

The following are some definitions and Theorems that you can use for the homework and to understand the discussion of cardinal numbers.

**Definition:** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow X$  be two functions such that for all  $x \in X$ ,  $g(f(x)) = x$ . Then we say that  $f$  is an *injection* (*one-to-one*) and  $g$  is an *surjection* (*onto*). If, in addition,  $f$  is a surjection, we say it is a *bijection*.

**Definition:** Two sets  $X$  and  $Y$  are said to have the same cardinality if there is a bijection  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ .

**Definition:** Let the cardinality of a set  $X$  be  $a$  and the cardinality of the set  $Y$  be  $b$ . We say  $a \leq b$  if there is an injection  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ . We say  $a < b$  if, in addition, there is no bijection between  $X$  and  $Y$ .

**Definition:** A set  $X$  is *countable* if there is a bijection  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X$ , where  $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$  is the set of positive integers. The set  $X$  is also said to have cardinality  $\aleph_0$ .

**Definition:** A set  $X$  is said to have *cardinality*  $c$  if there is a bijection  $f : 2^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow X$ , where  $2^{\mathbb{N}}$  is the set of subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$ .

**Theorem 0.1** *A countable union of countable sets is countable.*

**Theorem 0.2** *An infinite subset of a countable set is countable.*

**Theorem 0.3** *The set of all integers  $\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is countable.*

**Theorem 0.4** *The set of rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q} = \{p/q \mid p \in \mathbb{Z}, q \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0\}\}$  is countable.*

**Theorem 0.5** *The real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  have cardinality  $c$ .*

**Theorem 0.6** *The irrational numbers  $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}$  have cardinality  $c$ .*

**Theorem 0.7** (*Schröder-Bernstein*) *If  $a$  and  $b$  are two cardinal numbers,  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$ , then  $a = b$ .*