

**Definition 1.** A set  $A$  is a subset of a set  $B$ , denoted  $A \subset B$ , if every element of  $A$  is an element of  $B$ .

**Definition 2.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets. The Cartesian product  $A \times B$  is defined as follows:

$$A \times B := \{(a, b) : a \in A, b \in B\}.$$

## 0.1 Subsets

1. List all the possible subsets of  $\{a, b\}$ . (Hint: there are four.)

## 0.2 Cartesian products

1. Write the cartesian product  $A \times B$  where  $A = \{1, 2\}$  and  $B = \{a, b\}$ .
2. Explain why, for the example above,  $A \times B \neq B \times A$ .
3. Give an example of two sets  $A$  and  $B$  where  $A \times B = B \times A$ .
4. Determine  $A \times \emptyset$ , where  $A = \{1, 2\}$ .
5. Give an example of two sets  $A$  and  $B$  where  $A \times B = B \times A$  but  $B \neq A$ .
6. If  $|A| = 5$  and  $|B| = 7$ , then what is  $|A \times B|$ ?
7. Give set builder notation for  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ .
8. The graph of a function is a subset of  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ . That is,

$$\{(x, f(x)) : x \in \mathbb{R}\} \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}.$$

Of the examples below, draw the graph. Which of these graphs is **itself** a Cartesian product? If it is a Cartesian product, find  $A$  and  $B$  so that the graph is  $A \times B$ .

(a)  $f(x) = x^2$

(b)  $f(x) = x$

(c)  $f(x) = 3$

### 0.3 Getting crazy

1. Let  $S$  be the set of sets that do not contain themselves. In notation,

$$S = \{X : X \notin X\}.$$

- (a) Can you give an example of an element of  $S$ ?
  - (b) Can you give an example of something not in  $S$ ?
  - (c) Is  $S \in S$ ?
2. We say that a set  $X$  satisfies the *Well-Ordering Principle* if every non-empty subset of  $X$  has a least element. (This only makes sense in contexts where “least” is defined, such as numbers.) Which of the following sets satisfy the Well-Ordering Principle? If it fails, give an example that demonstrates this.
    - (a)  $\mathbb{Z}$
    - (b)  $\mathbb{N}$
    - (c)  $\mathbb{R}$
  3. Challenge: Write down, with finite notation (no “...”), e.g. setbuilder notation or symbols we have used so far,
    - (a) the biggest *finite* set you can think of.
    - (b) the “biggest” infinite set you can think of.

Compare to your friends. Whose is bigger? How can you tell? If your friend beat you, make yours bigger!