

### A ZF-style axiom system

ZF is the Zermelo-Frankel set theory. It is not uncommon to state the axioms in English, since they are meant to translate across various versions of the First Order Logic, or to a natural deduction system version of the FOL. We add here typical formal statements.

**Existence:** There exists a set that has no elements.

$$\exists x \forall y (y \notin x)$$

**Extensionality:** Every element of  $x$  is an element of  $y$ , and every element of  $y$  is an element of  $x$ , if and only if  $x=y$ .

$$\forall x \forall y (\forall z (z \in x \leftrightarrow z \in y) \leftrightarrow x = y)$$

**Schema of comprehension:** Let  $\phi(z)$  be a property of  $z$ . For any  $x$ , there is a  $y$  such that  $z \in y$  if and only if  $z \in x$  and  $\phi(z)$ .

$$\forall x \exists y \forall z (z \in y \leftrightarrow (z \in x \wedge \phi(z)))$$

**Pair:** For any  $x$  and  $y$ , there is a  $z$  such that  $u \in z$  if and only if  $u = x$  or  $u = y$ .

$$\forall x \forall y \exists z \forall u (u \in z \leftrightarrow (u = x \vee u = y))$$

**Union:** For any  $x$ , there is a  $y$  such that  $z \in y$  if and only if for some  $v$ ,  $z \in v$  and  $v \in x$ .

$$\forall x \exists y \forall z (z \in y \leftrightarrow \exists v (z \in v \wedge v \in x))$$

**Power set:** For any  $x$ , there is a  $y$  such that  $z \in y$  if and only if  $z \subseteq x$ .

$$\forall x \exists y \forall z (z \in y \leftrightarrow z \subseteq x)$$

**Infinity:** There exists an inductive set.

$$\exists x (\emptyset \in x \wedge \forall u (u \in x \rightarrow u \cup \{u\} \in x))$$

You get ZFC by adding:

**Schema of Replacement:** Let  $P(x, y)$  be a property such that for every  $x$  there is a unique  $y$  for which  $P(x, y)$ . For every  $A$  there is a  $B$  such that for every  $x \in A$  there is a  $y \in B$  for which  $P(x, y)$ .

**Choice:** Every system of sets has a choice function.