

ALTERNATIVE NOTATIONS FOR *PRINCIPIA MATHEMATICA*
DESCRIPTION THEORY: POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS

JORDAN HOWARD SOBEL

1 The following are formulas by clauses (1)-(7), pp. 64-65, of a recent paper:¹

$$\begin{aligned} & [\mathfrak{I}yH^1y]I^2x\mathfrak{I}yH^1y \\ & [\mathfrak{I}yJ^1y] [\mathfrak{I}xH^1x]I^2\mathfrak{I}yJ^1y\mathfrak{I}xH^1x \\ & \wedge x[\mathfrak{I}yH^1y]I^2x\mathfrak{I}yH^1y \\ & [\mathfrak{I}yH^1y] \wedge xI^2x\mathfrak{I}yH^1y \end{aligned}$$

But the following are *not* formulas by these clauses:

$$\begin{aligned} & [\mathfrak{I}xH^1x]I^2x\mathfrak{I}xH^1x \\ & [\mathfrak{I}xJ^1x] [\mathfrak{I}xH^1x]I^2\mathfrak{I}xJ^1x\mathfrak{I}xH^1x \\ & \wedge x[\mathfrak{I}xH^1x]I^2x\mathfrak{I}xH^1x \\ & [\mathfrak{I}xH^1x] \wedge xI^2x\mathfrak{I}xH^1x \end{aligned}$$

A connected point is that, by translation rules \bar{T}/\mathfrak{I} and \mathfrak{I}/\bar{T} , not only is ϕ' a translation of ϕ by \mathfrak{I}/\bar{T} if and only if ϕ is a translation of ϕ' by \bar{T}/\mathfrak{I} , but each \mathfrak{I} -formula has a unique \mathfrak{I} -free \bar{T} -translation and vice versa.

Modifications to formation and translation rules are possible, and are given below, that secure as formulas all of the above strings (which may seem a gain) while trading the *unique*-translation feature for a *multiple*-translation feature (which may seem a loss).

2 Replace clause (7) by the following clause (7'):

(a') An expression $\mathfrak{I}\alpha\phi$, α a variable and ϕ a formula or pseudo-formula, is an \mathfrak{I} -description.

(b') An expression ϕ is a *pseudo-term* (*pseudo-formula*) just in case a term (formula) ϕ' is like ϕ except for having, in place of all occurrences in ϕ of one or more \mathfrak{I} -descriptions, occurrences of variables not in ϕ . A term (formula) related to a pseudo-term (pseudo-formula) ϕ in this manner is an *associated term* (*formula*) of ϕ .

(c') An occurrence of a variable α is *bound* in a term or formula π just in case it stands within an occurrence in π of an expression χ such that (i) either χ is $\wedge\alpha\phi$, $\forall\alpha\phi$, $\exists\alpha\phi$, or $\bar{T}\alpha\phi\psi$, or χ is $[\mathfrak{I}\alpha\phi]\psi$ and the occurrence of