

MATH-318

Set theory

Duparc Jacques

Cursus	Sem.	Type
Computer science	MA2, MA4	Opt.
Cybersecurity	MA2, MA4	Opt.
Ing.-math	MA2, MA4	Opt.
Mathématicien	MA2	Opt.
SC master EPFL	MA2, MA4	Opt.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	5
Session	Summer
Semester	Spring
Exam	Written
Workload	150h
Weeks	14
Hours	4 weekly
Courses	2 weekly
Exercises	2 weekly
Number of positions	

Remark

Cours donné en alternance tous les deux ans (donné en 2019-20)

Summary

Set Theory as a foundational system for mathematics. Relative consistency of the Axiom of Choice and the Continuum Hypothesis.

Content

Set Theory: ZFC. Extensionality and Comprehension. Relations, functions, and well-ordering. Ordinals. Class and transfinite recursion. Cardinals. Well-founded relations, Axiom of foundation, induction, and von Neumann's hierarchy. Relativization, absoluteness, reflection theorems. Gödel's constructible universe L . Axiom of Choice, and Continuum Hypothesis inside L . Po-sets, filters and generic extensions. Forcing. ZFC in generic extensions. Cohen Forcing. Independence of the Continuum Hypothesis. HOD and the Axiom of Choice: independence of the Axiom of Choice.

Keywords

Set Theory, Relative consistency, ZFC, Ordinals, Cardinals, Transfinite recursion, Relativization, Absoluteness, Constructible universe, L , Axiom of Choice, Continuum hypothesis, Forcing, Generic extensions

Learning Prerequisites**Required courses**

MATH-381 Mathematical Logic.

In particular ordinal numbers and ordinal arithmetic will be considered known and admitted.

Recommended courses

Mathematical logic (or any equivalent course on first order logic). Warning: without a good understanding of first order logic, students tend to get lost sooner or later.

Important concepts to start the course

- 1st order logic
- basics of proof theory
- Basics of model theory
- Compactness theorem
- Löwenheim-Skolem

- Completeness theorem

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Specify a model of ZFC
- Prove consistency results
- Develop a generic extension
- Argue by transfinite induction
- Decide whether ZFC proves its own consistency
- Formalize the axioms of ZF, AC, CH, DC
- Sketch an inner model
- Justify the axiom of foundation

Teaching methods

Ex cathedra lecture and exercises

Expected student activities

- Attendance at lectures
- Solve the exercises

Assessment methods

- Written exam (3 hours)
- Dans le cas de l'art. 3 al. 5 du Règlement de section, l'enseignant décide de la forme de l'examen qu'il communique aux étudiants concernés

Supervision

Office hours	Yes
Assistants	Yes
Forum	Yes

Resources

Bibliography

1. Thomas Jech: Set theory, Springer 2006
2. Kenneth Kunen: Set theory, Springer, 1983
3. Jean-Louis Krivine: Theorie des ensembles, 2007
4. Patrick Dehornoy: Logique et théorie des ensembles; Notes de cours, FIMFA ENS: <http://www.math.unicaen.fr/~dehornoy/surveys.html>
5. Yiannis Moschovakis: Notes on set theory, Springer 2006
6. Karel Hrbacek and Thomas Jech: Introduction to Set theory, (3d edition), 1999

Ressources en bibliothèque

- [Introduction to Set theory / Hrbacek](#)

- [Set theory / Jech](#)
- [Logique et théorie des ensembles / Dehorny](#)
- [Set theory / Kunen](#)
- [Notes on set theory / Moschovakis](#)
- [Theorie des ensembles / Krivine](#)

Websites

- <http://www.hec.unil.ch/logique/>

Moodle Link

- <http://moodle.epfl.ch/course/index.php?categoryid=72>