

# Mathematics

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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, included in**

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

*Note.* Denoted by  $A \subseteq B$ .

**Definition. Inclusion**

The property  $\subseteq$  is called inclusion.

**Theorem 1.1.1.**

$A \subseteq A$ .

If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ , then  $A = B$ .

If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq C$ , then  $A \subseteq C$ .

*Proof.* Obviously. □

**Definition. Proper Subset, properly contained in**

If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $A \subset B$ , we say that  $A$  is a proper subset of  $B$  ( $A$  is properly contained in  $B$ ) and write  $A \subset B$ .

**Definition. Intersection**

The intersection of  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $A \cap B$ , is the set of all  $x$  which belong to both  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Theorem 1.1.2.**

$\emptyset$  would have to be a set of all sets.

*Proof.* Obviously. □

**Definition. Disjoint**

$A$  and  $B$  are disjoint if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

**Definition. Mutually Disjoint**

$S$  is a system of mutually disjoint sets if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  for all  $A, B \in S$  such that  $A \neq B$ .

**Definition. Union**

The union of  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $A \cup B$ , is the set of all  $x$  which belong in either  $A$  or  $B$  (or both).

**Definition. Difference**

The difference of  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $A - B$ , is the set of all  $x \in A$  which do not belong to  $B$ .

**Definition. Symmetric Difference**

The symmetric difference of  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $A \triangle B$ , is defined by  $A \triangle B = (A - B) \cup (B - A)$ .



**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  $\emptyset$ .

*Note.* Occasionally refer to  $\emptyset$  as the constant.

**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  $P(x)$ .

*Note.* If there is a set  $A$  such that, for all  $x$ ,  $P(x)$  implies  $x \in A$ , then  $\{x \in A \mid P(x)\}$  exists, and, moreover, does not depend on  $A$ . That means that if  $A'$  is another set such that for all  $x$ ,  $P(x)$  implies  $x \in A'$ , then  $\{x \in A' \mid P(x)\} = \{x \in A \mid P(x)\}$ .

**Definition.**  $\{x \mid P(x)\}$   
 $\{x \mid P(x)\}$  to be the set  $\{x \in A \mid P(x)\}$ , where  $A$  is any set for which  $P(x)$  implies  $x \in A$ .

*Note.*  $\{x \mid P(x)\}$  is the set of all  $x$  with the property  $P(x)$ .

*Note.* This notation can be used only after it has been proved that some  $A$  contains all  $x$  with the property  $P$ .

**Property 1.2.3.**

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

*Proof.* Obviously. □

**Lemma 1.2.4.**

If  $P$  and  $Q$  are sets, then there is a set  $R$  such that  $x \in R$  if and only if  $x \in P$  and  $x \in Q$ .

*Proof.* Obviously. □

**Definition. Intersection, Operation**

We can introduce a name, say  $X \cap Y$ , and call  $X \cap Y$  the intersection of  $X$  and  $Y$ .  $\cap$  as the operation.

**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 1.2.5.**

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 1.2.6.**

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 1.2.7.**

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  $\mathcal{P}(S)$ .