

A strong ordering data type is based on a strong ordering relation P :

for any $a, b, c \in A$,

- 1. $P(a, a) = 0$,**
- 2. $P(a, b) \vee P(b, a)$, and**
- 3. $P(a, b) \& P(b, c) \Rightarrow P(a, c)$.**

The difference between strong ordering and weak ordering can be illustrated with two relations: “ \geq ” and “ $>$ ”. For instance, $a \geq a$ is true, but $a > a$ is false, and $P(a, a) = 0$. It is proved in [Pfanzagl, 1971] that for strong and weak ordering data types $\langle A; P \rangle$, A can be coded by numbers with preservation of properties 1-3 if A is countable.