

## Section 5.1: Basics of Sets

1. Set Theory (Georg Cantor, late 19<sup>th</sup> century): foundation of mathematical thought. All mathematical objects can be defined in terms of sets.
2. **Set** and **elements** are undefined terms: a set is a collection of elements.
3. **Axiom of Existence:** a set is completely determined by its elements (order is irrelevant).
4. Notations:
  - (a) {Golf, Tennis, Soccer}: List all element (in braces): repeats, ordering irrelevant
  - (b) {Golf}  $\neq$  Golf
  - (c) Sets can be elements of other sets:  $\{2, \{2\}\}$  (Power set)
  - (d) Set builder notation:  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : 1 < x \leq 4\}$
5. Subsets:
  - $A \subset B \Leftrightarrow \forall x, \text{ if } x \in A \text{ then } x \in B.$
  - $A$  is not a subset of  $B$  (notation)  $\Leftrightarrow \exists x \text{ s.t. } x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B.$
  - Proper subset. (Notations)
6. Venn Diagrams: With and without boxes; Drawing  $A = B$  and  $A \subseteq B$ .
7. Notation: Distinguish between  $\in$  and  $\subseteq$ :  $2 \in \{1, 2\}, \{2\} \subseteq \{1, 2\}.$
8. Set Equality:  $A = B \Leftrightarrow A \subseteq B \text{ and } B \subseteq A.$
9. Example #1:

Let  $A = \{2q - 7 : q \in \mathbb{Z}\}$   
Let  $B =$  the set of all odd integers.  
Show that  $A = B.$
10. Definitions:

Universal set, union, intersection, difference (relative complement)  $B - A$ , complement
11. Examples: Go through previous definitions with examples and Venn Diagrams
12. Define empty set (null set), look at in terms of intersections
13.  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint  $\Leftrightarrow A \cap B = \emptyset.$
14.  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  are mutually disjoint  $\Leftrightarrow A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$  if  $i \neq j.$
15. Partition:  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$  is a partition of  $A$  if  $A = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n$  and the  $A_i$ 's are mutually disjoint.
16. Example: Look at partitions of  $\mathbb{Z} \pmod{n}$
17. Power Set ( $\mathcal{P}(A)$ )
18. Ordered  $n$ -tuples (pair, triple, etc.): When are they equal?
19. Cartesian Product:  $A \times B$