mar.1 Computable Models of Arithmetic

The standard model $\mathfrak{N}$ has two nice features. Its domain is the natural numbers $\mathbb{N}$, i.e., its elements are just the kinds of things we want to talk about using the language of arithmetic, and the standard numeral $\overline{n}$ actually picks out n. The other nice feature is that the interpretations of the non-logical symbols of $\mathcal{L}_A$ are all *computable*. The successor, addition, and multiplication functions which serve as $\prime^{\mathfrak{N}}$, $+^{\mathfrak{N}}$, and $\times^{\mathfrak{N}}$ are computable functions of numbers. (Computable by Turing machines, or definable by primitive recursion, say.) And the less-than relation on $\mathfrak{N}$, i.e., $<^{\mathfrak{N}}$, is decidable. explanation

Non-standard models of arithmetical theories such as **Q** and **PA** must contain non-standard elements. Thus their domains typically include elements in addition to $\mathbb{N}$. However, any countable structure can be built on any denumerable set, including $\mathbb{N}$. So there are also non-standard models with domain $\mathbb{N}$. In such models $\mathfrak{M}$, of course, at least some numbers cannot play the roles they usually play, since some k must be different from $\mathrm{Val}^{\mathfrak{M}}(\overline{n})$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Definition mar.1. A structure $\mathfrak{M}$ for $\mathcal{L}_A$ is *computable* iff $|\mathfrak{M}| = \mathbb{N}$ and $\prime^{\mathfrak{M}}$, $+^{\mathfrak{M}}$, $\times^{\mathfrak{M}}$ are computable functions and $<^{\mathfrak{M}}$ is a decidable relation.

Example mar.2. Recall the structure $\mathfrak{K}$ from **??** Its domain was $|\mathfrak{K}| = \mathbb{N} \cup \{a\}$ and interpretations

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathsf{o}^{\mathfrak{K}} &= 0 \\
\prime^{\mathfrak{K}}(x) &= \begin{cases} x+1 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{N} \\ a & \text{if } x = a \end{cases} \\
+^{\mathfrak{K}}(x,y) &= \begin{cases} x+y & \text{if } x, y \in \mathbb{N} \\ a & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
\times^{\mathfrak{K}}(x,y) &= \begin{cases} xy & \text{if } x, y \in \mathbb{N} \\ a & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
<^{\mathfrak{K}} &= \{\langle x, y\rangle : x, y \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } x < y\} \cup \{\langle x, a\rangle : n \in |\mathfrak{K}|\}
\end{aligned}$$

But $|\mathfrak{K}|$ is denumerable and so is equinumerous with $\mathbb{N}$. For instance, $g\colon \mathbb{N} \to |\mathfrak{K}|$ with $g(0) = a$ and $g(n) = n+1$ for $n > 0$ is a bijection. We can turn it into an isomorphism between a new model $\mathfrak{K}'$ of **Q** and $\mathfrak{K}$. In $\mathfrak{K}'$, we have to assign different functions and relations to the symbols of $\mathcal{L}_A$, since different elements of $\mathbb{N}$ play the roles of standard and non-standard numbers.

Specifically, 0 now plays the role of a, not of the smallest standard number. The smallest standard number is now 1. So we assign $\mathsf{o}^{\mathfrak{K}'} = 1$. The successor function is also different now: given a standard number, i.e., an $n > 0$, it still returns $n+1$. But 0 now plays the role of a, which is its own successor. So

${\prime}^{\mathfrak{K}'}(0) = 0$. For addition and multiplication we likewise have

$$+^{\mathfrak{K}'}(x, y) = \begin{cases} x + y & \text{if } x,\, y > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\times^{\mathfrak{K}'}(x, y) = \begin{cases} xy & \text{if } x,\, y > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

And we have $\langle x, y \rangle \in <^{\mathfrak{K}'}$ iff $x < y$ and $x > 0$ and $y > 0$, or if $y = 0$.

All of these functions are computable functions of natural numbers and $<^{\mathfrak{K}'}$ is a decidable relation on $\mathbb{N}$—but they are not the same functions as successor, addition, and multiplication on $\mathbb{N}$, and $<^{\mathfrak{K}'}$ is not the same relation as $<$ on $\mathbb{N}$.

Problem mar.1. Give a structure $\mathfrak{L}'$ with $|\mathfrak{L}'| = \mathbb{N}$ isomorphic to $\mathfrak{L}$ of **??**.

explanation

This example shows that **Q** has computable non-standard models with domain $\mathbb{N}$. However, the following result shows that this is not true for models of **PA** (and thus also for models of **TA**).

Theorem mar.3 (Tennenbaum's Theorem)**.** $\mathfrak{N}$ *is the only computable model of* **PA**.

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Bibliography