

Mathematics Foundations (CBCA104)

Lecture-3
30/09/2022

Outline

- Representation of a Set

- (i) Roster Form or Tabular Form

- (ii) Set-builder Form

- Subset

Representation of Sets

There are two ways to represent a set:

- i. Roster or Tabular Form
- i. Set-builder Form

Roster or Tabular Form

- In the roster form, all the elements of a set are listed, the elements are being separated by commas, and are enclosed within braces {}.
- The set of all even positive integers is described in the roster form as {2, 4, 6}.
- The set of all natural numbers which divide 42 is {1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 21, 42}.
- The set of all vowels in English alphabet is {a, e, i, o, u}.
- The set of all odd natural numbers is {1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, ...}.

Set-builder Form

- In the set builder form, all the elements of a set possess a single common property which is not possessed by any element outside the set.
- For example in the set $V=\{a, e, i, o, u\}$, all the elements possess a single common property i.e., each of them is a vowel in English alphabet and no other letter possess this property.
- We can write set V as
$$V=\{x: x \text{ is a vowel in English alphabet}\}.$$
- The set , $A=\{x: x \text{ is a natural number and } 3 < x < 10\}.$

Examples

- Write the solution set of the equation $x^2 + x - 2 = 0$ in roster form and set – builder form.

The given equation can be written as

$$x^2 + x - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow (x + 2)(x - 1) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1, -2$$

Thus the solution set of given equation in roster form is $\{1, -2\}$.

Tabular form: $\{x \in R : x^2 + x - 2 = 0\}$.

- Write the set $\{x: x \text{ is a positive integer and } x^2 < 40\}$.

Given set in roster form is $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

Examples

- Write the set $\left\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{5}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{6}{7}\right\}$ in the set builder form.

Here each number given has the numerator one less than the denominator.

Also, numerator begins from 1 and do not exceed 6.

Hence in set-builder form, the given set is

$\{x: x=n/(n+1), \text{ where } n \text{ is a natural number and } 1 \leq n \leq 6\}.$

Subset

- If all the elements of a set A are also elements of a set B, then A is a subset of B.
- For example, if $A = \{2, 4, 6\}$ and $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$, then A is a subset of B.
- This is specified by $A \subset B$.
Or by $\{2, 4, 6\} \subset \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$
- If A is not a subset of B, it is written as such: $A \not\subset B$
For example, $\{1, 2, 8\} \not\subset \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$.

Example

- Consider, X = set of all students in Bennett
 Y = set of all students in your class
- Then Y is a subset of X i.e.,
 - $Y \subset X$, *because every student in your class is a student in Bennett.*

Points to Remember:

- If $A \subset B$ and $B \subset A$ then $A = B$.
- Every set is a subset of itself.
- Since empty set has no element, thus empty set is a subset of every set.

Proper Set

- If A is a subset of B, and A is not equal to B, then A is a proper subset of B.
- Let $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$. If $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$, B is not equal to A, and A is a subset of B.

A proper subset is written as $A \subset B$

- Let $X = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$. X is equal to A, and thus is a subset (but not a proper subset) of A.
- Can be written as: $X \subset A$ and $A \subset X$ (or just $X = A$)
- Let $Q = \{4, 5, 6\}$.
Q is neither a subset of A nor a proper subset of A.

Proper Set

- The difference between “subset” and “proper subset” is like the difference between “less than or equal to” and “less than” for numbers.
- The empty set is a proper subset of all sets other than the empty set (as it is equal to the empty set).

Singleton Set

- If a set A has only one element, we call it a singleton set.
- $A=\{a\}$ is a singleton set.
- $B=\{5\}$ is a singleton set.
- $X=\{\text{Blue}\}$ is a singleton set.