

**HIERARCHIES IN  
INTUITIONISTIC ARITHMETIC**

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## Intuitionistic First Order Arithmetic HA

$\mathcal{L}$ : individual variables  $v_0, v_1, \dots$  and constant 0;  
relation constant =; function constants  $S, +, \cdot$ .

**Definition.** 0 and  $v_i$  are *terms*. If  $s$  and  $t$  are *terms* so are  $s + t$  and  $s \cdot t$ . *Prime formulas* are all equations  $s = t$  where  $s, t$  are terms. If  $A, B$  are *formulas* and  $x$  is a variable then  $A \wedge B, A \vee B, A \rightarrow B, \neg A, \forall x A$  and  $\exists x A$  are *formulas*.

**Axioms:**  $\neg Sx = 0, Sx = Sy \leftrightarrow x = y,$

$$x = y \rightarrow (x = z \rightarrow y = z),$$

equations defining  $+$  and  $\cdot$  recursively; induction

$$A(0) \wedge \forall x(A(x) \rightarrow A(Sx)) \rightarrow A(x).$$

Axioms and rules of intuitionistic predicate logic, like classical first order logic but with the axiom

$$\neg A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$$

replacing  $\neg\neg A \rightarrow A$  (so **HA**  $\not\vdash A \vee \neg A$ ).

**Definition.** *Markov's Principle*  $MP_{PR}$  is

$$\neg\forall x\neg R(x) \rightarrow \exists xR(x)$$

where  $R(x)$  must be primitive recursive.

**Definition.** *Church's Thesis*  $CT_0$  is

$$\forall x\exists yA(x, y) \rightarrow \exists e\forall x\exists w[T(e, x, w) \wedge A(x, U(w))],$$

where  $T(e, x, w)$  expresses “ $w$  is the least Gödel number of a computation of a value for  $\{e\}(x)$ ” and  $U(w)$  is that value.

**Theorem.**(Nelson)  $\mathbf{HA} + MP_{PR} + CT_0$  is consistent.

**Definition.** *Classical Peano Arithmetic* is

$$\mathbf{PA} \equiv_{df} \mathbf{HA} + (\neg\neg A \rightarrow A).$$

**Proposition.**  $\mathbf{PA} \vdash MP_{PR}$ .

**Proposition.**  $\mathbf{PA} + CT_0$  is inconsistent. Hence  $\mathbf{HA} + MP_{PR} \not\vdash A \vee \neg A$ .

## The Standard Arithmetical Hierarchy

**Definition.** The levels  $\Pi_n^0$ ,  $\Sigma_n^0$  and  $\Delta_n^0$  of the *arithmetical hierarchy* are defined as follows.

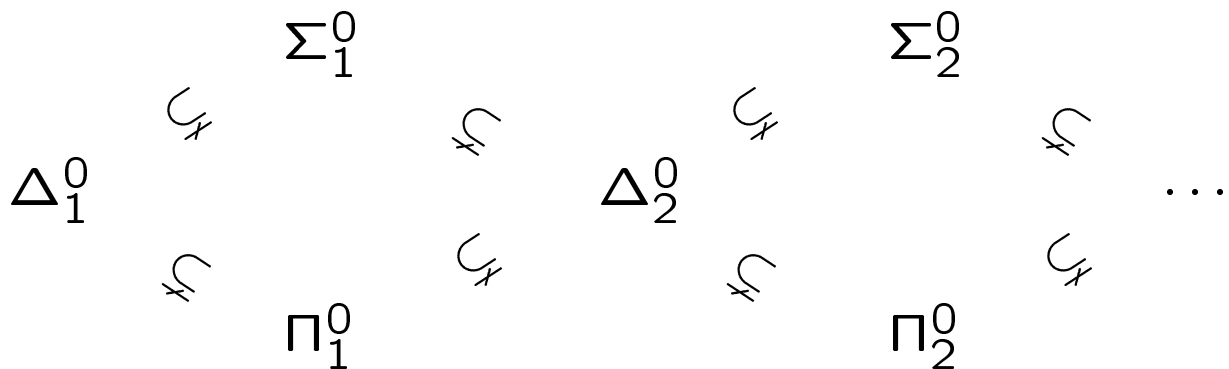
A relation  $R(x)$  is  $\Pi_1^0$  if and only if  $R(x)$  is expressible in the form  $\forall y P(x, y)$  where  $P(x, y)$  is recursive;  $\Sigma_1^0$  if and only if  $R(x)$  can be expressed in the form  $\exists y Q(x, y)$  where  $Q(x, y)$  is recursive;  $\Delta_1^0$  if and only if  $R(x)$  is both  $\Sigma_1^0$  and  $\Pi_1^0$ .

For  $n > 1$ , a relation  $R(x)$  is  $\Pi_n^0$  if and only if it can be expressed in the form  $\forall y P(x, y)$  where  $P(x, y)$  is  $\Sigma_{n-1}^0$ ;  $R(x)$  is  $\Sigma_n^0$  if and only if it is expressible as  $\exists y Q(x, y)$  where  $Q(x, y)$  is  $\Pi_{n-1}^0$ ; and for all  $n > 0$ :

$$\Delta_n^0 = \Pi_n^0 \cap \Sigma_n^0.$$

**Proposition.** In **HA** +  $\text{MP}_{\text{PR}}$  and in **PA**: Every  $\Delta_1^0$  relation is recursive, and conversely, every recursive relation is  $\Delta_1^0$ .

**Proposition.** In **PA** every relation  $R(x)$  belongs to some level of the standard arithmetical hierarchy. Moreover, each level is different:



**Proposition.** In **HA** +  $\text{CT}_0$ , the arithmetical hierarchy collapses at  $\Sigma_3^0$ .

**Proof.** In **HA**:  $\Sigma_n^0 \cup \Pi_n^0 \subseteq \Delta_{n+1}^0$  for every  $n$ , and adjacent quantifiers of the same kind can be contracted by primitive recursive pairing. So it is enough to show that in **HA** +  $\text{CT}_0$ :

(i)  $\Pi_3^0 \subseteq \Sigma_3^0$ , and

(ii)  $\Pi_4^0 \subseteq \Sigma_3^0$ .

For (i) observe that in  $\mathbf{HA} + \text{CT}_0$  the  $\Pi_3^0$  relation  $\forall y \exists z \forall w P(x, y, z, w)$  is equivalent to each of the following:

$$(a) \exists e \forall y \exists z [T(e, x, y, z) \wedge \forall w P(x, y, U(z), w)],$$

$$(b) \exists e [\forall y \exists z T(e, x, y, z) \\ \wedge \forall y \forall z [T(e, x, y, z) \rightarrow \forall w P(x, y, U(z), w)]],$$

$$(c) \exists e \forall y [\exists z T(e, x, y, z) \\ \wedge \forall z \forall w [T(e, x, y, z) \rightarrow P(x, y, U(z), w)]],$$

$$(d) \exists e \forall y \forall z \forall w \exists v [T(e, x, y, v) \\ \wedge [T(e, x, y, z) \rightarrow P(x, y, U(z), w)]].$$

Since  $T(e, x, y, v)$  and  $P(x, y, U(z), w)$  are primitive recursive, after contracting like quantifiers (d) will be  $\Sigma_3^0$ .

The proof of (ii) is similar.

**Definition.** An arithmetical theory  $\mathcal{T}$  is closed under **Kleene's Rule** if, whenever  $\forall x\exists yA(x, y)$  is closed and  $\mathcal{T} \vdash \forall x\exists yA(x, y)$ , then for some number  $e$ :

$$\mathcal{T} \vdash \forall x\exists y[T(e, x, y) \wedge A(x, U(y))].$$

**Theorem.**(Kleene) If  $\mathcal{T}$  is **HA**, **HA** +  $\text{MP}_{\text{PR}}$ , **HA** +  $\text{CT}_0$  or **HA** +  $\text{MP}_{\text{PR}}$  +  $\text{CT}_0$ , then  $\mathcal{T}$  is closed under Kleene's Rule.

**Definition.** A formula  $A(x)$  is *decidable* in a theory  $\mathcal{T}$  if

$$\mathcal{T} \vdash \forall x[A(x) \vee \neg A(x)].$$

Similarity for  $A(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .

**Proposition.** If  $\mathcal{T}$  contains **HA** and is closed under Kleene's Rule, then  $A(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is decidable in  $\mathcal{T}$  if and only if  $A(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is recursive, provably in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

**Definition.** A formula  $A(x)$  is *stable* in a theory  $\mathcal{T}$  if

$$\mathcal{T} \vdash \forall x[\neg\neg A(x) \rightarrow A(x)].$$

Similarly for  $A(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .

**Remark.** Decidability implies stability, but not conversely. For example, every  $\Pi_1^0$  relation is stable in **HA** because every recursive relation is stable and  $\neg\neg\forall x A(x) \rightarrow \forall x\neg\neg A(x)$  holds in intuitionistic logic. But the  $\Pi_1^0$  relation  $\forall y\neg T(x, x, y)$  is not recursive, and hence not decidable in **HA** or even in **HA** +  $\text{MP}_{\text{PR}}$  +  $\text{CT}_0$ .

**Note.** Even when there is (classically) a recursive decision procedure, we may not know what it is. For example, consider

$$B(x) \equiv \forall y[y > x \wedge \text{Pr}(y) \rightarrow \neg\text{Pr}(y + 2)]$$

where  $\text{Pr}(y)$  expresses “ $y$  is prime.”  $B(x)$  cannot be nonrecursive. Its Gödel number is ?



**Definition.** The *classical quantifiers*  $\dot{\exists}$ ,  $\dot{\forall}$  are

$$\dot{\exists} \equiv_{Df} \neg\neg\exists \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\forall} \equiv_{Df} \forall\neg\neg.$$

**Note.**  $\mathbf{HA} \vdash \dot{\exists}x A(x) \leftrightarrow \neg\forall x\neg A(x) \leftrightarrow \neg\neg\dot{\exists}x A(x)$   
and  $\mathbf{HA} \vdash \dot{\forall}x A(x) \leftrightarrow \neg\exists x\neg A(x) \leftrightarrow \neg\neg\dot{\forall}x A(x)$ .

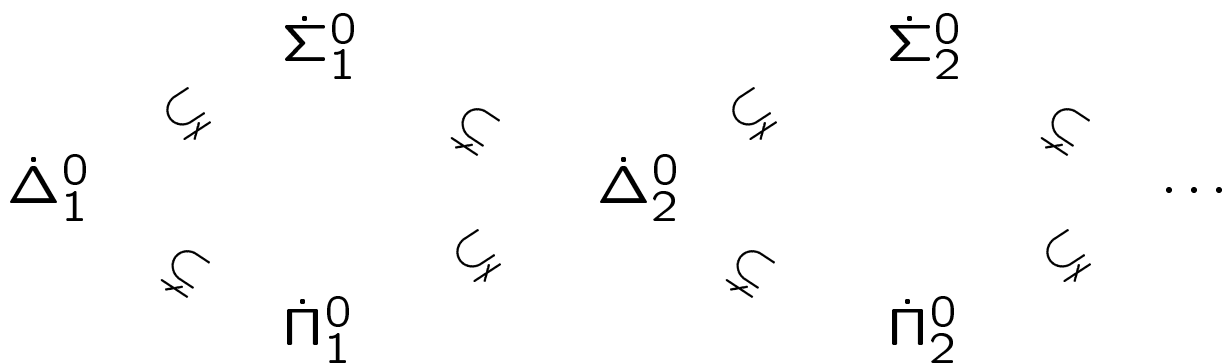
**Definition.** The levels of the *classical arithmetical hierarchy* are defined using the classical quantifiers. A relation  $R(x)$  is  $\dot{\Pi}_1^0$  if it is expressible as  $\dot{\forall}y P(x, y)$  for some recursive  $P(x, y)$ ;  $R(x)$  is  $\dot{\Sigma}_1^0$  if it is  $\dot{\exists}y P(x, y)$  for some recursive  $P(x, y)$ . For  $n > 1$ :  $R(x)$  is  $\dot{\Pi}_n^0$  if it can be expressed as  $\dot{\forall}y P(x, y)$  where  $P(x, y)$  is  $\dot{\Sigma}_{n-1}^0$ ;  $R(x)$  is  $\dot{\Sigma}_n^0$  if it is expressible as  $\dot{\exists}y Q(x, y)$  where  $Q(x, y)$  is  $\dot{\Pi}_{n-1}^0$ . For all  $n > 0$ :

$$\dot{\Delta}_n^0 = \dot{\Pi}_n^0 \cap \dot{\Sigma}_n^0.$$

**Proposition.** In  $\mathbf{HA}$ ,  $\dot{\Pi}_1^0 = \Pi_1^0$ . In  $\mathbf{HA} + \text{MP}_{PR}$  also  $\dot{\Sigma}_1^0 = \Sigma_1^0$ , hence  $\dot{\Delta}_1^0 = \Delta_1^0$  (= recursive) and  $\dot{\Pi}_2^0 = \Pi_2^0$ .

**Proposition.** Every relation which is  $\dot{\Sigma}_n^0$  or  $\dot{\Pi}_n^0$  for any  $n > 0$  is stable.

**Proposition.** In **HA**, and in every consistent extension of **HA** (including **HA** +  $\text{MP}_{\text{PR}}$  +  $\text{CT}_0$ ), every level of the classical arithmetical hierarchy contains new relations.



**Proof.** Replace the quantifiers in the complete  $\Pi_n^0$  and complete  $\Sigma_n^0$  relations, given by Kleene's normal form theorem for **PA**, by classical quantifiers to get stable, complete  $\dot{\Pi}_n^0$  and  $\dot{\Sigma}_n^0$  relations for **HA**. The classical diagonal arguments by contradiction work because of stability.

**Remark.** Classically, there is no difference between this hierarchy and the standard arithmetical hierarchy. Intuitionistically they are very different, and neither contains all relations.

**Proposition.** The relation

$$C(x) \equiv_{Df} \exists y \forall z \neg T(x, y, z) \vee \neg \exists y \forall z \neg T(x, y, z)$$

is not stable in **HA** or in any consistent extension  $\mathcal{T}$  of **HA** satisfying Kleene's Rule. So  $C(x)$  is not in the classical arithmetical hierarchy.

**Proof.** If it were, since **HA**  $\vdash \forall x \neg \neg C(x)$  we would have  $\mathcal{T} \vdash \forall x C(x)$  so there would be a recursive decision procedure for  $\exists y \forall z \neg T(x, y, z)$ , which is impossible.

**Question.** Is there a consistent extension of **HA** which satisfies Kleene's Rule, and admits some sort of *total* arithmetical hierarchy which does not collapse?

**Answer.** Yes. First let **HA**<sup>•</sup>  $\equiv_{Df}$  **HA** + MP<sub>PR</sub>. In **HA**<sup>•</sup>, every  $\Pi_2^0$  relation is stable, and

$$\dot{\Pi}_1^0 = \Pi_1^0, \quad \dot{\Sigma}_1^0 = \Sigma_1^0, \quad \dot{\Pi}_2^0 = \Pi_2^0.$$

Even in **HA**:  $\wedge$ ,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\neg$  and  $\forall$  preserve stability.

**Definition.** The *classical extension of Church's Thesis*  $\text{ECT}^\bullet$  is

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall x[A(x) \rightarrow \exists yB(x, y)] \\ & \rightarrow \exists e \forall x[A(x) \rightarrow \exists w[T(e, x, w) \wedge B(x, U(w))]], \end{aligned}$$

for any *classical*  $A(x)$  (belonging to the classical arithmetical hierarchy).

**Theorem.** (essentially Troelstra) The theory  $\mathbf{HA}^\bullet + \text{ECT}^\bullet$  is consistent and obeys Kleene's Rule. Moreover, every relation  $R(x)$  has a corresponding classical relation  $R^\bullet(x, y)$  such that

(i)  $\mathbf{HA}^\bullet + \text{ECT}^\bullet \vdash \forall x[R(x) \leftrightarrow \exists yR^\bullet(x, y)].$

(ii)  $\mathbf{HA}^\bullet + \text{ECT}^\bullet \vdash R(t) \leftrightarrow \mathbf{HA}^\bullet \vdash \exists yR^\bullet(t, y).$   
 (t is any term free for  $x$  in  $\exists yR^\bullet(x, y).$ )

**Remark.** In  $\mathbf{HA}^\bullet + \text{ECT}^\bullet$ , every stable relation is classical, since  $\neg\neg\exists yR^\bullet(x, y)$  is classical.

## The Extended Intuitionistic Hierarchy

**Definition.** The *extended intuitionistic arithmetical hierarchy* is defined as follows for  $n \geq 1$ : The relation  $R(x)$  is  $\Sigma^0(\dot{\Sigma}_n^0)$  if and only if  $R(x)$  is expressible as  $\exists y B(x, y)$  where  $B(x, y)$  is  $\dot{\Sigma}_n^0$ ; and  $R(x)$  is  $\Sigma^0(\dot{\Pi}_n^0)$  if and only if it can be expressed as  $\exists y B(x, y)$  where  $B(x, y)$  is  $\dot{\Pi}_n^0$ .

**Proposition.** In **HA** (or any consistent extension of **HA**), for every  $n \geq 1$ :  $\Sigma^0(\dot{\Pi}_n^0) \not\subseteq \Sigma^0(\dot{\Sigma}_n^0)$ .

**Proof.** ( $n = 1$ ) Let  $R(x)$  be  $\exists y \forall z \neg T(x, x, y, z)$ . If  $R(x) \leftrightarrow \exists u \dot{\exists} v Q(x, u, v)$  with a recursive  $Q(x, u, v)$ , then using primitive recursive pairing and projection with intuitionistic logic,

$$\begin{aligned} \neg\neg R(x) &\leftrightarrow \dot{\exists} u \dot{\exists} v Q(x, u, v) \\ &\leftrightarrow \dot{\exists} w Q(x, (w)_0, (w)_1). \end{aligned}$$

But  $\dot{\exists} w Q(x, (w)_0, (w)_1)$  is  $\dot{\Sigma}_1^0$ , while  $\neg\neg R(x)$  is complete  $\dot{\Sigma}_2^0$ . The proof for  $n > 1$  is similar.

**Proposition.** In  $\mathbf{HA}^\bullet + \mathbf{ECT}^\bullet$ , for every  $n \geq 2$ :  
 $\Sigma^0(\dot{\Sigma}_n^0) \not\subseteq \Sigma^0(\dot{\Pi}_n^0)$ .

**Proof.** ( $n = 2$ ) Let  $D(x, y) \equiv \dot{\exists}z\dot{\forall}w\neg T(x, x, y, z, w)$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  be  $\mathbf{HA}^\bullet + \mathbf{ECT}^\bullet$ . Suppose for contradiction that  $\mathcal{T} \vdash \forall x[\dot{\exists}yD(x, y) \leftrightarrow \dot{\exists}u\dot{\forall}v\dot{\exists}tQ(x, u, v, t)]$  with  $Q(x, u, v, t)$  primitive recursive, so also  $\mathcal{T} \vdash$

$$(a) \quad \forall x\forall y[D(x, y) \rightarrow \dot{\exists}u\dot{\forall}v\dot{\exists}tQ(x, u, v, t)],$$

$$(b) \quad \dot{\exists}e\forall x\forall y[D(x, y) \rightarrow [\dot{\exists}uT(e, x, y, u)$$

$$\wedge \forall w(T(e, x, y, w) \rightarrow \forall v\dot{\exists}tQ(x, U(w), v, t))]]],$$

or equivalently by  $\text{MP}_{\text{PR}}$ :

$$(c) \quad \dot{\exists}e\forall x\forall y[D(x, y) \rightarrow [\dot{\exists}uT(e, x, y, u)$$

$$\wedge \forall w(T(e, x, y, w) \rightarrow \forall v\dot{\exists}tQ(x, U(w), v, t))]]].$$

By Kleene's Rule there is a number  $e$  so that

$$(d) \quad \forall x\forall y[D(x, y) \rightarrow [\dot{\exists}uT(\mathbf{e}, x, y, u)$$

$$\wedge \forall w(T(\mathbf{e}, x, y, w) \rightarrow \forall v\dot{\exists}tQ(x, U(w), v, t))]]]$$

where the right hand side is  $\dot{\Pi}_2^0$ , so for some  $g$  by the normal form theorem with Kleene's Rule:

(e)  $\forall x \forall y [D(x, y) \rightarrow \forall z \exists w T(\mathbf{g}, x, y, z, w)]$  where

(f)  $\forall x \forall y [\forall z \exists w T(\mathbf{g}, x, y, z, w) \leftrightarrow$

$\forall w \forall v \exists u \exists t [T(\mathbf{e}, x, y, u) \wedge$

$(T(\mathbf{e}, x, y, w) \rightarrow Q(x, U(w), v, t))]]$ .

By (e) with the definition of  $D(x, y)$ :

(g)  $\forall y \neg D(\mathbf{g}, y)$  and so  $\forall z \exists w T(\mathbf{g}, \mathbf{g}, y, z, w)$ .

Treating  $\exists u$  first on the right hand side of (c),

(h)  $\forall x \forall y [\forall z \exists w T(\mathbf{g}, x, y, z, w) \leftrightarrow$

$\exists u [T(\mathbf{e}, x, y, u) \wedge \forall v \exists t Q(x, U(u), v, t)]]$

so (g) gives  $\exists u [T(\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{g}, y, u) \wedge \forall v \exists t Q(\mathbf{g}, U(u), v, t)]$ ,  
so  $\exists y D(\mathbf{g}, y)$  by hypothesis, contradicting (g).

The proof for  $n > 2$  is similar. Thus the classical arithmetical hierarchy does not collapse in any consistent extension of  $\mathbf{HA}^\bullet + \mathbf{ECT}^\bullet$  satisfying Kleene's Rule.

**Definition.** A formula  $A(x)$  is (or describes) a *Church domain* for a theory  $\mathcal{T}$  if, whenever

$$\mathcal{T} \vdash \forall x[A(x) \rightarrow \exists yB(x, y)],$$

then  $\mathcal{T} \vdash \exists e \forall x[A(x) \rightarrow \exists w[T(e, x, w) \wedge B(x, U(w))]]$ .

**Theorem.** In  $\mathbf{HA}^\bullet + \mathbf{ECT}^\bullet$ :

(a) The extended intuitionistic hierarchy is total, and each level contains new relations.

(b)  $\Sigma^0(\dot{\Sigma}_1^0) = \Sigma_1^0$ .

(c)  $\Sigma^0(\dot{\Pi}_1^0) = \Sigma_2^0$ .

(d)  $\Sigma(\dot{\Pi}_2^0) = \Sigma_3^0$  (so  $\Sigma(\dot{\Pi}_2^0)$  contains the entire standard arithmetical hierarchy).

(e)  $\dot{\Sigma}_n^0 \subsetneq \Sigma^0(\dot{\Sigma}_n^0)$  and  $\dot{\Pi}_n^0 \subsetneq \Sigma^0(\dot{\Pi}_n^0)$ , so the extended intuitionistic hierarchy subsumes the classical hierarchy.

(f) Every Church domain is classical.