

# ON CRITERIA OF DEFINABILITY

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A class  $\mathbf{K}$  of relational systems is  $AC_\delta$  if there exists a set  $S$  of sentences (of the language determined by the type of relational systems in  $\mathbf{K}$ ) such that  $\mathbf{K}$  consists precisely of the models of  $S$ :  $\mathbf{K} = \text{Mod}(S)$ . The class  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $AC$  if, moreover, a finite set  $S$  can be chosen here. If  $\mathbf{L}$  is a class of relational systems, a class  $\mathbf{K} \subseteq \mathbf{L}$  is  $AC_\delta(\mathbf{L})$  or  $AC(\mathbf{L})$  if there exists a class  $\mathbf{K}'$  such that  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}' \cap \mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{K}'$  is  $AC_\delta$  or  $AC$  respectively. Let  $\Pi$ ,  $\Omega$ ,  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}$  be the operations of taking ultraproducts, ultralimits, elementary subsystems, and isomorphic images. Kochen [4] has shown

**THEOREM 1.** *If  $\mathbf{K} \subseteq \mathbf{L}$ ,  $\mathbf{K}$  is closed under  $\Pi$ ,  $\Omega$ ,  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathbf{L} - \mathbf{K}$  is closed under  $\Omega$ , then  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $AC_\delta(\mathbf{L})$ . If, moreover,  $\mathbf{L} - \mathbf{K}$  is closed under  $\Pi$ , then  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $AC(\mathbf{L})$ .*

Kochen's proof is based on his earlier characterization of classes  $AC$  and  $AC_\delta$  (Kochen [3, Theorem 11.6]), which follows from the present theorem by taking  $\mathbf{L}$  to be the class of all relational systems of the type under consideration. Now Kochen's proof of that characterization depended on a thorough analysis of the relationship between ultralimits and prenex normal forms. It is a first purpose of this note to give a new proof of Theorem 1, based solely on the following facts:

(1) If  $\langle A_i \mid i \in I \rangle$ ,  $\langle B_i \mid i \in I \rangle$  are sequences of relational systems and  $A_i \equiv B_i$  ( $A_i$  elementarily equivalent to  $B_i$ ) for every  $i \in I$ , then  $\Pi_D \langle A_i \mid i \in I \rangle \equiv \Pi_D \langle B_i \mid i \in I \rangle$  for every ultrafilter  $D$  on  $I$  (Frayne-Morel-Scott [1, Corollary 2.4]).

(2) If  $A \equiv B$ , then  $A$  and  $B$  have isomorphic ultralimits (Kochen [3, Theorem 9.3]).

(3) A class  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $AC_\delta$  if and only if  $\mathbf{K}$  is closed under  $\Pi$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  (elementary equivalence) (Frayne-Morel-Scott [1, Theorem 2.13]). It should be noted that both (2) and (3) follow rather directly from Frayne's lemma.

(4) If  $A \equiv B$ , then  $B$  is isomorphic to an elementary subsystem of a suitable ultrapower of  $A$  (Frayne-Morel-Scott [1, Theorem 2.12], Kochen [3, Lemma 9.1]).

It is well known that Kochen's characterization of classes  $AC_\delta$  is an easy consequence of (2) and (3).

For a proof of Theorem 1, assume  $\mathbf{K} \subseteq \mathbf{L}$  and define  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{K})$  by  $A \in \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{K})$  if there exists  $A' \in \mathbf{K}$  and  $A' \equiv A$ ; define  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{L} - \mathbf{K})$  sim-

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ilarly. If  $\mathbf{K}$  is closed under  $\Pi$ , it follows from (1) that  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{K})$  is closed under  $\Pi$ . Hence  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{K})$  is  $AC_\delta$  by (3). If both  $\mathbf{K}$  and  $\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K}$  are closed under  $\Omega$  and  $\mathbf{K}$  is closed under  $\mathcal{G}$ , it follows from (2) that  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{K})$  and  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K})$  are disjoint. Hence  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{K}) \cap \mathbf{L} = \mathbf{K}$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $AC_\delta(\mathbf{L})$ . If, moreover,  $\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K}$  is closed under  $\Pi$ , also  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K})$  is  $AC_\delta$  by symmetry. It can be assumed now that neither  $\mathbf{K}$  nor  $\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K}$  are empty. If  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$  and  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K})$  are the sets of sentences true in  $\mathbf{K}$  and  $\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K}$  respectively, then  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{K}) \cap \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K}) = 0$  shows that  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K}) \cup \text{Th}(\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K})$  is inconsistent, while  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$  and  $\text{Th}(\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K})$  alone are consistent. Hence there exist finite and nonempty subsets  $S_0 \subseteq \text{Th}(\mathbf{K})$ ,  $S_1 \subseteq \text{Th}(\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K})$  such that  $S_0 \cup S_1$  is inconsistent, whence  $\text{Mod}(S_0) \cap \text{Mod}(S_1) = 0$ . Therefore  $\text{Mod}(S_0) \cap \mathbf{L} = \mathbf{K}$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $AC(\mathbf{L})$ .

An even simpler argument, making use of (4) instead of (2), yields

**THEOREM 2.** *If  $\mathbf{K} \subseteq \mathbf{L}$ ,  $\mathbf{L}$  is closed under  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathbf{K}$  is closed under  $\Pi$ ,  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}\mathcal{E} \upharpoonright \mathbf{L}$ , then  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $AC_\delta(\mathbf{L})$ . If, moreover,  $\mathbf{L}-\mathbf{K}$  is closed under  $\Pi$ , then  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $AC(\mathbf{L})$ .*

Kochen ([3, Theorem 12.1], [4, Theorem 3]) has used Theorem 1 in order to give a mathematical characterization of definable model functions, of which Beth's theorem on definability is an immediate consequence. Here a model function  $U$  on a class  $\mathbf{L}$  of relational systems assigns to every  $A \in \mathbf{L}$  a relational system  $U(A) = \langle A, R_A \rangle$ , having one additional new relation  $R_A$  of a fixed arity.  $U$  is definable with respect to  $\mathbf{L}$  if there exists a formula of the language determined by  $\mathbf{L}$  which, for every  $A \in \mathbf{L}$ , defines the relation  $R_A$  in terms of  $A$ . Now Theorem 2 can be applied in order to obtain

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $U$  be a model function on  $\mathbf{L}$ , and let  $\mathbf{L}$  be closed under  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\Pi$ .  $U$  is definable with respect to  $\mathbf{L}$  if and only if  $U$  commutes with the operations  $\Pi$ ,  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{E}\mathcal{E}$ .*

The proof is essentially that of Kochen's Theorem 12.1 in [3]. Namely, let the relations  $R_A$  be  $n$ -ary. Let  $\mathbf{L}'$  be the class of all relational systems  $\langle A, \alpha \rangle$ , where  $A \in \mathbf{L}$  and  $\alpha$  is a sequence of  $n$  elements of the set  $s(A)$  underlying  $A$ ;  $\mathbf{L}'$  then is described by a type that extends the type of  $\mathbf{L}$  by  $n$  new constants. Let  $\mathbf{K}$  be the class of all  $\langle A, \alpha \rangle$  in  $\mathbf{L}'$  such that  $\alpha \in R_A$ .  $U$  will be definable with respect to  $\mathbf{L}$  if and only if  $\mathbf{K}$  is  $AC(\mathbf{L}')$ . Now with  $\mathbf{L}$ , also  $\mathbf{L}'$  is closed under  $\mathcal{G}$ . It follows from Kochen's proof that  $U$  commutes with  $\Pi$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  if and only if  $\mathbf{K}$  and  $\mathbf{L}'-\mathbf{K}$  are closed under  $\Pi$  and  $\mathcal{G}$ . Further, if  $U$  is definable then it commutes with  $\mathcal{E}\mathcal{E}$ . Assume now that  $U$  commutes with  $\mathcal{E}\mathcal{E}$  and let  $\langle B, \beta \rangle \in \mathbf{L}'$  be an elementary subsystem of  $\langle A, \alpha \rangle \in \mathbf{K}$ . Then  $\beta = \alpha$ , and  $B$  is an elementary subsystem of  $A$ . Therefore,

$\langle B, R_B \rangle$  is an elementary subsystem of  $\langle A, R_A \rangle$ , and in particular  $R_B = {}^s(B)^n \cap R_A$ . But then  $\beta = \alpha$  and  $\alpha \in R_A$  implies  $\beta \in R_B$ , i.e.  $\langle B, \beta \rangle \in \mathbf{K}$ .

Theorem 3 has applications in Hoehnke's work [2] on the mathematical characterization of definable maps between classes of relational systems.

It follows from well-known results of Keisler's that sufficient belief in GCH would enable us to omit any assumptions concerning  $\aleph_8$  in Theorem 2 and Theorem 3.

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