

# Attempts to resolve the paradoxes.

- **Theory of Types.**
- **Axiomatization of Set Theory.**
- **Foundations of Mathematics.**

# The Axiomatization of Set Theory (1).



- **Ernst Zermelo (1871-1953).**

**Zermelo Set Theory (1908)  $Z^-$ .** Union Axiom, Pairing Axiom, *Aussonderungssaxiom* (Separation), Power Set Axiom, Axiom of Infinity.

**Zermelo Set Theory with Choice  $ZC^-$ .** Axiom of Choice.

- **Hausdorff (1908/1914).** *Are there any regular limit cardinals? “weakly inaccessible cardinals”.*

“The least among them has such an exorbitant magnitude that it will hardly be ever come into consideration for the usual purposes of set theory.”

# The Axiomatization of Set Theory (2).

- **1911-1913.** Paul Mahlo generalizes Hausdorff's questions in terms of fixed point phenomena ( $\rightsquigarrow$  **Mahlo cardinals**).



**Thoralf Skolem**  
(1887-1963)



**Abraham Fraenkel**  
(1891-1965)

- **1922:** *Ersetzungssaxiom* (Replacement)  $\rightsquigarrow$   $ZF^-$  and  $ZFC^-$ .
- **von Neumann (1929):** *Axiom of Foundation*  $\rightsquigarrow$   $Z$ ,  $ZF$  and  $ZFC$ .

# The Axiomatization of Set Theory (3).

- **Zermelo** (1930): ZFC doesn't solve Hausdorff's question (independently proved by Sierpiński and Tarski).
- **Question.** Does ZF prove AC?

# Cardinals & Ordinals (1).

*Cardinality.* Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are called **equinumerous** if there is a bijection  $\pi : A \rightarrow B$ . Equinumerosity is an equivalence relation. The **cardinality of  $A$**  is its equinumerosity equivalence class.

*Ordinals.* A linear order  $\langle X, \leq \rangle$  is called a **well-order** if there is no infinite strictly descending chain, *i.e.*, a sequence

$$x_0 > x_1 > x_2 > \dots$$

**Examples.** Finite linear orders,  $\langle \mathbb{N}, \leq \rangle$ .

**Nonexamples.**  $\langle \mathbb{Z}, \leq \rangle$ ,  $\langle \mathbb{Q}, \leq \rangle$ ,  $\langle \mathbb{R}, \leq \rangle$ .

# Cardinals and Ordinals (2).

**Important:** If  $\langle X, \leq \rangle$  is not a wellorder, that does **not** mean that the set  $X$  cannot be wellordered.

... -4 -3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 ...

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$$\begin{array}{cccccc} & -1 & -2 & -3 & -4 & -5 & \dots \\ & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & \dots \\ \rightsquigarrow & 0 & -1 & 1 & -2 & 2 & \dots \end{array}$$

$$z \sqsubseteq z^* :\leftrightarrow |z| < |z^*| \vee (|z| = |z^*| \ \& \ z \leq z^*)$$

There is an isomorphism between  $\langle \mathbb{N}, \leq \rangle$  and  $\langle \mathbb{Z}, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ . The order  $\langle \mathbb{Z}, \sqsubseteq \rangle$  is a **wellorder**, thus  $\mathbb{Z}$  is **wellorderable**.

If  $L$  and  $L^*$  are wellorders then either  $L$  is orderisomorphic to an initial segment of  $L^*$  or vice versa.

# Cardinals and Ordinals (3).

If  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{L}^*$  are wellorders then either  $\mathbf{L}$  is orderisomorphic to an initial segment of  $\mathbf{L}^*$  or vice versa.

The class of wellorders is wellordered by

$\mathbf{L} \preccurlyeq \mathbf{L}^* \leftrightarrow \mathbf{L}$  is orderisomorphic to an initial segment of  $\mathbf{L}^*$ .

**Ordinals** are the equivalence classes of orderisomorphism.  
We let **Ord** be the class of all ordinals.

# Operations on ordinals (1).

If  $\mathbf{L} = \langle L, \leq \rangle$  and  $\mathbf{M} = \langle M, \sqsubseteq \rangle$  are linear orders, we can define their sum and product:

$\mathbf{L} \oplus \mathbf{M} := \langle L \dot{\cup} M, \preceq \rangle$  where  $x \preceq y$  if

- $x \in L$  and  $y \in M$ , or
- $x, y \in L$  and  $x \leq y$ , or
- $x, y \in M$  and  $x \sqsubseteq y$ .

$\mathbf{L} \otimes \mathbf{M} := \langle L \times M, \preceq \rangle$  where  $\langle x, y \rangle \preceq \langle x^*, y^* \rangle$  if

- $y \sqsubset y^*$ , or
- $y = y^*$  and  $x \leq x^*$ .

# Operations on ordinals (2).

**Fact.**  $\mathbb{N} \oplus \mathbb{N}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{N} \otimes 2$ .

**Exercise.** These operations are not commutative: there are linear orders such that  $L \oplus M$  is not isomorphic to  $M \oplus L$  and similarly for  $\otimes$ . (Exercise 36.)

**Observation.** If  $L$  and  $M$  are wellorders, then so are  $L \oplus M$  and  $L \otimes M$ .

# The Axiom of Choice (1).

**The Axiom of Choice (AC).** For every function  $f$  defined on some set  $X$  with the property that  $f(x) \neq \emptyset$  for all  $x$ , there is a **choice function**  $F$  defined on  $X$ , such that

for all  $x \in X$ , we have  $F(x) \in f(x)$ .

- Implicitly used in Cantor's work.
- Isolated by Peano (1890) in Peano's Theorem on the existence of solutions of ordinary differential equations.
- **1904.** Zermelo's wellordering theorem.

# The Axiom of Choice (2).

**Question.** Are all sets wellorderable?

**Theorem** (Zermelo's Wellordering Theorem). If AC holds, then all sets are wellorderable.

# The Continuum Hypothesis (1).

If AC holds, then the real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  are wellorderable. That means there is an ordinal  $\alpha$  such that  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\alpha$  are equinumerous. Let  $\mathfrak{c}$  be the least such ordinal. We know by Cantor's theorem that this cannot be a countable ordinal. There is an ordinal that is not equinumerous to the natural numbers. We call it  $\omega_1$ .

**Question.** What is the relationship between  $\mathfrak{c}$  and  $\omega_1$ ?

CH.  $\omega_1 = \mathfrak{c}$ . The least ordinal that is not equinumerous to the natural numbers is the least ordinal that is equinumerous to the real numbers.

# The Continuum Hypothesis (2).

**Hilbert (1900).** ICM in Paris: Mathematical Problems for the XXth century.

*“Es erhebt sich nun die Frage, ob das Continuum auch als wohlgeordnete Menge aufgefaßt werden kann, was Cantor bejahen zu müssen glaubt.”*

In other words: CH implies “there is a wellordering of the real numbers”.

- **Question 1.** Does  $ZF \vdash AC$ ?
- **Question 2.** Does  $ZF \vdash CH$ ?
- **Question 2\*.** Does  $ZFC \vdash CH$  or does  $ZFC \vdash \neg CH$ ?

All of these questions were wide open in 1930.

# The Continuum Hypothesis (3).

**Question 2\***. Does  $ZFC \vdash CH$  or does  $ZFC \vdash \neg CH$ ?

Gödel's *constructible universe*:  $L$ .

**Theorem** (Gödel; 1938).  $L \models ZFC + CH$ .

**Corollary**. If ZF is consistent, then  $ZFC + CH$  is consistent.

**Consequences**. The second disjunct of **Question 2\*** cannot be true.

# The Continuum Hypothesis (4).

**Question 2\***. Does  $ZFC \vdash CH$  or does  $ZFC \vdash \neg CH$ ?



**Paul Cohen** (b. 1934)

**Technique of Forcing** (1963). Take a model  $M$  of ZFC and a partial order  $\mathbb{P} \in M$ . Then there is a model construction of a new model  $M^{\mathbb{P}}$ , the **forcing extension**. By choosing  $\mathbb{P}$  carefully, we can control properties of  $M^{\mathbb{P}}$ .

Let  $\kappa$  be an uncountable cardinal not in bijection with  $\omega_1$ . If  $\mathbb{P}$  is the set of finite partial functions from  $\kappa \times \omega$  into 2, then  $M^{\mathbb{P}} \models \neg CH$ .

**Theorem (Cohen)**.  $ZFC \not\vdash CH$ .

**Consequences**. The first disjunct of **Question 2\*** cannot be true, so the answer to **Question 2\*** must be **No!**

# Hilbert's Programme (1).

- 1900: *Hilbert's 2nd problem*. “Is there a finitistic proof of the consistency of the arithmetical axioms?”
- 1917-1921: Hilbert develops a predecessor of modern first-order logic.
- **Paul Bernays** (1888-1977)



- Assistant of Zermelo in Zürich (1912-1916).
  - Assistant of Hilbert in Göttingen (1917-1922).
  - Completeness of propositional logic.
  - “Hilbert-Bernays” (1934-1939).
- Hilbert-Ackermann (1928).
  - **Goal.** Axiomatize mathematics and find a **finitary** consistency proof.

# Hilbert's Programme (2).

- 1922: Development of  $\varepsilon$ -calculus (Hilbert & Bernays). General technique for consistency proofs: “ $\varepsilon$ -substitution method”.
- 1924: Ackermann presents a (false) proof of the consistency of analysis.
-  1925: **John von Neumann** (1903-1957) corrects some errors and proves the consistency of an  $\varepsilon$ -calculus without the induction scheme.
- 1928: At the ICM in Bologna, Hilbert claims that the work of Ackermann and von Neumann constitutes a proof of the consistency of arithmetic.

# Brouwer (1).



L. E. J. (Luitzen Egbertus Jan) Brouwer  
(1881-1966)

- Student of Korteweg at the UvA.
- 1909-1913: Development of topology. **Brouwer's Fixed Point Theorem.**
- 1913: Succeeds Korteweg as full professor at the UvA.
- 1918: *“Begründung der Mengenlehre unabhängig vom Satz des ausgeschlossenen Dritten”.*

# Brouwer (2).

- 1920: “*Besitzt jede reelle Zahl eine Dezimalbruch-Entwicklung?*”. Start of the *Grundlagenstreit*.



- 1921: **Hermann Weyl** (1885-1955), “*Über die neue Grundlagenkrise der Mathematik*”
- 1922: Hilbert, “*Neubegründung der Mathematik*”.
- 1928-1929: ICM in Bologna; *Annalenstreit*. Einstein and Carathéodory support Brouwer against Hilbert.

# Intuitionism.

- Constructive interpretation of existential quantifiers.
- As a consequence, rejection of the *tertium non datur*.
- The big three schools of philosophy of mathematics: **logicism**, **formalism**, and **intuitionism**.
- Nowadays, different positions in the philosophy of mathematics are distinguished according to their view on ontology and epistemology. Main positions are: (various brands of) Platonism, Social Constructivism, Structuralism, Formalism.

# Gödel (1).



Kurt Gödel (1906-1978)

- Studied at the University of Vienna; PhD supervisor **Hans Hahn** (1879-1934).
- Thesis (1929): Gödel Completeness Theorem.
- 1931: “*Über formal unentscheidbare Sätze der Principia Mathematica und verwandter Systeme I*”. **Gödel's First Incompleteness Theorem** and a proof sketch of the **Second Incompleteness Theorem**.

# Gödel (2).

- 1935-1940: Gödel proves the consistency of the **Axiom of Choice** and the **Generalized Continuum Hypothesis** with the axioms of set theory (solving one half of Hilbert's 1st Problem).
- 1940: Emigration to the USA: Princeton.
- Close friendship to **Einstein**, **Morgenstern** and **von Neumann**.
- Suffered from severe hypochondria and paranoia.
- Strong views on the philosophy of mathematics.

# Gödel's Incompleteness Theorem (1).

1928: At the ICM in Bologna, Hilbert claims that the work of Ackermann and von Neumann constitutes a proof of the consistency of arithmetic.

- 1930: Gödel announces his result (G1) in Königsberg in von Neumann's presence.
- Von Neumann independently derives the Second Incompleteness Theorem (G2) as a corollary.
- Letter by Bernays to Gödel (January 1931): There may be finitary methods not formalizable in PA.
- 1931: Hilbert suggests new rules to avoid Gödel's result. Finitary versions of the  $\omega$ -rule.
- By 1934, Hilbert's programme in the original formulation has been declared dead.

# Gödel's Incompleteness Theorem (2).

**Theorem (Gödel's Second Incompleteness Theorem).** If  $T$  is a consistent axiomatizable theory containing PA, then  $T \not\vdash \text{Cons}(T)$ .

- “consistent”:  $T \not\vdash \perp$ .
- “axiomatizable”:  $T$  can be listed by a computer (“computably enumerable”, “recursively enumerable”).
- “containing PA”:  $T \vdash \text{PA}$ .
- “ $\text{Cons}(T)$ ”: The formalized version (in the language of arithmetic) of the statement ‘for all  $T$ -proofs  $P$ ,  $\perp$  doesn't occur in  $P$ '.

# Gödel's Incompleteness Theorem (3).

- Thus: Either PA is inconsistent or the deductive closure of PA is not a complete theory.
- All three conditions are necessary:
  - **Theorem** (Presburger, 1929). There is a weak system of arithmetic that proves its own consistency (“**Presburger arithmetic**”).
  - If  $T$  is inconsistent, then  $T \vdash \varphi$  for all  $\varphi$ .
  - If  $\mathbb{N}$  is the standard model of the natural numbers, then  $\text{Th}(\mathbb{N})$  is a complete extension of PA (but not axiomatizable).