

Recursion-Theoretic Hierarchies

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PETER G. HINMAN works in the Department of Mathematics at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

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PERSPECTIVES IN LOGIC

Recursion-Theoretic Hierarchies

PETER G. HINMAN

University of Michigan



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who make life fun

For *M* and *m*

Preface to the Series

On Perspectives. Mathematical logic arose from a concern with the nature and the limits of rational or mathematical thought, and from a desire to systematise the modes of its expression. The pioneering investigations were diverse and largely autonomous. As time passed, and more particularly in the last two decades, interconnections between different lines of research and links with other branches of mathematics proliferated. The subject is now both rich and varied. It is the aim of the series to provide, as it were, maps or guides to this complex terrain. We shall not aim at encyclopaedic coverage; nor do we wish to prescribe, like Euclid, a definitive version of the elements of the subject. We are not committed to any particular philosophical programme. Nevertheless we have tried by critical discussion to ensure that each book represents a coherent line of thought; and that, by developing certain themes, it will be of greater interest than a mere assemblage of results and techniques.

The books in the series differ in level: some are introductory some highly specialised. They also differ in scope: some offer a wide view of an area, others present a single line of thought. Each book is, at its own level, reasonably self-contained. Although no book depends on another as prerequisite, we have encouraged authors to fit their book in with other planned volumes, sometimes deliberately seeking coverage of the same material from different points of view. We have tried to attain a reasonable degree of uniformity of notation and arrangement. However, the books in the series are written by individual authors, not by the group. Plans for books are discussed and argued about at length. Later, encouragement is given and revisions suggested. But it is the authors who do the work; if, as we hope, the series proves of value, the credit will be theirs.

History of the Ω -Group. During 1968 the idea of an integrated series of monographs on mathematical logic was first mooted. Various discussions led to a meeting at Oberwolfach in the spring of 1969. Here the founding members of the group (R. O. Gandy, A. Levy, G. H. Müller, G. Sacks, D. S. Scott) discussed the project in earnest and decided to go ahead with it. Professor F. K. Schmidt and Professor Hans Hermes gave us encouragement and support. Later Hans Hermes joined the group. To begin with all was fluid. How ambitious should we be? Should

we write the books ourselves? How long would it take? Plans for authorless books
 were promoted, savaged and scrapped. Gradually there emerged a form and a
 method. At the end of an infinite discussion we found our name, and that of the
 series. We established our centre in Heidelberg. We agreed to meet twice a year
 together with authors, consultants and assistants, generally in Oberwolfach. We
 soon found the value of collaboration: on the one hand the permanence of the
 founding group gave coherence to the over-all plans; on the other hand the
 stimulus of new contributors kept the project alive and flexible. Above all, we found
 how intensive discussion could modify the authors' ideas and our own. Often the
 battle ended with a detailed plan for a better book which the author was keen to
 write and which would indeed contribute a perspective.

Acknowledgements. The confidence and support of Professor Martin Barner of the
 Mathematisches Forschungsinstitut at Oberwolfach and of Dr. Klaus Peters of
 Springer-Verlag made possible the first meeting and the preparation of a provi-
 sional plan. Encouraged by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and the
 Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften we submitted this plan to the Stiftung
 Volksagenwerk where Dipl. Ing. Penschuck vetted our proposal; after careful
 investigation he became our adviser and advocate. We thank the Stiftung
 Volksagenwerk for a generous grant (1970–73) which made our existence and our
 meetings possible.

Since 1974 the work of the group has been supported by funds from the
 Heidelberg Academy; this was made possible by a special grant from the
 Kultusministerium von Baden-Württemberg (where Regierungsdirektor R. Goll
 was our counsellor). The success of the negotiations for this was largely due to the
 enthusiastic support of the former President of the Academy, Professor Wilhelm
 Doerr. We thank all those concerned.

Finally we thank the Oberwolfach Institute, which provides just the right
 atmosphere for our meetings, Drs. Ulrich Felgner and Klaus Gloede for all their
 help, and our indefatigable secretary Elfriede Ihrig.

Oberwolfach
 September 1975

R. O. Gandy
 A. Levy
 G. Sacks

H. Hermes
 G. H. Müller
 D. S. Scott

Author's Preface

At a recent meeting of logicians, one speaker complained — mainly, but perhaps not wholly, in jest — that logic is tightly controlled by a small group of people (the cabal) who exercise careful control over the release of new ideas to the general public (especially students) and indeed suppress some material completely. The situation is surely not so grim as this, but any potential reader of this book must have felt at some time that there is at least a minor conspiracy to keep new ideas inaccessible until the “insiders” have worked them over thoroughly. In particular he might well feel this way about the whole subject of Generalized Recursion Theory, which developed in the second half of the 1960s. The basic definitions and results on recursion involving functionals of higher type appeared in the monumental but extremely difficult paper Kleene [1959] and [1963]. Gandy [1967] gave another presentation *ab initio*, but the planned part II of this paper, as well as several other major advances in the subject, never appeared in print. For the theory of recursion on ordinals, the situation was even worse. Much of the basic material had appeared only in the *abstracts* Kripke [1964, 1964a], and although certain parts of the theory had been worked out in papers such as Kreisel-Sacks [1965] and Sacks [1967], there was no reasonably complete account of the basic facts of the subject in print.

When I first contemplated doing something about this situation in the spring of 1971, I planned to write a short monograph on recursion relative to type-2 functionals with enough background on ordinary Recursion Theory to show how the theories fit together. Before I had done much about it, however, the invitation of the Ω -Group to write a volume for this series stimulated me to think in more ambitious terms and my plan expanded gradually to include functionals of types 3 and higher, ordinal recursion, and a more thorough presentation of the material on definability (Chapters III–V). The constant encouragement of the Ω -Group, collective and individual, was essential to the completion of the task.

The original plan arose from a course I gave at the University of Michigan in the Fall Term of 1970. Thanks to Jens-Erik Fenstad and the University of Oslo I had the opportunity to lecture on much of the material during the academic year 1971–1972. Other occasions to lecture on parts of the material were provided by the University of Michigan in 1972–73 and the Winter Term of 1975, the Warsaw

Logic Semester in May, 1973, and the Michigan–Ohio Logic Seminar. The majority of the actual writing was done in the summers of 1973–75 under grants from the National Science Foundation.

Of my many teachers, formal and informal, who have personally helped me to form my conception of this subject, I want especially to mention John Addison, Jens-Erik Fenstad, Robin Gandy, Yiannis Moschovakis, and Joe Shoenfeld. Andreas Blass read much of the first draft and made many helpful comments. Mm. Bocus and Haberin provided inspiring models of excellence. The boldness of the section and subsection headings in the first third of the book is due to the careful work of Monica Scott and her brown crayon. Barbara Perkel did a superb job of typing. Finally, the person to whom the reader should be most grateful is Anne Zalc. In reading carefully the entire final draft she caught hundreds of errors, serious and minor. More importantly, she was an unrelenting enemy of that peculiar brand of obfuscation which results from an author's implicit assumption that the reader has perfectly understood and remembered every detail of what has preceded any given point. Without her the book would be a denser jungle.

January 30, 1978
 Ann Arbor

Peter G. Hinman

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Part A. Basic Notions of Definability	5
<i>Chapter I. Groundwork</i>	7
1. Logic and Set Theory	7
2. Topology and Measure	15
3. Inductive Definitions	22
<i>Chapter II. Ordinary Recursion Theory</i>	27
1. Primitive Recursion	28
2. Recursive Functionals and Relations	37
3. Normal Forms	46
4. Semi-Recursive Relations	52
5. Relativization	62
<i>Chapter III. Hierarchies and Definability</i>	69
1. The Arithmetical Hierarchy	69
2. The Analytical Hierarchy	80
3. Inductive Definability	89
4. Implicit Definability and Bases	106
5. Definability in Formal Languages for Arithmetic	114
6. Arithmetical Forcing	124
Part B. The Analytical and Projective Hierarchies	133
<i>Chapter IV. The First Level</i>	135
1. Π^1_1 and Well-Orderings	135
2. The Boundedness Principle and Other Applications	143

Index	473
Special Notations	469
Global Notational Conventions	467
References	459
Epilogue	445
7. Ordinal Recursion and Constructible Sets	430
6. Recursively Large Ordinals	419
5. Stability	412
4. Ordinal Recursion and Type-2 Functionals	403
3. Ordinal Recursion and the Analytical Hierarchy	393
2. Recursively Regular Ordinals	383
1. Recursive Ordinal Functions	372
Chapter VIII. Recursion on Ordinals	371
4. Higher Types	363
3. Hierarchies of Relations Recursive in a Type-3 Functional	360
2. Relations Semi-Recursive in a Type-3 Functional	350
1. Basic Properties	343
Chapter VII. Recursion in a Type-3 Functional	343
7. Recursive Type-3 Functionals and Relations	335
6. Extended Functionals	315
5. Hierarchies of Relations Recursive in a Type-2 Functional	307
4. Relations Semi-Recursive in a Type-2 Functional	291
3. Ordinal Comparison	284
2. Substitution Theorems	271
1. Basic Properties	259
Chapter VI. Recursion in a Type-2 Functional	259
Part C. Generalized Recursion Theories	257
6. A Hierarchy for Δ_1^2	251
5. Effective Hierarchies in Δ_1^1	246
4. Classical Hierarchies in Δ_1^1	236
3. The Hypothesis of Projective Determinacy	221
2. The Hypothesis of Constructibility	214
1. The Pre-Wellordering Property	202
Chapter V. Δ_1^2 and Beyond	201
7. Uniformization	194
6. Continuous Images	188
5. Cardinality, Measurability and Category	180
4. The Effective Borel and Hyperarithmetical Hierarchies	163
3. The Borel Hierarchy	156