

## Re: Cantor For Dummies ...

---

*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2007-03/msg05790.html>

---

- *From:* "georgie" <[geo\\_cant@xxxxxxxx](mailto:geo_cant@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 29 Mar 2007 05:31:55 -0700
- 

On Mar 29, 4:18 am, riderofgiraffes <[mathforum.org...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:mathforum.org...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

No, you haven't defined precisely what your list contains.

I don't have a list. But the collection of all algorithms that output a committee can be listed.

[My algorithm] does generate a committee. I've said so repeatedly.

If you have a real algorithm and it outputs a committee, then its part of the collection.

However, it takes input to do so. You seem either not to have noticed that, or to be ignoring it.

That's not relevant.

Since it's an important point I've been trying to make that clear.

I realize that. You don't realize that the collection of all algorithms that output a committee is general enough to include them all.

I claim that my process, when given a list of

committees, produces a committee. Do you agree?

If it is an actual algorithm and uses valid input.

OK. So you want all algorithms whose output is a committee, whether they require input or not.

Sounds good to me.

...you want to talk about the output of all these algorithms. Some of them, mine included, don't produce output without input. If you don't tell me what input to use, we can't talk about the output.

I have no input to any algorithms. I'm considering only their outputs. You can assume you have any valid input. Use any valid input you desire. Note that your algorithm's output is not valid to use as its input.

For some of them you can't list their output without saying what their input is. So you are wrong. We can't list their output.

YOU are wrong. I never said they would operate without input.

Assume whatever input you need. I have none. I never claimed to have any input for your algorithm. I only claim that if your algorithm uses ANY valid input and generates a committee, then its in the list of algorithms that generate committees.

I suppose if we listed the outputs of all those algorithms, we would have a list of committees. But that list wouldn't be valid input for your algorithm since part of that list would be your algorithm's output.

Suppose you take your list of algorithms, some of which require a list of committees as their input, others produce a committee without requiring

input.

Now take any list of committees and feed it as input to all those committees requiring it – mine included.

Sorry, that's not possible. We can't use the output as input. So we can only use any list other than lists made from the output.

Consider the list of committees that you get as output.

There is a committee on that list that wasn't on the original input list, namely, the committee my algorithm produced.

I suppose that might be. Assuming valid input.

That's all I wanted to show. So I don't understand why you're claiming something different.

I'm not claiming anything different.

Therefore no such algorithm exists.

You haven't shown that.

I'm claiming no algorithm can take its output as its input.

.