

The Axioms of ZFA

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The empty set will satisfy this formula, but every atom will also satisfy the formula.

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$$\varphi_{\text{set}}(x) : \quad (x \notin A).$$

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You can see what damage it would cause if we didn't restrict Extensionality and Foundation to sets only.

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- ③ $V_2(A) = V_1(A) \cup \mathcal{P}(V_1(A))$ equals the union of $\{a, b\}$ and the 64-element set $\mathcal{P}(\{a, b, \emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\})$, which I don't want to write down. Three examples of the 'complex' elements in $V_2(A)$ are

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Follow-up Question. The permutation $\pi = (a \ b)$ of $A = \{a, b\}$ induces an automorphism $\hat{\pi}$ of the structure $\langle V(A); \in, A, \emptyset \rangle$.

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- ① $V_0(A) = \{a, b\}$.
- ② $V_1(A) = \{a, b, \emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$.
- ③ $V_2(A) = V_1(A) \cup \mathcal{P}(V_1(A))$ equals the union of $\{a, b\}$ and the 64-element set $\mathcal{P}(\{a, b, \emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\})$, which I don't want to write down. Three examples of the 'complex' elements in $V_2(A)$ are

$$X = \{\emptyset, \{a, b\}\}, \quad Y = \{\emptyset, a, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\} \quad \text{and} \quad Z = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, b, \{a, b\}\}.$$

Follow-up Question. The permutation $\pi = (a \ b)$ of $A = \{a, b\}$ induces an automorphism $\hat{\pi}$ of the structure $\langle V(A); \in A, \emptyset \rangle$. Must this automorphism be the identity?

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Answer. No. $\widehat{\pi} = \widehat{(a \ b)}$ switches $a, b \in V(A)$, so $\widehat{\pi}$ cannot be the identity. It also switches Y and Z from above, which is more evidence that it is not the identity. However, note that $\widehat{\pi}$ fixes a lot of $V(A)$, e.g., $\widehat{\pi}$ fixes (i) any pure set, (ii) the set A of atoms, and (iii) the set $X = \{\emptyset, \{a, b\}\}$ from above.