

The Axioms for the Integers

Before stating the axioms for \mathbb{Z} we make several comments about the notation.

Our textbook uses \rightarrow to denote the implication, that is $p \rightarrow q$ means “ p implies q ”. Another common notation for the implication is \Rightarrow . It seems more appropriate to use \Rightarrow here since we use \rightarrow to denote a function; like in $f : A \rightarrow B$; meaning that f is a function defined on A with the values in B .

In the axioms we use three other logical operators learned in Section 1.1: the conjunction (\wedge), the disjunction (\vee) and the exclusive disjunction (\oplus).

Axioms 1 and 6 below claim the existence of two functions defined on $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$; the function $+$: $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, the addition, and the function \cdot : $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, the multiplication. It is common to denote the value of $+$ at a pair $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ by $a + b$. It is also common to denote the value of \cdot at a pair $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ by $a \cdot b$ which is almost always abbreviated as ab .

Axiom 1 (AE). $\exists + : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

Axiom 2 (AA). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \forall c \in \mathbb{Z} \quad a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$

Axiom 3 (AC). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \quad a + b = b + a$

Axiom 4 (AZ). $\exists 0 \in \mathbb{Z} \forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \quad 0 + a = a$

Axiom 5 (AO). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \exists x \in \mathbb{Z} \quad a + x = 0$

Axiom 6 (ME). $\exists \cdot : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

Axiom 7 (MA). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \forall c \in \mathbb{Z} \quad a(bc) = (ab)c$

Axiom 8 (MC). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \quad ab = ba$

Axiom 9 (MO). $\exists 1 \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (1 \neq 0) \wedge (\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \quad 1 \cdot a = a)$

Axiom 10 (MZ). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \quad ab = 0 \Rightarrow (a = 0) \vee (b = 0)$

Axiom 11 (DL). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \forall c \in \mathbb{Z} \quad a(b + c) = ab + ac$

Axiom 12 (OE). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (a < b) \oplus (a = b) \oplus (b < a)$

Axiom 13 (OT). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \forall c \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (a < b) \wedge (b < c) \Rightarrow a < c$

Axiom 14 (OA). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \forall c \in \mathbb{Z} \quad a < b \Rightarrow a + c < b + c$

Axiom 15 (OM). $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z} \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \forall c \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (a < b) \wedge (0 < c) \Rightarrow ac < bc$

Axiom 16 (WO). $(S \subseteq \mathbb{Z}) \wedge (S \neq \emptyset) \wedge (\forall x \in S \quad 0 < x) \Rightarrow (\exists m \in S \forall x \in S (m < x) \oplus (m = x))$

Explanation of abbreviations: AE - addition exists, AA - addition is associative, AC - addition is commutative, AZ - addition has zero, AO - addition has opposites, ME - multiplication exists, MA - multiplication is associative, MC - multiplication is commutative, MO - multiplication has one, MZ - multiplication respects zero, DL - distributive law, OE - order exists, OT - order is transitive, OA - order respects addition, OM - order respects multiplication, WO - the well-ordering axiom.