

# Models of True Arithmetic that are not Omegas

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By an  $\omega$ , we mean  $\omega^V$  where  $V \models \text{ZF}$ .

**Theorem:** Any nonstandard model of PA has an elementary submodel which is not an  $\omega$ .

**Proof:** Let  $M$  be the model. There is a countable collection  $\mathcal{F}$  of Skolem functions such that if  $A \subseteq M$  is closed under  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $A \preceq M$ . Let  $\{f_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be an enumeration of the compositions of functions in  $\mathcal{F}$ , so that

$$N_a = \{f_n(a) | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

is the closure of  $\{a\}$  under  $\mathcal{F}$ . If  $a$  is nonstandard, then  $N = N_a$  will be the desired submodel.

To show that  $N$  is not an  $\omega$ , we first make three observations:

1. For any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the relation  $f_n(x) = y$  (in  $x$  and  $y$ ) is definable in PA, say by a formula

$$\varphi_n(x, y) \equiv f_n(x) = y$$

2. The relation  $f_n(x) = y$  in  $n$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$ , is definable in ZF, say by a formula

$$\Phi(n, x, y) \equiv f_n(x) = y$$

3. For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\text{ZF} \vdash \forall x, y [\varphi_n(x, y) \leftrightarrow \Phi(n, x, y)]$$

By (1), we can define  $f_n(x)$  inside  $N$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $N \preceq M$ , this agrees with the  $f_n$  obtained from  $M$ .

By (2), we can define  $F(n, x)$  in  $V$  for any  $V \models \text{ZF}$ . ( $F$  will be a function  $\omega^V \times \omega^V \rightarrow \omega^V$ .)

By (3), if  $N = \omega^V$  then for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $V \models (\forall x \in \omega) f_n(x) = F(n, x)$ . So  $F(n, \cdot) \equiv f_n(\cdot)$ .

Now suppose  $N = \omega^V$  for some  $V \models \text{ZF}$ . Then

$$N = \{f_n(a) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subseteq \{F(n, a) \mid n < a\} = N$$

so  $\{F(n, a) \mid n < a\} = N = \omega^V$ . But  $\{F(n, a) \mid n < a\}$  is definable in  $V$ , and in fact

$$V \models [\{F(n, a) \mid n < a\} \text{ is finite}]$$

This contradiction proves the theorem.