

SET THEORY HOMEWORK 1

CHASE MEADORS

Problem (6). Prove that $\{\text{Pair}^\sharp, \text{Fnd}\} \vdash \forall x \neg x \in x$ by formalizing the informal proof given in class.

The statements in question are:

$$\text{Pair}^\sharp := \forall x \forall y \exists p \forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = x \vee u = y))$$

$$\text{Fnd} := \forall x ((\exists z z \in x) \rightarrow \exists y (y \in x \wedge \neg \exists z (z \in x \wedge z \in y)))$$

First we establish the following metatheorem about our proof system:

Lemma. If $\Gamma \vdash \exists x \phi$, then Γ is inconsistent if and only if $\Gamma' = \Gamma \cup \{\text{Sub}_c^x \phi\}$ is inconsistent in the language with an additional constant symbol c .

Proof. The forward direction is clear. Conversely, suppose $\Gamma' \vdash \psi, \neg\psi$. Even if ψ mentions c , we may use ex falso to obtain contradictory formulas that don't:

- (1) ψ (hyp)
- (2) $\neg\psi$ (hyp)
- (3) $\psi \rightarrow (\neg\psi \rightarrow \neg x = x)$ (Ax1 (tautology))
- (4) $\neg x = x$ ((3), (1), (2), MP twice)
- (5) $x = x$ (Ax5)

Since (4) and (5) do not mention c , by Existential Instantiation they are proper theorems of $\Gamma \cup \{\exists x \phi\}$, and Γ is inconsistent. \square

We will prove the claim by contradiction, using the following:

Claim. $\Gamma = \{\text{Pair}^\sharp, \text{Fnd}, \exists x x \in x\}$ is inconsistent.

Proof. By the lemma, it suffices to show $\Gamma' = \{\text{Pair}^\sharp, \text{Fnd}, c \in c\}$ is inconsistent in the language with an additional constant symbol c . First consider the following deduction from Γ' :

- (1) $\forall x \forall y \exists p \forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = x \vee u = y))$ (Pair[♯])
- (2) (1) $\rightarrow \forall y \exists p \forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = c \vee u = y))$ (Ax2)

- (3) $\forall y \exists p \forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = c \vee u = y))$ ((2), (1), MP)
- (4) $(3) \rightarrow \exists p \forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = c \vee u = c))$ (Ax2)
- (5) $\exists p \forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = c \vee u = c))$ ((4), (3), MP)

By the same argument, we may adjoin another constant symbol p and show

$$\Gamma'' = \{\text{Pair}^\sharp, \text{Fnd}, c \in c, \forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = c \vee u = c))\}$$

is inconsistent. We have the following deduction from Γ'' :

- (1) $\forall x ((\exists z z \in x) \rightarrow \exists y (y \in x \wedge \neg \exists z (z \in x \wedge z \in y)))$ (Fnd)
- (2) $(1) \rightarrow ((\exists z z \in p) \rightarrow \exists y (y \in p \wedge \neg \exists z (z \in p \wedge z \in y)))$ (Ax2)
- (3) $(\exists z z \in p) \rightarrow \exists y (y \in p \wedge \neg \exists z (z \in p \wedge z \in y))$ ((2), (1), MP)
- (4) $\forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = c \vee u = c))$ (hyp)
- (5) $(4) \rightarrow (c \in p \leftrightarrow (c = c \vee c = c))$ (Ax2)
- (6) $c \in p \leftrightarrow (c = c \vee c = c)$ ((5), (4), MP)
- (7) $(6) \rightarrow (c = c \rightarrow c \in p)$ (Ax1 (tautology))
- (8) $c = c$ (Ax5)
- (9) $c \in p$ ((7), (6), (8), MP twice)
- (10) $(\forall z \neg z \in p) \rightarrow \neg(c \in p)$ (Ax2)
- (11) $(10) \rightarrow (c \in p \rightarrow \exists z z \in p)$ (Ax1 (tautology))
- (12) $\exists z z \in p$ ((11), (10), (9), MP twice)
- (13) $\exists y (y \in p \wedge \neg \exists z (z \in p \wedge z \in y))$ ((3), (12), MP)

Finally, we apply the lemma a third time, to adjoin a constant symbol y and show that

$$\Gamma''' = \{\text{Pair}^\sharp, \text{Fnd}, c \in c, \forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = c \vee u = c)), y \in p \wedge \neg \exists z (z \in p \wedge z \in y)\}$$

is inconsistent. Indeed, we have the following derivation from Γ''' :

- (1) $y \in p \wedge \neg \exists z (z \in p \wedge z \in y)$ (hyp)
- (2) $(1) \rightarrow y \in p$ (Ax1 (tautology))
- (3) $(1) \rightarrow \neg \exists z (z \in p \wedge z \in y)$ (Ax1 (tautology))
- (4) $y \in p$ ((2), (1), MP)
- (5) $\neg \exists z (z \in p \wedge z \in y)$ ((3), (1), MP)
- (6) $(5) \rightarrow \forall z \neg(z \in p \wedge z \in y)$ (Ax1 (tautology))
- (7) $\forall z \neg(z \in p \wedge z \in y)$ ((6), (5), MP)
- (8) $(7) \rightarrow \neg(c \in p \wedge c \in y)$ (Ax2)

- (9) $\neg(c \in p \wedge c \in y)$ ((8), (7), MP)
- (10) $\forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = c \vee u = c))$ (hyp)
- (11) $\forall u (u \in p \leftrightarrow (u = c \vee u = c)) \rightarrow y \in p \leftrightarrow (y = c \vee y = c)$ (Ax2)
- (12) $y \in p \leftrightarrow (y = c \vee y = c)$ ((11), (10), MP)
- (13) $(12) \rightarrow (y \in p \rightarrow y = c)$ (Ax1 (tautology))
- (14) $y = c$ ((13), (12), (4), MP twice)
- (15) $(14) \rightarrow ((4) \rightarrow c \in p)$ (Ax6)
- (16) $c \in p$ ((15), (14), (4), MP twice)
- (17) $c \in c$ (hyp)
- (18) $y = y$ (Ax5)
- (19) $(14) \rightarrow ((18) \rightarrow c = y)$ (Ax6)
- (20) $c = y$ ((19), (14), (18), MP twice)
- (21) $(20) \rightarrow ((17) \rightarrow c \in y)$ (Ax6)
- (22) $c \in y$ ((21), (20), (17), MP twice)
- (23) $(16) \rightarrow ((22) \rightarrow (c \in p \wedge c \in y))$ (Ax1 (tautology))
- (24) $c \in p \wedge c \in y$ ((23), (16), (22), MP twice)

where (9) is the negation of (24). □

Corollary. $\{\text{Pair}^\#, \text{Fnd}\} \vdash \forall x \neg x \in x$

Proof. We have $\exists x x \in x = \neg \forall x \neg x \in x$ by definition, so by Proof by Contradiction, this follows from the previous claim. □