

Contents

0.1 Membership relation	1
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0.1 Membership relation

Say we have a preterite $P(x)$ which is true for some values of x . Sets allow us to explore the properties of these values.

We may want to talk about a collection of terms for which $P(x)$ is true, which we call a set.

To do this we need to introduce new axioms, however first we can add (conservative) definitions to help us do this.

We introduce a new relation: membership. If element x is in set s then the following relation is true, otherwise it is false:

$$x \in s$$

Sets are also terms. In first-order logic they will be included in quantifiers. Indeed, in set theory, we aim to treat everything as sets.

If a term is not a member of another term, we can write this using the non-member relation as follows:

$$\forall x \forall s [\neg(x \in s) \leftrightarrow x \notin s]$$