

Semantic WFF(x) specified syntactically

According to Wikipedia: $x \models y$ is a semantic rather than syntactic relationship. I specify this relationship as syntactic because I can see how this relationship can be formalized using Rudolf Carnap (1952) Meaning Postulates.

Hypothesis:

WFF(x) can be applied to the semantics of formalized declarative sentences such that:

$\text{WFF}(x) \leftrightarrow (\sim\text{True}(x) \leftrightarrow \text{False}(x))$ // (see proof sketch below)

For clarity we focus on atomic propositions expressing a single relation between two Things.

Alfred Tarski: // metalanguage M defines expressions in object language L

$\forall x \text{ True}(x) \leftrightarrow \varphi(x)$ // Tarski's Formal correctness of $\text{True}(x)$ formula

Sketch of a proof of the hypothesis:

Thing : Relation : Binary-Relation // inheritance hierarchy

$\forall a \in \text{Binary-Relation} \exists b \in \text{types} \& \exists c \in \text{types} \mid \text{Compatible-Types}(a, b, c)$

$\text{Get-Binary-Relation}(x) \mapsto (\text{binary-relation} \in \text{Binary-Relation} \vee \emptyset)$

$\forall x \text{ True}(x) \leftrightarrow \varphi(x)$ // Tarski's Formal correctness of $\text{True}(x)$ formula

$\varphi(x) \leftrightarrow \text{WFF}(x) \& \text{binary-relation}(\text{arg1}, \text{arg2})$

$\text{WFF}(x) \leftrightarrow (\text{Get-Binary-Relation}(x) \& \text{Compatible-Types}(\text{binary-relation}, \text{arg1}, \text{arg2}))$

Truth Teller Paradox: "This sentence is true" $\leftrightarrow x \models \text{True}(x)$

To evaluate $\text{True}(x)$ we begin with $\text{WFF}(x)$ corresponding to:

(a) $\text{Binary-Relation}(x) == \text{true}$ // Logical-Entailment is a binary relation

(b) $\text{Compatible-Types}(\text{Logical-Entailment}, x, \text{True}(x))$

The second argument to Logical-Entailment specifies infinite recursion, thus $\sim\text{WFF}(x)$.