CM0832 Elements of Set Theory List of Axioms

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Preliminaries

Convention

The number assigned to chapters, examples, exercises, figures, sections, and theorems on these slides correspond to the numbers assigned in the textbook [Enderton 1977].

List of Axioms 2/8

Axioms stating the existence of sets

• Empty (existence) axiom: There is a set having no members, that is,

$$\exists B \, \forall x \, (x \not\in B).$$

• Infinity axiom: There exists an inductive set, that is,

$$\exists A \, [\, \emptyset \in A \land \forall a \, (a \in A \to a^+ \in A) \,].$$

List of Axioms 3/8

Axioms determining properties of sets

• Extensionality axiom: If two sets have exactly the same members, then they are equal, that is,

$$\forall A \forall B [\forall x (x \in A \leftrightarrow x \in B) \rightarrow A = B].$$

• Regularity (foundation) axiom: All sets are well-founded, that is,

$$\forall A [A \neq \emptyset \rightarrow \exists m (m \in A \land m \cap A = \emptyset)].$$

List of Axioms 4/8

Axioms for building sets from other sets

• Pairing axiom: For any sets u and v, there is a set having as members just u and v, that is,

$$\forall a \, \forall b \, \exists C \, \forall x \, (x \in C \leftrightarrow x = a \lor x = b).$$

• **Union axiom** (first version): For any sets a and b, there is a set whose members are those sets belonging either to a or to b (or both), that is,

$$\forall a \, \forall b \, \exists B \, \forall x \, (x \in B \leftrightarrow x \in a \lor x \in b).$$

• Union axiom (final version): For any set A, there exists a set B whose elements are exactly the members of the members of A, that is,

$$\forall A \exists B \forall x [x \in B \leftrightarrow \exists b (x \in b \land b \in A)].$$

List of Axioms 5/

Axioms for building sets from other sets (continuation)

• **Power set axiom**: For any set a, there is a set whose members are exactly the subsets of a, that is,

$$\forall a \, \exists B \, \forall x \, (x \in B \leftrightarrow x \subseteq a).$$

• Subset axiom scheme (axiom scheme of comprehension or separation): For any propositional function $\varphi(x,t_1,\ldots,t_k)$, not containing B, the following is an axiom:

$$\forall t_1 \cdots \forall t_k \, \forall c \, \exists B \, \forall x \, (x \in B \leftrightarrow x \in c \land \varphi(x, t_1, \dots, t_k)).$$

• Axiom of choice (a version): For any relation R there is a function $F \subseteq R$ with $\operatorname{dom} F = \operatorname{dom} R$.

(continued on next slide)

List of Axioms 6,

Axioms for building sets from other sets (continuation)

• Replacement axiom scheme: For any propositional function $\varphi(x, y, t_1, \dots, t_k)$, not containing B, the following is an axiom:

$$\forall t_1 \cdots \forall t_k \, \forall A \, [\forall x \, (x \in A \rightarrow \exists! y \, \varphi(x, y, t_1, \dots, t_k)) \rightarrow \\ \exists B \, \forall y \, (y \in B \leftrightarrow \exists x \, (x \in A \land \varphi(x, y, t_1, \dots, t_k))) \,].$$

List of Axioms 7/8

References



Enderton, Herbert B. (1977). Elements of Set Theory. Academic Press (cit. on p. 2).

List of Axioms 8/8