

# Uncountability of $\mathbb{R}$

We will prove that  $(0, 1)$  is uncountable. To do this, we write  $x$  in the base 2. Note that we may have two expressions for rational numbers. To fix the representation, for such numbers, we choose the expression ending with 0's, e.g,  $1/2 = .10000\dots$ , not  $.01111\dots$ . Assume that  $(0, 1)$  is countable. Then we can write  $(0, 1) = \{r_1, r_2, r_3, \dots\}$ . It suffices to choose  $r_1$  with the property that the first digit after the decimal point is 1 and  $r_2$  having the property that the second digit after the decimal point is 0. That is

$$r_1 = .1***\dots, \quad r_2 = .*0***\dots.$$

In view of the process we discussed in the class, we can construct

$$r = .01***\dots$$

which differs from any number of  $\{r_1, r_2, r_3, \dots\}$ . It is clear that  $r \in (0, 1)$ . I choose  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  in this way to avoid that  $r$  ends up at end points 0 or 1.