Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic Volume 21, Number 3, July 1980

A Weak Free Logic with the Existence Sign

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In [1] I constructed a semantics for the system FLI^* of quantification and identity theory having

- (A0) *A*, where *A* is a tautology
- (A2) $\forall x(A \supset B) \supset (\forall xA \supset \forall xB)$
- $(A3) \qquad A \supset \forall xA$
- (A4) a = a
- (A5) $a = b \supset (A \supset A^b //a)$
- (A6) $\forall x A^x/a$, where A is an axiom

as axiom-schemata and

(R1) If A and $A \supset B$ are theorems, then B is a theorem

as rule of inference.¹ In the present paper, I want to extend this semantical analysis to the system FLI^{**} which results from adding to FLI^{*} Leonard's weakened Principle of Specification

(A1") $(\forall xA \& E!a) \supset A^a/x$

(for which see [4]). Before doing this, however, I must spend a few words in motivating the enterprise.

As was pointed out in [1], in FLI* the schema

(A1') $(\forall xA \& \exists x(x = a)) \supset A^a/x$

is provable; hence, having in mind the definition of existence in terms of identity that free logicians have used at least since [3] and that we can express in the form

(1) E! $a =_{df} \exists x(x = a)$, where x is the first individual variable in the alphabetical order,

Received July 19, 1978; revised September 28, 1979

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