow A \cup B$ is countable. H.P. - II

Subcase (b):- If some elements of A and B are common.
i.e. $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$