Definitions

Term	Notation Example(s)	We say in English ...
sequence	$x_1, \ldots, x_n$	A sequence x_1 to x_n
	$x_1, \ldots, x_n$ where $n = 0$	An empty sequence
	$x_1, \ldots, x_n$ where $n = 1$	A sequence containing just x_1
	$x_1, \ldots, x_n$ where $n = 2$	A sequence containing just x_1 and x_2 in order
	x_1, x_2	A sequence containing just x_1 and x_2 in order
all integers	$\mathbb{Z}$	The (set of all) integers (whole numbers including negatives, zero, and positives)
all positive integers	$\mathbb{Z}^+$	The (set of all) strictly positive integers
all natural numbers	$\mathbb{N}$	The (set of all) natural numbers. **Note**: we use the convention that 0 is a natural number.
function rule definition	$f(x) = x + 4$	Define f of x to be $x + 4$
piecewise rule definition	$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$	Define f of x to be x when x is nonnegative and to be $-x$ when x is negative
function application	$f(7)$	f of 7 **or** f applied to 7 **or** the image of 7 under f
	$f(z)$	f of z **or** f applied to z **or** the image of z under f
	$f(g(z))$	f of g of z **or** f applied to the result of g applied to z
absolute value	$\lvert -3 \rvert$	The absolute value of -3
square root	$\sqrt{9}$	The non-negative square root of 9

Data types

Term	**Examples**: (add additional examples from class)
set unordered collection of elements *repetition doesn't matter* *Equal sets agree on membership of all elements*	$7 \in \{43, 7, 9\}$ $\quad$ $2 \notin \{43, 7, 9\}$
n-tuple ordered sequence of elements with n "slots" ($n > 0$) *repetition matters, fixed length* *Equal n-tuples have corresponding components equal*	
string ordered finite sequence of elements each from specified set *repetition matters, arbitrary finite length* *Equal strings have same length and corresponding characters equal*	

Special cases:

When $n = 2$, the 2-tuple is called an **ordered pair**.

A string of length 0 is called the **empty string** and is denoted λ.

A set with no elements is called the **empty set** and is denoted $\{\}$ or $\emptyset$.

Defining sets

To define a set using **roster method**, explicitly list its elements. That is, start with $\{$ then list elements of the set separated by commas and close with $\}$.

To define a set using **set builder definition**, either form "The set of all x from the universe U such that x is ..." by writing

$$\{x \in U \mid ...x...\}$$

or form "the collection of all outputs of some operation when the input ranges over the universe U" by writing

$$\{...x... \mid x \in U\}$$

We use the symbol $\in$ as "is an element of" to indicate membership in a set.

Example sets: For each of the following, identify whether it's defined using the roster method or set builder notation and give an example element.

$\{-1, 1\}$

$\{0, 0\}$

$\{-1, 0, 1\}$

$\{(x, x, x) \mid x \in \{-1, 0, 1\}\}$

$\{\}$

$\{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x \geq 0\}$

$\{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x > 0\}$

$\{\mathtt{A}, \mathtt{C}, \mathtt{U}, \mathtt{G}\}$

$\{\mathtt{AUG}, \mathtt{UAG}, \mathtt{UGA}, \mathtt{UAA}\}$