

TWO NOTES ON ACKERMANN'S SET THEORY

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We give solutions to two problems which concern Ackermann's set theory, A^* . This theory was introduced in [1] and it is now formulated in the first-order predicate calculus with identity, using ϵ for membership and an individual constant, V , for the class of all sets. We use the letters ϕ, Ψ, θ , and χ to stand for formulae which do not contain V and capital Greek letters to stand for any formulae. Then the axioms of A are the universal closures of

$$A1 \quad \forall t (t \in x \leftrightarrow t \in y) \rightarrow x = y,$$

$$A2 \quad \exists z \forall t (t \in z \leftrightarrow t \in V \wedge \Theta),$$

$$A3 \quad x \in V \wedge (t \in x \vee \forall u (u \in t \rightarrow u \in x)) \rightarrow t \in V,$$

$$A4 \quad x, y \in V \wedge \forall t (\Psi(x, y, t) \rightarrow t \in V) \rightarrow \exists z \in V \forall t (t \in z \leftrightarrow \Psi(x, y, t)),$$

where all free variables are shown in $A4$ and z does not occur in the Θ of $A2$. A^* is A augmented by the axiom

$$A5 \quad x \in V \wedge \exists u u \in x \rightarrow \exists u \in x \forall t \epsilon u t \not\vdash x.$$

Firstly, we shall solve a problem from [3], by extending some of the work on permutation models (see [2], for instance) to models of A .

Definition 1 A functional formula $y = F(x)$ is said to be a permutation if it represents a bijection of the universe onto itself. If $y = F(x)$ is a permutation then we write $x \epsilon_F y$ for $F(x) \epsilon y$ and Ψ_F for the formula Ψ with all instances of ϵ replaced by ϵ_F .

Theorem 2 If $y = F(x)$ is a functional ϵ -formula such that

- (i) F is a permutation,
- (ii) $x \in V$ iff $F(x) \in V$,

then we can interpret A in A using ϵ_F for the membership relation and V for V .

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