

1 set

def: a set is a collection of objects . objects that form a set are called elements of the set.

Notation: we use capital letters to denote sets. We use lower case letters to denote elements.

1.1 Explicitly described sets:

$$\{1, 2, -3, 1/2\} = S \quad \{1, 3, \{1, 2\}\} = T \quad 1 \in S, 5 \notin S$$

Notation: $a \in A$ reads "a is an element of A", "a belongs to A" or "a lies in A" $b \notin A$ reads "b is not an element of A"

$$2 \notin T, \{1, 2\} \in T$$

def: The cardinality of a set S is the number of elements in S.

Notation: $|S|$ For how we will only look at the cardinalities of sets with finitely many elements.

$$|S| = 4$$

$$|T| = 3$$

1.2 Standard reserved names for sets:

\mathbb{N} = set of natural numbers = $\{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$

\mathbb{Z} = set of integers = $\{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

\mathbb{Q} = set of rational numbers

\mathbb{R} = set of real numbers

\mathbb{C} = set of complex numbers

$\emptyset = \{\}$ - set with no elements - the empty set $|\emptyset| = 0$

Ex : $A = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$

$$|A| = 2$$

$$\emptyset \in A$$

$$\{\emptyset\} \in A$$

$$|\emptyset| = 1$$

1.3 Sets described by a property:

$$S = \{x \in U | p(x)\} \text{ Here } U \text{ is some fixed set}$$



the condition x must satisfy

Example

$$S = \{x \in \mathbb{N} | x^2 = 9\} = \{3\}$$

$$T = \{x \in \mathbb{R} | x^2 = 9\} = \{3, -3\}$$

1.4 Sets described by a generating formula:

$S = \{\mathcal{F}(x) | x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ where \mathbb{R} is some fixed set



formula (an expression in X)

$$\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}, b \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

$$\mathbb{C} = \{a + bi \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\} \text{ where } i = \sqrt{-1}$$