

Today : size issue

Size of objects are a problem
in Set theory and a
problem in Cat. theory.

QST is it possible for
a category to have all
colimits or all limits?

(without size restrictions)

Answer { Freyd's fact } :

yes but the category has
to be a preorder !

Consequence : the category of
Sets does not have
arbitrary colimits or limits.

→ need a restriction on
the type of colimits / limits
that can exist in Set

→ notion of "small colimit"
and "small limit"

the core of size issues is the following result

Cantor's lemma

given a set E , then the cardinal of $\mathcal{P}(E)$ is strictly bigger than the cardinal of E .

$$|E| < |\mathcal{P}(E)|$$

in other words: there is no bijection $E \cong \mathcal{P}(E)$

proof

suppose a map $E \xrightarrow{A} \mathcal{P}(E)$
 $x \mapsto A(x)$

then A cannot be surjective

to see this: picture A

by a table

Recall $P(E) = \text{set of fct } E \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

$$A: E \rightarrow P(E) \cong \{0,1\}^E$$

$$x \mapsto A(x) \stackrel{\wedge}{E} \leftrightarrow \chi_{A(x)}: E \rightarrow \{0,1\}$$

characteristic fct.

Define the set

$$B \subset E$$

$x \in B$ if

$$x \notin A(x)$$

	x	y	z	t	...	elt of E
$\chi_{A(x)}$	0	1	1	0	1	...
$\chi_{A(y)}$	0	0	1	0	1	...
$\chi_{A(z)}$	1	1	1	0	0	...
\vdots				1		

x, y, z are all elt of E

	x	y	z	t	...
χ_B	1	1	0	0	...

↑
"dual" value than the diagonal

claim: $B \neq A(x)$ for all x .

if $B = A(x)$

$$\chi_B = \chi_{A(x)}$$

$$\chi_B(x) = \chi_{A(x)}(x)$$

but by definition of B

$$\chi_B(x) \neq \chi_{A(x)}(x)$$

so $B = A(x)$ impossible.

B is not in the image
of $A: E \rightarrow P(E)$

the map cannot be surjective
nor a bijection.

On the other side, there
exist an injection

$$\begin{aligned} E &\rightarrow P(E) \\ x &\mapsto \{x\} \end{aligned}$$

so $|E| < |P(E)|$
strict

proof of Freyd's fact

Suppose C is a cat with
arbitrary sums
then C is a preorder.

proof : $C_0 = \text{ob}(C)$
 C_1 = $\text{Arr}(C)$

fix $x \in C$

consider $\coprod_{C_1} x = \text{sum of } C_1$
copies of x .

for any other $y \in C$

$$\text{Hom}(x, y) \in C_1$$

$$|\text{Hom}(x, y)| \leq |C_1|$$

in part. $|\text{Hom}(\coprod_{C_1} x, y)| \leq |C_1|$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}\left(\coprod_{C_1} x, y\right) &\cong \prod_{C_1} \text{Hom}(x, y) \\ &\cong \text{Hom}(x, y)^{C_1} \end{aligned}$$

Suppose $|\text{Hom}(x, y)| \geq 2$

then $\{0, 1\} \subset \text{Hom}(x, y)$

$P(C_1) \simeq \{0, 1\}^{C_1} \subset \text{Hom}(x, y)^{C_1}$

$|P(C_1)| = |\{0, 1\}^{C_1}| \leq |\text{Hom}(x, y)^{C_1}|$

✓
 $|C_1|$ by Cantor's lemma

$|\text{Hom}(\bigcup_{c_i} x, y)|$

$|\text{Hom}(\bigcup_{c_i} x, y)| \leq |C_1|$

$|C_1| < |\text{Hom}(\bigcup_{c_i} x, y)|$

contradiction!

hence

$|\text{Hom}(x, y)| = 1$

$\Rightarrow C$ preorder! ^{or} \emptyset

\Rightarrow Set does not have arbitrary sums.

\rightarrow need to restrict the size of sums existing in Set.

Cantor's fact : if I is a set and E_i is a family of sets indexed by I . Then there exists a set F which is not in bijection with any of the E_i .

proof consider $\bigsqcup_{i \in I} E_i =: E$

we have $|E_i| \leq |E| < |P(E)|$

choose $F := P(E)$.

Cantor's paradox

the collection of all sets
is not a set.

proof: suppose it is a set
and apply Cantor's fact
to find a set which is not
in the collection of all sets:

absurd!

Solutions to the paradox?

first solution: introduce a
new type of object classes

such that any set is a class
(but not the other way) and

such that the collection of all
sets is a class.

problems of this solution

- not clear what the difference between sets and classes is (both are collections of things)

- the collection of all classes is still a problem.

(need to invent a new notion aggregates to collect classes)

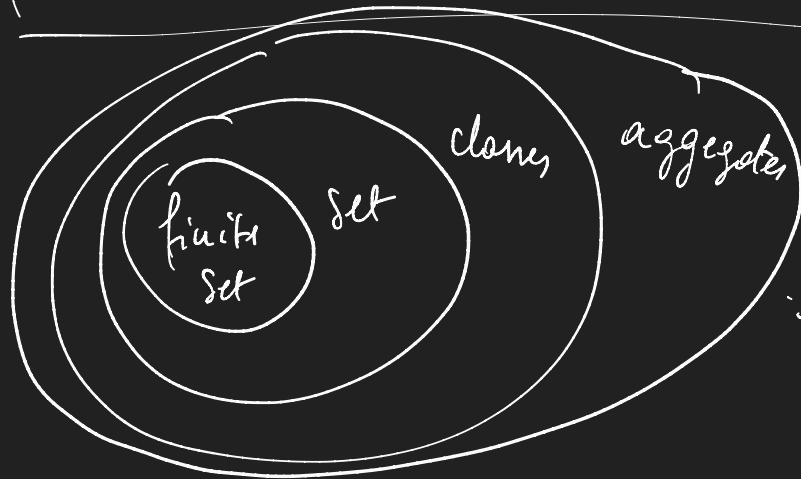
second solution

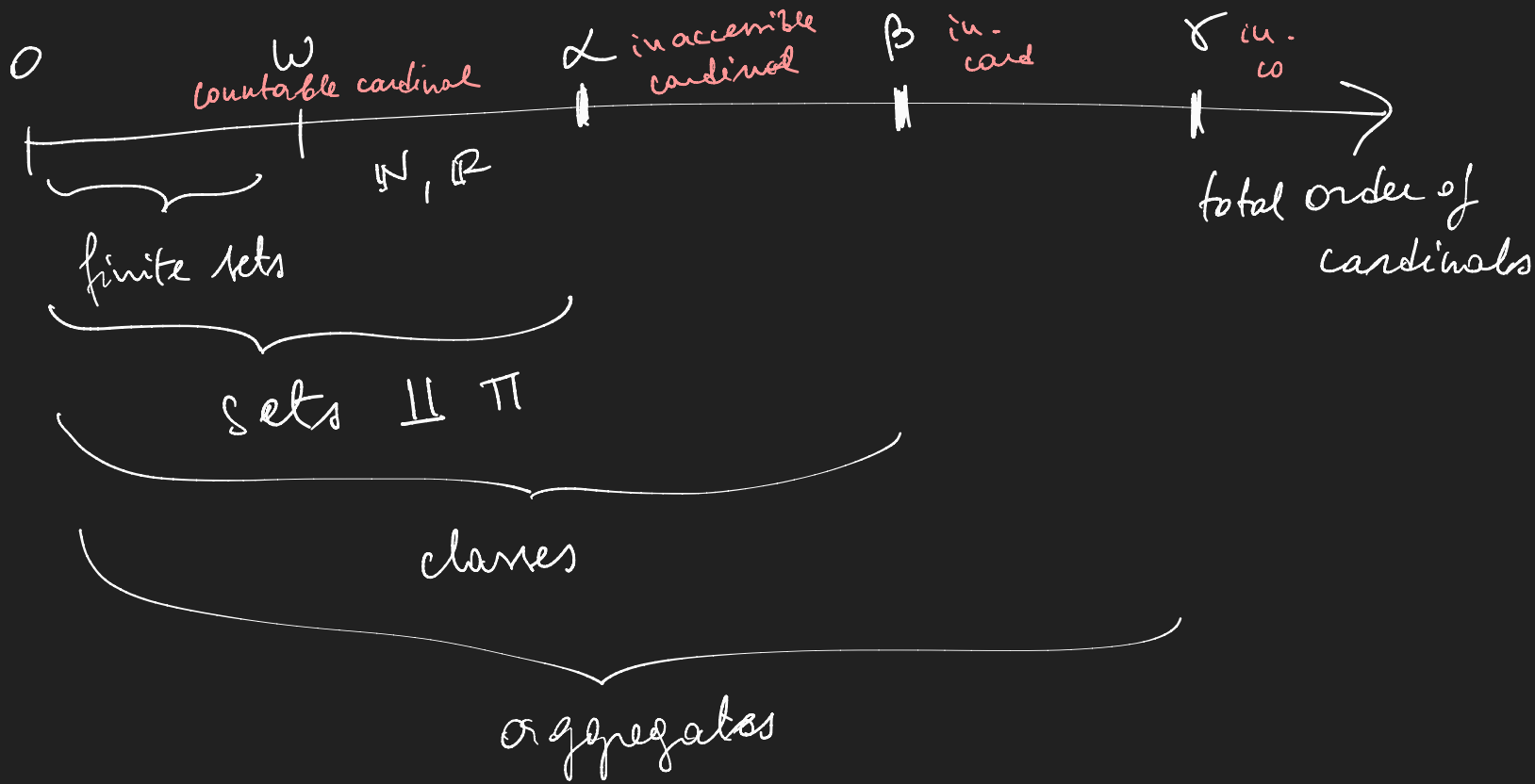
keep a single notion of

set

but introduce size

bounds





Cantor Set Theory

intuitively: set = collections.

formally: sets are things
with some "algebraic" operations

given by \bigsqcup indexed by set \prod indexed by a set

+ extracting subset ...

any theory of sets has to be stable
by these operations.

Definition

- if κ is a cardinal
a set E is called κ -small
if $|E| < \kappa$

ex $\kappa = \omega$ countable
cardinal

E is ω -small iff
it is finite

$\text{Set}_{<\kappa}$ category of κ -small sets.

ex $\text{Set}_{<\omega} = \text{FinSet}$

• κ is called regular

if $\text{Set}_{<\kappa}$ has $\coprod_{\kappa\text{-small}}$

(indexed by κ -small sets)

ex $\text{Set}_{<\omega} = \text{FinSet}$ has finite coproducts / sums

so ω is regular

(strongly)

• κ is inaccessible if

$\text{Set}_{<\kappa}$ has $\coprod_{\kappa\text{-small}}$ $\prod_{\kappa\text{-small}}$

ex ω is inaccessible.

Suppose we have a set theory
with \aleph \aleph

then the cardinal ^{\aleph} of
the collection of all sets

is inaccessible

proof: any set is \aleph -small

\leadsto Cantor

Second solution is to
replace the hierarchy of
objects
set / clones / aggregates -

by

Set_{< α} / Set_{< β} / Set_{< γ} ...

for some inaccessible
cardinals

$\omega < \alpha < \beta < \gamma < \dots$

there is no paradox if
we assume that sets
are bounded by an
inaccessible cardinal κ

there is a clear
beyond : sets
larger than κ

implementation of this idea
in formal Set theory

• ZFC inaccessible
cardinal are
equivalent to Gödel's
Universes

instead of $\omega < \aleph_1 < \aleph_2$

$\mathbb{U} \in \mathbb{V} \in \mathbb{W}$

hierarchy of universes.

• in dependent type theory

inaccessible cardinal is
equivalent to a universe
(type of types)

stable by Σ and Π
(dependent sums) (dep. products)