

*This is a review submitted to Mathematical Reviews/MathSciNet.*

**Reviewer Name:** Bruni, Riccardo

**Mathematical Reviews/MathSciNet Reviewer Number:** 138582

**Address:**

Dipartimento di Lettere e Filosofia  
Università degli Studi di Firenze  
via della Pergola 60  
50121 Florence  
ITALY  
riccardo.bruni@unifi.it

**Author:** Humberstone, Lloyd; Hazen, Allen

**Title:** When is a schema not a schema? On a remark by Suszko.

**MR Number:** MR4079269

**Primary classification:**

**Secondary classification(s):**

**Review text:**

As the title suggests, the paper under review is centered on a remark made by Roman Suszko in [Identity connective and modality, *Studia Logica*, 27 (1971), pp. 7-41; MR0297540] which concerns three formulas that he claims (i) to be mutually equivalent, and (ii) to “mean” that there exist at most two objects. While Suszko’s remark is correct of two of these formulas (notably, those involving a symbol for identity), it is shown here to be wrong as far as the third schema is concerned. The connection of this remark with Suszko’s aim of building a non-Fregean logic by distinguishing an identity connective from the logical biconditional is explained. A discussion is made as to how should Suszko’s ambiguous formulation of this schema be solved, and a clarification is provided as to how his claim (ii) has to be intended. Then, it is shown to be false. Some further comments about what it means, for a given schema, that certain formulas of the chosen language are recognized as instances of it are given. In the converse direction, the authors clarify, for a given formula of a language, what is the honest way of generalizing it in schematic form by suitably playing with first-order and second-order quantification (the latter being shown as a tricky process, that often change a statement that successfully restricts the size of domains validating it, into something that has not such effect). On the basis of the said analysis, an attempted explanation of what might have caused Suszko’s mistaken observation is advanced.