

Remarks on Cantor's Absolute

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(Received Oct. 31, 1960)

The purpose of this paper is to prove a theorem which is stated in the introduction as the main theorem. In this paper it is understood that a set theory means a set theory T in the first order predicate calculus satisfying the following conditions:

- 1) \in is the only predicate in T . ($a = b$ is an abbreviation of $\forall x(x \in a \rightarrow x \in b)$).
- 2) T is a consistent extension of Zermelo-Fraenkel's set theory.

A model $\langle A, \in_A^* \rangle$ of a set theory is called 'regular', if and only if there exists no (infinite) sequence a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots of elements of A such that

$$a_1 \in_A^* a_0, a_2 \in_A^* a_1, a_3 \in_A^* a_2, \dots$$

hold. Here a sequence is understood in the informal sense; it may be undefinable in any way.

We presuppose that there exists something absolute, which is a vast universe consisting of numerous concrete sets, and in which some properties (in the informal sense) are "well-defined". Such a universe C will be called *Cantor's Absolute*. It should be understood as a transcendental existence. An existential quantifier $\exists x$ and universal quantifier $\forall x$ mean *literally* "there exists a set x such that ..." resp. "for every set x , it holds that ...". A closed formula in which \in only is used as predicate, is *a priori* true or false in Cantor's Absolute.

Moreover the following propositions are assumed to hold.

- (1) Let T_C be the class of all true closed formulas in Cantor's Absolute consisting solely of logical symbols, the predicate \in and bound variables. T_C is called Cantor's set theory. Then T_C contains the class of all provable closed formulas in the set theory of Zermelo-Fraenkel.
- (2) $\langle C, \in \rangle$ is a regular model of T_C .
- (3) For any well-defined property and any set a in C , there exists a set consisting of all sets which belong to a and satisfy the property. (The word 'property' is used in the informal sense.)

Acknowledgement. This work was done under Appointment supported by the International Cooperation Administration under the Visiting Research Scientists Program administered by the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America.