

FOR SO MANY INDIVIDUALS

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In [2], Tarski introduces the numerical quantifiers. These are expressions $(\exists_k x)$ which mean "there are at least k individuals x such that", where k is any nonnegative integer. Thus $(\exists_1 x)$ is the ordinary quantifier $(\exists x)$. The numerical quantifiers may be defined in terms of the ordinary quantifier and identity as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\exists_0 x) A \text{ for } A \rightarrow A \\ &(\exists_{k+1} x) A \text{ for } (\exists_k x) (\exists y) (-(x = y) \ \& \ A \ \& \ A(y/x)), \end{aligned}$$

where y is the first variable which does not occur in A and $A(t/x)$ is the result of substituting a term t for all free occurrences of x in A .

Because of their definability, the numerical quantifiers have rarely been considered on their own account. However, in this paper I consider a predicate logic without identity which is enriched with numerical quantifiers as primitive. In section 1, I present the syntax and semantics for this logic; and in sections 2 and 3, I establish its completeness.

1. The Logic L.

Syntax

Formulas These are constructed in the usual way from relation letters of given degree, (individual) constants, (individual) variables, the truth-functional connectives $\vee$ and $\neg$, the quantifier (x) and the quantifiers $(\exists_k x)$, $k = 2, 3, \dots$. We use $(\exists_0 x) A$ to abbreviate $A \rightarrow A$ and $(\exists_1 x) A$ to abbreviate $(\exists x) A$, i.e. $\neg(x) \neg A$. Also we suppose that there are a denumerable number of individual variables and at least one predicate letter.

Axioms (where $k = 2, 3, \dots$, and $l = 1, 2, \dots$)

1. All tautologous formulas
2. $(x) A \rightarrow A(t/x)$, t free for x in A
3. $(x) (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow ((x) A \rightarrow (x) B)$
4. $A \rightarrow (x) A$, x not free in A
5. $(\exists_k x) A \rightarrow (\exists_l x) A$, $l < k$
6. $(\exists_k x) A \leftrightarrow \bigvee_{i=0}^k (\exists_i x) (A \ \& \ B) \ \& \ (\exists_{k-i} x) (A \ \& \ \neg B)$

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