

implies

$$V(A \rightarrow \bar{B}, a) = T, V(\bar{B}, a \cdot c) = F$$

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$$V(A, c) = F$$

for each c with $(a \cdot b)^* \leq c < 1$ – so that $V(\bar{A}, a \cdot b) = T$ as required.

*Department of Mathematics
University of Canterbury
Christchurch 1
New Zealand*

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Corrigendum to ‘Diagonalization and the recursion theorem’, by James C. Owings, Jr., *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, vol. 14 (1973), pp. 95–99.

It has been recently pointed out to me by Maurizio Negri that Application 4 of the abovementioned paper contains a serious error. It is the purpose of this note to rectify this mistake. I sincerely thank Professor Negri for bringing this matter to my attention. In the original treatment it was falsely claimed that there existed a formula $\delta(v)$ of elementary number theory such that, for any $n \in N$, $\vdash \delta(\mathbf{n}) \leftrightarrow \Phi_n(\mathbf{n})$. However, if there were such a formula, then, letting $\neg \delta$ be Φ_k , we would have $\vdash \delta(\mathbf{k}) \leftrightarrow \neg \delta(\mathbf{k})$, implying that number theory was inconsistent. A corrected version follows.

Application 4 (Feferman’s fixed-point theorem for elementary number theory). Let $S = N$, let $\Phi_0, \Phi_1, \Phi_2, \dots$ be the customary enumeration of all formulas of elementary number theory with at most one free variable v , and, if Ψ is such a formula, let $\ulcorner \Psi \urcorner = e$, where $\Psi = \Phi_e$. Also, let $\phi_0, \phi_1, \phi_2, \dots$ be a standard enumeration of all partial recursive functions of one variable. If $p, q \in N$, let $p \square q = \phi_p(q)$, $p * q = p \cdot q = \ulcorner \Phi_p(\mathbf{q}) \urcorner$, $p \circ q = \ulcorner \exists z(\Phi_p(z) \wedge \theta_q(v, z)) \urcorner$, where θ_q is a formula which strongly represents the partial recursive function ϕ_q (i.e., for all $m, n \in N$, $\phi_q(m) = n \leftrightarrow \vdash \theta_q(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})$ and, for all $m \in N$, $\vdash \forall y \forall z ((\theta_q(\mathbf{m}, y) \wedge \theta_q(\mathbf{m}, z)) \rightarrow y = z)$). Let δ be any number such that, for all p , $\phi_\delta(p) = \ulcorner \Phi_p(\mathbf{p}) \urcorner$ and let $p \equiv q$ mean $\vdash \Phi_p \leftrightarrow \Phi_q$.

By definition of δ , $\delta \square p = p * p$. We have that $(p \circ q) * r = \ulcorner \Phi_{p \circ q}(\mathbf{r}) \urcorner = \ulcorner \exists z(\Phi_p(z) \wedge \theta_q(\mathbf{r}, z)) \urcorner$; so $\Phi_{(p \circ q) * r} = \exists z(\Phi_p(z) \wedge \theta_q(\mathbf{r}, z))$. On the other hand, $p \cdot (q \square r) = \ulcorner \Phi_p(q \square r) \urcorner = \ulcorner \Phi_p(\phi_q(r)) \urcorner$, so $\Phi_{p \cdot (q \square r)} = \Phi_p(\phi_q(r))$. One now easily shows that $\vdash \Phi_{(p \circ q) * r} \leftrightarrow \Phi_{p \cdot (q \square r)}$; i.e., $(p \circ q) * r \equiv p \cdot (q \square r)$. So, by Theorem 1 of this paper, given any formula $\Psi(v)$ there exists a sentence θ such that $\vdash \Psi(\ulcorner \theta \urcorner) \leftrightarrow \theta$, namely $\theta = \exists z(\Psi(z) \wedge \theta_\delta(\ulcorner \exists z(\Psi(z) \wedge \theta_\delta(z, v)) \urcorner, z))$.

*Department of Mathematics
The University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland 20742*