

# 离散数学习题课

第一讲 —— 集合论

# Outline

- Some methods for solving in set theory problems
  - Examples
- Important concepts
  - The world of boxes
  - Connectives
  - Tricky logic
- References
- Resources

# Why set theory & logic?

- A formal language
- A way of expressing and checking mathematical results
- So:
  - Proofs in set theory should be strict and formal
- Two formal ways of proving set theory results:
  - Set identities (集合恒等式, cf. 教材p.99-100)
  - Logic (cf. “常见逻辑定理.pdf”)

# Example 1 (Set identities)

已知:  $A \cap B = A \cap C$  且  $\sim A \cap B = \sim A \cap C$

证明:  $B = C$

Proof:  $B = E \cap B$

$$= (A \cup \sim A) \cap B$$

$$= (A \cap B) \cup (\sim A \cap B)$$

$$= (A \cap C) \cup (\sim A \cap C)$$

$$= (A \cup \sim A) \cap C$$

$$= E \cap C$$

$$= C$$

Q.E.D.

## Example 2 (Logic)

证明：对任意集合  $A, B$ ，有

$$A = B \iff P(A) = P(B)$$

Proof: “ $\implies$ ”:

If  $A = B$ , then for any  $S$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} S \in P(A) &\iff S \subseteq A \\ &\iff S \subseteq B \\ &\iff S \in P(B) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $A = B \implies P(A) = P(B)$

## Example 2 (cont.)

“ $\Longleftarrow$ ”:

If  $P(A) = P(B)$ , then for any  $x$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}x \in A &\Longleftrightarrow \{x\} \subseteq A \\&\Longleftrightarrow \{x\} \in P(A) \\&\Longleftrightarrow \{x\} \in P(B) \\&\Longleftrightarrow \{x\} \subseteq B \\&\Longleftrightarrow x \in B\end{aligned}$$

Thus we have,

$$P(A) = P(B) \implies A = B$$

Q.E.D.

# Summary of definitions

$$A \subseteq B \iff \forall x(x \in A \rightarrow x \in B)$$

$$\begin{aligned} A = B &\iff A \subseteq B \wedge B \subseteq A \\ &\iff \forall x(x \in A \leftrightarrow x \in B) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A = \emptyset &\iff \neg \exists x(x \in A) \\ &\iff \forall x(x \notin A) \end{aligned}$$

$$x \in A \cap B \iff x \in A \wedge x \in B$$

$$x \in A \cup B \iff x \in A \vee x \in B$$

$$x \in A - B \iff x \in A \wedge x \notin B$$

$$x \in \sim A \iff x \notin A$$

$$x \in P(A) \iff x \subseteq A$$

$$x \notin A \underset{\Delta}{=} \neg x \in A$$

# The world of “boxes”

- Everything is a set
  - One way to encode “natural numbers”:

$$0 = \emptyset$$

$$1 = \{0\} = \{\emptyset\}$$

$$2 = \{0, 1\} = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$$

.....

$$n + 1 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

- Therefore,  $\cup\{a, b\} = a \cup b$   
 $\cup\{1, 2, 3\} = 1 \cup 2 \cup 3$



# Connectives

- “If ... then ...”:
  - “ $\rightarrow$ ”与“ $\supset$ ”意义完全相同，是命题联结词“蕴含”的两种不同写法，用于将两个命题连接成一个复合命题
  - “ $\implies$ ”是自然语言中“如果.....则.....”的简记，用于表达作者的断言和结论。
  - 二者的关系是：说 “ $P \implies Q$ ” 等同于断言：  
“ $P \rightarrow Q$  为永真命题”

# Connectives (cont.)

- “If and only if”:
  - “ $\leftrightarrow$ ”与“ $\equiv$ ”意义完全相同，是命题联结词“等价”的两种不同写法，用于将两个命题连接成一个复合命题
  - “ $\iff$ ”是自然语言中“当且仅当”(有时写成 iff)的简记，用于表达作者的断言和结论。
  - 二者的关系是：说 “ $P \iff Q$ ” 等同于断言：  
“ $P \leftrightarrow Q$  为永真命题”

# Tricky logic

- A correct proof of

$$A \subseteq B \implies A \cap C \subseteq B \cap C$$

Proof: For any  $x$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} x \in A \cap C &\iff x \in A \wedge x \in C \\ &\implies x \in B \wedge x \in C \\ &\iff x \in B \cap C \end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.

# Tricky logic (cont.)

- A false “proof” of the (incorrect) conclusion:

$$A \subseteq B \implies \sim A \cup C \subseteq \sim B \cup C$$

Proof: For any  $x$ ,

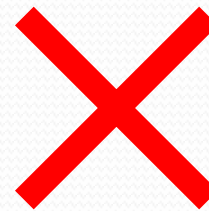
$$x \in \sim A \cup C \iff \neg x \in A \vee x \in C$$

$$\iff x \in A \rightarrow x \in C$$

$$\implies x \in B \rightarrow x \in C$$

$$\iff \neg x \in B \vee x \in C$$

$$\iff x \in \sim B \cup C$$



# Tricky logic (cont.)

- In fact, if  $A \implies B$ , then we have

$$A \wedge C \implies B \wedge C$$

$$A \vee C \implies B \vee C$$

$$C \rightarrow A \implies C \rightarrow B$$

- But

$$\neg A \wedge C \not\Rightarrow \neg B \wedge C$$

$$\neg A \vee C \not\Rightarrow \neg B \vee C$$

$$A \rightarrow C \not\Rightarrow B \rightarrow C$$

# Example 3

- Let  $\langle a, b \rangle = \{\{\{a\}, \emptyset\}, \{\{b\}\}\}$ , show that

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \langle c, d \rangle \iff a = c \wedge b = d$$

Proof: “ $\Leftarrow$ ”: Trivial.

“ $\Rightarrow$ ”:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle a, b \rangle &= \langle c, d \rangle \\ \iff \{\{\{a\}, \emptyset\}, \{\{b\}\}\} &= \{\{\{c\}, \emptyset\}, \{\{d\}\}\} \end{aligned}$$

注意到,  $\{\{a\}, \emptyset\}$  和  $\{\{c\}, \emptyset\}$  为2元集,  $\{\{b\}\}$  和  $\{\{d\}\}$  为1元集。

## Example 3 (cont.)

- 因此,

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle a, b \rangle = \langle c, d \rangle \\ \iff & \{\{\{a\}, \emptyset\}, \{\{b\}\}\} = \{\{\{c\}, \emptyset\}, \{\{d\}\}\} \\ \implies & \{\{a\}, \emptyset\} = \{\{c\}, \emptyset\} \wedge \{\{b\}\} = \{\{d\}\} \\ \implies & \cup \cup \{\{a\}, \emptyset\} = \cup \cup \{\{c\}, \emptyset\} \wedge \cup \cup \{\{b\}\} = \cup \cup \{\{d\}\} \\ \implies & \cup (\{a\} \cup \emptyset) = \cup (\{c\} \cup \emptyset) \wedge \cup \{b\} = \cup \{d\} \\ \iff & \cup \{a\} = \cup \{c\} \wedge b = d \\ \iff & a = c \wedge b = d \end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.

# Example 4

- Show that  $\langle x, y \rangle = \{x, \{y\}\}$  is not a proper definition for *ordered pairs*.

Proof:

Let  $a = b = \{\emptyset\}$ ,  $c = \{\{\emptyset\}\}$ ,  $d = \emptyset$ , then

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \{\{\emptyset\}, \{\{\emptyset\}\}\} = \{\{\{\emptyset\}\}, \{\emptyset\}\} = \langle c, d \rangle$$

But  $a \neq c$ .

Q.E.D



# References

- Discrete mathematics and its applications, Fifth Edition. Kenneth H. Rosen. 机械工业出版社, 2003, 影印版. (翻译版: 《离散数学及其应用》. 袁崇义、屈婉玲、王捍贫、刘田译, 机械工业出版社, 2007年)
- 《离散数学教程》, 耿素云、屈婉玲、王捍贫编著, 北京大学出版社, 2002
- 《数学基础》, 汪芳庭编著, 科学出版社, 2001
- 《公理集合论导引》, 张锦文著, 科学出版社, 1991

# Resources

Lecture slides & other resources:

<http://lamda.nju.edu.cn/xiaoxp/math08>

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# Thank you

Any questions?