

## 162. Countable Structures for Uncountable Infinitary Languages

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In model theory of infinitary languages with countable conjunctions and finite strings of quantifiers in the sense of H. J. Keisler's book [3], we have some theorems which hold even in the case that there are uncountably many non-logical symbols, e.g. countable isomorphism theorem and countable definability theorem (cf. Scott [4], Chang [1] and Kueker [2]). Of course we have theorems which hold only in the case that there are at most countably many non-logical symbols, e.g. the existence theorem of Scott's sentence (cf. [3]).

In order to make clear the distinction between two kinds of theorems above mentioned we shall show that for each countable structure  $\mathfrak{A}$ , which is associated to an uncountable infinitary language  $L$ , there is a countable sublanguge  $L_0$  of  $L$  such that every formula in  $L$  is definable in  $\mathfrak{A}$  by a formula in  $L_0$ . We use the standard model theoretic terminology (cf. [2] and [3]). Let  $L$  be a first order language with countable conjunctions and finite strings of quantifiers and possibly uncountably many non-logical symbols. Then we have the following

**Theorem.** *Let  $\mathfrak{A}$  be a countable structure for  $L$ . Then there is a countable sublanguge  $L_0$  of  $L$  such that for each formula  $\varphi(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$  in  $L$  there is a formula  $\psi(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$  in  $L_0$  such that*

$$\mathfrak{A} \models (\forall v_1)(\forall v_2) \dots (\forall v_n)(\varphi(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n) \leftrightarrow \psi(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)).$$

**Proof.** For each sequence  $\sigma = \langle L', a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$ , where  $L'$  a countable sublanguge of  $L$  and  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are elements of  $|\mathfrak{A}|$ , let  $\varphi_\sigma$  be the Scott's sentence of the structure  $(\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L', a_1, \dots, a_n)$  which is obtained from  $\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L'$ , the reduct of  $\mathfrak{A}$  to  $L'$ , by adding  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  as new individuals. Then there is a formula  $\varphi_\sigma(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  in  $L'$  such that  $\varphi_\sigma = \varphi_\sigma(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ , i.e. the sentence  $\varphi_\sigma$  is obtained from the formula  $\varphi_\sigma(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  by replacing  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  by  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  respectively. (We identify the elements  $a_i$  in  $|\mathfrak{A}|$  and the constant symbols  $a_i$  corresponding to them.) Then for each  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  in  $|\mathfrak{A}|$ , we have

$$(1) \quad \mathfrak{A} \models \varphi_\sigma[b_1, \dots, b_n] \Leftrightarrow (\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L', a_1, \dots, a_n) \cong (\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L', b_1, \dots, b_n).$$

Hence if  $\sigma_1 = \langle L_1, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$ ,  $\sigma_2 = \langle L_2, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$  and  $L_1 \subseteq L_2$ , then we have

$$(2) \quad \mathfrak{A} \models (\forall v_1) \dots (\forall v_n)(\varphi_{\sigma_2}(v_1, \dots, v_n) \rightarrow \varphi_{\sigma_1}(v_1, \dots, v_n)).$$

It follows that for each  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  in  $|\mathfrak{A}|$  there is a countable sublanguage  $L_1$  of  $L$  such that

$$(3) \quad \mathfrak{A} \models (\forall v_1) \dots (\forall v_n) (\varphi_{\sigma_1}(v_1, \dots, v_n) \leftrightarrow \varphi_{\sigma_2}(v_1, \dots, v_n))$$

holds for every  $\sigma_2 = \langle L_2, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$  such that  $L_1 \subseteq L_2$ , where  $\sigma_1 = \langle L_1, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$ , by (2) and the fact that  $|\mathfrak{A}|$  is countable. Since there are only countably many finite sequences of elements in  $|\mathfrak{A}|$ , there is a countable sublanguage  $L_0$  of  $L$  such that

$$(4) \quad \mathfrak{A} \models (\forall v_1) \dots (\forall v_n) (\varphi_{\sigma_1}(v_1, \dots, v_n) \leftrightarrow \varphi_{\sigma}(v_1, \dots, v_n))$$

holds for every  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  in  $|\mathfrak{A}|$  and for every  $\sigma = \langle L_0, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$  and  $\sigma_1 = \langle L_1, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$ , where  $L_0 \subseteq L_1$ . We want to show that this language  $L_0$  satisfies the conclusion of this theorem. Let  $\varphi(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  be a formula in  $L$  and  $\psi(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  be the disjunction of all the formulas  $\varphi_{\sigma}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  such that  $\sigma$  has the form  $\langle L_0, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$  for some  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  such that  $\mathfrak{A} \models \varphi[a_1, \dots, a_n]$ . Clearly  $\psi(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  is a formula in  $L_0$ . Let  $L_1$  be a countable sublanguage of  $L$  such that  $L_0 \subseteq L_1$  and  $\varphi(v_1, \dots, v_n) \in L_1$ . Let  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  be elements of  $|\mathfrak{A}|$ . Then by the definition of  $\psi(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ , (1) and (4) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{A} \models \psi[b_1, \dots, b_n] &\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A} \models \varphi_{\sigma}[b_1, \dots, b_n] \text{ for some} \\ &\quad \sigma = \langle L_0, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle \text{ such that } \mathfrak{A} \models \varphi[a_1, \dots, a_n] \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A} \models \varphi_{\sigma}[b_1, \dots, b_n] \text{ for some} \\ &\quad \sigma = \langle L_1, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle \text{ such that } \mathfrak{A} \models \varphi[a_1, \dots, a_n] \\ &\Leftrightarrow (\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L_1, b_1, \dots, b_n) \cong (\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L_1, a_1, \dots, a_n) \\ &\quad \text{for some } a_1, \dots, a_n \text{ such that } \mathfrak{A} \models \varphi[a_1, \dots, a_n] \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A} \models \varphi[b_1, \dots, b_n]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have proved

$$\mathfrak{A} \models (\forall v_1) \dots (\forall v_n) (\varphi(v_1, \dots, v_n) \leftrightarrow \psi(v_1, \dots, v_n)). \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

**Corollary 1** (Countable isomorphism theorem, Scott [4], Chang [1]).  
Suppose  $\mathfrak{A}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{A}_2$  are two countable structures for  $L$ . Then we have

$$\mathfrak{A}_1 \cong \mathfrak{A}_2 \Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A}_1 \cong \mathfrak{A}_2.$$

**Proof.** Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be two countable sublanguages of  $L$  for  $\mathfrak{A}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{A}_2$  stated in our theorem respectively. Let  $L_0 = L_1 \cup L_2$  and  $\varphi$  be the Scott's sentence of the structure  $\mathfrak{A}_1 \upharpoonright L_0$ . Then by our main theorem we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{A}_1 \cong \mathfrak{A}_2 &\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A}_2 \models \varphi \text{ and } \mathfrak{A}_1 \cong \mathfrak{A}_2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A}_1 \upharpoonright L_0 \cong \mathfrak{A}_2 \upharpoonright L_0 \text{ and } \mathfrak{A}_1 \cong \mathfrak{A}_2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A}_1 \cong \mathfrak{A}_2 \end{aligned} \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

**Corollary 2** (Countable definability theorem, Scott [4]). Let  $\mathfrak{A}$  be a countable structure for  $L$  and  $P \subseteq |\mathfrak{A}|$  a unary predicate on  $|\mathfrak{A}|$ . Then the following two conditions are equivalent:

- (i) For any  $Q \subseteq |\mathfrak{A}|$ ,  $(\mathfrak{A}, P) \cong (\mathfrak{A}, Q)$  implies  $P = Q$ ;
- (ii) There is a formula  $\varphi(v)$  in  $L$  such that
 
$$(\mathfrak{A}, P) \models (\forall v) (P(v) \leftrightarrow \varphi(v)).$$

**Proof.** Obviously (ii) implies (i). So it is sufficient to prove that (i) implies (ii). Assume (i) and let  $L_0$  be a countable sublanguge of  $L$  for  $\mathfrak{A}$  stated in our theorem. Then we have

$$(iii) \quad (\mathfrak{A}, P) \cong (\mathfrak{A}, Q) \Leftrightarrow (\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L_0, P) \cong (\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L_0, Q)$$

for any  $Q \subseteq |P|$ . Let  $\varphi(v)$  be the disjunction of all the formulas  $\varphi_a(v)$ , where  $\varphi_a(a)$  is the Scott's sentence of the structure  $(\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L_0, a)$  such that  $a \in P$ . Then we have

$$(\mathfrak{A} \upharpoonright L_0, P) \models (\forall v)(P(v) \leftrightarrow \varphi(v)),$$

by (i) and (iii). Hence we have

$$(\mathfrak{A}, P) \models (\forall v)(P(v) \leftrightarrow \varphi(v)).$$

This means that (i) and (ii) are equivalent. Q.E.D.

**Remark** *Using our main theorem and Lopez-Escobar's interpolation theorem we can prove Corollary 2 above just as we can prove Beth's definability theorem through Craig's interpolation theorem (cf. Kueker [2]).*

### References

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