

The Non-Compossibility Theorem

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Theorem 1 *For any language L and for any set Δ of L -sentences, it is impossible that the following hold:*

1. *S is a sound proof-system for the logical operators in L*
2. *M is an infinite L -model*
3. *every element of M is the denotation of some L -term*
4. *every model of Δ is isomorphic to M*
5. *for any consistent set Γ of non-identities in any name-extension of L , if $\Delta \cup \Gamma$ has no model, then there is an S -proof of \perp from $\Delta \cup \Gamma$.*

Proof. Let L be a language, and let Δ be a set of L -sentences. Suppose (1)-(5) hold. We shall derive a contradiction.

Extend L by adding a new name a . Consider the following consistent set of non-identities in the extended language:

$$\{\neg a=t \mid t \text{ is a term in } L\}.$$

Call this set Γ . Suppose $\Delta \cup \Gamma$ has a model. Call this model N . N is a model of Δ . Hence by (4), N is isomorphic to M . That is, there is a 1-1, structure-preserving mapping from N onto M . Call the mapping f . Let the denotation of a in N be α . By (3), the individual $f(\alpha)$ is denoted in M by some L -term t . Hence by the isomorphism between N and M , the individual α is denoted in N by that same term t . So in N the identity $a=t$ is true. But N is a model of Γ . Hence N makes $\neg a=t$ true. Contradiction. It therefore follows that $\Delta \cup \Gamma$ has no model.

Hence by (5), there is an S -proof of \perp from $\Delta \cup \Gamma$. Let Π be the proof of \perp in question. Π has the form

Θ, Ξ
 Π
 \perp

where the undischarged assumptions of Π form a finite set $\Theta \cup \Xi$, with $\Theta \subseteq \Delta$ and $\Xi \subseteq \Gamma$. Since Ξ is a finite set of non-identities of the form specified, let those non-identities be $\neg a = t_1, \dots, \neg a = t_k$, say.

By (2), there is an element α in M not denoted by any of the terms t_1, \dots, t_k .

Extend the model M of Δ by making the name a denote α . Call the extended model M^* .

Since $\Theta \subseteq \Delta$, M is a model of Θ . Moreover, M^* interprets L exactly the way M does. So M^* is a model of Θ .

By choice of α , all the non-identities $\neg a = t_1, \dots, \neg a = t_k$ are true in M^* ; that is, M^* is a model of Ξ .

It follows that M^* is a model of $\Theta \cup \Xi$. That is, M^* makes the premises of the proof Π true. By (1), the proof Π is sound. Hence the conclusion of Π is true in M^* . But the conclusion of Π is \perp , which is false in every model.

Contradiction.