

## ♥ Faith in mathematics ♥

**34th Chaos Communication Congress**

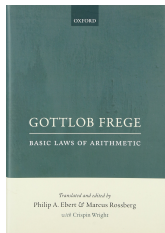
*Questions are very much welcome! Please interrupt me mid-sentence.*

Ingo Blechschmidt (University of Augsburg)  
with thanks to Matthias Hutzler and Christian Ittner

- 1 The foundational crisis in mathematics
- 2 Truth and provability
- 3 True but unprovable statements
- 4 Fundamental incompleteness

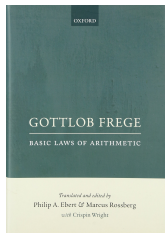
# Part I

## The foundational crisis in mathematics



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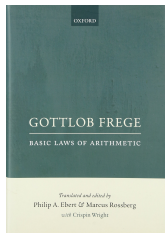
## The foundational crisis in mathematics



“Let  $U$  be the set of all those sets which don’t contain themselves.”

# Part I

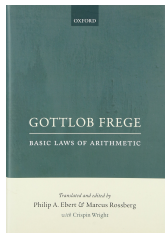
## The foundational crisis in mathematics



“Let  $U$  be the set of all those sets which don’t contain themselves.”  
Naive mathematics is **inconsistent**, rendering it **unreliable**. ☹

# Part I

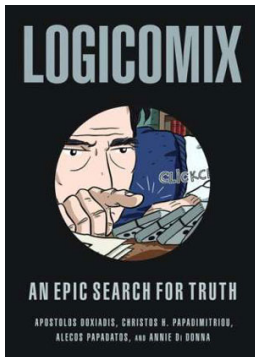
## The foundational crisis in mathematics



“Let  $U$  be the set of all those sets which don’t contain themselves.”  
Naive mathematics is **inconsistent**, rendering it **unreliable**. ☹  
Thus the **axiomatic method** was born.

# Part I

## The foundational crisis in mathematics



\*54.42.  $\vdash :: \alpha \in 2, \supset :: \beta \subset \alpha, \neg \vdash \beta, \beta \neq \alpha, \equiv, \beta \in t^4 \alpha$

*Dem.*

$\vdash, *54.4. \supset \vdash :: \alpha = t^4 x \cup t^4 y, \supset ::$

$\beta \subset \alpha, \neg \vdash \beta, \equiv : \beta = \Lambda, \vee, \beta = t^4 x, \vee, \beta = t^4 y, \vee, \beta = \alpha : \neg \vdash \beta :$   
 [\*24.53-56, \*51.161]  $\equiv : \beta = t^4 x, \vee, \beta = t^4 y, \vee, \beta = \alpha$  (1)

$\vdash, *54.25, \text{Transp.}, *52.22, \supset \vdash : x \neq y, \supset, t^4 x \cup t^4 y \neq t^4 x, t^4 x \cup t^4 y \neq t^4 y :$

[\*13.12]  $\supset \vdash : \alpha = t^4 x \cup t^4 y, x \neq y, \supset, \alpha \neq t^4 x, \alpha \neq t^4 y$  (2)

$\vdash, (1), (2), \supset \vdash :: \alpha = t^4 x \cup t^4 y, x \neq y, \supset ::$

$\beta \subset \alpha, \neg \vdash \beta, \beta \neq \alpha, \equiv : \beta = t^4 x, \vee, \beta = t^4 y :$

[\*51.235]  $\equiv : (\neg \exists \varepsilon), \varepsilon \in \alpha, \beta = t^4 \varepsilon :$

[\*37.6]  $\equiv : \beta \in t^4 \alpha$  (3)

$\vdash, (3), *11.11.35, *54.101, \supset \vdash, \text{Prop}$

\*54.43.  $\vdash :: \alpha, \beta \in 1, \supset : \alpha \cap \beta = \Lambda, \equiv, \alpha \cup \beta \in 2$

*Dem.*

$\vdash, *54.26, \supset \vdash :: \alpha = t^4 x, \beta = t^4 y, \supset : \alpha \cup \beta \in 2, \equiv, x \neq y,$

[\*51.231]  $\equiv, t^4 x \cap t^4 y = \Lambda,$

[\*13.12]  $\equiv, \alpha \cap \beta = \Lambda$  (1)

$\vdash, (1), *11.11.35, \supset$

$\vdash :: (\neg \exists x, y), \alpha = t^4 x, \beta = t^4 y, \supset : \alpha \cup \beta \in 2, \equiv, \alpha \cap \beta = \Lambda$  (2)

$\vdash, (2), *11.54, *52.1, \supset \vdash, \text{Prop}$

From this proposition it will follow, when arithmetical addition has been defined, that  $1 + 1 = 2$ .

\*54.44.  $\vdash :: z, w \in t^4 x \cup t^4 y, \supset_{z, w}, \phi(z, w) \equiv : \phi(x, x) \cdot \phi(x, y) \cdot \phi(y, x) \cdot \phi(y, y)$

*Dem.*

$\vdash, *51.234, *11.62, \supset \vdash :: z, w \in t^4 x \cup t^4 y, \supset_{z, w}, \phi(z, w) \equiv :$

$z \in t^4 x \cup t^4 y, \supset_z, \phi(z, x), \phi(z, y) :$

[\*51.234, \*10.29]  $\equiv : \phi(x, x), \phi(x, y), \phi(y, x), \phi(y, y) : \supset \vdash, \text{Prop}$

\*54.441.  $\vdash :: z, w \in t^4 x \cup t^4 y, z \neq w, \supset_{z, w}, \phi(z, w) \equiv : z = y : \vee : \phi(x, y), \phi(y, x)$

*Dem.*

$\vdash, *50.6, \supset \vdash :: z, w \in t^4 x \cup t^4 y, z \neq w, \supset_{z, w}, \phi(z, w) \equiv :$

$z, w \in t^4 x \cup t^4 y, \supset_{z, w} : z = w, \vee, \phi(z, w) :$

[\*54.44]  $\equiv : z = x, \vee, \phi(x, x) : x = y, \vee, \phi(x, y) :$

$y = x, \vee, \phi(y, x) : y = y, \vee, \phi(y, y) :$

[\*13.15]  $\equiv : x = y, \vee, \phi(x, y) : y = x, \vee, \phi(y, x) :$

[\*13.16, \*4.41]  $\equiv : x = y, \vee, \phi(x, y), \phi(y, x)$

This proposition is used in \*163.42, in the theory of relations of mutually exclusive relations.

\*54.442.  $\vdash :: x \neq y, \supset :: z, w \in t^4 x \cup t^4 y, z \neq w, \supset_{z, w}, \phi(z, w) \equiv : \phi(x, y), \phi(y, x)$

[\*54.441]



# Part II

## Truth and provability

### A syntactic quality

A statement is **provable** if and only if it has a **formal proof** using only the **Peano axioms**.

**Example.**  $1 + 1 = S(0) + S(0) = S(S(0) + 0) = S(S(0)) = 2$ .

### A semantic quality

A statement is **true** if and only if it holds in the **standard model**.

## Mathematical induction and:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 S(n) \neq 0 & S(n) = S(m) \Rightarrow n = m \\
 n + 0 = n & n + S(m) = S(n + m) \\
 n \cdot 0 = 0 & n \cdot S(m) = n \cdot m + n
 \end{array}$$

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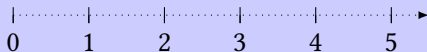
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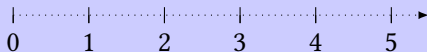
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### A semantic quality

A statement is **true** if and only if it holds in the **standard model**.

Provable statements are true.

True statements are **not** necessarily provable.



# Part III

## True but unprovable statements

For statements about **specific numbers**, there is no difference between provability and truth. But all of the following are unprovable:

- “This statement is not provable.”  
But **take care**: Consider “This statement is not true”.
- “Hercula can kill any hydra.”
- “ $BB(9000) = x$ .” (for the correct value  $x$ )
- “There is no proof of  $1 = 0$ .” (“Peano arithmetic is consistent.”)

Also: “There is an infinity/no infinity between  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ .”

# Part IV

## Fundamental incompleteness

Gödel discovered:

**Any** consistent and recursively axiomatizable formal system is **incomplete**.

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Peano arithmetic can **not** prove “Peano arithmetic is consistent”.

Proof idea: Get “this statement is not provable” to work.

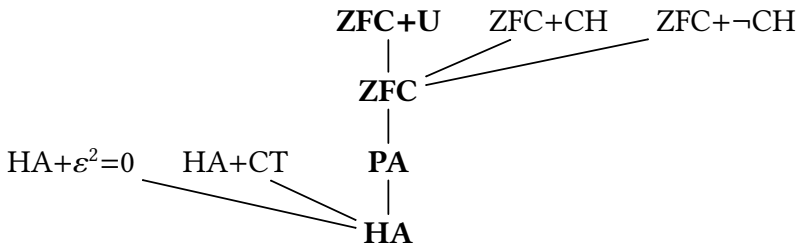
- Express provability using numbers (think ASCII).
- Rewrite self-referentiality like this:  
*“»yields an unprovable statement when preceded by its quotation« yields an unprovable statement when preceded by its quotation.”*

If the system is consistent, then that statement is true, but neither it nor its negation are provable.



# Outlook

- We use the axiomatic method to make maths **reliable**.
- But any axiomatization is **incomplete**.



- If a statement holds in **all** models, it's provable.

