CATEGORICITY AND ALETHIC MODALITY

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Abstract: Non-categorical theories are connected to theories of possibility in the following way: If theory T fails to decide sentence s, then both s and s are possible relative to T. This observation, along with the observation that first-order formulations of ordinary mathematical structures inevitably allow for non-isomorphic models, led Skolem to his theory of relativity of set-theoretic notions. In this paper I discuss one way of formalizing Skolem's intuition. I also defend the view that Skolem's intuition requires us to distinguish between logical modality and alethic modality more generally.