

# C1 Set Theory

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## 1 Primitive Notions

Let there be *sets*.

Let there be a binary relation called *membership*,  $\in$ . When  $x \in y$  holds, we say  $x$  is a *member* or *element* of  $y$ . We write  $x \notin y$  iff  $x$  is not a member of  $y$ .

## 2 The Axioms

**Axiom 1** (Extensionality). *If two sets have exactly the same members, then they are equal.*

As a consequence of this axiom, we may identify a set  $A$  with the class  $\{x : x \in A\}$ . The use of the symbols  $\in$  and  $=$  is consistent.

**Definition 2.** We say that a class  $\mathbf{A}$  is a *set* iff there exists a set  $A$  such that  $A = \mathbf{A}$ . That is, the class  $\{x : P(x)\}$  is a set iff

$$\exists A. \forall x (x \in A \leftrightarrow P(x)) .$$

Otherwise,  $\mathbf{A}$  is a *proper class*.

**Definition 3** (Subset). If  $A$  is a set and  $\mathbf{B}$  is a class, we say  $A$  is a *subset* of  $\mathbf{B}$  iff  $A \subseteq \mathbf{B}$ .

**Axiom 4** (Empty Set). *The empty class is a set, called the empty set.*

**Axiom 5** (Pairing). *For any objects  $a$  and  $b$ , the class  $\{a, b\}$  is a set, called a pair set.*

**Definition 6** (Union). For any class of sets  $\mathbf{A}$ , the *union*  $\bigcup \mathbf{A}$  is the class  $\{x : \exists A \in \mathbf{A}. x \in A\}$ .

We write  $\bigcup_{P[x_1, \dots, x_n]} t[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  for  $\bigcup \{t[x_1, \dots, x_n] : P[x_1, \dots, x_n]\}$ .

**Proposition 7.** *If  $\mathbf{A} \subseteq \mathbf{B}$  then  $\bigcup \mathbf{A} \subseteq \bigcup \mathbf{B}$ .*

PROOF: Easy.  $\square$

**Axiom 8** (Union). *For any set  $A$ , the union  $\bigcup A$  is a set.*

**Proposition 9.** *For any sets  $A$  and  $B$ , the class  $A \cup B$  is a set.*

PROOF: It is  $\bigcup\{A, B\}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition Schema 10.** *For any objects  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ , the class  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  is a set.*

PROOF: By repeated application of the Pairing and Union axioms.  $\square$

**Definition 11** (Power Set). For any set  $A$ , the *power set* of  $A$ ,  $\mathcal{P}A$ , is the class of all subsets of  $A$ .

**Axiom 12** (Power Set). *For any set  $A$ , the class  $\mathcal{P}A$  is a set.*

**Axiom 13** (Subset, Aussonderung). *For any class  $\mathbf{A}$  and set  $B$ , if  $\mathbf{A} \subseteq B$  then  $\mathbf{A}$  is a set.*

**Proposition 14.** *For any set  $A$  and class  $\mathbf{B}$ , the intersection  $A \cap \mathbf{B}$  is a set.*

PROOF: By the Subset Axiom since it is a subclass of  $A$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 15.** *For any set  $A$  and class  $\mathbf{B}$ , the relative complement  $A - \mathbf{B}$  is a set.*

PROOF: By the Subset Axiom since it is a subclass of  $A$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 16.** *The universal class  $\mathbf{V}$  is a proper class.*

PROOF:

$\langle 1 \rangle 1$ . ASSUME:  $\mathbf{V}$  is a set.

$\langle 1 \rangle 2$ . LET:  $R = \{x : x \notin x\}$

$\langle 1 \rangle 3$ .  $R$  is a set.

PROOF: By the Subset Axiom.

$\langle 1 \rangle 4$ .  $R \in R$  if and only if  $R \notin R$

$\langle 1 \rangle 5$ . Q.E.D.

PROOF: This is a contradiction.

$\square$

**Definition 17** (Intersection). For any class of sets  $\mathbf{A}$ , the *intersection*  $\bigcap \mathbf{A}$  is the class  $\{x : \forall A \in \mathbf{A}. x \in A\}$ .

We write  $\bigcap_{P[x_1, \dots, x_n]} t[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  for  $\bigcap \{t[x_1, \dots, x_n] : P[x_1, \dots, x_n]\}$ .

**Proposition 18.** *For any nonempty class of sets  $\mathbf{A}$ , the class  $\bigcap \mathbf{A}$  is a set.*

PROOF: Pick  $A \in \mathbf{A}$ . Then  $\bigcap \mathbf{A} \subseteq A$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 19.** *If  $\mathbf{A} \subseteq \mathbf{B}$  then  $\bigcap \mathbf{B} \subseteq \bigcap \mathbf{A}$ .*

PROOF: Easy.  $\square$

**Proposition 20.** *For any set  $A$  and class of sets  $\mathbf{B}$ , we have*

$$A \cup \bigcap \mathbf{B} = \bigcap \{A \cup X \mid X \in \mathbf{B}\}$$

PROOF: Easy.  $\square$

**Proposition 21.** *For any set  $A$  and class of sets  $\mathbf{B}$ , we have*

$$A \cap \bigcup \mathbf{B} = \bigcup \{A \cap X \mid X \in \mathbf{B}\}$$

PROOF: Easy.  $\square$

**Proposition 22.** *For any set  $C$  and class of sets  $\mathbf{A}$ , we have*

$$C - \bigcup \mathbf{A} = \bigcap \{C - X \mid X \in \mathbf{A}\} .$$

PROOF: Easy.  $\square$

**Proposition 23.** *For any set  $C$  and class of sets  $\mathbf{A}$ , we have*

$$C - \bigcap \mathbf{A} = \bigcup \{C - X \mid X \in \mathbf{A}\} .$$

PROOF: Easy.  $\square$