

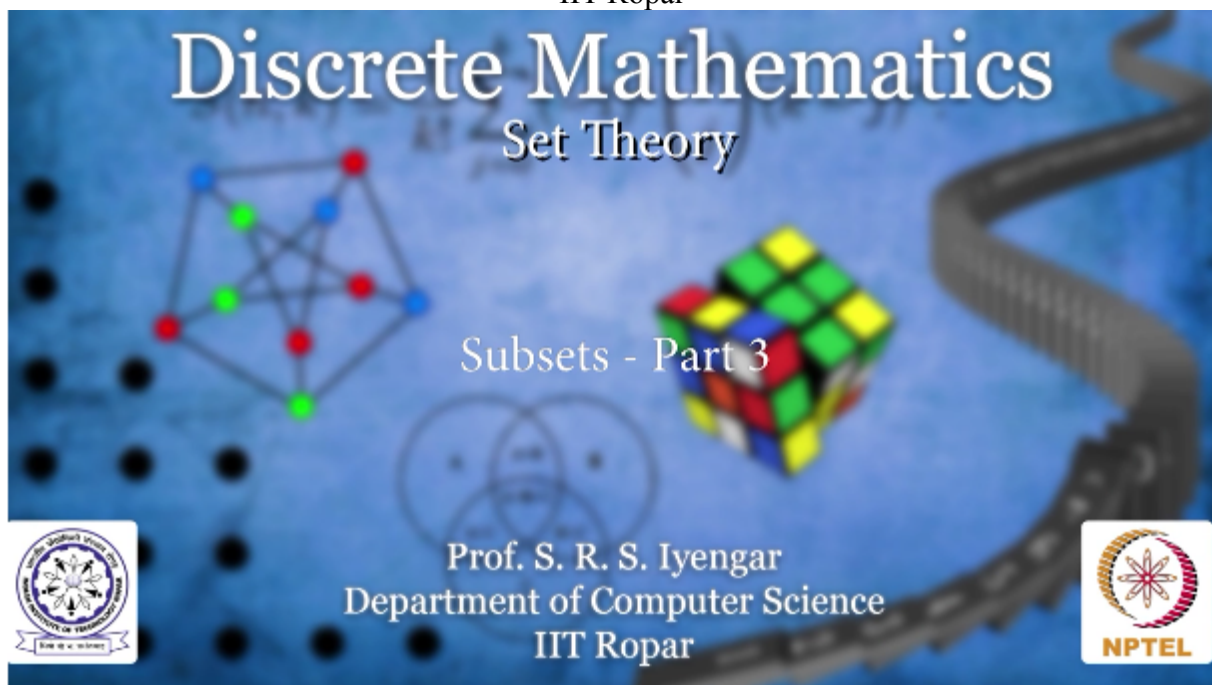
NPTEL

NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSE

Discrete Mathematics
Set Theory

Subsets- Part 3

With
Prof. S.R.S. Iyengar
Department of Computer Science
IIT Ropar



Consider a set as with natural numbers, integers, rationals, and real numbers in it, so what is a set? The set comprises of all natural numbers as a set, all integers as another set, all rational numbers as yet another set, and finally we have all real numbers too.

$$S = \{N, Z, Q, R\}$$



Now what is the cardinality of this set? This set simply comprises of 4 elements, N is an element, of course N is an infinite set in itself, but then we should consider it as an element, Z is an another element, Q is another and R is the fourth one, and hence the cardinality of S happens to be 4 here.

Now let's look at this question, a set comprising of A, and another set A, and a set B close the set, and close the set. How an element does the set contain? So this entire thing should be treated as one element, a set containing A and a set containing B inside the set all this things put together is a set, and A is another element. A is an element, and this stuff is another element

$$|\{a, \{a, \{b\}\}\}| = ?$$

$\{a, \{b\}\}$ is an element.
 a is an element.

$$|\{a, \{a, \{b\}\}\}| = 2$$



and hence the cardinality should be 2, okay, look at this set of all those numbers such that X is an integer, and X^2 is 2, that's what this notation denotes, look at the set how many elements do you have in this set? Okay, it is that number whose square is 2, not just that number it is that number whose square is 2, and that number should be an integer, is it even possible, 0 square is 0, 1 square is 1, 2 square is 4, a number between 1 to 4 is your 2, and the number whose square is 2 cannot be an integer and hence this set should be empty and hence the cardinality of this set should be 0.

$$\{x \mid x \in \mathbb{Z}, x^2 = 2\}$$

IIT
Ropar

How many elements does this set have?

$$0^2 = 0$$

$$1^2 = 1 \longrightarrow 2$$

$$2^2 = 4$$

Numbers cannot be an integer.

$$|\{x \mid x \in \mathbb{Z}, x^2 = 2\}| = 0$$



What is the cardinality of a set containing the empty set, so far as I told you, you should not see it as nothingness, the empty set is a set containing nothing and it can be treated as an element itself, now if you put the empty set around brackets like this I would say here is a set containing one element and so this set has cardinality 1.

$$|\{\emptyset\}| = ?$$

IIT
Ropar

\emptyset is a set containing nothing

\emptyset is an element.

$$|\{\emptyset\}| = 1$$



IIT MADRAS PRODUCTION

Founded by
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Government of India

www.nptel.iitm.ac.in

Copyrights Reserved



IIT MADRAS PRODUCTION

Founded by
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Government of India

www.nptel.iitm.ac.in

Copyrights Reserved