TRUTH IN MODAL LANGUAGES

KAI WEHMEIER

Modal operator languages are, in a precise sense, mere notational variants of certain first-order languages. Nevertheless, the universally accepted definition of truth in a model for such operator languages differs significantly from the universally accepted definition of truth in a model for first-order languages. I will explore these differences and argue that there are weighty methodological reasons for construing truth in a model along first-order, Tarskian lines. I then illustrate by means of an example or two how such a reorientation has remarkable repercussions for our picture of the logical structure of language.