

Let \mathbb{Q} be the set of all rationals and F be the set of all functions from \mathbb{Q} to \mathbb{Q} . Prove that F is not countable.

Proof: Suppose F is countable. Then $F = \{f_i : i = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$, where f_i is a function from \mathbb{Q} to \mathbb{Q} , and any function f from \mathbb{Q} to \mathbb{Q} is an f_i , for some integer i .

Next, since \mathbb{Q} is countable, $\mathbb{Q} = \{r_j : j = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$.

So define the function f from \mathbb{Q} to \mathbb{Q} by

$$f(r_j) = f_j(r_j) + 1 \text{ for } j = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Then $f(r_i) = f_i(r_i) + 1 \Rightarrow f \neq f_i$ for any i . This contradicts the statement that every f from \mathbb{Q} to \mathbb{Q} is an f_i for some i .