

We will focus our attention to decision problems

→ Yes

→ No

Membership problems Given a set  $S$  (possibly infinite) and given an element  $x$  Does  $x \in S \rightarrow Y$

$\rightarrow N$

Suppose  $S$  is the set of primes  $\mathbb{P}$

then  $10 \notin \mathbb{P}$   
 $11 \in \mathbb{P}$

If  $S$  is finite - the solution is trivial  
 (enumerate and check exhaustively)

A language  $L$  is a set of strings over some finite alphabet

$\Sigma$  : alphabet e.g.  $\{a, b, c, d, \dots\}$   
 $\{0, 1\}$

Concatenation is the ordered joining  
of two strings.

$$0 \cdot 1 \quad 01$$

often drop the symbol

Concatenation of alphabet

$$\Sigma_1 \cdot \Sigma_2 = \{x \cdot y \mid x \in \Sigma_1, y \in \Sigma_2\}$$

$\Sigma \cdot \Sigma$  will be shortened as  $\Sigma^2$

$$\Sigma^i, i \geq 1 \quad \Sigma \cdot \Sigma^{i-1}$$

$$\Sigma^0 = \{\epsilon\} \quad (\text{empty string})$$

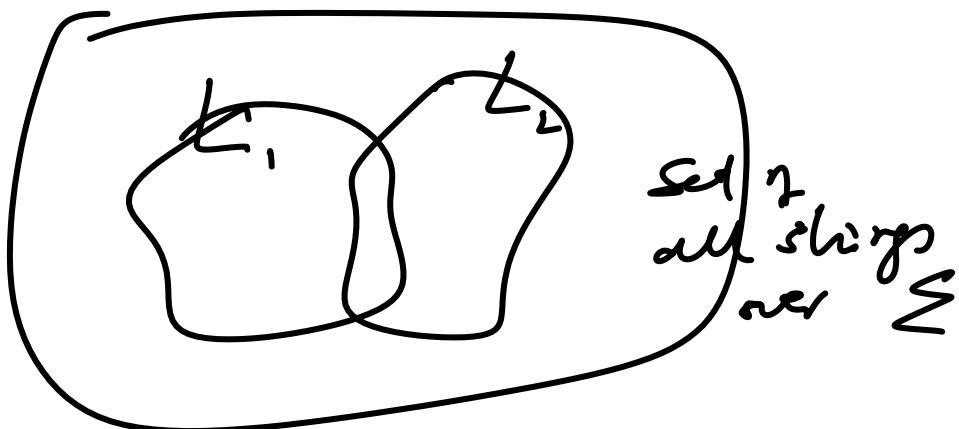
$$\epsilon \cdot x = x \cdot \epsilon = x$$

$$\Sigma^+ = \Sigma \cup \Sigma^2 \cup \Sigma^3 \cup \dots \cup \Sigma^i$$

$$\Sigma = \{0, 1\} \quad \Sigma^+ : \begin{matrix} \text{i integers} \\ \text{set of all binary} \\ \text{strings} \end{matrix}$$

$$\Sigma^* = \{\epsilon\} \cup \Sigma^+$$

A language  $L$  over an alphabet ( $\text{finite}$ )  
 $\leq$  is a subset of  $\Sigma^*$



Given a string  $x \in \Sigma^*$ , membership  
 in  $L$  is  $x \in L$

Characteristic func- of  $L$

$$\chi_L(y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y \in L \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Suppose  $f(x)$  is an arbitrary func-

$$\chi_f(x, y) : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y = f(x) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Claim  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  can be mapped  
 to  $\mathbb{Z}$

How do compare infinite sets?  
(cardinality)

Odd Int

Even Int

$$1 \longrightarrow 2$$

$$3 \longrightarrow 4$$

$$5 \longrightarrow 6$$

:

$$2i+1 \longrightarrow 2i+2$$

Odd int.

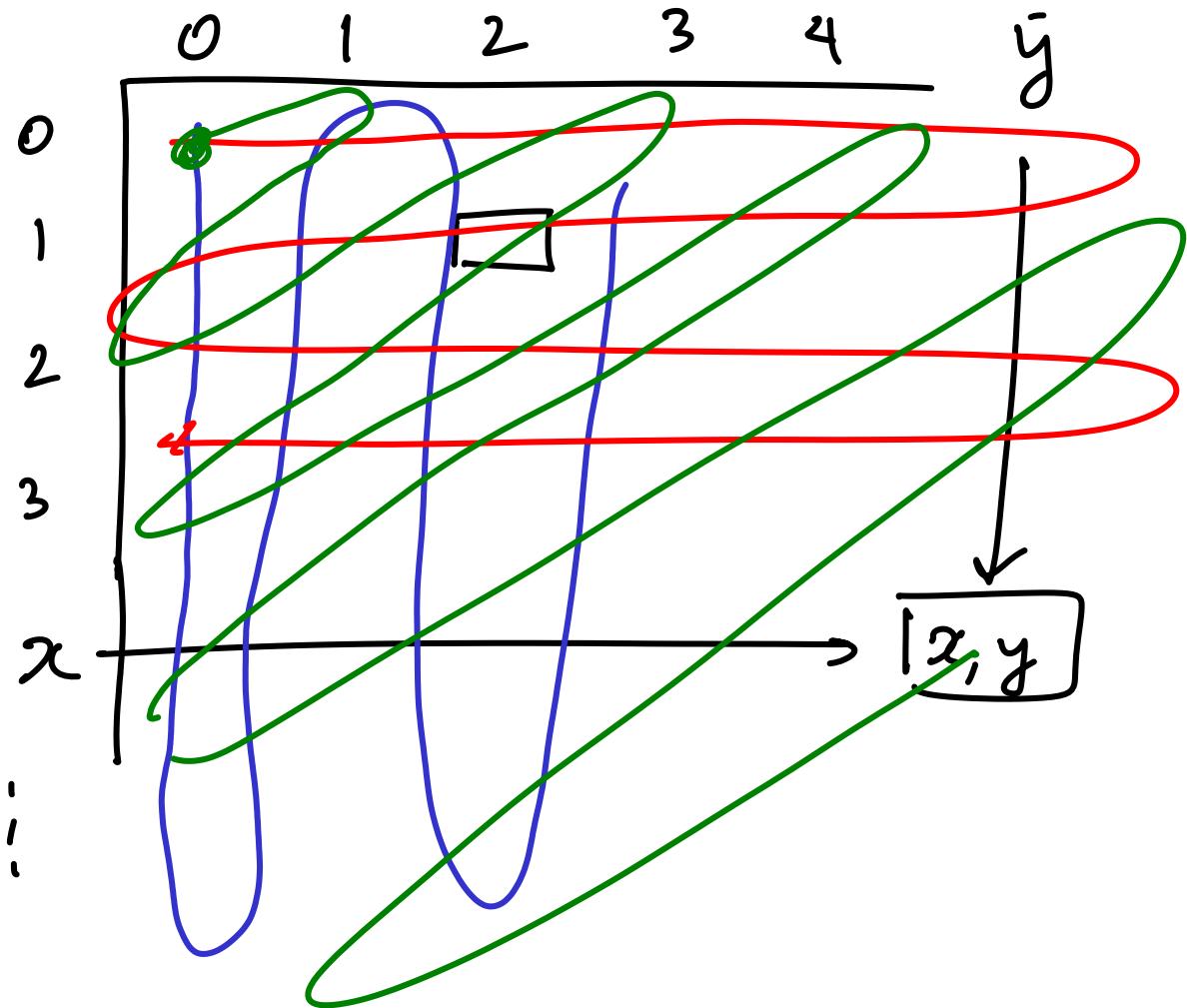
Integers

0	1	2	3	4	5	.	7
	↓		↓		↓		↓
	1		2		3		4

Pairs of integers  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$

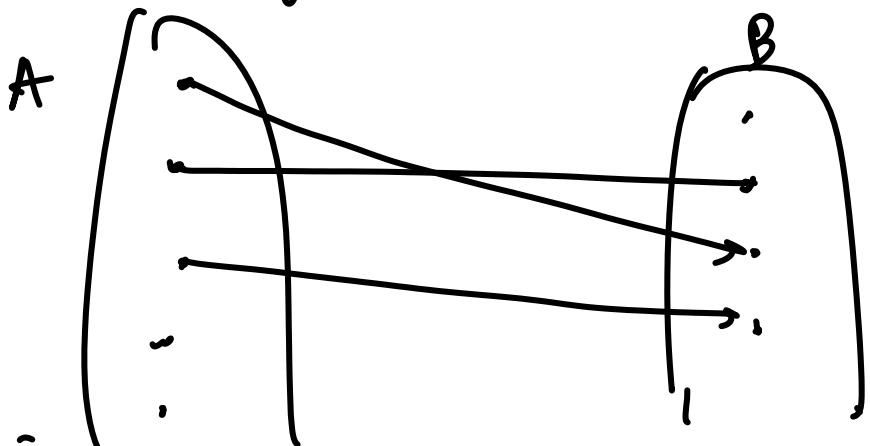
$(0, 1)$   $(0, 3)$   $(0, 5)$   $(1, 3)$   $(1, 1)$

Is there a bijection between  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$



Given two sets  $A$  and  $B$  we say

$A \leq_{\#} B$  if there is a 1-1  
mapping from  $A$  to  $B$



Claim  
If

$$A \subset B \Rightarrow A \leq_{\#} B$$

Claim : The set of strings over any finite alphabet has a bijection with  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

(Exercise)

All strings are finite length

$|x|$  : length of strings and it is finite

$$|1010| = 4$$

A program written in any language (Java, ML, Python) is a finite length string over some appropriate alphabet.

The set of all possible programs

$$\approx \mathbb{Z}$$

The possible # of subsets of  $\mathbb{Z}$   
 $2^{\mathbb{Z}}$