# University of Waterloo



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### 1 Axiom of Choice, Zorn's Lemma and Cardinality

#### 1.1 Basic Notation

We will introduce some basic material that will be used throughout the rest of the course.i We will use the following notation

- N will denote the natural numbers  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
- $\bullet \ \mathbbmss{Z}$  will denote the set of integers  $\{\dots,-2,-1,0,1,2,\dots\}$
- $\mathbb{Q}$  will denote the rational numbers  $\{\frac{n}{m}:n\in\mathbb{Z},m\in\mathbb{N}\}$
- $\bullet$   $\mathbb R$  will denote the set of real numbers

### 1.2 Basic Set Theory

We will use the notation  $A \subset B$  and  $A \subseteq B$  interchangeably to mean that A is a subset of B with the possibility that A = B though when we explicitly wish to emphasize that A = B is a possibility, we will generally use  $A \subseteq B$ . When we wish to express that A is a proper subset of B, then we can either specify further that  $A \neq B$ , or we can use the notation  $A \subseteq B$ .