

REPRESENTATION IN H

Hunter's System H is (i) respectable, (ii) has a decidable set of wff, and (iii) a decidable set of proofs. It thus follows that *H is not negation-complete* (from Generalized Gödel Theorem), and that *H is undecidable* (from "Generalized Undecidability" Theorem). And since H is a finite extension of QS^- , the undecidability of H means that *QS^- is undecidable* (Church's Theorem).

We consider (ii) and (iii) in a later handout. Here, we will establish (i). Recall that:

Definition: A formal system of arithmetic is **respectable** iff:

- (a) The system is consistent.
- (b) Every decidable set of natural numbers is represented in it.
- (c) An open wff is a theorem iff some closure of it is.

Actually, we simply assume that (a) is true of H. Also, (c) is true of H since H is built to be a first-order theory in Hunter's sense. Thus, we will be concerned below only to show that (b) is true of H. [The Representation Theorem for H]

Preliminary: Recursion Theory

The premises behind the Representation Theorem for H will make reference to recursive sets and recursive functions...

Definitions. A set A is a **recursive set** iff its characteristic function f_A is a recursive function. In what follows, assume f_A is the **characteristic function** for a set A iff, for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$f_A(n) = \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } n \in A \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{array}$$

Definition. A function f is a **recursive function** iff f is one of the base functions, or is obtainable from these by finitely many applications of composition and/or the μ -operation.¹

Base: $x + 1$ [successor], $x + y$ [addition], $x \cdot y$ [multiplication], x^y [exponentiation], $x \div y$ [arithmetic difference, i.e., $x - y$ if $x > y$; 0 otherwise].

Composition: h is obtained from functions f and g by composition iff:

$$h(\dots, x, \dots, y, \dots) = f(\dots, x, \dots, g(\dots, y, \dots), \dots)$$

-where any variable to the right of '=' also appears on the left.

Patently, if f and g are computable, then so is h .

μ -operation: Roughly, μ is a minimization operator that operates on a certain type of function f . Specifically, f must be *computable* and a *total* $n+1$ -ary function on \mathbb{N} where, for *any* n -tuple $\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$, there is a y such that $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) = 0$. Given such an f , an n -ary function g is obtained by the μ -operation iff:

¹ Usually, recursive functions also include those obtained by the operation of "primitive recursion." But the copious axioms of System H render such an operation unnecessary. (This, in turn, allows us to skip the notorious "Beta function lemma" in the proof of the Expressibility Lemma, thank god.)

$g(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \mu y \{f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) = 0\}$
 -where the right-hand expression means “the least y such that $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) = 0$.”
 It is clear that any such g is computable.

Examples of recursive functions:

$$f(x, y) = x \cdot (x \div y) \qquad f_2(x, y, z) = (x \cdot (x \div y))^z \qquad g(x) = \mu y \{x \cdot (x \div y) = 0\}$$

But not:

$$f_3(x) = \mu y \{x + y = 0\} \qquad [\text{b/c no such } y \text{ when } x > 0]$$

56.20 Representation Theorem for H

56.20: Any decidable set of natural numbers is represented in H. [Representation Theorem]

Premises:

CT: Any decidable set is a recursive set. [Church’s Thesis, in one of its formulations]

56.18: Any recursive function is represented in H.

Definition. A set X of natural numbers is **represented** in a formal system S iff there is a formula A , with just one free variable v , such that for each natural number n :

$$\vdash_s A\bar{n}/v \text{ iff } n \in X$$

Definition. An n -ary function f is **represented** in a formal system S iff there is a formula $A(v_1 \dots v_{n+1})$ with $n+1$ free variables such that, for each $n+1$ -tuple of natural numbers $\langle k_1 \dots k_{n+1} \rangle$,

$$\vdash_s A(\underline{k}_1, \dots, \underline{k}_{n+1}) \text{ iff } f(k_1 \dots k_n) = k_{n+1}.$$

The Basic Argument:

Given CT, the representation of a decidable set in H is really just a special case of the representation of a recursive function. Suppose that S is decidable. Then given CT, its characteristic function f_s is a recursive function. So by 56.18, f_s is represented in H by some formula $A(x, y)$ such that $\vdash_H A(\underline{n}, \underline{0})$ iff $f_s(n) = 0$. Since $\underline{0}$ is a name, this means there is a one-place formula $A(x, \underline{0})$ such that $\vdash_H A(\underline{n}, \underline{0})$ iff $n \in S$. That suffices for S to be represented in H.

56.17 The Correspondence or Expressibility Lemma for H

56.17: Any recursive function is strongly represented in H. [Expressibility Lemma or EL]²

Definition. An n -ary function f is **strongly represented** or **(numeralwise) expressible** in a formal system S iff there is a formula $A(v_1, \dots, v_{n+1})$ with $n+1$ free variables such that, for each $n+1$ -tuple of natural numbers $\langle k_1, \dots, k_{n+1} \rangle$, two conditions are met:

- (i) $\vdash_s A(\underline{k}_1, \dots, \underline{k}_{n+1})$ if $f(k_1, \dots, k_n) = k_{n+1}$, and
- (ii) $\vdash_s \sim A(\underline{k}_1, \dots, \underline{k}_{n+1})$ if $f(k_1, \dots, k_n) \neq k_{n+1}$.

² Hunter shows the even stronger result that recursive functions are (what he calls) “definable.” But the extra strength is unnecessary and we’ll skip it. (Caution: Boolos et al. refer to strong representability as “definability,” and Tarski’s “definability” theorem uses the term in yet a third sense.)

-56.18 will follow immediately from EL, assuming H is consistent.

Inductive Argument for EL

Premises: Where m and n are any natural numbers...

Def: The numeral for any natural number n is \underline{n}

56.5: $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \text{S}\underline{n} = \underline{n+1} \urcorner^3$

56.2: If $m < n$, then $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \underline{m} < \underline{n} \urcorner$.

56.3: If $m \neq n$, then $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \sim \underline{m} = \underline{n} \urcorner$.

56.6: $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \underline{m} + \underline{n} = \underline{m+n} \urcorner$.

Basis: Each base recursive function is strongly represented in H. (5 cases).

Case (1): ' $Sx = y$ ' strongly represents the successor function. (Proof left as an exercise.)

Case (2): ' $x + y = z$ ' strongly represents addition.

Condition (i): Suppose $m + n = k$. Then, $\underline{m} + \underline{n} = \underline{k}$, by definition. And by 56.6, $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \underline{m} + \underline{n} = \underline{m+n} \urcorner$. Therefore, $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \underline{m} + \underline{n} = \underline{k} \urcorner$.

Condition (ii): Suppose $m + n \neq k$. Then by 56.3, $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \sim \underline{m} + \underline{n} = \underline{k} \urcorner$. Since by 56.6, $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \underline{m} + \underline{n} = \underline{m+n} \urcorner$, axiom 3 assures us that $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \sim \underline{m} + \underline{n} = \underline{k} \urcorner$.

Case (3): ' $x \cdot y = z$ ' strongly represents multiplication.

Case (4): ' $Pxy = z$ ' strongly represents exponentiation.

Case (5): ' $(y < x \wedge x = y + z) \vee (\sim y < x \wedge z = 0)$ ' strongly represents arithmetic difference.

Inductive Step: We want to show that if function h is obtained by $n > 0$ applications of combination or the μ -operation, then h is strongly represented in H.

Preliminary Lemma [PL]: Suppose $A(x, y)$ is a wff of H such that

$\vdash_{\text{H}} \bigwedge x \bigwedge y \bigwedge z (A(x, y) \supset (A(x, z) \supset y = z))$

Then, a unary function f is strongly represented in H by $A(x, y)$ if $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner A(\underline{m}, \underline{f(m)}) \urcorner$.

Pf. of PL:

Condition (i). Suppose $f(m) = n$ so that $\underline{f(m)}$ is \underline{n} . Then, if $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner A(\underline{m}, \underline{f(m)}) \urcorner$, $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner A(\underline{m}, \underline{n}) \urcorner$.

Condition (ii). Suppose $f(m) \neq n$. Then by 56.3, $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \sim \underline{f(m)} = \underline{n} \urcorner$. Also, since we assume the antecedent of PL, we know $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner A(\underline{m}, \underline{f(m)}) \supset (A(\underline{m}, \underline{n}) \supset \underline{f(m)} = \underline{n}) \urcorner$. So by the logical axioms, $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner A(\underline{m}, \underline{f(m)}) \supset (\sim \underline{f(m)} = \underline{n} \supset \sim A(\underline{m}, \underline{n})) \urcorner$. Thus, if $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner A(\underline{m}, \underline{f(m)}) \urcorner$, then by MP twice, $\vdash_{\text{H}} \ulcorner \sim A(\underline{m}, \underline{n}) \urcorner$.

Combination: [We consider only functions of one argument, but the reasoning generalizes to all functions.] The inductive hypothesis is that f and g are recursive unary functions that strongly represented in H by the formulae $A(x, y)$ and $B(x, y)$, respectively. We aim to show that the function $h(x) = f(g(x))$ is represented in H, specifically, by the formula ' $\forall w (B(x, w) \wedge A(w, y))$ '.

³ The corner-quoted expression denotes the result of replacing the numeral-variables inside the corner quotes with the relevant numeral(s). For instance, if $n = 0+0$, then ' $\ulcorner \text{S}\underline{n} = \underline{n+1} \urcorner$ ' is the expression ' $\ulcorner \text{S}0 = 0 \urcorner$ '.

Since $A(x, y)$ and $B(x, y)$ strongly represent functions, they satisfy the antecedent of PL. (Trust me on this.) From that, we can show $\forall w(B(x, w) \wedge A(w, y))$ also satisfies the antecedent of PL. (You'll need to trust me here too.) So as per the consequent of PL, it suffices to show $f(g(x))$ is strongly represented in H by proving that $\vdash_H \ulcorner \forall w(B(\underline{m}, w) \wedge A(w, f(g(\underline{m})))) \urcorner$.

By the strong representation of f and g , we know $\vdash_H \ulcorner B(\underline{m}, g(\underline{m})) \urcorner$, and that $\vdash_H \ulcorner A(g(\underline{m}), f(g(\underline{m}))) \urcorner$. So by \wedge -introduction, $\vdash_H \ulcorner B(\underline{m}, g(\underline{m})) \wedge A(g(\underline{m}), f(g(\underline{m}))) \urcorner$. And thus by existential generalization, $\vdash_H \ulcorner \forall w(B(\underline{m}, w) \wedge A(w, f(g(\underline{m})))) \urcorner$.

μ -Operation: [We consider only functions of two arguments, but...etc.] Assume f is a recursive binary function where for each m , there is an n such that $f(m, n) = 0$. And assume f is strongly represented in H by the formula ' $A(x, y, z)$ '. We aim to show that $h(m) = \mu n \{f(m, n) = 0\}$ is strongly represented in H, specifically, by ' $A(x, y, 0) \wedge \bigwedge w (w < y \supset \sim A(x, w, 0))$ '.

Since ' $A(x, y, z)$ ' strongly represents a function, it satisfies the antecedent of PL. Therefore, so does ' $A(x, y, 0) \wedge \bigwedge w (w < y \supset \sim A(x, w, 0))$ '. (I invoke your trust here as well.) So as per the consequent of PL, it suffices to show $h(m)$ is strongly represented in H by proving that $\vdash_H \ulcorner A(\underline{m}, \underline{h}(\underline{m}), 0) \wedge \bigwedge w (w < \underline{h}(\underline{m}) \supset \sim A(\underline{m}, w, 0)) \urcorner$.

First conjunct: By the definition of h , we know that $f(m, h(m)) = 0$, for every m . And so, by the representability of f , we know that $\vdash_H \ulcorner A(\underline{m}, \underline{h}(\underline{m}), 0) \urcorner$.

Second conjunct: Suppose for conditional proof that $w < h(m)$, for an arbitrary w . Then, by the definition of h and f , $f(m, w) \neq 0$. So by the strong representation of f ,

$\vdash_H \ulcorner \sim A(\underline{m}, \underline{w}, 0) \urcorner$. Thus, by logical axioms, $\vdash_H \ulcorner \underline{w} < \underline{h}(\underline{m}) \supset \sim A(\underline{m}, \underline{w}, 0) \urcorner$. Since \underline{w} is arbitrary, universal generalization secures that $\vdash_H \ulcorner \bigwedge w (w < \underline{h}(\underline{m}) \supset \sim A(\underline{m}, w, 0)) \urcorner$.⁴

⁴ Caveat: System H does not allow universal generalization in the form I just used. Instead, the maneuver above would require several more steps, but I'm just skipping all that.