

« Mathematical foundations: (1) Naïve set theory »

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Georg F. Cantor

Reference

- [1] Cantor, G., 1932, “Gesammelte Abhandlungen mathematischen und philosophischen Inhalts”, E. Zermelo, Ed. Berlin: Springer-Verlag.

Set theory

- In **naïve set theory** everything is a set, including the empty set \emptyset ; So any collection of objects can be regarded as a single entity (i.e. a set)
- A **set** is a collection of elements which are sets (but sets in sets in sets ... cannot go for ever);
- In practice one consider a **universe** of objects (which are not sets and called **atoms**) out of which are built sets of objects, set of sets of objects, etc.

Sets

Membership

- $a \in x$ means that the object a belongs to/is an element of the set x
- $a \notin x$ means that the object a does not belong to/is not an element of the set x :

$$(a \notin x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg(a \in x)$$

Additional notations are as follows:

$$P \vee Q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg((\neg P) \wedge (\neg Q)) \quad \text{"P or Q"}$$

$$P \implies Q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\neg P) \vee Q \quad \text{"P implies Q"}$$

$$P \iff Q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (P \implies Q) \wedge (Q \implies P) \quad \text{"P iff¹Q"}$$

$$P \vee\vee Q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (P \vee Q) \wedge \neg(P \wedge Q) \quad \text{"P exclusive or Q"}$$

$$\exists x : P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg(\forall x : (\neg P)) \quad \text{"there exists } x \text{ such that } P"$$

$$\exists a \in S : P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists a : a \in S \wedge P$$

$$\exists a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in S : P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists a_1 \in S : \exists a_2, \dots, a_n \in S : P$$

$$\forall a \in S : P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \forall a : (a \in S) \implies P$$

$$\forall a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in S : P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \forall a_1 \in S : \forall a_2, \dots, a_n \in S : P$$

¹ if and only if

Logical symbols

If P, Q, \dots are logical statements about sets, then we use the following abbreviations:

- $P \wedge Q$ abbreviates "P and Q"
- $\neg P$ abbreviates "not P"
- $\forall x : P$ abbreviates "forall x, P "

Comparison of sets

$$x \subseteq y \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \forall a : (a \in x \implies a \in y) \quad \text{inclusion}$$

$$x \supseteq y \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} y \subseteq x \quad \text{superset}$$

$$x = y \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \subseteq y) \wedge (y \subseteq x) \quad \text{equality}$$

$$x \neq y \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg(x = y) \quad \text{inequality}$$

$$x \subset y \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \subseteq y) \wedge (x \neq y) \quad \text{strict inclusion}$$

$$x \supset y \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \supseteq y) \wedge (x \neq y) \quad \text{strict superset}$$

Operations on sets

$$(z = x \cup y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \forall a : (a \in z) \Leftrightarrow (a \in x \vee a \in y) \text{ union}$$

$$(z = x \cap y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \forall a : (a \in z) \Leftrightarrow (a \in x \wedge a \in y) \text{ intersection}$$

$$(z = x \setminus y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \forall a : (a \in z) \Leftrightarrow (a \in x \wedge a \notin y) \text{ difference}$$

Set theoretic laws

Intuition provided by *Venn diagrams* but better proved formally from the definitions.

$$x \cup x = x$$

$$x \cap x = x$$

$$x \subseteq x \cup y$$

upper bound

$$x \cap y \subseteq x$$

lower bound

$$x \cup y = y \cup x$$

commutativity

$$x \cap y = y \cap x$$

$$(x \subseteq z) \wedge (y \subseteq z) \implies (x \cup y) \subseteq z \quad \text{lub}^2$$

$$(z \subseteq x) \wedge (z \subseteq y) \implies z \subseteq (x \cap y) \quad \text{glb}^3$$

² lub: least upper bound.

³ glb: greatest lower bound

Partial order

\subseteq is a *partial order* in that:

$$x \subseteq x \quad \text{reflexivity}$$

$$(x \subseteq y \wedge y \subseteq x) \implies (x = y) \quad \text{antisymmetry}$$

$$(x \subseteq y) \wedge (y \subseteq z) \implies (x \subseteq z) \quad \text{transitivity}$$

\subset is a *strict partial order* in that:

$$\neg(x \subset x) \quad \text{irreflexivity}$$

$$(x \subset y) \wedge (y \subset z) \implies (x \subset z) \quad \text{transitivity}$$

$$x \cup (y \cup z) = (x \cup y) \cup z \quad \text{associativity}$$

$$x \cap (y \cap z) = (x \cap y) \cap z$$

$$x \cup (y \cap z) = (x \cup y) \cap (x \cup z) \quad \text{distributivity}$$

$$x \cap (y \cup z) = (x \cap y) \cup (x \cap z)$$

$$x \subseteq y \iff (x \cup y) = y$$

$$(x \cap y) = x$$

$$x \setminus y = x \setminus (x \cap y)$$

$$z \setminus (z \setminus x) = x$$

$$x \subseteq y \iff (z \setminus y) \subseteq (z \setminus x)$$

$$x \cup (z \setminus x) = z$$

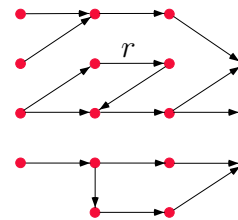
$$z \setminus (x \cup y) = (z \setminus x) \cap (z \setminus y)$$

$$z \setminus (x \cap y) = (z \setminus x) \cup (z \setminus y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcup_{i \in I} (x_i \cup y_i) &= \left(\bigcup_{i \in I} x_i \right) \cup \left(\bigcup_{i \in I} y_i \right) \\ \bigcap_{i \in I} (x_i \cap y_i) &= \left(\bigcap_{i \in I} x_i \right) \cap \left(\bigcap_{i \in I} y_i \right) \\ \bigcup_{i \in I} (x_i \cap y) &= \left(\bigcup_{i \in I} x_i \right) \cap y \\ \bigcap_{i \in I} (x_i \cup y) &= \left(\bigcap_{i \in I} x_i \right) \cup y \\ z \setminus \bigcup_{i \in I} x_i &= \bigcup_{i \in I} (z \setminus x_i) \\ z \setminus \bigcap_{i \in I} x_i &= \bigcap_{i \in I} (z \setminus x_i) \end{aligned}$$

Relations

- $r \subseteq x$ unary relation on x
- $r \subseteq x \times y$ binary relation
- $r \subseteq x_1 \times \dots \times x_n$ n -ary relation
- Graphical representation of a relation r on a finite set x :



•	elements of the set x	
a	b	
• → •	$\langle a, b \rangle \in r$	

Relations

Notations for relations

- If $r \subseteq x_1 \times \dots \times x_n$ then we use the notation:

$$r(a_1, \dots, a_n) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle \in r$$

- In the specific case of binary relation, we also use:

$$\begin{aligned} a r b &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle a, b \rangle \in r \quad \text{example: } 5 \leq 7 \\ a \xrightarrow{r} b &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle a, b \rangle \in r \end{aligned}$$



Properties of binary relations

Let $r \subseteq x \times x$ be a binary relation on the set x

- $\forall a \in x : (a r a)$ reflexive
- $\forall a, b \in x : (a r b) \iff (b r a)$ symmetric
- $\forall a, b \in x : (a r b \wedge a \neq b) \implies \neg(b r a)$ antisymmetric
- $\forall a, b \in x : (a \neq b) \implies (a r b \vee b r a)$ connected
- $\forall a, b, c \in x : (a r b) \wedge (b r c) \implies (a r c)$ transitive



Reflexive transitive closure



Operations on relations

- \emptyset empty relation
- $1_x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\langle a, a \rangle \mid a \in x\}$ identity
- $r^{-1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\langle b, a \rangle \mid \langle a, b \rangle \in r\}$ inverse
- $r_1 \circ r_2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\langle a, c \rangle \mid \exists b : \langle a, b \rangle \in r_1 \wedge \langle b, c \rangle \in r_2\}$ composition
- set operations $r_1 \cup r_2, r_1 \cap r_2, r_1 \setminus r_2$



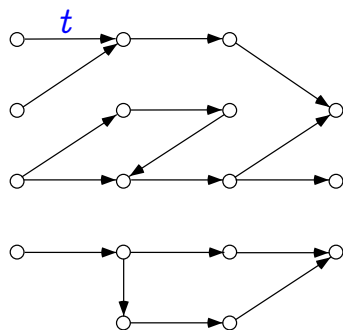
Reflexive transitive closure of a relation

Let r be a relation on x :

- $r^0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 1_x$ powers
- $r^{n+1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} r^n \circ r (= r \circ r^n)$
- $r^* \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} r^n$ reflexive transitive closure
- $r^+ \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}} r^n$ strict transitive closure
- so $r^* = r^+ \cup 1_x$



Example of relation



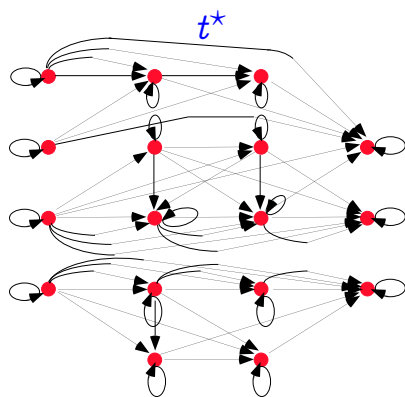
Equational definition of the reflexive transitive closure

$$- t^* = 1_x \cup t \circ t^*$$

PROOF.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & t^* \\
 = & \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} t^n && \{\text{def. } t^*\} \\
 = & t^0 \cup \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}} t^n && \{\text{isolating } t^0\}
 \end{aligned}$$

The reflexive transitive closure of the example relation

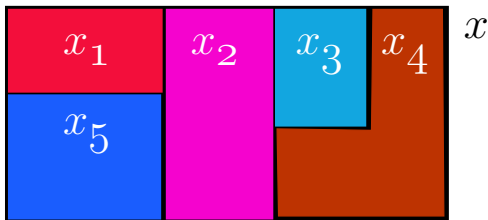


$$\begin{aligned}
 & = 1_x \cup \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} t^{k+1} && \{\text{def. } t^0 \text{ and } k + 1 = n\} \\
 & = 1_x \cup \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} t \circ t^k && \{\text{def. power}\} \\
 & = 1_x \cup t \circ \left(\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} t^k \right) && \{\text{def. } \circ\} \\
 & = 1_x \cup t \circ t^* && \{\text{def. } t^*\}
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Partition

- P is a **partition** of x iff P is a family of disjoint sets covering x :
 - $\forall y \in P : (y \neq \emptyset)$
 - $\forall y, z \in P : (y \neq z) \implies (y \cap z = \emptyset)$
 - $x = \bigcup P$



Posets



Correspondence between partitions and equivalences

- If P is a **partition** of x then
$$\{\langle a, b \rangle \mid \exists y \in P : a \in y \wedge b \in y\}$$
is an **equivalence relation**
- Inversely, if r is an **equivalence relation** on x , then
$$\{[a]_r \mid a \in x\}$$
is a **partition** of x .

Partial order relation

- A relation r on a set x is a **partial order** if and only if it is **reflexive**, **antisymmetric** and **transitive**.

Encoding \mathbb{N} with sets

In set theory, natural numbers are encoded as follows:

- \emptyset 0
- $\{\emptyset\}$ 1 = $\{0\}$
- $\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$ 2 = $\{0, 1\}$
- ...
- $Sn = n \cup \{n\}$ $n + 1 = \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$
- ...
- $w = \{0, 1, \dots, n, \dots\} = \mathbb{N}$ first infinite ordinal

The ordering is:

- $n < m \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n \in m$ so that $0 < 1 < 2 < 3 < \dots < n < \dots < \omega$
- $n \leq m \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (n < m) \vee (n = m)$

Functions



Domain and range of a relation

Let r be a $n + 1$ -ary relation on a set x .

- $\text{dom}(r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{a \mid \exists b : \langle a, b \rangle \in r\}$ domain
- $\text{rng}(r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{b \mid \exists a : \langle a, b \rangle \in r\}$ range/codomain

Functions

- An n -ary function on a set x is an $(n + 1)$ -ary relation r on x such that for every $a \in \text{dom}(r)$ there is at most one $b \in \text{rng}(r)$ such that $\langle a, b \rangle \in r$:
 $(\langle a, b \rangle \in r \wedge \langle a, c \rangle \in r) \implies (b = c)$
- Functional notation:
One writes $r(a_1, \dots, a_n) = b$ for $\langle a_1, \dots, a_n, b \rangle \in r$

Partial and total functions

- $x \mapsto y$ is the set of (total) functions f such that $\text{dom}(f) = x$ and $\text{rng}(f) \subseteq y$
- $x \mapsto y$ is the set of (partial) functions f such that $\text{dom}(f) \subseteq x$ and $\text{rng}(f) \subseteq y$. So $f(z)$ is undefined whenever $z \in x \setminus \text{dom}(f)$.

Operations on functions

- $f = \lambda a. k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\langle a, k \rangle \mid a \in \text{dom}(f)\}$ ¹¹ constant function
- $1_x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\langle a, a \rangle \mid a \in x\}$ identity function
- $f \circ g \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda a. f(g(a))$ function composition
- $f \upharpoonright u \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f \cap (u \times \text{rng}(f))$ function restriction
- $f^{-1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\langle f(a), a \rangle \mid a \in \text{dom}(f)\}$ function inverse¹²

¹¹ where $k \in \text{rng}(f)$.

¹² a relation but in general not a function.

Notations for functions

The function f such that:

- $\text{dom}(f) = x, \text{rng}(f) \subseteq y$ i.e. $f \in x \mapsto y$
- $\forall a \in x : \langle a, e(a) \rangle \in f$ ¹⁰

is denoted as:

- $f(a) = e$ or $f(a : x) = e$ functional notation
- $f = \lambda a. e$ or $f = \lambda a : x. e$ Church's lambda notation
- $f : a \in x \mapsto e$
- $\{a \rightarrow b, c \rightarrow d, e \rightarrow f\}$ denotes the function $g = \{\langle a, b \rangle, \langle c, d \rangle, \langle e, f \rangle\}$ such that $g(a) = b, g(c) = d, g(e) = f, \text{dom}(g) = \{a, c, e\}$ and $\text{rng}(g) = \{b, d, f\}$.

¹⁰ $e(a)$ is an expression depending upon variable $a \in x$ which result is in y .

Properties of functions

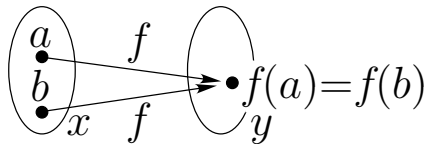


Injective/one-to-one function

- A function $f \in x \mapsto y$ is **injective/one-to-one** if different elements have different images:

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall a, b \in x : a \neq b \implies f(a) \neq f(b) \\ \iff & \forall a, b \in x : f(a) = f(b) \implies a = b \end{aligned}$$

- The following situation is excluded:



- Notation: $f \in x \mapsto y$, $f \in x \dashrightarrow y$

Bijjective function

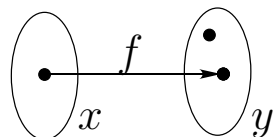
- A function is **bijjective** iff it is both injective and surjective
- Notation: $f \in x \mapsto y$
- A bijjective function is a **bijection**, also called an **isomorphism**
- Two sets x and y are **isomorphic** iff there exists an isomorphism $i \in x \mapsto y$

Surjective/onto function

- A function $f \in x \mapsto y$ is **surjective/onto function** if all elements of its range are images of some element of their domain:

$$\forall b \in y : \exists a \in x : f(a) = b$$

- The following situation is excluded:



- Notation: $f \in x \mapsto y$, $f \in x \dashrightarrow y$

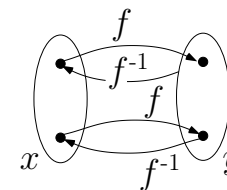
Inverse of bijective functions

- If $f \in x \mapsto y$ is bijective then its inverse is the function f^{-1} defined by:

$$f^{-1} = \{ \langle b, a \rangle \mid \langle a, b \rangle \in f \}$$

thus:

- $f^{-1} \in y \mapsto x$
- $f^{-1} \circ f = 1_x$
- $f \circ f^{-1} = 1_y$



Cartesian product (revisited)

- Given a family $\{x_i \mid i \in I\}$ of sets, the **cartesian product** of the family $\{x_i \mid i \in I\}$ is defined as:

$$\prod_{i \in I} x_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{f \mid f \in I \mapsto \bigcup_{i \in I} x_i \wedge \forall i \in I : f(i) \in x_i\}$$

- If $\forall i \in I : x_i = x$ then we write:

$$x^I \text{ or } I \mapsto x \text{ instead of } \prod_{i \in I} x_i$$

- For example $x^n = \underbrace{x \times \dots \times x}_{n \text{ times}}$



Sequences



Characteristic functions of subsets

- The powerset $\wp(x)$ of a set x is isomorphic to $x \mapsto \mathbb{B}$ where the set of booleans is $\mathbb{B} = \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$ or $\{\text{ff}, \text{tt}\}$ or $\{0, 1\}$ or $\{\text{NO}, \text{YES}\}$.
- The isomorphism is called the **characteristic function**:
 $c \in \wp(x) \mapsto (x \mapsto \mathbb{B})$
 $c(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda a \in x. a \in y$ where $y \subseteq x$
 $c^{-1}(y) = \lambda f \in x \mapsto \mathbb{B}. \{a \in x \mid f(a) = \text{tt}\}$
- Useful to implement subsets of a finite set by bit vectors



Finite sequences

Given a set x :

- $x^{\vec{0}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\vec{\epsilon}\}$ where $\vec{\epsilon} \in \emptyset \mapsto x$ is the empty sequence of length 0
- $x^{\vec{n}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{0, \dots, n-1\} \mapsto x$, finite sequences σ of length $|\sigma| = n$. The i -th element of $\sigma \in x^{\vec{n}}$ is $\sigma(i)$ abbreviated σ_i so $\sigma = \sigma_0 \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{n-1}$
- $x^{\vec{*}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} x^{\vec{n}}$ finite sequences
- $x^{\vec{+}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}} x^{\vec{n}}$ finite nonempty sequences

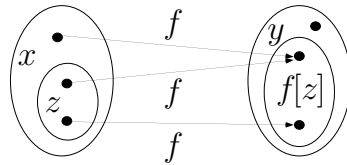


Image (postimage) of a set by a function/relation

- Let $r \subseteq x \times y$ and $z \subseteq x$.
 - The **image** (or **postimage**) of z by r is:

$$r[z] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{b \mid \exists a \in z : \langle a, b \rangle \in r\}$$
 (which is also written $\text{post}[r]z$ or even $r(z)$)
- For $f \in x \mapsto y$ and $z \subseteq x$, we have:

$$f[z] = f(z) = \text{post}[f]z \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{f(a) \mid a \in z\}$$



Dual image of a set by a function/relation

- Let $r \subseteq x \times y$ and $z \subseteq x$.

$$\widetilde{\text{post}}[r]z = \neg \text{post}[r](\neg z) \quad \{\text{informally}\}$$

$$= y \setminus \text{post}[r](x \setminus z) \quad \{\text{formally}\}$$

$$= \neg \{b \mid \exists a \in (\neg z) : \langle a, b \rangle \in r\}$$

$$= \neg \{b \mid \exists a : a \notin z \wedge \langle a, b \rangle \in r\}$$

$$= \{b \mid \forall a : a \in z \vee \langle a, b \rangle \notin r\}$$

$$= \{b \mid \forall a : (\langle a, b \rangle \in r) \implies (a \in z)\}$$

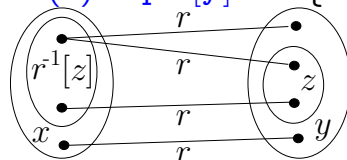
Preimage of a set by a function/relation

- Let $r \subseteq x \times y$ and $z \subseteq y$. The **inverse image** (or **preimage**) of z by r is:

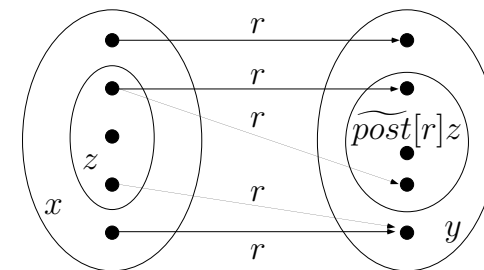
$$r^{-1}[z] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{a \mid \exists b \in z : \langle a, b \rangle \in r\}$$

$$= \{a \mid \exists b \in z : \langle b, a \rangle \in r^{-1}\} = \text{post}[r^{-1}]z$$
 (which is also written $\text{pre}[r]z$ or even $r^{-1}(z)$)
- For $f \in x \mapsto y$ and $z \subseteq y$, we have:

$$f^{-1}[z] = f^{-1}(z) = \text{pre}[f]z \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{a \mid f(a) \in z\}$$



It is impossible to reach $\widetilde{\text{post}}(r)z$ from x by following r without starting from z



Dual preimage of a set by a function/relation

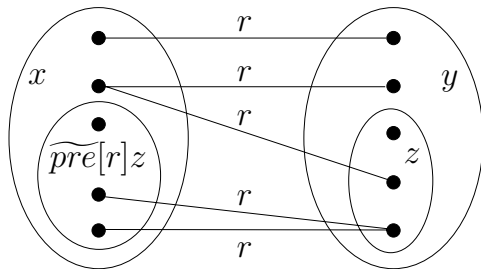
- Let $r \subseteq x \times y$ and $z \subseteq y$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \widetilde{\text{pre}}[r]z &= \neg \text{pre}[r](\neg z) && \{\text{informally}\} \\
 &= x \setminus \text{pre}[r](y \setminus z) && \{\text{formally}\} \\
 &= \neg \{a \mid \exists b \in (\neg z) : \langle a, b \rangle \in r\} \\
 &= \neg \{a \mid \exists b : b \notin z \wedge \langle a, b \rangle \in r\} \\
 &= \{a \mid \forall b : b \in z \vee \langle a, b \rangle \notin r\} \\
 &= \{a \mid \forall b : (\langle a, b \rangle \in r) \implies (b \in z)\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Properties of [dual [inverse]] images

$$\begin{aligned}
 - \text{post}[r]\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} x_i\right) &= \bigcup_{i \in I} \text{post}[r](x_i) \\
 \text{pre}[r]\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} x_i\right) &= \bigcup_{i \in I} \text{pre}[r](x_i) \\
 \widetilde{\text{pre}}[r]\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} x_i\right) &= \bigcap_{i \in I} \widetilde{\text{pre}}[r](x_i) \\
 \widetilde{\text{post}}[r]\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} x_i\right) &= \bigcap_{i \in I} \widetilde{\text{post}}[r](x_i) \\
 - \text{post}[r](x) \subseteq y &\iff x \subseteq \widetilde{\text{pre}}[r](y) \\
 \text{pre}[r](x) \subseteq y &\iff x \subseteq \widetilde{\text{post}}[r](y)
 \end{aligned}$$

Starting from $\widetilde{\text{pre}}(r)z$ from x and following r , it is impossible to arrive outside z (or one must reach z)



$$\begin{aligned}
 - \text{pre}[r](x) &= \text{post}[r^{-1}](x) \\
 \text{post}[r](x) &= \text{pre}[r^{-1}](x) \\
 \widetilde{\text{pre}}[r](x) &= \widetilde{\text{post}}[r^{-1}](x) \\
 \widetilde{\text{post}}[r](x) &= \widetilde{\text{pre}}[r^{-1}](x) \\
 - \text{Notice that if } f \in x \rightsquigarrow y &\text{ is bijective with inverse } f^{-1} \\
 &\text{ then the two possible interpretations of } f^{-1}[z] \text{ as } \\
 &f^{-1}[z] = \text{pre}[f](z) \text{ and } f^{-1}[z] = \text{post}[f^{-1}]z \text{ do coincide since } \\
 &\text{pre}[f](z) = \text{post}[f^{-1}]z.
 \end{aligned}$$

Induction



Characteristic property of wosets

- $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ is a woset iff there is no infinite strictly decreasing sequence $a \in \mathbb{N} \mapsto x$ (that is such that $a_0 > a_1 > a_2 > \dots$).



Well-founded relation, woset

- Let $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ be a poset, and let $y \subseteq x$. An element a of y is a **minimal element** of y iff $\neg(\exists b \in y : b < a)$ ¹³
- A poset $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ is **well-founded** iff every nonempty subset of x has a minimal element
- A **woset** $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ is a poset $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ such that the partial ordering relation \leq is well-founded
- Example: $\langle \mathbb{N}, \leq \rangle$, counter-example: $\langle \mathbb{Z}, \leq \rangle$ ¹⁴

¹³ where as usual $a < b \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} a \leq b \wedge a \neq b$.

¹⁴ $\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ has no minimal element since $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} : \exists b \in \mathbb{Z} : b < a$.



PROOF.

- 1) If $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ is not well-founded, there exists $y \subseteq x$ which is nonempty and has no minimal element. So let $a_0 \in y$. Since a_0 is not minimal, we can find $a_1 \in y$ such that $a_1 < a_0$. If we have built $a_0 > \dots > a_n$ in y then a_n is not minimal, so we can find $a_{n+1} \in y$ such that $a_{n+1} < a_n$. So proceeding inductively, we can build an infinite strictly decreasing sequence $a_0 > \dots > a_n > \dots$ in y .

By contraposition¹⁵, if $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ has no infinite strictly decreasing sequence $a_0 > \dots > a_n > \dots$ then $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ is a woset

- 2) Reciprocally, if x has an infinite strictly decreasing sequence $a_0 > a_1 > a_2 > \dots > a_n > \dots$ then $y = \{a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots\}$ has no minimal element.

By contraposition, if $x \langle x, \leq \rangle$ is a woset then $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ has no infinite strictly decreasing sequence $a_0 > \dots > a_n > \dots$ \square

¹⁵ $\neg P \implies \neg Q$ iff $P \implies Q$



Example of recursive/structural definitions

$h(n, k) = n * k$ can be recursively defined on \mathbb{N} as:

$$\begin{aligned} h(0, k) &= 0 \\ h(n, k) &= k + h(n - 1, k) \quad \text{when } n > 0 \end{aligned}$$

This can be written as

$$h(n, k) = f(n, k, h \upharpoonright \{\langle n', k \rangle \mid n' < n\})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} f(0, k, g) &= 0 \\ f(n, k, g) &= k + g(n - 1, k) \quad \text{when } n > 0 \end{aligned}$$

PROOF.

- (1) Define $\leq^2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\langle \langle a', b \rangle, \langle a, b \rangle \rangle \mid a' \leq a\}$. Then $\langle x \times y, \leq^2 \rangle$ is a woset since otherwise the existence of $\langle a_0, b_0 \rangle >^2 \langle a_1, b_1 \rangle >^2 \dots$ would imply $b_0 = b_1 = \dots$ so $\langle a_0, b \rangle \geq^2 \langle a_1, b \rangle$ and $\langle a_0, b \rangle \neq \langle a_1, b \rangle, \dots$ implies $a_0 > a_1 > \dots$ in contradiction with the hypothesis that $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ is a woset.

Recursive/Structural Definitions

Let $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ be a woset, y be a set, and $f \in (x \times y \times ((x \times y) \mapsto y)) \mapsto y$. Define

$$g(a, b) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f(a, b, g \upharpoonright \{\langle a', b \rangle \mid a' < a\})$$

then $g \in (x \times y) \mapsto y$ is well-defined and unique.

- (2) Assuming that $g(a', b')$ is well-defined for all $\langle a', b' \rangle <^2 \langle a, b \rangle$ that is, by definition of \leq^2 , iff $b = b'$ and $a' < a$ then $g \upharpoonright \{\langle a', b \rangle \mid a' < a\}$ is well defined. It follows that $g(a, b) = f(a, b, g \upharpoonright \{\langle a', b \rangle \mid a' < a\})$ is well-defined by hypothesis that f is a total function. By structural induction, we have proved $g \in (x \times y) \mapsto y$ is well-defined for all $\langle a, b \rangle \in x \times y$.
- (3) If g' also satisfies the definition and $g'(a', b') = g(a, b)$ for all $\langle a', b' \rangle <^2 \langle a, b \rangle$ by induction hypothesis, then obviously $g \upharpoonright \{\langle a', b \rangle \mid a' < a\} = g' \upharpoonright \{\langle a', b \rangle \mid a' < a\}$ so $g(a, b) = g'(a, b)$ proving $g' = g$ by structural induction. \square

Cardinals



Equipotence

- Two sets x and y are *equipotent* if and only if there exists a bijection $b \in x \rightarrow y$ ²⁰
- Examples:
 - The set of even integers is equipotent to the set \mathbb{Z} of integers (by $b(n) = 2n$)
 - The set of odd integers is equipotent to the set \mathbb{Z} of integers (by $b(n) = 2n + 1$)
 - The set of integers \mathbb{Z} is equipotent to the set \mathbb{N} of natural numbers, by

$$\begin{aligned} b(n) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 2n - 1 && \text{if } n > 0 \\ b(n) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -2n && \text{if } n < 0 \\ b(0) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 0 \end{aligned}$$

²⁰ The intuition is that " x and y have the same number of elements".



Intuition on ordinals and cardinals

- The ordinals 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 1^{rd} , ... and cardinals $1, 2, 3, \dots$ elements do coincide for natural numbers
- This is not otherwise the case.
- For example if we consider the sets $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ and $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, +\infty\}$ ordered by $0 < 1 < 2 < \dots < +\infty$, they are equipotent (by $b(+\infty) = 0$ and $b(n) = n + 1$ otherwise) hence have same cardinality¹⁸ but the ∞^{th} element does not exist in $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ so the two sets are different as ordinals¹⁹.

¹⁸ hence are equivalent when used as quantities for measuring the "size"/number of elements of sets.

¹⁹ hence are different when used as positions for ranking elements of a set.



Properties of Equipotence

- *Equipotence* is an equivalence relation denoted \equiv_c
- A set x is *denumerable* (also said *countable*) iff $x \equiv_c \mathbb{N}$ (otherwise *uncountable*)
- A set x is *finite* iff $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} : x \equiv_c \{i \mid i < n\}$ (otherwise *infinite*)
- Example: \mathbb{Z} is denumerable and infinite



Ordering on cardinals

- We write $m \leq n$ where $m = |A|$ and $n = |B|$ iff there exists an injective function of A into B ²⁴
- A cardinal m is finite iff $m < \aleph_0$, otherwise it is infinite

²⁴ Again this definition is independant of the choice of A and B .

Order-preserving maps

- Given two posets $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ and $\langle y, \preceq \rangle$, a map $f \in x \mapsto y$ which is *order-preserving* (also called *monotone*, *isotone*, ...) if and only if:

$$\forall a, b \in x : (a \leq b) \implies (f(a) \preceq f(b))$$

- Example: $\lambda x \in \mathbb{Z}. x + 1$
- Counter-example: $\lambda x \in \mathbb{Z}. |x|$ ²⁵

²⁵ Here $|x|$ is the absolute value of x .

Ordinals

Order-isomorphism

- Two posets $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ $\langle y, \preceq \rangle$ are *order-isomorphic* iff there exists an order-preserving bijection $b \in x \mapsto y$
- Notation: $\langle x, \leq \rangle \equiv_o \langle y, \preceq \rangle$
- \equiv_o is an equivalence relation on wosets²⁶.

²⁶ Not true on posets since symmetry is lacking.



Ordinals

- The equivalence classes $[\langle x, \leq \rangle]_{\equiv_o}$ for wosets $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ are called the **ordinals**. $[\langle x, \leq \rangle]_{\equiv_o}$ is called the **rank** (also called **order-type**) of the woset $\langle x, \leq \rangle$
- We let \mathbb{O} be the class²⁷ of all ordinals
- On \mathbb{O} which is the quotient of wosets by \equiv_o , \equiv_o and $=$ do coincide (so we use $=$)
- the rank of $\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ with ordering $0 < 1 < 2 < \dots$ is written n so $0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [\langle \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle]_{\equiv_o}$
- the rank of \mathbb{N} is written ω so $\omega \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [\langle \mathbb{N}, \leq \rangle]_{\equiv_o}$

²⁷ It is a class but not a set because sets are not large enough to contain all ordinals.

Wosets and ordinals

- The rank of $\langle \{\beta \mid \beta < \alpha\}, \leq \rangle$ is α so $\alpha \equiv_o \{\beta \mid \beta < \alpha\}$ that is $\alpha = \{\beta \mid \beta < \alpha\}$
- it follows that every woset is order-isomorphic to the woset of all ordinals less than some given ordinal α :

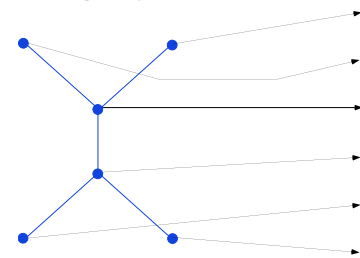
$$[\langle x, \leq \rangle]_{\equiv_o} \equiv_o \alpha \equiv_o \{\beta \mid \beta < \alpha\}$$
- It follows that for any woset $\langle x, \preceq \rangle$ there is an ordinal α and an indexing $x_\gamma, \gamma \in \{\beta \mid \beta < \alpha\}$ such that $\langle x, \preceq \rangle$ is order-isomorphic to $\langle \{x_\beta \mid \beta < \alpha\}, \leq' \rangle$ and $x_\gamma \preceq' x_\delta$ iff $\gamma < \delta$
- Otherwise stated, **every woset is order isomorphic to an ordinal**

Ordering on ordinals

- We have $\delta \leq \eta$ whenever $\delta = [\langle x, \leq \rangle]_{\equiv_o}$, $\eta = [\langle y, \preceq \rangle]_{\equiv_o}$ and there exists an order-preserving injection $i \in x \mapsto y$ ²⁸
- Example: $0 < 1 < 2 < \dots < \omega$
- An ordinal δ is finite if $\delta < \omega$ and otherwise infinite

²⁸ This definition does not depend upon the particular choice of $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ and $\langle y, \preceq \rangle$

- A well-founded set is isomorphic to an ordinal through an order-preserving bijection, for example:



- This is the reason why ordinals are used in Manna-Pnueli proof rule for while-loops instead of arbitrary wosets in Floyd's method.

Properties of limit ordinals

- The **successor** $\alpha + 1$ (also written $S\alpha$) of α satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha + 1 &= \{\beta \mid \beta < \alpha + 1\} \\ &= \{\beta \mid \beta < \alpha\} \cup \{\alpha\} \\ &= \alpha \cup \{\alpha\}\end{aligned}$$

Properties of limit ordinals (Cont'd)

Assume that λ is a limit ordinal, then:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \{\gamma \mid \gamma < \lambda\} \\ &= \{\gamma \mid \gamma < \beta < \lambda\} && \{\lambda \text{ is a limit ordinal}\} \\ &= \bigcup \{\{\gamma \mid \gamma < \beta\} \mid \beta < \lambda\} \\ &= \bigcup \{\beta \mid \beta < \lambda\} && \{\text{since } \beta = \{\gamma \mid \gamma < \beta\}\} \\ &= \bigcup_{\beta < \lambda} \beta\end{aligned}$$

Properties of limit ordinals

- A limit ordinal λ is such that if $\gamma < \lambda$ then
 $\exists \beta : \gamma < \beta < \lambda$
- This is not true of $\eta < \eta + 1$ whence of successor ordinals

Ordinals are well-ordered by \in

- If $\alpha < \beta$ then $\beta = \{\gamma \mid \gamma < \beta\}$ so $\alpha \in \beta$
- Reciprocally, if $\alpha \in \beta$ then $\beta = \{\gamma \mid \gamma < \beta\}$ implies $\alpha \in \{\gamma \mid \gamma < \beta\}$ so $\alpha < \beta$
- we conclude that $\alpha < \beta \iff \alpha \in \beta$

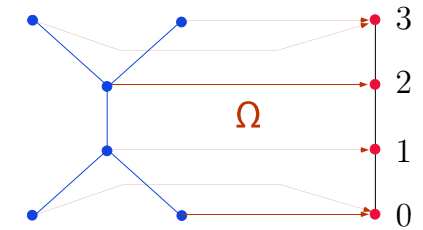
Totally ordered set

- A **total order** (or “totally ordered set”, or “linearly ordered set”) is a partial order $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ such that any two elements are comparable:

$$\forall a, b \in x : (a \leq b) \vee (b \leq a)$$

Ordinal number (rank) of a well ordered set

- Let $\langle x, \leq \rangle$ be a well ordered set. We define the rank $\rho \in x \mapsto \mathbb{O}$ as follows:
 - $\rho(a) = 0$ iff a the minimal element of x
 - $\rho(a) = \bigcup_{b < a} \rho(b)$
 - $\rho(x) = \bigcup_{a \in x} \rho(a)$



Well ordered set

- A **well ordered set** is a well-founded total order.
- totally ordered set is well ordered.
- The set of integers \mathbb{Z} , which has no least element, is an example of a set that is not well ordered.

Burali-Forti Paradox

Assume \mathbb{O} is a set. We have seen that:

1. Every well ordered set has a unique rank;
2. Every segment of ordinals (i.e., any set of ordinals arranged in natural order which contains all the predecessors of each of its elements) has a rank which is greater than any ordinal in the segment, and
3. The set \mathbb{O} of all ordinals in natural order is well ordered.

Then by statements (3) and (1), \mathbb{O} has a rank, which is an ordinal β . Since β is in \mathbb{O} , it follows that $\beta < \beta$ by (2), which is a contradiction.

So **the class \mathbb{O} of ordinals is not a set**³¹.

³¹ It's an ordinal $\mathbb{O} \in \mathbb{O}$.

Axiomatizations

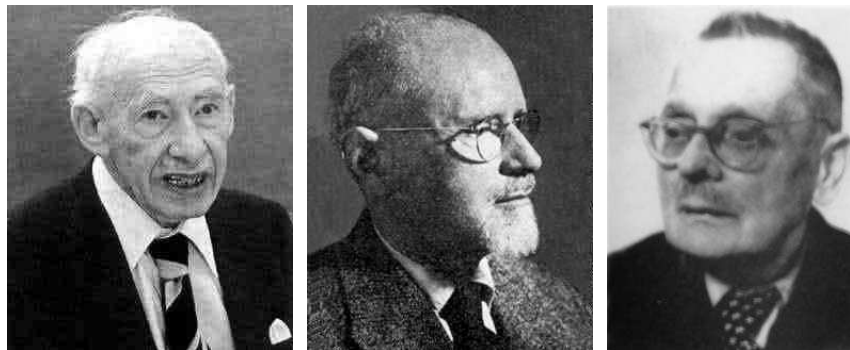
Two main Axiomatizations of naïve set theory:

- Zermelo/Fraenkel
- Bernays/Gödel

that lead to a rigorous treatment of the notion of set/class avoiding seeming paradoxes.

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Paul I. Bernays Adolf A. Fraenkel Ernst Zermelo

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