

Truth in a model

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The *extra-logical vocabulary* to be interpreted consists of a set of names, a set of function signs and a set of predicates. These sets are countable, and pairwise disjoint. A *model* M interpreting the extra-logical vocabulary has the following ingredients:

1. a domain D_M of individuals (henceforth: D);
2. an assignment, to each name a , of an individual a_M in D , as its bearer
3. an assignment, to each n -place function sign f , of a mapping $f_M : D^n \mapsto D$ as f 's extension-in- M ;
4. an assignment, to each n -place predicate letter P , of a subset P_M of D^n as P 's extension-in- M .

Given (4), a primitive relational (as opposed to functional) M -fact is a matter of an n -tuple $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \rangle$ lying in the extension P_M (where $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ are in D). It would be more natural to take P_M to be a translation, into the M -describing metalanguage, of the object-linguistic predicate P , so that such a fact consists, more simply, in $P_M(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ being the case.

We shall denote by μ any assignment of individuals in D to (finitely many) individual variables. (The reason why we only need to deal with finitely many variables at a time is that every formula has at most finitely

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many free variables.) Given such an assignment μ , and given any individual α in D , we define $\mu(x/\alpha)$ to be the assignment that results from μ by extending it or modifying it so as to assign α to x . The empty assignment is denoted by \emptyset .

We now define the notion

$$M_\mu(t),$$

to be read as ‘the M -relative denotation of the term t ’.

Definition 1 (M_μ -relative denotations of terms)

1. If x is an individual variable, then

$$M_\mu(x) = \mu(x).$$

2. If a is a name, then

$$M_\mu(a) = a_M.$$

3. If f is an n -place function sign, and t_1, \dots, t_n are terms, then

$$M_\mu(f(t_1, \dots, t_n)) = f_M(M_\mu(t_1), \dots, M_\mu(t_n)).$$

Next we define the notion

$$M_\mu \models \varphi,$$

to be read as ‘the extended model M_μ makes true the formula φ ’.

Definition 2 (M_μ -relative truth-conditions of formulae)

Let μ deal with all the free variables in φ . Then

1. $M_\mu \models P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \Leftrightarrow P_M(M_\mu(t_1), \dots, M_\mu(t_n))$
2. $M_\mu \models \neg\varphi \Leftrightarrow \text{not}[M_\mu \models \varphi]$
3. $M_\mu \models (\varphi \wedge \psi) \Leftrightarrow M_\mu \models \varphi \text{ and } M_\mu \models \psi$
4. $M_\mu \models (\varphi \vee \psi) \Leftrightarrow M_\mu \models \varphi \text{ or } M_\mu \models \psi$
5. $M_\mu \models (\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \Leftrightarrow M_\mu \models \varphi \text{ only if } M_\mu \models \psi$
6. $M_\mu \models \exists x\varphi \Leftrightarrow \text{for some } \alpha \in D, M_{\mu(x/\alpha)} \models \varphi$
7. $M_\mu \models \forall x\varphi \Leftrightarrow \text{for all } \alpha \in D, M_{\mu(x/\alpha)} \models \varphi$

Definition 3 (M -relative truth of a sentence)

Let φ be a sentence (i.e., a formula with no free variables). Then $M \models \varphi$ (‘ M makes φ true’, or ‘ φ is true-in- M ’) $\Leftrightarrow M_\emptyset \models \varphi$.

Definition 4 *Let Δ be a set of sentences. Then $M \models \Delta \Leftrightarrow$ for every φ in Δ , we have $M \models \varphi$.*

Definition 5 *$\Delta \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow$ for every model M of the extra-logical vocabulary of Δ, φ : if $M \models \Delta$, then $M \models \varphi$.*