

101. Fill in the gaps in this proof that the power set of a set S always has a higher cardinality than S does.

Suppose for reductio that the power set of S is no larger than S is. By definition of what it is for one set to be no larger than another, there must then be an injection f from the power set of S to S . (Spell out what this consequence amounts to.) For each X in the power set of S , $f(X)$ is some member of S , and this will either be a member of X or it won't. If $f(X) \in X$, call X "happy"; else call X "unhappy". No member of the power set of S will be both happy and unhappy (why?). **Because every $f(X)$ will either be \in or $\notin X$.**

Let U be the image under f of all the unhappy members of the power set of S ; that is, the set $\{u \in S \mid \exists X \in 2^S. f(X) = u \wedge f(X) \notin X\}$. U is a member of the power set of S (why?); so U must be happy or unhappy. **Answer here is that U is a set of some members of S .**

Suppose U is happy; then $f(U) \in U$ (why?). **By definition of "happy".** But by definition of U , it includes only those $f(X)$ where X is unhappy. **This is the step which glosses over the fact that we're relying on f being an injection.** Strictly, the definition of U says that it includes *all* those $f(X)$ where X is unhappy. If f is not an injection, some of those might *also* be $f(Y)$ for some distinct Y which is happy. If f is an injection, though, that possibility can be excluded, so we can infer that for every $f(X)$ in U there's a *unique* X whose image it is under f , and by definition of U one such (that is, the unique such) X will be unhappy. So then U is unhappy.

Suppose U is unhappy; then $f(U)$ must be in U (why?). **By definition of U , it includes $f(X)$ for every unhappy X .** But if $f(U) \in U$, then by definition of "happy", U is happy.

So U is happy iff U is unhappy; but as we said, no member of the power set of S can be both happy and unhappy.

So our supposition that there is an injection $f: 2^S \rightarrow S$ fails. So the power set of S must be larger than S after all.

What step(s) in this argument relied on f 's being an injection, and would fail if we weren't allowed to assume that? Spell that step in the proof out more explicitly.