

Elements of Mathematical Logic

Section 19 of Chapter V

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Theorem 19.1

Let A be a *class*, let $\bar{a} \in A$ and let $F: \omega \times A \rightarrow A$ be a functional relation. There is a unique $G: \omega \rightarrow A$ such that

$$\begin{cases} G(0) = \bar{a} \\ G(\mathbf{S}(n)) = F(n, G(n)). \end{cases}$$

Proof

Let $\mathcal{G} = \{p \mid \exists m \in \omega [p: m \rightarrow A \wedge (0 < m \Rightarrow p(0) = \bar{a}) \wedge \forall n (\mathbf{S}(n) < m \Rightarrow p(\mathbf{S}(n)) = F(n, p(n)))]\}$.

Claim

If $p, q \in \mathcal{G}$ then $p \cup q$ is a function.

Proof.

Suppose that $p, q \in \mathcal{G}$ but $p \cup q$ is not a function. Then there is a least $n \in \text{dom}(p) \cap \text{dom}(q)$ witnessing that $p(n) \neq q(n)$. Clearly $n \neq 0$, since $p(0) = \bar{a} = q(0)$, so $n = \mathbf{S}(k)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} p(n) &= F(k, p(k)) \\ &= F(k, q(k)) && \text{by minimality of } n, \\ &= q(n). \end{aligned}$$



Proof

Thus $G = \bigcup \mathcal{G} \subseteq \omega \times A$ is a functional relation, and therefore a function by replacement.

As $\{(0, \bar{a})\} \in \mathcal{G}$, it follows that $G \neq \emptyset$ and $G(0) = \bar{a}$. Moreover if $\mathbf{S}(n) \in \text{dom}(G)$ then $G(\mathbf{S}(n)) = p(\mathbf{S}(n))$ for some $p \in \mathcal{G}$, so $G(\mathbf{S}(n)) = F(n, p(n)) = F(n, G(n))$.

$\text{dom}(G) = \omega$

Towards a contradiction, suppose \bar{n} is least such that $\bar{n} \notin \text{dom}(G)$, then $\bar{n} = \mathbf{S}(\bar{m})$ for some \bar{m} . As $\bar{n} \notin \text{dom}(p)$ for any $p \in \mathcal{G}$, it follows that $k \notin \text{dom}(G)$ for all $k > \bar{n}$. It is easy to check that $p \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} G \cup \{(\bar{n}, F(\bar{m}, G(\bar{m})))\} \in \mathcal{G}$, thus $p \subseteq G$, so that $\bar{n} \in \text{dom}(G)$: a contradiction.

G is unique

If G' were another function satisfying the statement of theorem, then let \bar{n} be least such that $G(\bar{n}) \neq G'(\bar{n})$. Clearly $\bar{n} \neq 0$ so $\bar{n} = \mathbf{S}(\bar{m})$ for some \bar{m} , and hence

$$\begin{aligned} G(\bar{n}) &= F(\bar{m}, G(\bar{m})) \\ &= F(\bar{m}, G'(\bar{m})) && \text{by minimality of } \bar{n}, \\ &= G'(\bar{n}), \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction!

Transitive closure of a relation

The **transitive closure** of $R \subseteq X \times X$ with X a class, is the relation

$$\tilde{R} = \left\{ (x, y) \in X \times X \mid \exists n > 0 \exists f \in \mathbf{S}^{(n)} X [x = f(0) \wedge \right. \\ \left. y = f(n) \wedge \forall i < n (f(i), f(\mathbf{S}(i))) \in R] \right\}$$

In other words $x \tilde{R} y$ if and only there are x_0, \dots, x_n such that

$$x = x_0 R x_1 \cdots x_{n-1} R x_n = y.$$

Proposition 19.2

R is regular on X if and only if \tilde{R} is regular on X .

Proof.

Since $R \subseteq \tilde{R}$ it is enough to check that if R is regular, then \tilde{R} is regular. Given a $\bar{x} \in X$, by induction define the sets Z_n

$$\begin{aligned} Z_0 &= \{y \in X \mid y R \bar{x}\} \\ Z_{n+1} &= \{y \in X \mid \exists z \in Z_n (y R z)\} = \bigcup_{z \in Z_n} \{y \in X \mid y R z\}. \end{aligned}$$

The sequence $\langle Z_n \mid n \in \omega \rangle$ is given by Theorem 19.1 when $A = V$, $\bar{a} = Z_0$ and $F(n, a) = F(a) = \{x \in X \mid \exists y \in a (x R y)\}$. Thus $G(n) = Z_n$. By replacement $\bigcup_{n \in \omega} Z_n$ is a set, and it is the same as $\{y \in X \mid y \tilde{R} \bar{x}\}$. \square

Proposition 19.3

R is well-founded on X if and only if \tilde{R} is well-founded on X .

Proof.

Since $R \subseteq \tilde{R}$ the \Leftarrow direction is clear.

Suppose R is well-founded towards proving that so is \tilde{R} . Fix $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X$ and let us show that there is an \tilde{R} -minimal element in Y . A path from Y into itself is a sequence $\langle z_0, \dots, z_n, z_{n+1} \rangle$ in X of length ≥ 1 such that $z_0, z_{n+1} \in Y$ and $z_i R z_{i+1}$ with $i = 0, \dots, n$. (Paths of length 1 can be identified with the elements of Y .) Let

$\bar{Y} = \{x \in X \mid \exists s (s \text{ is a path from } Y \text{ into itself and } x \in \text{ran } s)\}$. By construction $Y \subseteq \bar{Y}$ and let \bar{y} be an R -minimal of \bar{Y} . By construction no element of $\bar{Y} \setminus Y$ is R -minimal, so $\bar{y} \in Y$. Let us check that \bar{y} is \tilde{R} -minimal in Y . Towards contradiction, if $\bar{x} \tilde{R} \bar{y}$ for some $\bar{x} \in Y$ different from \bar{y} , then there would be a path $\langle z_0, \dots, z_{n+1} \rangle$ from Y into itself with $z_0 = \bar{x}$ and $z_{n+1} = \bar{y}$, and hence $z_n R \bar{y}$, against R -minimality of \bar{y} . \square

Theorem 19.4

Let X and Z be classes, let $R \subseteq X \times X$ be irreflexive, regular, and well-founded, and let $F: Z \times X \times V \rightarrow V$. Then there is a unique $G: Z \times X \rightarrow V$ such that for every $(z, x) \in Z \times X$

$$G(z, x) = F(z, x, G \upharpoonright \{(z, y) \mid y R x\}). \quad (*)$$

Proof of uniqueness

Suppose that $G, G': Z \times X \rightarrow V$ satisfy $(*)$ and that $G \neq G'$. Fix $\bar{z} \in Z$ such that $Y = \{x \in X \mid G(\bar{z}, x) \neq G'(\bar{z}, x)\} \neq \emptyset$ and let $\bar{x} \in Y$ be an R -minimal element of Y . Then

$$G \upharpoonright \{(\bar{z}, y) \mid y R \bar{x}\} = G' \upharpoonright \{(\bar{z}, y) \mid y R \bar{x}\}$$

and let \bar{p} be this functional relation. Regularity of R together with the axiom of replacement, imply that \bar{p} is a set, and therefore $G(\bar{z}, \bar{x}) = F(\bar{z}, \bar{x}, \bar{p}) = G'(\bar{z}, \bar{x})$: a contradiction.

Proof of existence

Let \mathcal{G} be the class of all functions p such that

- ① $\text{dom}(p) \subseteq Z \times X$,
- ② $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) \forall y \in X (y R x \Rightarrow (z, y) \in \text{dom}(p))$,
- ③ $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) (p(z, x) = F(z, x, p \upharpoonright \{(z, y) \mid y R x\}))$.

Proof of existence

Let \mathcal{G} be the class of all functions p such that

- ① $\text{dom}(p) \subseteq Z \times X$,
- ② $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) \forall y \in X (y R x \Rightarrow (z, y) \in \text{dom}(p))$,
- ③ $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) (p(z, x) = F(z, x, p \upharpoonright \{(z, y) \mid y R x\}))$.

② is equivalent to the seemingly stronger condition
 $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) (\{z\} \times \{y \in X \mid y \tilde{R} x\} \subseteq \text{dom}(p))$,
where \tilde{R} is the transitive closure of R .

Proof of existence

Let \mathcal{G} be the class of all functions p such that

- ① $\text{dom}(p) \subseteq Z \times X$,
- ② $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) \forall y \in X (y R x \Rightarrow (z, y) \in \text{dom}(p))$,
- ③ $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) (p(z, x) = F(z, x, p \upharpoonright \{(z, y) \mid y R x\}))$.

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 $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) (\{z\} \times \{y \in X \mid y \tilde{R} x\} \subseteq \text{dom}(p))$,
where \tilde{R} is the transitive closure of R .

If p satisfies ②, $(z, x) \in \text{dom}(p)$ and
 $y \tilde{R} xy = w_0 R w_1 R \dots R w_n R w_{n+1} = x$, then by induction
 $(z, w_i) \in \text{dom}(p)$ for all $i \leq n$.

Proof of existence

Let \mathcal{G} be the class of all functions p such that

- ① $\text{dom}(p) \subseteq Z \times X$,
- ② $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) \forall y \in X (y R x \Rightarrow (z, y) \in \text{dom}(p))$,
- ③ $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) (p(z, x) = F(z, x, p \upharpoonright \{(z, y) \mid y R x\}))$.

② is equivalent to the seemingly stronger condition
 $\forall (z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) (\{z\} \times \{y \in X \mid y \tilde{R} x\} \subseteq \text{dom}(p))$,
where \tilde{R} is the transitive closure of R .

If $p, q \in \mathcal{G}$ then $p \cup q$ is a function

If $\{x \in X \mid \exists z \in Z ((z, x) \in \text{dom}(p) \cap \text{dom}(q) \wedge p(z, x) \neq q(z, x))\} \neq \emptyset$
by well-foundedness let \bar{x} be an R -minimal element of this class. Let
 $\bar{z} \in Z$ be such that $(\bar{z}, \bar{x}) \in \text{dom}(p) \cap \text{dom}(q)$ and $p(\bar{z}, \bar{x}) \neq q(\bar{z}, \bar{x})$. By ②
 $\{(\bar{z}, y) \mid y R \bar{x}\} \subseteq \text{dom}(p) \cap \text{dom}(q)$ and by R -minimality of \bar{x}
 $p \upharpoonright \{(\bar{z}, y) \mid y R \bar{x}\} = q \upharpoonright \{(\bar{z}, y) \mid y R \bar{x}\} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bar{r}$ so that, by ③
 $p(\bar{z}, \bar{x}) = F(\bar{z}, \bar{x}, \bar{r}) = q(\bar{z}, \bar{x})$: a contradiction.

Proof of existence

If $p, q \in \mathcal{G}$ then $p \cup q \in \mathcal{G}$, and hence $G = \bigcup \mathcal{G}$ is a functional relation with $\text{domain} \subseteq Z \times X$. If $Z \times X \setminus \text{dom}(G) \neq \emptyset$, let \bar{x} be an R -minimal element of $\{x \in X \mid \exists z \in Z (z, x) \notin \text{dom}(G)\}$ and let $\bar{z} \in Z$ be such that $(\bar{z}, \bar{x}) \notin \text{dom}(G)$. The transitive closure \tilde{R} of R on X , is regular, so

$$\bar{p} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} G \upharpoonright \{(\bar{z}, y) \mid y \tilde{R} \bar{x}\}$$

is a set by the axiom of replacement. Then $\bar{p} \in \mathcal{G}$ and hence $\bar{p} \cup \{((\bar{z}, \bar{x}), F(\bar{z}, \bar{x}, \bar{p}))\} \in \mathcal{G}$. Thus $(\bar{z}, \bar{x}) \in \text{dom}(G)$, against our assumption. It follows that G is the functional relation we are looking for.

Rank of a well-founded relation

If R is irreflexive, regular, and well-founded on X , then $\varrho_{R,X}: X \rightarrow \text{Ord}$ defined by $\varrho_{R,X}(x) = \bigcup \{ \mathbf{S}(\varrho_{R,X}(y)) \mid y R x \}$ is the **rank of R on X** .

Proposition 19.6

$\text{ran}(\varrho_{R,X})$ is an initial segment of Ord and

- ① $x R y \Rightarrow \varrho_{R,X}(x) < \varrho_{R,X}(y)$,
- ② $\varrho_{R,X}(x) = \inf \{ \alpha \mid \forall y (y R x \Rightarrow \varrho_{R,X}(y) < \alpha) \}$.

Proof.

If $\varrho_{R,X}(y) \in \text{Ord}$ for any y such that $y R x$, then $\varrho_{R,X}(x) \in \text{Ord}$ by Proposition 18.6, so $\text{ran}(\varrho_{R,X}) \subseteq \text{Ord}$. Towards a contradiction, suppose there is $\bar{x} \in X$ and α such that $\alpha \in \varrho_{R,X}(\bar{x}) \setminus \text{ran}(\varrho_{R,X})$, and let \bar{x} be R -minimal such. Then there is $y R \bar{x}$ such that $\alpha < \mathbf{S}(\varrho_{R,X}(y))$. Since $\alpha \notin \text{ran} \varrho_{R,X}$ then $\alpha < \varrho_{R,X}(y)$, against R -minimality of \bar{x} . The rest of the proof is easy. □

If R is an irreflexive, regular, well-founded relation on X , the function $\pi_{R,X}: X \rightarrow V$ given by

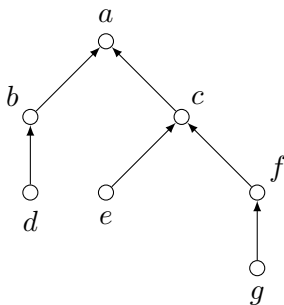
$$\pi_{R,X}(x) = \{\pi_{R,X}(y) \mid y R x\}$$

is the **Mostowski collapsing function**.

The class $\overline{X} = \text{ran}(\pi_{R,X})$ is the **Mostowski collapse of R and X** .

- ① \overline{X} is transitive and
- ② $\forall x, y \in X (x R y \Rightarrow \pi_{R,X}(x) \in \pi_{R,X}(y))$.

If R is the relation on $\{a, b, c, d, e, f, g\}$ given by the directed graph



then $\varrho_{R,X}(d) = \varrho_{R,X}(e) = \varrho_{R,X}(g) = 0$, $\varrho_{R,X}(b) = \varrho_{R,X}(f) = 1$,
 $\varrho_{R,X}(c) = 2$ and $\varrho_{R,X}(a) = 3$;
 $\pi_{R,X}(d) = \pi_{R,X}(e) = \pi_{R,X}(g) = \emptyset$, $\pi_{R,X}(b) = \pi_{R,X}(f) = \{\emptyset\} = 1$,
 $\pi_{R,X}(c) = \{0, 1\} = 2$ and $\pi_{R,X}(a) = \{1, 2\}$.

Definition 19.7

$R \subseteq X \times X$ is **extensional on X** if

$$\forall x, y \in X (\forall z \in X (z R x \Leftrightarrow z R y) \Rightarrow x = y).$$

Example

- 1 If X is a transitive class, then $\in \upharpoonright X = \{(y, x) \in X \times X \mid y \in x\}$ is extensional on X ;
- 2 if R is a (strict) linear order on X , then R is extensional on X .

Proposition 19.8

Let R be an irreflexive, regular, well-founded relation on the class X .

- 1 If R is extensional on X , then $\pi_{R,X}$ is injective and $\pi_{R,X}: X \rightarrow \overline{X}$ is an isomorphism between R on X and \in on \overline{X} , that is $\pi_{R,X}$ is bijective and $\forall x, y \in X (x R y \Leftrightarrow \pi_{R,X}(x) \in \pi_{R,X}(y))$.
- 2 If R is a strict well-order on X the functions $\pi_{R,X}$ and $\varrho_{R,X}$ agree.

Proposition 19.8 ①

Let R be **extensional**, irreflexive, regular, and well-founded on the class X . Then $\pi_{R,X}: X \rightarrow \overline{X}$ is bijective and $\forall x, y \in X (x R y \Leftrightarrow \pi_{R,X}(x) \in \pi_{R,X}(y))$.

Proof.

Towards a contradiction, let \bar{x} be R -minimal such that $\pi_{R,X}(\bar{x}) = \pi_{R,X}(\bar{y})$, for some $\bar{y} \neq \bar{x}$. Let $z R \bar{x}$: as $\pi_{R,X}(z) \in \pi_{R,X}(\bar{x}) = \pi_{R,X}(\bar{y})$, there is $w R \bar{y}$ such that $\pi_{R,X}(z) = \pi_{R,X}(w)$. By minimality of \bar{x} , $z = w$. Thus $z R \bar{x} \Rightarrow z R \bar{y}$. Similarly, if $z R \bar{y}$ then there is $w R \bar{x}$ such that $\pi_{R,X}(z) = \pi_{R,X}(w)$ and hence $z = w$, that is $z R \bar{y} \Rightarrow z R \bar{x}$. Thus, by extensionality, $\bar{y} = \bar{x}$, against our assumption. It follows that $\pi_{R,X}$ is a bijection between X and \overline{X} .

If $\pi_{R,X}(x) \in \pi_{R,X}(y) = \{\pi_{R,X}(z) \mid z R y\}$, then $x R y$. □

Proposition 19.8 ②

Let R be irreflexive, regular and well-founded on X . If R is a strict well-order on X , then the functional relations $\pi_{R,X}$ and $\varrho_{R,X}$ coincide.

Proof.

Assume $\varrho_{R,X}(y) = \pi_{R,X}(y)$, for all $y R x$. Then $\pi_{R,X}(x) = \{\pi_{R,X}(y) \mid y R x\} = \{\varrho_{R,X}(y) \mid y R x\}$ is a set of ordinals. If $\pi_{R,X}(z) \in \pi_{R,X}(y) \in \pi_{R,X}(x)$, then $z R y R x$, so $z R x$, that is $\pi_{R,X}(x)$ is transitive, and therefore it is an ordinal. By construction $\pi_{R,X}(x)$ is the least upper bound of the ordinals $\mathbf{S}(\pi_{R,X}(y)) = \mathbf{S}(\varrho_{R,X}(y))$ with $y R x$, that is $\pi_{R,X}(x) = \varrho_{R,X}(x)$. □

Lemma 19.9

If $f: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$ is increasing and continuous, then

$$\forall \alpha \exists \bar{\alpha} > \alpha (f(\bar{\alpha}) = \bar{\alpha}).$$

Proof.

By recursion define $\langle \alpha_n \mid n \in \omega \rangle$ by $\alpha_0 = \mathbf{S}(\alpha)$ and $\alpha_{\mathbf{S}(n)} = f(\alpha_n)$, and let $\bar{\alpha} = \sup_n \alpha_n$. If $f(\alpha_0) = \alpha_0$, then $\forall n (\alpha_0 = \alpha_n)$ and therefore $\bar{\alpha} = \alpha_0$. If instead $\alpha_0 < f(\alpha_0) = \alpha_1$, then $\alpha_n < \alpha_{\mathbf{S}(n)}$, and hence $\bar{\alpha}$ is limit. Then

$$f(\bar{\alpha}) = \sup_{\nu < \bar{\alpha}} f(\nu) = \sup_n f(\alpha_n) = \sup_n \alpha_{\mathbf{S}(n)} = \bar{\alpha}.$$

In either case $\bar{\alpha}$ is the least fixed point greater than α for f . □

Definition

$\aleph: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Card} \setminus \omega$ is the class-function enumerating the class of infinite cardinals, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}\aleph_0 &= \omega \\ \aleph_{\mathbf{S}(\alpha)} &= (\aleph_\alpha)^+ \\ \aleph_\lambda &= \sup_{\alpha < \lambda} \aleph_\alpha.\end{aligned}$$

Since $\aleph: \text{Ord} \rightarrow \text{Ord}$ is increasing and continuous, there are cardinals κ such that $\kappa = \aleph_\kappa$, and the least such is the least upper bound of

$$\aleph_0, \quad \aleph_{\aleph_0}, \quad \aleph_{\aleph_{\aleph_0}}, \quad \aleph_{\aleph_{\aleph_{\aleph_0}}}, \quad \dots$$

Ordinal arithmetic

$$\alpha \dot{+} \beta = \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } \beta = 0, \\ \mathbf{S}(\alpha \dot{+} \gamma) & \text{if } \beta = \mathbf{S}(\gamma), \\ \sup_{\gamma < \beta} (\alpha \dot{+} \gamma) & \text{if } \beta \text{ is limit,} \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha \cdot \beta = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \beta = 0, \\ (\alpha \cdot \gamma) \dot{+} \alpha & \text{if } \beta = \mathbf{S}(\gamma), \\ \sup_{\gamma < \beta} \alpha \cdot \gamma & \text{if } \beta \text{ is limit,} \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha^\beta = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \beta = 0, \\ \alpha^\gamma \cdot \alpha & \text{if } \beta = \mathbf{S}(\gamma), \\ \sup_{\gamma < \beta} \alpha^\gamma & \text{if } \beta \text{ is limit.} \end{cases}$$

The ordinal $\varrho_{R,X}(x)$, when $X = V$ and R is the membership relation, is called the **rank of** x , denoted by $\text{rank}(x)$. By Proposition 19.6

$$x \in y \Rightarrow \text{rank}(x) < \text{rank}(y) \qquad x \subseteq y \Rightarrow \text{rank}(x) \leq \text{rank}(y)$$

and by induction one checks that $\text{rank}(\alpha) = \alpha$.

Proposition 19.10

- ① $\text{rank}(\mathcal{P}(x)) = \mathbf{S}(\text{rank}(x))$.
- ② $\text{rank}(\bigcup x) = \sup\{\text{rank}(y) \mid y \in x\}$.

Proof.

- ① Since $x \in \mathcal{P}(x)$ one has that $\mathbf{S}(\text{rank}(x)) \leq \text{rank}(\mathcal{P}(x))$. Conversely, if $y \subseteq x$, then $\mathbf{S}(\text{rank}(y)) \leq \mathbf{S}(\text{rank}(x))$ and hence $\text{rank}(\mathcal{P}(x)) = \sup\{\mathbf{S}(\text{rank}(y)) \mid y \subseteq x\} \leq \mathbf{S}(\text{rank}(x))$. □

Proposition 19.10

- ① $\text{rank}(\mathcal{P}(x)) = \mathbf{S}(\text{rank}(x))$.
- ② $\text{rank}(\bigcup x) = \sup\{\text{rank}(y) \mid y \in x\}$.

Proof.

② If $y \in x$ then $y \subseteq \bigcup x$ so $\sup\{\text{rank}(y) \mid y \in x\} \leq \text{rank}(\bigcup x)$.
Conversely, if $z \in \bigcup x$ then $\mathbf{S}(\text{rank}(z)) \leq \text{rank}(y)$ so
 $\mathbf{S}(\text{rank}(z)) \leq \sup\{\text{rank}(y) \mid y \in x\}$. Being z arbitrary,
 $\text{rank}(\bigcup x) \leq \sup\{\text{rank}(y) \mid y \in x\}$. □

Definition 19.11

$$V_\alpha = \{x \mid \text{rank}(x) < \alpha\}.$$

Theorem 19.12

V_α is a transitive set and

$$V_\alpha = \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} \mathcal{P}(V_\beta). \quad (*)$$

Proof.

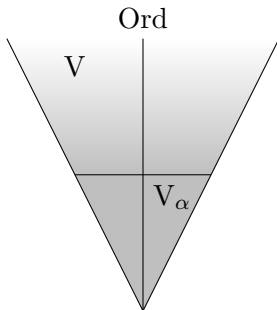
If $y \in x \in V_\alpha$ then $\text{rank}(y) < \text{rank}(x) < \alpha$ so $y \in V_\alpha$. Thus V_α is a transitive class. By induction on α we show that V_α is a set and that $(*)$ holds. Suppose the results holds true for $\beta < \alpha$: then $\{\mathcal{P}(V_\beta) \mid \beta < \alpha\}$ is a set, so it is enough to show $(*)$.

$x \subseteq V_{\text{rank}(x)}$ and therefore $\text{rank}(x) < \alpha \Rightarrow x \in \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} \mathcal{P}(V_\beta)$.

Conversely, if $x \in \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} \mathcal{P}(V_\beta)$, then $x \subseteq V_\beta$, for some $\beta < \alpha$ and hence $\text{rank}(y) < \beta$ for any $y \in x$, whence $\text{rank}(x) \leq \beta < \alpha$. \square

Corollary 19.13

- ① $V_0 = \emptyset$.
- ② If $\alpha < \beta$ then $V_\alpha \in V_\beta$ and $V_\alpha \subset V_\beta$.
- ③ $V_{S(\alpha)} = \mathcal{P}(V_\alpha)$.
- ④ $V_\lambda = \bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} V_\alpha$, if λ is limit.
- ⑤ $V = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \text{Ord}} V_\alpha$.



Models of set theory

A structure for \mathcal{L}_\in is a pair $\langle M, E \rangle$ where M is a nonempty set and $E \subseteq M \times M$. In particular, consider the structure V_α , i.e. $\langle V_\alpha, \in \rangle$, with $\alpha > 0$.

Question

Which axioms of ZF are true in V_α ?

Theorem 19.15

- 1 All axioms of ZFC except the axiom of infinity hold in V_ω .
- 2 All axioms of ZF except possibly for replacement hold in V_λ , if $\lambda > \omega$ is limit.
- 3 Assuming choice, then AC holds in V_λ , if λ is limit.

In order to prove this result a stratification of formulæ is introduced.

Definition 19.17

An \mathcal{L}_\in -formula is Δ_0 if it belongs to the smallest class containing all atomic formulæ and closed under connectives and **bounded quantifications**, that is

- atomic formulæ are Δ_0 ,
- if φ, ψ are Δ_0 then so are $\neg\varphi$ and $\varphi \odot \psi$, where \odot is any binary connective,
- if φ is Δ_0 then so is $\forall y(y \in x \Rightarrow \varphi)$ and $\exists y(y \in x \wedge \varphi)$,

and nothing else is a Δ_0 -formula.

The axiom of extensionality is true in every transitive set $M \neq \emptyset$.

We write $\forall y \in x \varphi$ and $\exists y \in x \varphi$ instead of $\forall y(y \in x \Rightarrow \varphi)$ and $\exists y(y \in x \wedge \varphi)$.

Examples of Δ_0 formulæ

$\text{Trans}(x)$, i.e. x is transitive

$\text{Ord}(x)$, i.e. x is an ordinal

$\text{Op}(x)$, i.e. x is an ordered pair

$\text{Rel}(x)$, i.e. x is a relation

$\text{Fn}(x)$, i.e. x is a function

$\text{Seq}(x)$, i.e. x is a finite sequence

x is an injective function

x is a reflexive relation

x is a symmetric relation

x is a transitive relation

$x \subseteq y$

$z = x \cup y$

$z = x \cap y$

$x = \{y, z\}$

$x = (y, z)$

$f: x \rightarrow y$

$y = \text{dom}(x)$

$y = \text{ran}(x)$

$\mathbf{S}(x) = y$

$f(x) = g(y)$

$g = f \upharpoonright x$

$f(x) = y$

$f''x = y$

$z = x \times y$

$z = x \setminus y$

Definition 19.18

A \mathcal{L}_\in -formula is Σ_1 if it is of the form $\exists x \varphi$ with φ a Δ_0 -formula; it is Π_1 if it is of the form $\forall x \varphi$ with φ a Δ_0 -formula.

Definition 19.19

Let M be a non-empty set. We say that $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is:

- **upward absolute between M and V** if
$$\forall a_1, \dots, a_n \in M ((\langle M, \in \rangle \models \varphi[a_1, \dots, a_n]) \Rightarrow \varphi(a_1, \dots, a_n));$$
- **downward absolute between M and V** if
$$\forall a_1, \dots, a_n \in M (\varphi(a_1, \dots, a_n) \Rightarrow (\langle M, \in \rangle \models \varphi[a_1, \dots, a_n]));$$
- **absolute between M and V** if it is both upward and downward absolute, that is
$$\forall a_1, \dots, a_n \in M (((\langle M, \in \rangle \models \varphi[a_1, \dots, a_n]) \Leftrightarrow \varphi(a_1, \dots, a_n)),$$

where $\varphi(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ stands for $\varphi(a_1/x_1, \dots, a_n/x_n)$.

From the definition it follows that φ is upward absolute between M and V if and only if $\neg\varphi$ is downward absolute between M and V , and that if φ and ψ are upward/downward absolute, then so are $\varphi \wedge \psi$ and $\varphi \vee \psi$. Therefore the collection of formulæ that are absolute between M and V is closed under all connectives.

An easy induction on the complexity of formulæ yields

Lemma 19.20

A quantifier-free formula is absolute between transitive $M \neq \emptyset$ and V .

Lemma 19.21

Suppose M is a non-empty transitive set.

- ① Every Δ_0 formula is absolute between M and V .
- ② Every Σ_1 formula is upward absolute between M and V , and every Π_1 formula is downward absolute between M and V .

Every Δ_0 formula is absolute between M and V .

By Lemma 19.20 it is enough to consider formulæ of the form $\forall y \in x_i \varphi(y, x_1, \dots, x_n)$. Fix $a_1, \dots, a_n \in M$. By the inductive hypothesis, and since M is transitive,

$$\begin{aligned}\langle M, \in \rangle \models \forall y \in x_i \varphi[\vec{a}] &\Leftrightarrow \forall b \in M (b \in a_i \Rightarrow \langle M, \in \rangle \models \varphi[b, \vec{a}]) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \forall b \in a_i \langle M, \in \rangle \models \varphi[b, \vec{a}] \\ &\Leftrightarrow \forall y \in a_i \varphi(\vec{a}).\end{aligned}$$

Every Σ_1 formula is upward absolute between M and V , and every Π_1 formula is downward absolute between M and V .

It is enough to prove that Σ_1 formulæ are upward absolute. Suppose that $\varphi(y_1, \dots, y_k, x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is Δ_0 , that $a_1, \dots, a_n \in M$, and that $\langle M, \in \rangle \models \exists y_1, \dots, y_k \varphi[a_1, \dots, a_n]$. Fix $b_1, \dots, b_k \in M$ such that $\langle M, \in \rangle \models \varphi[b_1, \dots, b_k, a_1, \dots, a_n]$. By the preceding point $\varphi(b_1, \dots, b_k, a_1, \dots, a_n)$ holds, and hence $\exists y_1, \dots, y_k \varphi(a_1, \dots, a_n)$.

Theorem 19.22

Suppose $M \neq \emptyset$ is a transitive set. Then

- ① $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axioms of extensionality and foundation.
- ② If $\{a, b\} \in M$ for all $a, b \in M$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom of pairing.
- ③ If $\bigcup a \in M$ for all $a \in M$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom of union.
- ④ If $\forall a \in M (\mathcal{P}(a) \cap M \in M)$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the power-set axiom.
- ⑤ If $\omega \in M$ then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom of infinity.
- ⑥ If $\forall a \in M \forall b \subseteq a (b \in M)$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom schema of separation.
- ⑦ If for all $a \in M$ and all $f: a \rightarrow M$ there is $b \in M$ such that $\text{ran } f \subseteq b$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom schema of replacement.
- ⑧ $\langle M, \in \rangle \models \text{AC}$ if and only if $\forall \mathcal{A} \in M (\forall A \in \mathcal{A} (A \neq \emptyset) \Rightarrow \exists f \in M (f \text{ is a choice function for } \mathcal{A}))$.

$\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axioms of extensionality and foundation.

The axioms of extensionality and foundations are the universal closure of the Δ_0 -formulae

$$\forall z \in x (z \in y) \wedge \forall z \in y (z \in x) \Rightarrow x = y$$

$$\exists y \in x (y = y) \Rightarrow \exists y \in x \forall z \in y (z \notin x)$$

so they are downward absolute. Both axioms hold in V and therefore hold in $\langle M, \in \rangle$.

If $\{a, b\} \in M$ for all $a, b \in M$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom of pairing.

$z = \{x, y\}$ is Δ_0 .

If $\bigcup a \in M$ for all $a \in M$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom of union.

$v = \bigcup u$ is Δ_0 .

If $\forall a \in M (\mathcal{P}(a) \cap M \in M)$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the power-set axiom.

Fix $a \in M$ and let $b \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{P}(a) \cap M$. As $z \subseteq x$ is Δ_0 , then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies $\forall z (z \subseteq x \Leftrightarrow z \in y)$, where x and y are given the values a and b

If $\omega \in M$ then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom of infinity.

The axiom of infinity is $\exists x \varphi(x)$ where $\varphi(x)$ is the Δ_0 -formula $\emptyset \in x \wedge \forall y \in x (\mathbf{S}(y) \in x)$, so by absoluteness $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom of infinity if and only if $\exists x \in M \varphi(x)$. As ω satisfies φ , if $\omega \in M$ then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom of infinity.

If $\forall a \in M \forall b \subseteq a (b \in M)$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom schema of separation.

We must show that given $\varphi(x, y, \vec{w})$, and given $a, \vec{c} \in M$ to be assigned to the variables y, \vec{w} , the set $b = \{d \in a \mid \langle M, \in \rangle \models \varphi[d, a, \vec{c}]\}$ belongs to M . But this follows at once by the assumption and by $b \subseteq a$.

If for all $a \in M$ and all $f: a \rightarrow M$ there is $b \in M$ such that $\text{ran } f \subseteq b$, then $\langle M, \in \rangle$ satisfies the axiom schema of replacement.

We must show that given $\varphi(x, y, z, \vec{w})$ and given $a, \vec{c} \in M$ to be assigned to the variables z, \vec{w} , if $\langle M, \in \rangle \models \forall x \in z \exists! y \varphi[a, \vec{c}]$ then there is $b \in M$ such that $\langle M, \in \rangle \models \forall x \in z \exists y \in v \varphi[a, \vec{c}, b]$, with b assigned to the variable v . Then φ, a, \vec{c} yield a function $f: a \rightarrow M$, and by case assumption there is $b \in M$ such that $\text{ran } f \subseteq b$. This is the b we were looking for.

$\langle M, \in \rangle \models \text{AC}$ if and only if $\forall \mathcal{A} \in M (\forall A \in \mathcal{A} (A \neq \emptyset) \Rightarrow \exists f \in M (f \text{ is a choice function for } \mathcal{A}))$.

The result follows from the straightforward verification that $\varphi(f, x)$ saying “ $x \neq \emptyset$, every element of x is non-empty, and $f: x \rightarrow \bigcup x$ is a choice function” is Δ_0 .

Proof of Theorem 19.15

All axioms of ZFC except the axiom of infinity hold in V_ω .

It is enough to check that replacement and choice hold in V_ω . As we shall see (Exercise 21.52), every V_n is finite, hence every element of V_ω is finite. It follows that every $x \in V_\omega$ is well-orderable, hence AC holds by Theorem 18.3. Moreover, if $A \in V_\omega$ and $F: A \rightarrow V_\omega$, then $F''A$ is finite, $F''A = \{a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}\}$. For every $i < n$, let $m_i < \omega$ be such that $a_i \in V_{m_i}$. Then $F''A \subseteq V_m$, where $m = \max\{m_0, \dots, m_{n-1}\}$, hence $F''A \in V_{m+1}$.

All axioms of ZF except possibly for replacement hold in V_λ , if $\lambda > \omega$ is limit.

Since $\omega \in V_\lambda$ we apply Theorem 19.22.

Assuming choice, then AC holds in V_λ , if λ is limit.

If $\mathcal{A} \in V_\lambda$ is a non-empty family of non-empty sets, by AC there is a choice function $f: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \bigcup \mathcal{A}$. If $\alpha < \lambda$ is such that $\mathcal{A} \in V_{\alpha+1}$ then $f \in V_{\alpha+3}$ so we are done by Theorem 19.22.