

# Set Theory

jdRanda

October 11, 2020

# 1 Introduction

## Axiom of Extensionality (for sets)

For two sets  $a, b$ , we say  $a = b$  iff:

$$\forall x, [x \in a \Rightarrow x \in b]$$

## Axiom of Extensionality (for classes)

For two classes  $A, B$ , we say  $A = B$  iff:

$$\forall x, [x \in A \Rightarrow x \in B]$$

## Axiom of Pair Set

For any sets  $x, y$  there is a set  $z = \{x, y\}$  with elements just  $x$  and  $y$ .  $z$  is called the *(unordered) pair set of  $x, y$* . NB: If  $x = y$  then we have  $\{x, y\} = \{x, x\} = \{x\}$

## Definition 1.1

Let  $\mathcal{P}(x)$  denote the class  $\{y \subset x\}$ , called the *Power set of  $x$* .

## Definition 1.2

The *Empty Set*, denoted  $\emptyset$ , is the unique set with no elements.

- We can define  $\emptyset$  as  $\{x | x \neq x\}$ .
- For any set/class  $A$ , we have  $\emptyset \subset A$ .

## 2 Classes

### Theorem 1.4

The collection  $R = \{x | x \notin x\}$  does not define a set.

*Proof.* Suppose  $R$  was a set  $z$ . Assume  $z \in R$ , then by the definition of  $R$ ,  $z \notin z$ . However if  $z \notin R$  then we should have  $z \in z$ . This is a contradiction.  $\square$

*NB:* This is an example of a class that is not a set. Any class which is not, or cannot be, a set is called a Proper Class.

### Axiom of Subsets

Let  $\Phi(x)$  be a definite, welldefined property. Let  $x$  be a set. Then

$$\{y \in x | \Phi(y)\} \text{ is a set.}$$

### Corollary 1.5

Let  $V$  denote the class of all sets. Then  $V$  is a proper class.

*Proof.* If  $V$  were a set then we should have,  $R = \{y \in V | y \notin y\}$  is a set by the Axiom of Subsets, however we have just shown  $R$  is not a set.  $\square$

### Definition 1.6

For any set  $Z$  there is a class,  $\cup Z$ , which consists of the members of members of  $Z$ .

$$\cup Z = \{x | \exists t (x \in t \in Z)\}$$

### Axiom of Unions

For any set  $Z$ ,  $\cup Z$  is a set.

### Definition 1.8

For any non-empty set  $Z$ , there is another set,  $\cap Z$ , which consists of the members of all members of  $Z$ .

$$\cap Z = \{x | \forall t \in Z (x \in t)\}$$

or using index sets we write

$$x \in \cap_{j \in I} A_j \iff (\forall j \in I)(x \in A_j)$$

### 3 Relations and Functions

For two sets  $X, Y$ , there are relations  $R$  that hold between some elements of  $X$  and of  $Y$ , denoted  $xRy$ . The types of relation are:

- Reflexive:  $x \in X \Rightarrow xRx$
- Irreflexive:  $x \in X \Rightarrow \neg(xRx)$
- Symmetric:  $(x, y \in X \wedge xRy) \Rightarrow yRx$
- Connected:  $(x, y \in X) \Rightarrow (x = y \vee xRy \vee yRx)$
- Transitive:  $(x, y, z \in X \wedge xRy \wedge yRz) \Rightarrow xRz$

*NB: recall that an equivalence relation is that  $R$  should satisfy symmetry, reflexivity and transitivity.*

#### Definition 1.10

A relation  $\prec$  on a set  $X$  is a (strict) partial ordering if it is irreflexive and transitive. I.e.

- i)  $x \in X \Rightarrow \neg(x \prec x)$ .
- ii)  $(x, y, z \in X \wedge x \prec y \wedge y \prec z) \Rightarrow (x \prec z)$

#### Definition 1.11

- i) If  $\prec$  is a partial ordering of a set  $X$ , and  $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$ , then  $z \in X$  is a lower bound for  $Y$  in  $X$  if:

$$\forall Y(y \in Y \Rightarrow z \preceq y)$$

- ii)  $z \in X$  is an infimum or greatest lower bound (glb) for  $Y$  if it is a lower bound for  $Y$  and if  $z'$  is a lower bound for  $Y$  then  $z' \preceq z$ .
- iii) The concepts of upper bound and supremum (least upper bound (lub)) are defined analogously.

### Definition 1.12

- i) We say  $f : (X, \prec_1) \rightarrow (Y, \prec_2)$  is an order preserving map of the partial orders  $(X, \prec_1), (Y, \prec_2)$  iff:

$$\forall x, z \in X (x \prec_1 z \Rightarrow f(x) \prec_2 f(z))$$

- ii) Orderings  $(X, \prec_1), (Y, \prec_2)$  are (order) isomorphic, written  $(X, \prec_1) \cong (Y, \prec_2)$ , if there is an order preserving map between them which is also a bijection.
- iii) There are completely analogous definitions between nonstricts orders  $\preceq_1, \preceq_2$ .

### Theorem 1.13 (*Representation Theorem for partially ordered sets*)

If  $\prec$  partially orders  $X$ , then there is a set  $Y$  of subsets of  $X$  which is such that  $(X, \preceq)$  is order isomorphic to  $(Y, \subseteq)$ .

*Proof.* Given any  $x \in X$ , let  $X^x = \{z \in X | z \preceq x\}$ . Notice if  $x \neq y$  then  $X^x \neq X^y$ . So the assignemnt of  $x$  to  $X^x$  is 1:1. Let  $Y = \{X^x | x \in X\}$ . Then we have

$$x \preceq y \iff X^x \subseteq X^y$$

Coonsequently, setting  $f(x) = X^x$  we have an order isomorphism.  $\square$

*NB: Often we deal with roderings where every element is comparable with every other, known as strong connectivity and we call the rdering total.*

### Definition 1.14

A relation  $\prec$  on  $X$  is a string total ordering if it is a partial ordering which is connected:

$$\forall x, y (x, y \in X \Rightarrow (x = y \vee x \prec y \vee y \prec x))$$

*NB: For  $\preceq$  we call the ordering non-strict.*

### Definition 1.15

- i)  $(A, \prec)$  is a wellordering if it is a string total orderings and for any subset  $Y \subseteq A, Y \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow Y$  has a  $\prec$ -least element. We write  $(A, \prec) \in WO$  item[ii)] A partial ordering  $R$  on a set  $A$ ,  $(A, R)$  is a wellfounded relation if for any subset  $Y \subseteq A, Y \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow Y$  has an  $R$ -minimal element.