

# Reductions between certain incidence problems and the Continuum Hypothesis

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In this work, we consider two families of incidence problems,  $\mathcal{C}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2$ , which are related to real numbers and countable subsets of the real line. Instances of problems of  $\mathcal{C}_1$  are as follows: given a real number  $x$ , pick randomly a countable set of reals  $A$  hoping that  $x \in A$ , whereas instances of problems of  $\mathcal{C}_2$  are as follows: given a countable set of reals  $A$ , pick randomly a real number  $x$  hoping that  $x \notin A$ . One could arguably defend that, at least intuitively, problems of  $\mathcal{C}_2$  are easier to solve than problems of  $\mathcal{C}_1$ . After some suitable formalization, we prove (within **ZFC**) that, on one hand, problems of  $\mathcal{C}_2$  are, indeed, at least as easy to solve as problems of  $\mathcal{C}_1$ . On the other hand, the statement “Problems of  $\mathcal{C}_1$  have the exact same complexity of problems of  $\mathcal{C}_2$ ” is shown to be an equivalent of the Continuum Hypothesis (**CH**).