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These notes are linked at www.dpmms.cam.ac.uk/~tf/NZMAabstract.pdf

Synonymy Results in the Quine Systems

Two theories are **synonymous** iff
they are mutually interpretable “up to logical equivalence”.
Alternatively they “have the same models”.

Examples:

Partial Orders and Strict Partial Orders;
Boolean Algebras and Boolean Rings;

Our other (three) examples concern Set Theory:

1. Benedikt Löwe “Set Theory With and Without Urelements, and Categories of Interpretations” Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic **47** 2006. ... shows that the theories ZF and ZFU are synonymous.
2. Peano Arithmetic and ZF with \neg Infinity.
Richard Kaye and Tin Lok Wong, “On Interpretations of Arithmetic and Set Theory” Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic **48** Number 4 (2007), 497-510. ... show that PA is synonymous with $ZF \setminus \text{infinity} + \neg\text{Infinity} + \text{Transitive Containment}$.
This is in virtue of the Ackermann trick:
 $n \text{ “}\in\text{” } m$ iff the n th bit in the binary representation of m is set.
3. Oswald’s modification: $n \text{ “}\in\text{” } m$ iff either
 - m is even and the n th bit of $m/2$ is set; or
 - m is odd and the n th bit of $(m-1)/2$ is clear.

Church’s construction of models of NF_2 (= the 2-stratifiable axioms of NF).

Fix a bijection $k : V \longleftrightarrow V \times \{0, 1\}$. Then say $x \in' y$ iff either

- the second component of $k(y)$ is 0 and $x \in$ first component of $k(y)$; or
- the second component of $k(y)$ is 1 and $x \notin$ first component of $k(y)$.

This gives a model of NF_2 plus “the wellfounded sets are a model of ZF and every surjective image of a wellfounded set is a set”.

Button (<https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.06715>, submitted to JSL) shows that this theory is synonymous with ZF.

4. Forster-Holmes (submitted to JSL) show that NF is not synonymous with any theory of wellfounded sets.

Tightness

A theory is *tight* if any two extensions of it that are synonymous are identical;
It is *stratified-tight* if any two stratified extensions of it that are synonymous are identical.

PA is tight. ZF is tight. Zermelo + “ranks” is tight.

Tightness is something to do with second-order categoricity:
all these theories are (in a weak sense) second-order categorical.

NF is not tight because
'NF + $\exists!$ Quine atom' and
'NF + there are no Quine atoms'
are synonymous. However NF is stratified-tight.

More suggested Reading for Synonymy

Visser Oxford Slides www.dpmms.cam.ac.uk/~tf/VisserOxford.pdf

Hamkins and Freire:

"Bi-interpretation in weak set theories" *Journal of Symbolic Logic* **86** (2):609-634 (2021)

Enayat:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/313910192_Variations_on_a_Visserian_Theme

Holmes' Proof of Con(NF)

TST is "the ω th order theory of equality".

Jensen's proof of Con(NFU)

Jensen, R.B. "On the consistency of a slight(?) modification of Quine's NF". *Synthese* **19** (1969) pp. 250-263.

Tangled Type Theory

Tangled Type theory, TTT, is the theory of a structure indexed by of a total order $\langle I, <_I \rangle$ with a set A_i for each $i \in I$, and, for each $i < j$ in I , a binary relation $\in_{i,j}$ such that, whenever $J \subseteq I$ is a subset of order type ω , then the $A_j : j \in J$ equipped with the $\in_{j,j'}$ form a model of TST.

Holmes, Randall "The equivalence of NF-style set theories with "tangled" type theories; the construction of ω -models of predicative NF (and more)" *Journal of Symbolic Logic* **60** (1995) pp. 178-189.

... shows that NF is equiconsistent with TTT.