

# The Equivalents of Axiom of Choice

1. **Axiom of Choice.** The Cartesian product of a nonempty family of nonempty sets is nonempty.
2. **Choice Function for Subsets.** Let  $X$  be a nonempty set. Then for each nonempty subset  $S \subseteq X$  it is possible to choose some element  $s \in S$ . That is, there exists a function  $f$  which assigns to each nonempty set  $S \subseteq X$  some representative element  $f(S) \in S$ .
3. **Set of Representatives.** Let  $\{X_I : I \in \mathbf{I}\}$  be a nonempty set of nonempty sets which are pairwise disjoint. Then there exists a set  $C$  containing exactly one element from each  $X_I$ .
4. **Nonempty Products.** If  $\{X_I : I \in \mathbf{I}\}$  is a nonempty set of nonempty sets, then the Cartesian product  $\prod_{I \in \mathbf{I}} X_I$  is nonempty. That is, there exists a function  $f : \mathbf{I} \rightarrow \bigcup_{I \in \mathbf{I}} X_I$  satisfying  $f(I) \in X_I$  for each  $I$ .
5. **Well-Ordering Principle (Zermelo).** Every set can be well ordered.
6. **Finite Character Principle (Tukey, Teichmüller).** Let  $X$  be a set, and let  $F$  be a collection of subsets of  $X$ . Suppose that  $F$  has finite character (i.e., a set is a member of  $F$  if and only if each finite subset of that set is a member of  $F$ ). Then any member of  $F$  is a subset of some  $\subseteq$ -maximal member of  $F$ .
7. **Maximal Chain Principle (Hausdorff).** Let  $(X, \preceq)$  be a partially ordered set. Then any  $\preceq$ -chain in  $X$  is included in a  $\subseteq$ -maximal  $\preceq$ -chain.
8. **Zorn's Lemma (Hausdorff, Kuratowski, Zorn, others).** Let  $(X, \preceq)$  be a partially ordered set. Assume every  $\preceq$ -chain in  $X$  has a  $\preceq$ -upper bound in  $X$ . Then  $X$  has a  $\preceq$ -maximal element.
9. **Weakened Zorn's Lemma.** Let  $(X, \preceq)$  be a partially ordered set. Assume every subset of  $X$  that is directed by  $\preceq$  has a  $\preceq$ -upper bound in  $X$ . Then  $X$  has a  $\preceq$ -maximal element.
10. **Well-Ordering of Cardinals.** Comparison of cardinalities is a well ordering. That is: If  $\Sigma$  is a set whose elements are sets, then there is some  $S_0 \in \Sigma$  which satisfies  $S_0 \in |T|$  for all  $T \in \Sigma$ .

11. **Trichotomy of Cardinals.** Comparison of cardinalities is a chain ordering. That is, for any two sets  $S$  and  $T$ , precisely one of these three conditions holds:  $|S| < |T|$ ;  $|S| = |T|$ ;  $|S| > |T|$ .
12. **Comparability of Hartogs Number.** Let  $H(S)$  is the Hartogs number of a set  $S$  —i.e., the first ordinal that does not have cardinality less than or equal to  $|S|$ . Then  $|H(S)|$  and  $|S|$  are comparable —i.e., one is bigger than or equal to the other (and hence  $|H(S)| > |S|$ ).
13. **Squaring of Cardinals.** If  $X$  is an infinite set then  $|X \times X| = |X|$ .
14. **Multiplication of Cardinals.** If  $X$  is an infinite set,  $Y$  is a nonempty set, and  $|X| \geq |Y|$ , then  $|X \cup Y| = |X|$ .
15. **Another cardinality result.** If  $X$  and  $Y$  are disjoint sets,  $|X| > |\mathbb{N}|$ , and  $Y$  is nonempty, then  $|X \cup Y| = |X \times Y|$ .
16. **Another cardinality result.** If  $X$  is an infinite set, then the cardinality of  $X$  is equal to the cardinality of  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} X^n = \{\text{finite sequences in } X\}$ .
17. **Vector Basis Theorem (Strong Form).** Let  $X$  be a linear space over some field. Suppose that  $I$  is a linearly independent subset of  $X$ ,  $G$  is generating set (that is,  $\text{span}(G) = X$ ), and  $I \subseteq G$ . Then  $I \subseteq B \subseteq G$  for some vector basis  $B$ .
18. **Vector Basis Theorem (Intermediate Form).** Let  $X$  be a linear space over some field and let  $G$  be a subset of  $X$  which generates  $X$  (that is,  $\text{span}(G) = X$ ). Then  $X$  has a vector basis  $B$  contained in  $G$ .
19. **Vector Basis Theorem (Weak Form).** Any linear space over any field has a vector basis over that field.
20. **Product of Closures.** For each  $I$  in some index set  $L$ , let  $S_I$  be a subset of some topological space  $X_I$ . Then  $\text{Cl}\left(\prod_{I \in L} S_I\right) = \left(\prod_{I \in L} \text{Cl}(S_I)\right)$ .
21. **Product of Closures (Weak Form).**  $\text{Cl}\left(\prod_{I \in L} S_I\right) \supseteq \left(\prod_{I \in L} \text{Cl}(S_I)\right)$ .
22. **Tychonoff Product Theorem.** Any product of compact topological spaces is compact.

### Reference:

1. Schechter Eric, “*Handbook of Analysis and Its Foundations*”, Academic Press, San Diego, c1997.