

## Deductively Sound Formal Proofs

Using the sound deductive inference model as the basis of the a notion of a formal system defines [Deductively Sound Formal Proofs]. Within (DSFP) closed Well-formed formula that were undecidable in other formal systems are excluded on the basis that they do not belong to deductively sound inference.

### The sound deductive inference model specifies:

[a connected sequence of valid deductions from true premises to a true conclusion]

A wf  $C$  is said to be a consequence in  $S$  of a set  $\Gamma$  of wfs if and only if there is a sequence  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  of wfs such that  $C$  is  $B_k$  and, for each  $i$ , either  $B_i$  is an axiom or  $B_i$  is in  $\Gamma$ , or  $B_i$  is a direct consequence by some rule of inference of some of the preceding wfs in the sequence. Such a sequence is called a proof (or deduction) of  $C$  from  $\Gamma$ . The members of  $\Gamma$  are called the hypotheses or premisses of the proof. We use  $\Gamma \vdash C$  as an abbreviation for "C is a consequence of  $\Gamma$ "... (Mendelson 2015:28)

### Within the sound deductive inference model True(x) is defined as:

(a) **Axioms** which are stipulated as expressions of language having the semantic value of Boolean true.

(b) **Theorems** which are stipulated as the consequence of any formal mathematical proof where every element of its set of premises is True(x).

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be such a theory. Then the elementary statements which belong to  $\mathcal{T}$  we shall call the elementary theorems of  $\mathcal{T}$ ; we also say that these elementary statements are true for  $\mathcal{T}$ . Thus, given  $\mathcal{T}$ , **an elementary theorem is an elementary statement which is true**. A theory is thus a way of picking out from the statements of  $F$  a certain subclass of true statements. (Curry 1977:45)

To define formal systems having true premises we adopt the (Curry 1977:45) convention stipulating that axioms (Curry elementary theorems) are true. This stipulation derives a corresponding pair of True(x) and False(x) predicates:

(1) True(x) := ( $\vdash x$ )    " := " is defined below \*\*

(2) False(x) := ( $\vdash \neg x$ )

With True and False formalized we specify a semantic criterion of Well-formedness:

(3) **Deductively\_Sound\_Consequent(x) := (True(x)  $\vee$  False(x))**

Sound deduction excludes conclusions/consequences not based on sound deduction, as deductively unsound conclusions. Thus a semantic criteria of well-formedness is provided in addition to the conventional syntactic notion of WFF.

Mendelson, Elliott 2015. Introduction to Mathematical Logic (sixth edition). Boca Raton: Taylor & Francis Group LLC.

Curry, Harkell B. 1977. Foundations of Mathematical Logic. New York: Dover Publications, Inc.

\*\* LHS := RHS (The LHS is defined as an alias for the RHS)

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