

Two Alternative Interpretations of “*The Negation of the Negation*”.

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Author's Preface. The purpose of Vignette #9 is to present two alternative interpretations of the central dialectical “*negation of the negation*” process, which are both ambiguously implicit in many discourses that invoke dialectics, but whose differences can be readily ‘explicitized’ using the F.E.D. First Dialectical Algebra.

A Note about the On-Line Availability of Definitions of F.E.D. Technical Terms. Definitions of Encyclopedia Dialectica technical terms and ‘neologia’ are available on-line via the following URLs --

<http://www.dialectics.org/dialectics/Glossary.html>

<https://www.point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/ClarificationsArchive.htm>

-- by clicking on the links associated with each such term, listed, alphabetically, on the web-pages linked above.

The Encyclopedia Dialectica special terms most fundamental to this vignette are indicated below, together with links to their E.D. definitions --

«arithmos» and «arithmoi»

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Arithmos/Arithmos.htm>

<https://www.point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Arithmoi/Arithmoi.htm>

«aufheben»

<https://www.point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Aufheben/Aufheben.htm>

http://www.dialectics.org/dialectics/Glossary_files/F.E.D.,%20A%20Dialectical%20%27%27Theory%20of%20Everything%27%27.%20Volume%200.%20FOUNDATIONS.%20Edition%201.00.%20first%20published%2010DEC2011.%20Definition.%20AUFHEBEN,%2018AUG2011.%20JPEG.jpg

«monad»

<https://www.point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Monad/Monad.htm>

Seldon Functions

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/SeldonFunctions/SeldonFunctions.htm>

http://www.dialectics.org/dialectics/Glossary_files/F.E.D.,%20A%20Dialectical%20%27%27Theory%20of%20Everything%27%27.%20Volume%200.%20FOUNDATIONS.%20Edition%201.00.%20last%20updated%2028OCT2011.%20Definition.%20SELDON%20FUNCTIONS.%20JPEG.%2029OCT2011_1.jpg

-- definitions resources which will be expanded as the F.E.D. Encyclopedia Project unfolds.

I. Preliminary Note: “Negation of Negation” in the Context of the Boolean Algebra for Non-Dialectical Logic.

Boolean Negation is Abstract Negation. If, in the “Primary Interpretation” -- the ‘Existential Interpretation’ -- per Boole, of Boole’s original arithmetic and algebra for formal logic, we select a case in which $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{1}$, asserting, by that equation, that the «*arithmos*» or *assemblage* of \mathbf{X} s, of the \mathbf{X} -kind of “*logical individuals*”, i.e., that the category or “class” \mathbf{X} , *exists*, and, indeed, thereby identifying that category with/as ‘*the universal category*’, as constituting the *entirety* of the “universe of discourse”, then the Boolean *negation* of that \mathbf{X} , written $\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{x}$, produces *absolute nothingness*, Boole’s “Nothing”, “ $\mathbf{0}$ ”:

$$\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{0}$$

= the “‘empty class’”, the “‘empty category’”, the “«*arithmos*»” devoid of any «*monads*», devoid of any *individuals*. That is, by this Boolean operation, modeling formal-logical *negation*, \mathbf{X} , the “Universe”, the “‘universal class’”, the “universe of discourse”, the “‘All’” -- “‘*Everything*’” -- is summarily converted into “*Nothing*”.

Thus, “*the negation of the negation*”, in the context of Boolean, formal, non-dialectical logic, is an utterly flat circular movement, or a “back and forth”, oscillatory, “zig-zag” movement, which returns to its starting point; a movement between “‘*Everything*’”, “ $\mathbf{1}$ ”, and “‘*Nothing*’”, “ $\mathbf{0}$ ”, or between “‘*Nothing*’”, “ $\mathbf{0}$ ”, and “‘*Everything*’”, “ $\mathbf{1}$ ”, depending upon the “starting point”, the initial, \mathbf{x} , value --

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{1} - (\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{x})$$

$$\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{1} - (\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{0})$$

$$\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1} - (\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1})$$

-- a movement, that is, which returns to “‘*Nothing*’”, “ $\mathbf{0}$ ”, if the starting point, \mathbf{x} , is “‘*Nothing*’”, $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$, and which returns to “‘*Everything*’”, “ $\mathbf{1}$ ”, if the starting point is “‘*Everything*’”, $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{1}$.

II. Two Distinct Meanings for the Phrase “‘*The Dialectical Negation of the Negation*’”.

Key Proposition: *Dialectical negation* is «*aufheben*», *determinate negation*, not “abstract negation” / “absolute negation”.

0. That about which both Interpretations Agree:

Key Assertion: $\curvearrowright \infty = \infty \infty$,

i.e., the *dialectical negator* of an ontological category, ∞ , is that ontological category, ∞ , itself.

Dialectical negation is, *primarily*, *self-negation*, *self-«aufheben»*, *determinate self-transformation* / *self-development* / *self-change* / «*autokinesis*».

The *dialectical negation operation* for an ontological category, ∞ , is *not* an *other* operation than its operand, is *not* an *other* “function” than its “argument”, is *not other* than the self-same ontological category, ∞ , itself.

The ontological category symbol, ∞ , is itself also a *generic* symbol for an operation, for an operator, for a function, for a process, for an ‘ideo-eventivity’ -- *specifically*, for some *special* kind of «*aufheben*» *operator*.

The dialectical negation operator for ∞ is ∞ itself.

That is, dialectical negation of ∞ , $\leftrightarrow \infty$, is, in its **primary** instance, **not negation** by an external other, not by an *alien* operation, operator, or category, but is, on the contrary, self-negation, internal negation, immanent negation, that is, a self-movement, a self-induced change, a self-driven process, expressing the dialectical internal contradiction, that is, the self-contradiction -- the 'self-duality', or 'intra-duality' -- of the category/operation/process/eventity symbolized by ∞ , which process expresses **not** a "propositional [self-]contradiction" of the kind encountered in formal logic, but an 'intra-contra-kinesis' of the kind codified by a contental, ontological, existential -- dialectical -- logic.

The equation $\leftrightarrow \infty = \infty \infty$ means that the eventity denoted by ∞ becomes its own **negator** when its self-development reaches its critical point, its point of 'self-meta-evolution' or of 'self-revolution'.

To describe the timing of that self-development, of its reaching its critical point, and of what develops thereafter, requires the richer languages of the [meta-]systematic-dialectical progression of the dialectical ideographies.

Minimally, it requires a language which incorporates at least a discrete-time, or Step-count, Whole-number variable, **S**, such as do the Seldon Functions.

1. Interpretation 1: The logic of **Interpretation 1** claims the following: "It follows, if $\leftrightarrow (\infty \infty) = \infty (\infty \infty) = \infty^2$, that, then, $\leftrightarrow (\infty^2 \infty) = \leftrightarrow (\leftrightarrow \infty) = \infty^2 (\infty \infty) = \infty^4$, and that, therefore, $\leftrightarrow (\infty^4 \infty) = \infty^4 (\infty \infty) = \infty^8$, and that, therefore, $\leftrightarrow (\infty^8 \infty) = \infty^8 (\infty \infty) = \infty^{16}$, and so on, in 'meta-fractal' continuation of this pattern.

In this interpretation, the dialectical negation operator, ' \leftrightarrow ', acts as a kind of 'horizontalized', leftwards "ditto" mark.

This interpretation thus gives rise to the 'Dyadic Seldon Function', which can be expressed, compactly, as follows --

$$\underline{H}_s = (\infty \infty)^{2^s}, \text{ wherein, consecutively, } s = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, \dots$$

-- given that, therein, ∞ denotes the **earliest, beginning, starting, or original** ontological category of the dialectical ontological categories-progression / operators-progression / "functions"-progression / eventities-progression or systems-progression modeled by this 'Dyadic Seldon Function', that is, -- given that ∞ denotes the «arché» of that dialectical progression.

2. Interpretation 2: The logic of **Interpretation 2:** “It follows, if $\curvearrowright \infty = \infty \infty$, that, then, $\curvearrowright = \infty$, so that $\curvearrowright \curvearrowright \infty = \infty \infty \infty = \infty^1 \infty^1 \infty^1 = \infty^3$, which contains the **first dialectical synthesis**, as the product of the «arché» or **first thesis** with the **first dialectical antithesis**, so that, $\infty^3 \infty^3 \infty^3 = \infty^9$ contains the **second dialectical synthesis**, as the product of the **first dialectical synthesis** with the **second dialectical antithesis**, and so that, $\infty^9 \infty^9 \infty^9 = \infty^{27}$, contains the **third dialectical synthesis**, as the product of the **second dialectical synthesis** with the **third dialectical antithesis**, and so on, in ‘meta-fractal’ continuation of this pattern.

This interpretation thus gives rise to the ‘**Triadic Seldon Function**’, which can be expressed, compactly, as follows --

$$\mathbb{H}_s = (\infty \infty \infty)^{3^s}, \text{ wherein, again, consecutively, } s = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, \dots$$

-- given, again, that, therein, ∞ denotes the **earliest, beginning, starting, or original** ontological category of the **dialectical** ontological **categories-progression / operations-progression / “functions”-progression / eventities- progression or systems- progression** modeled by this ‘**Triadic Seldon Function**’, that is, given that ∞ denotes the «arché» of that **dialectical progression**.

In the **Encyclopedia Dialectica** research, both of these two interpretations of the core-**dialectical, self-«aufheben»** process of the ‘**self-negation of the self-negation...**’, have been found to be useful -- both the **Dyadic** and the **Triadic** versions of the **Seldon Function** have been found useful -- for the formulation of **dialectical ‘meta-models’** of the ontological ‘**self-revolutions**’ of nature, of the ‘**meta-dynamical**’, ‘**self-meta-evolutionary transitions**’ from one epoch and regime of dynamical “evolution” to its expanded-ontology successor such epoch.

Links to definitions of additional **Encyclopedia Dialectica** special terms deployed in the discourse above --

«arché»

<https://www.point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Arche/Arche.htm>

«autokinesis»

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Autokinesis/Autokinesis.htm>

‘auto-negation’ or ‘self-negation’

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/AutoNegation/AutoNegation.htm>

Boole’s Algebra

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/BoolesAlgebra/BoolesAlgebra.htm>

category

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Categorical/Categorical.htm>

category

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Category/Category.htm>

dialectical categorial progression

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/CategoricalProgression/CategoricalProgression.htm>

“‘**dialectical contradiction**’” versus “‘**propositional contradiction**’”, etc.

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Contradiction/Contradiction.htm>

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/DialecticalContradictions/DialecticalContradictionsW.htm>

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/DialecticalContradictions/DialecticalContradictionsWG.htm>

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/DialecticalSelfContradiction/DialecticalSelfContradiction.htm>

dynamics versus “*meta-dynamics*”

http://www.dialectics.org/dialectics/Glossary_files/F.E.D._Definitions.DYNAMICS_vs._%27META-DYNAMICS%27.19DEC2012.jpg

“*eventity*”

<https://www.point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Eventity/Eventity.htm>

evolution versus “*meta-evolution*”

http://www.dialectics.org/dialectics/Glossary_files/F.E.D._Definitions.EVOLUTION_vs._%27META-EVOLUTION%27.19DEC2012.jpg

ontological category

<http://point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/CategoryOntological/CategoryOntological.htm>

ontology

<https://www.point-of-departure.org/Point-Of-Departure/ClarificationsArchive/Ontology/Ontology.htm>