

Logic and Logical Philosophy Volume 24 (2015), 483 DOI: 10.12775/LLP.2015.023

## Hsing-chien Tsai

## AN ADDENDUM TO: "Notes on models of first-order mereological theories"

Andrzej Pietruszczak has made a comment on my Claim 1 in his paper entitled "Classical mereology is not elementarily axiomatizable"<sup>1</sup>. His paper is a wonderful exposition of mereological structures and I think his comment is fair. However, the following are some remarks inspired by his comment.

First of all, my Claim 1 is weaker than what its proof can show. Such a proof gives two elementarily equivalent mereological structures  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  such that  $M_2$  is complete but  $M_1$  is not (Pietruszczak also proves the same result, but in a different way). Therefore, it actually shows that "being complete" cannot be defined by any set of first-order sentences, or more precisely, there is no set S of sentences in the first-order mereological language such that a mereological structure M is complete if and only if  $M \models S$ . Furthermore, note that  $M_2$  is a mereological structure in Tarski's sense while  $M_1$  is not. Hence we can also conclude that the class of mereological structures in Tarski's sense is not first-order (elementarily) axiomatizable. For otherwise, there is a set S of sentences (in the first-order mereological language) such that M is a mereological structure in Tarski's sense if and only if  $M \models S$ , but then it cannot be the case that both  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  satisfy S, which contradicts the fact that they are elementarily equivalent.

HSING-CHIEN TSAI National Chung-Cheng University 168 University Road Min-Hsiung, Chia-Yi, 62102 Taiwan pythc@ccu.edu.tw

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In this issue: A. Pietruszczak, "Classical mereology is not elementarily axiomatizable", *Logic and Logical Philosophy*, 24, 4 (2015): 485–498. http://dx.doi.org/ 10.12775/LLP.2015.017