

2. The formulaic/set builder method: give a formula that generates all elements of the set.

$$A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid 0 \leq x \wedge x \leq 5\} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} = \{x \in \mathbb{N} : 0 \leq x \wedge x \leq 5\}$$

Using  $\mathbb{N}$  and the set-builder method, we can define:

$$\mathbb{Z} = \{m - n \mid \forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

$n = 0$  and  $m$  any natural number  $\Rightarrow$  we generate all of  $\mathbb{N}$

$m = 0$  and  $n$  any natural number  $\Rightarrow$  we generate all negative integers

$$\mathbb{Q} = \{\frac{p}{q} \mid p, q \in \mathbb{Z} \wedge q \neq 0\}$$

**Definition:** A set  $A$  is called finite if it has a finite number of elements; otherwise, it is called infinite.

## 3.2 Set Operations

**Task:** Understand how to represent sets by Venn diagrams. Understand set union, intersection, complement, and difference.

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be sets.  $A$  is a subset of  $B$  if all elements of  $A$  are elements of  $B$ , **i.e.**  $\forall x(x \in A \rightarrow x \in B)$ . We denote that  $A$  is a subset of  $B$  by  $A \subseteq B$

**Example:**  $\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be sets.  $A$  is a proper subset of  $B$  if  $A \subseteq B \wedge A \neq B$ , **i.e.**  $A \subseteq B \wedge \exists x \in B \text{ s.t. } x \notin A$ .

**Notation:**  $A \subset B$

**Example:**  $\mathbb{N} \subset \mathbb{Z}$  since  $\exists(-1) \in \mathbb{N}$

**NB:**  $\forall A$  a set,  $\emptyset \subseteq A$

**Recall:**  $B \subseteq C$  means  $\forall x(x \in B \rightarrow x \in C)$ , but  $\emptyset$  has no elements, so in  $\emptyset \subseteq A$  the quantifier  $\forall$  operates on a domain with no elements. Clearly, we need to give meaning to  $\exists$  and  $\forall$  on empty sets.

### Boolean Convention

$\forall$  is true on the empty set  
 $\exists$  is false on the empty set

} Consistent with common sense

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be two sets. The union  $A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \vee x \in B\}$

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be two sets. The intersection  $A \cap B = \{x \mid x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$

**Definition:** Let  $A, B$  be sets.  $A$  and  $B$  are called disjoint if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$

**Definition** Let  $A, B$  be two sets.  $A - B = A \setminus B = \{a \mid x \in A \wedge x \notin B\}$

**Examples:**

$A = \{1, 2, 5\}$	$B = \{1, 3, 6\}$
$A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 5, 6\}$	$A \cap B = \{1\}$
$A \setminus B = \{2, 5\}$	$B \setminus A = \{3, 6\}$

**Definition:** Let  $A, U$  be sets s.t.  $A \subseteq U$ . The complement of  $A$  in  $U = U \setminus A = A^C = \{x \mid x \in U \wedge x \notin A\}$

**Remark:** The notation  $A^C$  is unambiguous only if the universe  $U$  is clearly defined or understood.