Digression: recapitulate some facts about first-order logic and first-order theories Historical introduction to the philosophy of mathematics

András Máté

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Basic metalogical notions

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 Γ is <u>negation complete</u> iff for every closed sentence A of the language, either A or $\neg A$ is in $Thm(\Gamma)$.

Basic notions II: Semantical notions

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Semantic completeness is the property of the logical calculus that every semantically valid inference can be proved by derivation in the calculus.

A technique to prove metatheorems: analytic sequences

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- if it contains ¬∀xA, then it contains at least one sentence of the form ¬A^(a/x);

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• if it contains $\forall xA$, then it contains

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 - no sentence of the form $a \neq a$;
 - no pair of sentences A, $\neg A$.

A useful metatheorem

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Theorems

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Löwenheim-Skolem: If a set of sentences has a model, then it has a countable model, too.

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Some consequences

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Some consequences

1. There is no sentence in first-order logic expressing the infinity of the domain.

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2. Let us suppose that we have a first-order theory of real numbers that contains the usual operations and relations for real numbers and proves at least some simple propositions about them. Let us suppose further than we have a model of it that consists of the real numbers as we used to think of them ('standard model').

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Not a contradiction; but it implies that some important notions (e.g. countability) are incurably relative, model-dependent. (Putnam: 'Models and reality', 1980)

Consequences continued

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 \cup {Axioms of the theory}

Every finite subset of this set has a model (namely the standard one extended by a suitable interpretation of 'a'). Therefore, (by compactness) the whole set has a model, too, and it is a model of the axioms.

Consequences finished (for now)

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BTW., nonstandard models of Peano arithmetics can be characterized by the following 2-order sentence:

 $\exists X (\exists x X x \land \forall x (X x \to x > 0) \land \\ \forall y [\forall x (X x \to x > y) \to \forall x (X x \to x > y')])$