
Set Theory and Logic

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Conventions

\mathbb{F} denotes either \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{C} .

\mathbb{N} denotes the set $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ of natural numbers (excluding 0).

Inner products are taken to be linear in the first argument and conjugate linear in the second.

The Einstein summation convention is used for tensors unless otherwise specified.

1 Language of set theory

We construct a formal language suitable for describing sets. The language consists of some mathematical symbols as well as purely logical symbols.

The complete list of symbols of language is as below:

Definition 1.1. Symbols in LOST(Language of Set Theory)

1. variable: v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots
2. equality: $=$
3. membership: \in
4. connectives: $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \Rightarrow, \Leftrightarrow$
5. quantifiers: \forall, \exists
6. parentheses: $(,)$

Remark. Bounded set quantifiers shall be used. Thus, we can abbreviate the formula $\forall x(x \in y \Rightarrow x \notin a)$ by $\forall x \in y(x \notin a)$.

Definition 1.2. Zermelo-Fraenkel Axioms

1. Extensionality Axiom.

Two sets are equal iff they have the same elements.

$$\forall A \forall B (A = B \Leftrightarrow \forall x (x \in A \Leftrightarrow x \in B))$$

2. Empty Set Axiom.

There is a set with no elements.

$$\exists A \forall x (x \notin A)$$

3. Subset Axiom.

Let $\varphi(x)$ be a formula. For every set A there exists a set S that consists of all $x \in A$ with $\varphi(x)$ holds.

$$\forall A \exists S \forall x (x \in S \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \wedge \varphi(x)))$$

4. Pairing Axiom.

For every u and v there is a set that consists of just u and v.

$$\forall u \forall v \exists S \forall x (x \in S \Leftrightarrow (x = u \vee x = v))$$

5. Union Axiom.

For every set \mathcal{F} there exists a set U that consists of all elements that belong to at least one set in \mathcal{F} .

$$\forall \mathcal{F} \exists U \forall x (x \in U \Leftrightarrow \exists F (x \in F \wedge F \in \mathcal{F}))$$

6. Power Set Axiom.

For every set A there is a set P that consists of all subsets of A.

$$\forall A \exists \mathcal{P} \forall P (P \in \mathcal{P} \Leftrightarrow P \subseteq A)$$

Remark. 1. The set guaranteed by empty set axiom is unique, and we call it the empty set denoted by \emptyset .

2. The set guaranteed by subset axiom is unique, and it is denoted by $\{x \in A : \varphi(x)\}$.

3. The set guaranteed by pairing axiom is unique, and we call it the pair set denoted by $\{u, v\}$.

Definition 1.3. Class

We shall refer to any collection of the form $\{x : \varphi(x)\}$ as a **class**. When the class is not a set, then we call it **proper class**, such as $\{x : x = x\}$, sometimes we also call it unbounded collection.

Theorem 1.4

Let $\varphi(x)$ be a formula. Suppose that there is a set A s.t. for all x , if $\varphi(x)$, then $x \in A$. Then there is a unique set S s.t. for all x , $x \in S \Leftrightarrow \varphi(x)$.

In other words, the class $\{x : \varphi(x)\}$ is, in fact, equal to the set S .

Corollary 1.5

1. Intersection: $A \cap B = \{x : x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$
2. Difference: $A \setminus B = \{x : x \in A \wedge x \notin B\}$

By the previous theorem, these set operations are well defined and create new sets.