

Axiomatic Potentialism

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- 2 Warm Up: Height Potentialism
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- Here we will be focused on axiomatic potentialism, and on relations between potentialist axiom systems and their first order counterparts.

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Instantiation requires assumption of existence.

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Proof: use mirroring.

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This is essentially what Button calls ‘near-synonymy’.

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- M proves $V = \text{HC}^\diamond$ and hence SOA^\diamond .
- M proves the universal possibility of forcing.
- e.g., it proves it is possible for the continuum to exist and have a cardinality at least as great as any \aleph number whose existence is provable in ZFC.

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By comprehension,

$$\Diamond \exists x \Psi(x, z) \wedge \exists X \forall y [Xy \leftrightarrow y \in z]$$

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abbreviate the formula in parentheses by $\Psi(x, z)$.

By comprehension,

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But then the rigidity/extensionality imply $w = z$ after all, so we have a contradiction.

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Amounts to ‘restricting’ ourselves to parameters that exist at the world of evaluation.

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- The Γ -PSP implies no formula in Γ defines a well-order of the reals.
- Γ -definable sets are thus ‘regular’ or ‘well behaved’.

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- while our interpretation for \diamond_{\leftarrow} will involve allowing new reals to be added but not extending the height of the transitive set parameter.

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$M \vdash \varphi$ implies $T \vdash \forall r, T \in L[r][t(\varphi)(X, r)]$

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Ultimately \diamond is more important than \diamond_{\leftarrow} anyway, so I’m not that bothered by the omission.

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- The 'first order picture' corresponding to the height + width potentialist view enshrined in M seems to be second order arithmetic + Π_1^1 PSP.
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