

The fourth grade of modal involvement

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I provide an account of *de re* necessity conceived as a predicate applying to formulae and variable assignments. I demonstrate that operator and alternative predicate approaches fall short of capturing the full expressive power of *de re* necessity. A possible worlds semantics will be given for the necessity predicate building on previous work by Halbach, Leitgeb and Welch (2003). I will then look at themes from modal metaphysics such as necessitism vs contingentism and *ante rem* versus *in rebus* conceptions of universals, recanting some claims in (Halbach and Sturm, 2004).

References

- Halbach, Volker, Hannes Leitgeb and Philip Welch (2003), 'Possible Worlds Semantics For Modal Notions Conceived As Predicates', *Journal of Philosophical Logic* 32, 179–223.
- Halbach, Volker and Holger Sturm (2004), 'Bealers Masterargument: Ein Lehrstück zum Verhältnis von Metaphysik und Semantik', *Facta Philosophica* 6, 97–110.