

Axiomatic Potentialism

Chris Scambler

All Souls College,
Oxford University

chris.scambler@all-souls.ox.ac.uk

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Overview

- 1 Background
- 2 Warm Up: Height Potentialism
- 3 Height and Width Potentialism
- 4 Concluding Remarks

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- Still deeper roots in mathematics in general.

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- E.g. Hamkins and Linnebo showed in MT potentialism with the structures initial segments of V that $S5$ at a world V_κ is equivalent to Σ_3 correctness of κ .
- Here we will be focussed 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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Theorem

$L \vdash \varphi$ implies $ZFC \vdash t(\varphi)(\emptyset)$

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Proof: use mirroring.

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Equivalence

We have an exact proof-theoretic equivalence, $L \equiv ZFC$.

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- M interprets ZFC^- under the translation $\varphi \mapsto \varphi^{\diamond}$.
- M proves $\neg \text{Pow}^{\diamond}$.
- M proves $V = \text{HC}^{\diamond}$ and hence SOA^{\diamond} .
- M 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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The axioms imply

$$\Diamond \exists x (\Diamond \leftarrow \exists y [y \subseteq x \wedge y = z] \wedge \Box \uparrow \neg \exists y [y = z])$$

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

By comprehension,

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

By height potentialism/rigidity,

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

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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- Our translation will be doubly parameterized, once by a real and once by a transitive set.
- Our interpretation for \diamond_{\uparrow} will involve holding r fixed and climbing transitive sets in $L[r]$;
- 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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Theorem

$M \vdash \varphi$ implies $T \vdash t(\varphi)(\emptyset, 0)$

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Table of Contents

- 1 Background
- 2 Warm Up: Height Potentialism
- 3 Height and Width Potentialism
- 4 Concluding Remarks**

Conclusions

Equi Consistency bi-interpretation height-width fungibility: determinacy vs large cardinals

Thanks!