

Re: 'Navie set theory': why when  $S(x)$  is  $(x = x)$ , the specified  $x$ 's do not constitute a set?

## Re: 'Navie set theory': why when $S(x)$ is $(x = x)$ , the specified $x$ 's do not constitute a set?

---

*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2005-05/msg03993.html>

---

- *From:* William Elliot <[marsh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:marsh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sat, 21 May 2005 14:31:39 -0700
- 

On Sat, 21 May 2005, porky\_pig\_jr@xxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

> I'm reading 'Naive Set Theory' and the end of Section 3 there is a  
> following sentence:  
>  
> In case  $S(x)$  is  $(x \notin x)$ , or in case  $S(x)$  is  $(x = x)$ , the specified  
>  $x$ 's do not constitute a set.

>  
What are we suppose to do? Buy a copy of your text book to understand the notation? You are asking why  $S = \{ x \mid x = x \}$  isn't a set? If it were then  $S \in S$  which would violate the axiom of foundation or regularity provided your in a set theory such as ZF, that has that axiom.

Thus in that set theory,  $S$  doesn't exist. In other set theories (and you haven't made it clear what set theory you're using for you are naive to think everybody knows Naive Set Theory)  $S$  exists as a class but not as a set, while in yet another  $S$  is set.

> The first one,  $(x \notin x)$  is Russell's Paradox, that one I  
> understand. I'm not clear what's wrong with the second one,  $(x = x)$ .  
> Seems like this is tautology, always true. So if I have something like  
>  
>  $B = \{ x \in A : x = x \}$   
> then  $B = A$ , since  $(x = x)$  is valid for all  $x$ 's in  $A$ .  
>  
> I assume I'm missing something, but what?  
>  
A Rosseta Stone to decipher the thinking of the previous two lines.  
.

- 
- *Follow-Ups:*
    - ◆ **Re: 'Navie set theory': why when  $S(x)$  is  $(x = x)$ , the specified  $x$ 's do not constitute a set?**  
◇ *From:* porky\_pig\_jr@xxxxxxxxxxxx
  - *References:*

Re: 'Navie set theory': why when  $S(x)$  is  $(x = x)$ , the specified  $x$ 's do not constitute a set?

◆ 'Navie set theory': why when  $S(x)$  is  $(x = x)$ , the specified  $x$ 's do not constitute a set?

◇ From: porky\_pig\_jr@xxxxxxxxxxxx

- Prev by Date: Re: Calculating slope of roof: What is the arc-sine of (4/12) ?!
- Next by Date: Re: 'Navie set theory': why when  $S(x)$  is  $(x = x)$ , the specified  $x$ 's do not constitute a set?
- Previous by thread: 'Navie set theory': why when  $S(x)$  is  $(x = x)$ , the specified  $x$ 's do not constitute a set?
- Next by thread: Re: 'Navie set theory': why when  $S(x)$  is  $(x = x)$ , the specified  $x$ 's do not constitute a set?
- Index(es):
  - ◆ Date
  - ◆ Thread