

Mathematics

Zhang En-Yao

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Part I

Set Theory

Chapter 1

Sets

1.1 Notions

Definition. Set, Element (Member)

A set is a collection (group, or conglomerate) into a whole of definite, distinct objects of our intuition or our thought. The objects from which a given set is composed are called elements or members of the set. We also say that they belong to that set.

Note. The human mind possesses the ability to abstract, to think of a variety of different objects as being bound together by some common property, and thus to form a set of objects having that property.

Note. By merely defining a set we do not prove its existence. There are properties which do not define sets.

Definition. Variable

Unspecified, arbitrary sets.

Definition. identical with, equal to

We use the identity sign "=" to express that two variables denote the same set. $X = Y$ if X is the same set as Y .

Definition. System of Sets, Collection of Sets

Elements of the set are sets.

Definition. Property

The property is the ability to think of these objects (as being) together.

Instance 1.1.1. Membership

"... is an element (member) of ...", "... belongs to ..."

Note. Denote by \in .

Note. All other set-theoretic properties can be stated in terms of membership with the help of logical means; identity, logical connectives, and quantifiers.

Definition. property of, Parameter

A proposition is a property of $X, Y, \dots Z$ if it holds or does not hold depending on sets (or called parameters) denoted by $X, Y, \dots Z$.

Definition. Subset

A is a subset of B if, for every x , $x \in A$ implies $x \in B$.

Note. Denoted by $A \subseteq B$.

Definition. Statement

Properties which have no parameters.

Note. Either true or false.

Note. All mathematical theorems are (true) statements.

Definition. Proposition

Argument.

1.2 Axioms

Axiom. Existence

There exists a set which has no elements.

Axiom. Extensionality

If every element of X is an element of Y and every element of Y is an element of X , then $X = Y$.

Lemma 1.2.1.

There exists only one set with no elements.

Proof. Obviously. □

Definition. Empty, Vacuous Set

The (unique) set with no elements is called the empty, vacuous set and is denoted \emptyset .

Axiom. Comprehension

Let $P(x)$ be a property of x . For any set A , there is a set B such that $x \in B$ if and only if $x \in A$ and $P(x)$.

Note. For any sets p, \dots, q and any A , there is a set B (depending on p, \dots, q and, of course, on A) consisting exactly of all those $x \in A$ for which $P(x, p, \dots, q)$.

Lemma 1.2.2.

For every A , there is only one set B such that $x \in B$ if and only if $x \in A$ and $P(x)$.

Proof. Obviously. □

Definition. $\{x \in A \mid P(x)\}$

The set of all $x \in A$ with the property $P(x)$.

Property 1.2.3.

$\{x \in \emptyset \mid P(x)\} = \emptyset$.

Proof. Obviously. □

Axiom. Pair

For any A and B , there is a set C such that $x \in C$ if and only if $x = A$ or $x = B$.

Note. $A \in C$ and $B \in C$, and there are no other elements of C .

Property 1.2.4.

The set C is unique.

Proof. Obviously. □

Definition. Unordered Pair

Unordered pair of A and B as the set having exactly A and B as its elements.

Axiom. Union

For any set S , there exists a set U such that $x \in U$ if and only if $x \in A$ for some $A \in S$.

Property 1.2.5.

Set U is unique.

Proof. Obviously. □

Definition. Union

U is the union of S .

Note. Denoted by $\bigcup S$.

Axiom. Power Set

For any set S , there exists a set P such that $X \in P$ if and only if $X \subseteq S$.

Property 1.2.6.

The set P is uniquely determined.

Proof. Obviously. □

Note. We call the set of all subsets of S the power set of S and denote it by $\mathcal{P}(S)$.