

Set Theory Questions

August 31, 2021

Question 1

Let A be the set $A = \{\mathbb{Q}, \{\mathbb{C}\}, \text{pumpkin pie}, \text{turtle}, \mathbb{N}\}$. Then

- a) Is $\mathbb{C} \in A$? Why or why not? (1)
- b) Is the set $B = \{\text{pumpkin pie}\} \subseteq A$? Why or why not? (2)
- c) Is $\text{turtle} \subseteq A$? Explain (3)

Question 2

Consider the set $\{x \in [0, 2\pi] : \sin(x) = 0\} \times \{2, 3\}$. Viewed as a subset of \mathbb{R}^2 graph this Cartesian Product.

Question 3

Describe the set $A = \{13a + 6b : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$? (Hint: Think of some set B that you know, and show that $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$ to conclude that $A=B$)

Question 4- Challenge Question

Consider the set $\mathcal{A} = \{X : X \text{ is a set and } X \notin X\}$ In other words \mathcal{A} is the set of all sets who do not contain themselves as an element. Then consider: is $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{A}$? This question is called Russel's paradox (section 10 in book) and lead to a huge crisis in mathematics in the early 20th century.