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A HISTORY OF LOGIC

Once upon a time, sitting on a rock in Egypt, Parmenides invented logic. Such a legend might have appealed to people believing in a (rather small) set of well-defined rules constituting the logic. This belief had permeated the mainstream thinking at least until the beginning of the 20th century. But even if this medieval story appears now implausible, it reflects the fact that Parmenides was the first philosopher who did not merely propose a vision of reality but who also supported it by an extended argument. He is reported to have had a Pythagorean teacher and, perhaps, his use of argument was inspired by the importance of mathematics to the Pythagorean tradition. Still, he never systematically formulated principles of argumentation and using arguments is not the same as studying them.

“Logical thinking” may be associated roughly with something like correct arguing or reasoning, and the study of logic begins with the attempts to formulate the principles ensuring such correctness. Now, correctness amounts to conformance to some prescribed rules. Identification of such rules, and the ways of verifying conformance to them, begins with Aristotle in the 5th century BC. He defined his logical discourse—a syllogism—as one “in which, certain things being stated something other than what is stated follows of necessity from their being so.” This intuition of necessity—unavoidable or mechanical—consequences, embodying the idea of correctness, both lies at the origin of the discipline of logic and has been the main force driving its development until the 20th century. However, in a quite interesting turn, its concluding chapter (or rather: the chapter at which we will conclude its description) did not establish any consensus about the mechanisms of the human thinking and the necessities founding its correctness. Instead, it provided a precise counterpart of the Aristotelian definition of a process in which, certain things being given, some other follow as their
unavoidable, mechanical consequences. This is known as Turing machine and its physical realization is computer.

We will sketch logic's development along the three, intimately connected axes which reflect its three main domains.

(1) The foremost concerns the correctness of arguments and this seems relative to their meaning. Meaning, however, is a vague concept. In order to formulate the rules for construction of correct arguments, one tries to capture it more precisely, and such attempts lead to another, more formal investigation of patterns of arguments.

(2) In order to construct precise and valid patterns of arguments one has to determine their “building blocks”. One has to identify the basic terms, their kinds and means of combination.

(3) Finally, there is the question of how to represent these patterns. Although apparently of secondary importance, it is the answer to this question which puts purely symbolic manipulation in the focus. It can be considered the beginning of modern mathematical logic, which led to the development of the devices for symbolic manipulation - computers.

The first three sections sketch the development along the respective lines until Renaissance beginning, however, with the second point, Section A, following with the first, Section B, and concluding with the third, Section C. Then, Section D indicates the development in the modern era, with particular emphasis on the last two centuries. Section E sketches the basic aspects of modern mathematical logic and its relations to computers.

A. PATTERNS OF REASONING

A.1. REDUCTIO AD ABSURDUM

If Parmenides was only implicitly aware of the general rules underlying his arguments, the same perhaps is not true for his disciple Zeno of Elea (5th century BC). Parmenides taught that there is no real change in the world and that all things remain, eventually, the same one being. In the defense of this heavily criticized thesis, Zeno designed a series of ingenious arguments, known as “Zeno's paradoxes”, demonstrating that the contrary assumption leads to absurdity. One of the most known is the story of

Achilles and tortoise competing in a race

Tortoise, being a slower runner, starts some time t before Achilles.
A. PATTERNS OF REASONING

In this time $t_1$, it will go some way $w_1$ towards the goal. Now Achilles starts running but in order to catch up with the tortoise he has to first run the way $w_1$ which will take him some time $t_1$ (less than $t$). In this time, the tortoise will again walk some distance $w_2$ away from the point $w_1$ and closer to the goal. Then again, Achilles must first run the way $w_2$ in order to catch the tortoise which, in the same time $t_2$, will walk some distance $w_3$ away. Hence, Achilles will never catch the tortoise. But this obviously absurd, so the thesis that the two are really changing their positions cannot be true.

It was only in the 19th century that mathematicians captured and expressed precisely what was wrong with this way of thinking. This, however, does not concern us as much as the fact that the same form of reasoning was applied by Zeno in many other stories: assuming a thesis $T$, he analyzed it arriving at a conclusion $C$; but $C$ turns out to be absurd — therefore $T$ cannot be true. This pattern has been given the name “reductio ad absurdum” and is still frequently used in both informal and formal arguments.

A.2. ARISTOTLE

Various ways of arguing in political and philosophical debates were advanced by various thinkers. Sophists, often discredited by the “serious” philosophers, certainly deserve the credit for promoting the idea of a correct argument, irrespectively of its subject matter and goal. Horrified by the immorality of sophists’ arguing, Plato attempted to combat them by plunging into ethical and metaphysical discussions and claiming that these indeed had a strong methodological logic — the logic of discourse, “dialectic”. In terms of development of modern logic there is, however, close to nothing one can learn from that. The formulation of the principles for correct reasoning culminated in ancient Greece with Plato’s pupil Aristotle’s (384-322 BC) teaching of categorical forms and syllogisms.

A.2.1. CATEGORICAL FORMS

Most of Aristotle’s logic was concerned with specific kinds of judgments, later called “categorical propositions”, consisting of at most five building blocks: (1) a quantifier (“every”, “some”, or “not”), (2) a subject, (3) a copula (“is”), (4) perhaps a negation (“not”), and (5) a predicate. Subject, copula and predicate were mandatory, the remaining two elements were optional. Such propositions fall into one of the following forms:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>quantifier</th>
<th>subject</th>
<th>copula</th>
<th>predicate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>(4) B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>is not</td>
<td>B : Universal affirmative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>(4) B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Some</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>is not</td>
<td>B : Particular affirmative</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>(4) B</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>is not</td>
<td>B : Singular affirmative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>is not</td>
<td>B : Singular negative</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In the singular judgments A stands for an individual, e.g., “Socrates is a man.” These forms gained much less importance than the rest since in most contexts they can be seen as special cases of particular judgments.

A.2.2. CONVERSIONS

Sometimes Aristotle adopted alternative but equivalent formulations. The universal negative judgment could also be formulated as “No A is B”, while the universal affirmative as “B belongs to every A” or “B is predicated of every A”.

Aristotle formulated several such rules, later known as the theory of conversion. To convert a proposition in this sense is to interchange its subject and predicate. Aristotle observed that universal negative and particular affirmative propositions can be validly converted in this way: if “some A is B”, then also “some B is A”, and if “no A is B”, then also “no B is A”. In later terminology, such propositions were said to be converted simply (simpliciter). But universal affirmative propositions cannot be converted in this way: if “every A is an B”, it does not follow that “every B is a A”. It does follow, however, that “some B is a A”. Such propositions, which can be converted by interchanging their subjects and predicates and, in addition, also replacing the universal quantifier “all” by the existential quantifier “some?”, were later said to be converted accidentally (per accidentem). Particular negative propositions cannot be converted at all: from the fact that some animal is not a dog, it does not follow that some dog is not an animal.

Below, the four figures of syllogism are presented. Aristotle used the laws of conversion to reduce other syllogisms to syllogisms in the first figure. Conversions represent thus the first form of essentially formal manipulation. They provide the rules for:

replacing occurrence of one (categorical) form of a statement by another — without affecting the proposition!
A. Patterns of Reasoning

What does “affecting the proposition” mean is another subtle matter. The whole point of such a manipulation is that one changes the concrete appearance of a sentence, without changing its value. The intuition might have been that they essentially mean the same and are interchangeable. In a more abstract, and later formulation, one would say that “not to affect a proposition” is “not to change its truth value” — either both are false or both are true.

Two statements are equivalent if they have the same truth value.

This wasn’t exactly the point of Aristotle’s but we may ascribe him a lot of intuition in this direction. From now on, this will be a constantly recurring theme in logic. Looking at propositions as thus determining a truth value gives rise to some questions (and severe problems, as we will see.) Since we allow using some “place-holders” — variables — a proposition need not have a unique truth value. “All A are B” depends on what we substitute for A and B. In general, a proposition P may be:

1. a tautology — P is always true, no matter what we choose to substitute for the “place-holders”; (e.g., “All A are A”. In particular, a proposition without any “place-holders”, e.g., “all animals are animals”, may be a tautology.)
2. a contradiction — P is never true (e.g., “no A is A”);
3. contingent — P is sometimes true and sometimes false (“all A are B” is true, for instance, if we substitute “animals” for both A and B, while it is false if we substitute “birds” for A and “pigeons” for B).

A.2.3. Syllogisms

Aristotelian logic is best known for the theory of syllogisms which had remained practically unchanged and unchallenged for approximately 2000 years. In Prior Analytics, Aristotle defined a syllogism as a

discourse in which, certain things being stated something other than what is stated follows of necessity from their being so.

In spite of this very general definition, in practice he confined the term to arguments with only two premises and a single conclusion, each of which is a categorical proposition. The subject and predicate of the conclusion each occur in one of the premises, together with a third term (the middle) that is found in both premises but not in the conclusion. A syllogism thus argues that because S(subject) and P(predicate) are related in certain ways
to some $M$(iddle) term in the premises, they are related in a certain way to one another in the conclusion.

The predicate of the conclusion is called the major term, and the premise in which it occurs is called the major premise. The subject of the conclusion is called the minor term and the premise in which it occurs is called the minor premise. This way of describing major and minor terms conforms to Aristotle's actual practice but was proposed as a definition only by the 6th century Greek commentator John Philoponus.

Aristotle distinguished three different “figures” of syllogisms, according to how the middle is related to the other two terms in the premises. He only mentioned the fourth possibility which was counted as a separate figure by later logicians. If one wants to prove syllogistically that $S$(subject) is $P$(redicate), one finds a term $M$(iddle) such that the argument can fit into one of the following figures:

(I) “$M$ is $P$” and “$S$ is $M$” – hence “$S$ is $P$”, or
(II) “$P$ is $M$” and “$S$ is $M$” – hence “$S$ is $P$”, or
(III) “$M$ is $P$” and “$M$ is $S$” – hence “$S$ is $P$”, or
(IV) “$P$ is $M$” and “$M$ is $S$” – hence “$S$ is $P$”.

Each of these figures can come in various “moods”, i.e., each categorical form can come with various quantifiers, yielding a large taxonomy of possible syllogisms. Since the Middle Ages, one has used the following abbreviations for the concerned quantifiers:

A : universal affirmative : all, every
E : universal negative : no
I : particular affirmative : some
O : particular negative : some is not, not every

The following is an example of a syllogism of figure I with the mood A-I-I. “Marshal” is here the middle term and “politician” the major term.

\[
\begin{align*}
A: & \text{ Every marshal is a politician.} \\
I: & \text{ Some soldiers are marshals.} \\
E: & \text{ Some soldiers are politicians.} \\
\end{align*}
\]

Figure A.2 gives examples of syllogisms of all four figures with different moods. $M$ is the middle term, $P$ the major one and $S$ the minor one. Four quantifiers, distributed arbitrarily among the three statements of a syllogism, give 64 different syllogisms of each figure and the total of 256 distinct
A. Patterns of Reasoning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>fig.</th>
<th>Premises</th>
<th>Conclusion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>[M is P]</td>
<td>[S is M]</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-I</td>
<td>Every [M is P]</td>
<td>Some [S is M]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-A-A</td>
<td>Every [M is P]</td>
<td>Every [S is M]</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>fig.</th>
<th>Premises</th>
<th>Conclusion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>[P is M]</td>
<td>[S is M]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-A-E</td>
<td>No [P is M]</td>
<td>Every [S is M]</td>
</tr>
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<th>fig.</th>
<th>Premises</th>
<th>Conclusion</th>
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<td>III</td>
<td>[M is P]</td>
<td>[M is S]</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-I</td>
<td>Every [M is P]</td>
<td>Every [M is S]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-A-A</td>
<td>Every [M is P]</td>
<td>Every [M is S]</td>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>[P is M]</td>
<td>[M is S]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-A-O</td>
<td>No [P is M]</td>
<td>Every [M is S]</td>
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</table>

Fig. A.2  Examples of syllogisms of each figure and various moods.

Syllogisms. Aristotle identified 19 among them which are universally correct or, as we would say today, valid. Validity means here that

*no matter what concrete terms are substituted for the variables (P, M, S), if the premises are true then also the conclusion is guaranteed to be true.*

For instance, 5 examples in Figure A.2 with the special names in the last column, are valid. The names, given by the medieval scholars to the valid syllogisms, contained exactly three vowels identifying the mood. (The mnemonic aid did not extend further: Celarent and Cesare identify the same mood, so one had to simply remember that the former refers to figure I and the latter to figure II.)

Mood A-A-A in figure III does not yield a valid syllogism. To see this, we find a counterexample. Substituting women for M, female for P and human for S, the premises hold while the conclusion states that every human is female. A counterexample can be found to every invalid syllogism.

Note that a correct application of a valid syllogism does not guarantee truth of the conclusion. (A.1) is such an application, but the conclusion need not be true. It may namely happen that a correct application uses a false assumption, for instance, in a country where the marshal title is not used in the military. In such cases the conclusion may accidentally happen to be true but no guarantees about that can be given. We see again that the main idea is truth preservation in the reasoning process. An obvious
yet nonetheless crucially important, assumption is

The contradiction principle

Both $P$ and not-$P$ are never true for any proposition $P$.

This principle seemed (and to many still seems) intuitively obvious and irrefutable — if it were violated, there would be little point in constructing any “truth preserving” arguments. Although most logicians accept it, its status has been questioned and various logics, which do not obey this principle, have been proposed.

A.3. OTHER PATTERNS AND LATER DEVELOPMENTS

Aristotle’s syllogisms dominated logic until late Middle Ages. A lot of variations were invented, as well as ways of reducing some valid patterns to others (as in A.2.2). The claim that

all valid arguments can be obtained by conversion and, possibly,

reductio ad absurdum from the three (four?) figures

has been challenged and discussed ad nauseam.

Early developments (already in Aristotle) attempted to extend the syllogisms to modalities by considering instead of the categorical forms, the propositions of the form “it is possible/necessary that some $A$ are $B$”. Early followers of Aristotle in the 4th/3rd BC (Theophrastus of Eresus, Diodorus Cronus, the school of Megarians with Euclid) elaborated on the modal syllogisms and introduced the conditional form of a proposition

if ($A$ is $B$) then ($C$ is $D$).

These were further developed by Stoics who also made another significant step. One of great inventions of Aristotle were variables — the use of letters for arbitrary objects or terms. Now, instead of considering only patterns of terms where such variables are place-holders for objects, Stoics started to investigate logic with patterns of propositions. In such patterns, variables would stand for propositions instead of terms. For instance,

from two propositions: “the first” and “the second”, new propositions can be formed, e.g., “the first or the second”, “if the first then the second”, etc.

The terms “the first”, “the second” were used by Stoics as variables instead of single letters. The truth of such compound propositions may be deter-
B. A LANGUAGE AND ITS MEANING

Medieval logic had been dominated by Aristotelian syllogisms, but its elaborations did not contribute significantly to the theory of formal reasoning. However, Scholastics developed very sophisticated semantic theories, as we will see below.

The pattern, or form, of a valid argument is the first and through centuries the fundamental issue in the study of logic. Formation of patterns depends on the identification of their building blocks, whose character, in turn, is intimately related to their meaning. The two statements

(1) “all horses are animals”, and
(2) “all birds can fly”

are not exactly of the same form. More precisely, this depends on what a form is. The first says that one class (horses) is included in another (animals), while the second that all members of a class (birds) have some property (can fly). Is this grammatical difference essential or not? Or else, can it be covered by one and the same pattern or not? Can we replace a noun by an adjective in a valid pattern and still obtain a valid pattern or not? In fact, the first categorical form subsumes both above sentences, i.e., from the point of view of the logic of syllogisms, they are considered as having the same form.

Such questions indicate that forms of statements and patterns of reasoning require further analysis of “what can be plugged where” which in
turn, depends on which words or phrases can be considered as "having
similar function", perhaps even as "having the same meaning". What are
the objects referred to by various kinds of words? What are the objects
referred to by the propositions?

B.1. Early semantic observations and problems

Certain teachings of the sophists and rhetoricians are significant for the
early history of (this aspect of) logic. For example, Proclus (5th BC) ap-
ppears to have maintained that no two words can mean exactly the same
thing. Accordingly, he devoted much attention to carefully distinguishing
and defining the meanings of apparent synonyms, including many ethical
terms. On the other hand, Protagoras (5th BC) is reported to have been
the first to distinguish different kinds of sentences — questions, answers,
prayers, and injunctions. Further logical development addressed primarily
propositions, "answers", of which categorical propositions of Aristotle's are
the outstanding example. The categorical forms gave a highly sophisticated
and very general schema for classifying various terms (possibly, with dif-
f erent grammatical status) as basic building blocks of arguments, i.e., as
potential subjects or predicates.

Since logic studies statements, their form as well as patterns in which
they enter valid arguments, one of the basic questions concerns the meaning
of a proposition. As we indicated earlier, two propositions can be considered
equivalent if they have the same truth value. This suggests another law,
beside the contradiction principle, namely

The law of excluded middle (tertium non datur)

Each proposition \( P \) is either true or false.

There is surprisingly much to say against this apparently simple claim.
There are modal statements (see B.4) which do not seem to have any definite
truth value. Among many early counterexamples, there is the most famous
one, which appeared in its usual version in the 4th century BC, and which is
still disturbing and discussed by modern logicians:

The liar paradox

The sentence "This sentence is false" does not seem to have any
content — it is false if and only if it is true!

Such paradoxes challenge the principle of contradiction or of excluded mid-
dle, and call for a closer analysis of the fundamental logical notions.
B. A LANGUAGE AND ITS MEANING

B.2. THE SCHOLASTIC THEORY OF SUPPOSITION

The character and meaning of various building blocks of a logical language were thoroughly investigated by the Scholastics. Their theory of supposition was meant to answer the question:

To what does a given occurrence of a term refer in a given proposition?

One distinguished three main modes of supposition/reference:

1. **personal**: In the sentence “Every horse is an animal”, the term “horse” refers to individual horses.
2. **simple**: In the sentence “Horse is a species”, the term “horse” refers to a universal (the concept “horse”).
3. **material**: In the sentence “Horse is a monosyllable”, the term “horse” refers to the spoken or written word.

The distinction between (1) and (2) reflects the fundamental duality of individuals and universals which had been one of the most debated issues in medieval philosophy. Point (3), apparently of little significance, marks the increasing attention paid to the language and its mere syntax, which slowly becomes the object of study. Today, one easily blurs the distinction between the first two suppositions, for instance, subsuming them under the category of “use” and opposing to “mention” which corresponds exactly to (3). Lacking the quotation marks, medieval writers could write, for instance, the example sentence (3) as “Horse taken in the material supposition is a monosyllable.” Cumbrous as this may appear to an untrained eye, it disambiguates precisely references to language.

B.3. INTENSION VS. EXTENSION

Besides the supposition theory and its relatives, the logicians of the 14th century developed a sophisticated theory of connotation. The term “black” does not merely denote all black things – it also connotes the quality, blackness, which all such things possess. Connotation is also called “intension” – saying “black” I intend blackness. Denotation is closer to “extension” – the collection of all the objects referred to by the term “black”. This has become one of the central distinctions in the later development of logic and in the discussions about the entities referred to by words. Its variants recur in most later theories, sometimes as if they were innovations. For instance,
Frege opposes Sinn (sense, concept) to Bedeutung (reference), viewing both as constituting the meaning of a term. de Saussure distinguishes the signified (concept) from the referent (thing), and contrasts both with the signifier (sign). These later variants repeat the medieval understanding of a term which can be represented as follows:

\[
\text{term} \xrightarrow{\text{refers to}} \text{extension}
\]

intension can be ascribed to

The crux of many problems is that different intensions may refer to (denote) the same extension. The "Morning Star" and the "Evening Star" have different intensions and for centuries were considered to refer to two different stars. As it turned out, these are actually two appearances of one and the same planet Venus. The two terms have the same extension and the insight into this identity is a true discovery, completely different from the empty tautology that "Venus is Venus".

Logic, trying to capture correctness of reasoning and conceptual constructions, might be expected to address the conceptual corner of the above triangle, the connotations or intensions. Indeed, this has been the predominant attitude and many attempts have been made to design a "universal language of thought" in which one could speak directly about the concepts and their interrelations. Unfortunately, the concept of concept is not obvious at all and such attempts never reached any universal consensus. One had to wait until a more tractable ways of speaking about concepts become available. The emergence of modern mathematical logic coincides with the successful coupling of logical language with the precise statement of its meaning in terms of extension. Modern logic still has branches of intensional logic, but its main tools are of extensional nature.

4. Modalities

In chapter 9 of *De Interpretatione*, Aristotle discusses the assertion

*There will be a sea battle tomorrow.*

The problem is that, at the moment when it is made, it does not seem to have any definite truth value – whether it is true or false will become clear tomorrow but until then it is as possible that it will be the one as the other.
B. A LANGUAGE AND ITS MEANING

This is another example (besides the liar paradox) indicating that adopting the principle of excluded middle, i.e., considering every proposition as having always only one of two possible truth values, may be insufficient.

Besides studying the syllogisms, medieval logicians, having developed the theory of supposition, incorporated into it modal factors. As necessity and possibility are the two basic modalities, their logical investigations reflected and augmented the underlying theological and ethical disputes about God’s omnipotence and human freedom. The most important developments in modal logic occurred in the face of such questions as:

(1) whether statements about future contingent events are now true or false (the question originating from Aristotle),
(2) whether humans can know in advance future contingent events, and
(3) whether God can know such events.

One might distinguish the more ontological character of the first problem from the more epistemic flavour of the two latter, but in all three cases logical modality is linked with time. Thus, for instance, Peter Aureoli (12th/13th century) held that if something is $B$ (for some predicate $B$) but could be not-$B$, i.e., is not necessarily $B$, then it might change in the course of time, from being $B$ to being not-$B$.

As in the case of categorical propositions, important issues here could hardly be settled before one had a clearer idea concerning the kinds of objects or states of affairs modalities are supposed to describe. In the late 13th century, the link between time and modality was severed by Duns Scotus who proposed a notion of possibility based purely on the notion of semantic consistency. “Possible” means for him logically possible, that is, not involving contradiction. This conception was radically new and had a tremendous influence all the way down to the 20th century. Shortly afterward, Ockham developed an influential theory of modality and time which reconciled the claim that every proposition is either true or false with the claim that certain propositions about the future are genuinely contingent.

Duns Scotus’ ideas were revived in the 20th century, starting with the work of Jan Łukasiewicz who, pondering over Aristotle’s assertion about tomorrow’s sea battle, introduced 3-valued logic – a proposition may be true, or false, or else it may have a third, “undetermined” truth value. Also the “possible worlds” semantics of modalities introduced by 19 years old Saul Kripke in 1959 (reflecting some ideas of Leibniz and reformulating some insights of Tarski and Jónsson), was based on Scotus’ combination of
modality with consistency. Today, modal and many-valued logics form a
dynamic and prolific field, applied and developed equally by philosophers,
mathematicians and computer scientists.

C. A SYMBOLIC LANGUAGE

Logic’s preoccupation with concepts and reasoning began gradually to put
more and more severe demands on the appropriate and precise representa-
tion of the used terms. We saw that syllogisms used fixed forms of categori-
cal statements with variables – $A, B$, etc. – representing arbitrary terms (or
objects). Use of variables was indisputable contribution of Aristotle to the
logical, and more generally mathematical notation. We also saw that Stoics
introduced analogous variables standing for propositions. Such notational
tricks facilitated more concise, more general and more precise statement of
various logical facts.

Following the Scholastic discussions of connotation vs. denotation, logi-
cians of the 16th century felt the increased need for a more general logical
language. One of the goals was the development of an ideal logical language
that would easily express ideal thought and be more precise than natural
language. An important motivation underlying such attempts was the idea
of manipulation, in fact, symbolic or even mechanical manipulation of argu-
ments represented in such a language. Aristotelian logic had seen itself
as a tool for training “natural” abilities at reasoning. Now one would like
to develop methods of thinking that would accelerate or improve human
thought or even allow its replacement by mechanical devices.

Among the initial attempts was the work of Spanish soldier, priest and
mystic Ramon Lull (1235-1315) who tried to symbolize concepts and de-
rive propositions from various combinations of possibilities. He designed
sophisticated mechanisms, known as “Lullian circles”, where simple facts,
noted on the circumferences of various discs, could be combined by ap-
propriately rotating the discs, providing answers to theological questions.
The work of some of his followers, Juan Vives (1492-1540) and Johann Al-
sted (1588-1683) represents perhaps the first systematic effort at a logical
symbolism.

Some philosophical ideas in this direction occurred in 17th century
within Port-Royal – a group of antibléchic Jansenists located in Port-Royal
outside Paris, whose most prominent member was Blaise Pascal (1623-
1662). Elaborating on the Scholastical distinction between intensions or
C. A SYMBOLIC LANGUAGE

Comprehension, and extension, Pascal introduced the distinction between real and nominal definitions. Real definitions aim at capturing the actual concept; they are descriptive and state the essential properties. "Man is a rational animal" attempts to give a real definition of the concept 'man'; capturing man's essence. Nominal definitions merely stipulate the conventions by which a linguistic term is to be used. "By monoid we understand a set with a unary operation" is a nominal definition introducing the convention of using a particular word, "monoid", for a given concept. The distinction goes back to the discussions of the 14th century between the nominalism and realism with respect to the nature of universals. But Port-Royal's distinction, accompanied by the emphasis put on usefulness of nominal definitions (in particular, in mathematics), resonated widely signaling a new step on the line marked earlier by the material supposition of the Scholastic theory – the use of language becomes more and more conscious and explicit. The Port-Royal logic itself contained no symbolism, but the philosophical foundation for using symbols by nominal definitions was nevertheless laid.

C.1. THE "UNIVERSALLY CHARACTERISTIC LANGUAGE"

The goal of a universal language had already been clearly stated by Descartes (1596-1650) who expected it to provide a uniform and general method for any scientific inquiry and then, specifically for mathematics, to form a "universal mathematics". It had also been discussed extensively by the English philologist George Dalgarno (c. 1620-87) and, for mathematical language and communication, by the French algebraist François Viète (1540-1603). But it was Gottfried Leibniz (1646-1716), who gave this idea the most precise and systematic expression. His "lingua characteristic universalis" was an ideal that would, first, notationally represent concepts by displaying the more basic concepts of which they were composed, and then, represent ("iconically") the concept in a way that could be easily grasped by readers, no matter what their native tongue. Leibniz studied and was impressed by the Egyptian and Chinese picture-like symbols for concepts. Although we no longer use his notation, many concepts captured by it re-appear two centuries later in logical texts.

C.2. CALCULUS OF REASON

Universal language seems a necessary precondition for another goal which Leibniz proposed for logic. A "calculus of reason" (calculus ratiocinator),
based on appropriate symbolism, would

\[ \text{involve explicit manipulations of the symbols according to established rules by which either new truths could be discovered or proposed conclusions could be checked to see if they could indeed be derived from the premises.} \]

Reasoning could then take place in the way large sums are done — mechanically or algorithmically — and thus not be subject to individual mistakes. Such derivations could be checked by others or performed by machines, a possibility that Leibniz seriously contemplated. His suggestion that machines could be constructed to draw valid inferences or to check deductions was followed up in the 19th century by Charles Babbage, William Stanley Jevons, Charles Sanders Peirce and his student Allan Marquand.

The symbolic calculus that Leibniz devised was motivated by his view that most concepts were composite: they were collections or conjunctions of other more basic concepts. Symbols (letters, lines, or circles) were then used to stand for concepts and their relationships. This resulted in what is intensional rather than an extensional logic — one whose terms stand for properties or concepts rather than for the things having these properties. Leibniz’ basic notion of the truth of a judgment was that

\[ \text{the concepts making up the predicate are "included" in the concept of the subject.} \]

For instance, the judgment “A zebra is striped and a mammal” is true because the concepts forming the predicate “striped-and-mammal” are “included in” the concept (all possible predicates) of the subject “zebra”.

What Leibniz symbolized as \( A \circ B \circ C \) or what we would write today as \( A = B \), was that all the concepts making up concept \( A \) also are contained in concept \( B \), and vice versa.

Leibniz used two further notions to expand the basic logical calculus. In his notation, \( A \circ B \circ C \) indicates that the concepts in \( A \) together with those in \( B \) wholly constitute those in \( C \). Today, we might write this as \( A + B = C \) or \( A \lor B = C \) — if we keep in mind that \( A, B, \) and \( C \) stand for concepts or properties, not for individual things or sets thereof. Leibniz also used the juxtaposition of terms, \( AB \circ C \) (which we might write as \( A \land B = C \)) to signify that all the concepts in both \( A \) and \( B \) constitute the concept \( C \).

A universal affirmative judgment, such as “Every \( A \) is \( B \)” becomes in Leibniz’ notation \( A \circ AB \). This equation states that the concepts included in the concepts of both \( A \) and \( B \) are the same as those in \( A \).
The syllogism *Barbara*:

Every $A$ is $B$; every $B$ is $C$; so every $A$ is $C$.

becomes the sequence of equations: $A \times AB$; $B \times BC$; so $A \times AC$.

Notice that this conclusion can be derived from the premises by two simple algebraic substitutions and the associativity of logical multiplication.

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
1. A \times AB & \text{Every } A \text{ is } B \\
2. B \times BC & \text{Every } B \text{ is } C \\
(1+2) A \times ABC & \text{therefore: Every } A \text{ is } C \\
1 \times AC & \end{array}
\]

As many early symbolic logics, including many developed in the 19th century, Leibniz' system had difficulties with negative and particular statements (A.2.1). The treatment of propositional logic was limited and did not include any formalisation of relations nor of quantified statements. Only later Leibniz became keenly aware of the importance of relations and relational inferences. Although Leibniz might seem to deserve the credit for great originality in his symbolic logic – especially in his equational, algebraic logic – such insights were relatively common to mathematicians of the 17th and 18th centuries familiar with the traditional syllogistic logic. For instance, in 1685 Jakob Bernoulli published a work on the parallels of logic and algebra, giving some algebraic renderings of categorical statements. Later symbolic works of Lambert, Plouquet, Euler, and even Boole – all apparently uninfluenced by Leibniz and Bernoulli – suggest the extent to which these ideas were apparent to the best mathematical minds of the day.

D. 1850-1950 — MATHEMATICAL LOGIC

Leibniz' system and calculus mark the appearance of a formalized, symbolic language which is prone to mathematical manipulation. A bit ironically, the emergence of mathematical logic marks also this logic's divorce, or at least separation, from philosophy. Of course, the discussions of logic have continued both among logicians and philosophers but from now on these groups form two increasingly distinct camps. Not all questions of philosophical logic are important for mathematicians and most of results of mathematical logic have rather technical character which is not always of interest for philosophers.

In this short presentation we have to ignore some developments which did take place between 17th and 19th century. It was only in the 19th
century that the substantial contributions were made which created modern logic. Perhaps the most important among those in the first half of the 19th century was the work of George Boole (1815-1864), based on purely extensional interpretation. It was a real breakthrough in the old dispute intensional vs. extensional. It did not settle the issue once and for all—for instance, Frege, “the father of first order logic” was still in favor of concepts and intensions; and in modern logic there is still a branch of intensional logic. However, Boole’s approach was so convincingly precise and intuitive that it was later taken up and become the basis of modern—extensional or set-theoretical—semantics.

D.1. George Boole

Although various symbolic or extensional systems appeared earlier, Boole formulated the first logic which was both symbolic and extensional. Most significantly, it survived the test of time and is today known to every student of mathematics as well as of computer science or of analytical philosophy as the propositional logic (earlier also as logic or algebra of classes). Boole published two major works, *The Mathematical Analysis of Logic* in 1847 and *An Investigation of the Laws of Thought* in 1854. It was the first of these two works that had the deeper impact. It arose from two streams of influence: the English logic-textbook tradition and the rapid growth of sophisticated algebraic arguments in the early 19th century. German Carl Friedrich Gauss, Norwegian Niels Henrik Abel, French Évariste Galois were major figures in this theoretical appreciation of algebra at that time, represented also in Britain by Duncan Gregory and George Peacock. Such conceptions gradually evolved into abstract algebras of quaternions and vectors, into linear algebra, Galois theory and Boolean algebra itself.

Boole used variables—capital letters—for the *extensions* of terms, to which he referred as classes of “things”. This extensional perspective made the Boolean algebra a very intuitive and simple structure which, at the same time, captured many essential intuitions. The universal class — called “the Universe” — was represented by the numeral “1”, and the empty class by “0”. The juxtaposition of terms (for example, “AB”) created a term referring to the intersection of two classes. The addition sign signified the non-overlapping union; that is, “A + B” referred to the entities in A or in B; in cases where the extensions of terms A and B overlapped, the expression was “undefined.” For designating a proper subclass of a class A, Boole used the notation “vA”. Finally, he used subtraction to indicate the removing
of terms from classes. For example, "1 − A" indicates what one would
obtain by removing the elements of A from the universal class—that is, the
complement of A (relative to the universe, 1).

Boole offered a very systematic, and almost rigorously axiomatic, pre-
sentation. His basic equations included:

\[
\begin{align*}
LA &= A & 0A &= 0 \\
0 + 1 &= 1 & A + 0 &= A \\
AA &= A & (\text{idempotency}) \\
A(BC) &= (AB)C & (\text{associativity}) \\
AB &= BA & (A + B) &= (B + A) & (\text{commutativity}) \\
A(B + C) &= AB + AC & A + (BC) &= (A + B)(A + C) & (\text{distributivity})
\end{align*}
\]

A universal affirmative judgment, such as "All A's are B's," can be written
using the proper subclass notation as \( A = vB \). But Boole could write it also
in two other ways: \( A = AB \) (as did Leibniz) or \( A(1 − B) = 0 \). These two
interpretations greatly facilitate derivation of syllogisms, as well as other
propositional laws, by algebraic substitution. Assuming the distributivity
\( A(B + C) = AB + AC \), they are in fact equivalent:

\[
\begin{align*}
AB &= A & \text{assumption} \\
0 &= A − AB & \neg AB \\
0 &= A(1 − B) & \text{distribution}
\end{align*}
\]

The derivation in the opposite direction (from \( 0 = A(1 − B) \) to \( A = AB \))
follows by repeating the steps in the opposite order with adding, instead of
subtracting, \( AB \) to both sides in the middle. In words, the fact that all A's
are B's and that there are no A's which are not B's are equivalent, ways
of stating the same, which equivalence could be included among Aristotle's
conversions, A.2.2. Derivations become now explicitly controlled by the
applied axioms. For instance, derivation (C.1) becomes

\[
\begin{align*}
A &= AB & \text{assumption} \\
B &= BC & \text{assumption} \\
A &= A(BC) & \text{substitution } BC \text{ for } B \\
&= (AB)C & \text{associativity} \\
&= AC & \text{substitution A for } AB
\end{align*}
\]

In contrast to earlier symbolisms, Boole's was extensively developed, explor-
ing a large number of equations and techniques. It was convincingly
applied to the interpretation of propositional logic—with terms standing
for occasions or times rather than for concrete individual things. Seen in
historical perspective, it was a remarkably smooth introduction of the new "algebraic" perspective which dominated most of the subsequent development. The Mathematical Analysis of Logic begins with a slogan that could serve as the motto of abstract algebra, as well as of much of formal logic:

the validity of the processes of analysis does not depend upon the interpretation of the symbols which are employed, but solely upon the laws of combination.

D.1.1. Further developments; de Morgan

Boole’s approach was very appealing and quickly taken up by others. In the 1860s Peirce and Jevons proposed to replace Boole’s “+” with a simple inclusive union: the expression “A + B” was to be interpreted as the class of things in A, in B, or in both. This results in accepting the equation “1 + 1 = 1”, which is not true of the natural numbers. Although Boole accepted other laws which do not hold in the algebra of numbers (e.g., the idempotency of multiplication A² = A), one might conjecture that his interpretation of + as disjoint union tried to avoid also 1 + 1 = 1.

At least equally important figure of British logic in the 19th century as Boole was Augustus de Morgan (1806-1871). Unlike most logicians in the United Kingdom, including Boole, de Morgan knew the medieval logic and semantics, as well as the Leibnizian symbolic tradition. His erudition and work left several lasting traces in the development of logic.

In the paper published in 1847 in the Cambridge Philosophical Transactions, de Morgan introduced the enormously influential notion of a possibly arbitrary and stipulated "universe of discourse". It replaced Boole’s original – and metaphysically a bit suspect – universe of “all things”, and has become an integral part of the logical semantics. The notion of a stipulated “universe of discourse” means that, instead of talking about “The Universe”, one can choose this universe depending on the context. “1” may sometimes stand for “the universe of all animals”, and in other contexts for a two-element set, say “the true” and “the false”. In the former case, the derivation (D.1) of A = AC from A = AB; B = BC represents an instance of the Barbara syllogism “All A’s are B’s; all B’s are C’s; therefore all A’s are C’s”.

In the latter case, the equations of Boolean algebra yield the laws of propositional logic where “A + B” corresponds to disjunction “A or B”, and juxtaposition “AB” to conjunction “A and B”. With this reading, the derivation (D.1) represents another reading of Barbara, namely: “If A implies B and B implies C, then A implies C”.
Negation of $A$ is simply its complement $\neg A$, and is obviously relative to the actual universe. (It is often written as $\overline{A}$.) De Morgan is known to all students of elementary logic primarily through the de Morgan laws:

$$\overline{A B} = \overline{A} + \overline{B} \quad \text{and dually} \quad \overline{A} B = \overline{A} + \overline{B}.$$  

Using these laws and some additional, easy facts, like $\overline{B B} = 0$, $\overline{0} = B$, we can derive the following reformulation of the reductio ad absurdum “If every $A$ is $B$ then every not-$B$ is not-$A$”:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
A = AB & \neg A B \\
A \neg\neg A B = 0 & \neg A B \\
A (1 \neg B) = 0 & \text{distributivity over } \neg \\
\overline{A B} = 0 & \overline{B} = 1 \neg B \\
\overline{A} + B = 1 & \text{de Morgan} \\
(B)(A) + B B = B & \overline{B} \\
(B)(A) + 0 = B & \overline{B B} = 0 \\
(B)(A) + B & X + 0 = X
\end{array}$$

Le., if “Every $A$ is $B$”, $A = AB$, then “every not-$B$ is not-$A$”, $\overline{B} = (B)(A)$. Or, if “$A$ implies $B$” then “if $B$ is false (absurd) then so is $A$”.

A series of essays and papers on logic by de Morgan had been published from 1846 to 1860 under the title On the Syllogism. (The title indicates his devotion to the philosophical tradition of logic and reluctance to turn it into a mere branch of mathematics). The papers from 1850s are of considerable significance, containing the first extensive discussion of quantified relations since late medieval logic and Jung’s massive Logica Hamburgoensis of 1638.

Boole’s elegant theory had one serious defect, namely, its inability to deal with relational inferences. De Morgan’s first significant contribution to this field was made independently and almost simultaneously with the publication of Boole’s first major work. In 1847 de Morgan published his Formal Logic; or, the Calculus of Inference, Necessary and Probable. Although his symbolic system was clumsy and did not show the appreciation of abstract algebra that Boole’s did, it gave a treatment of relational arguments which was later refined by himself and others. His paper from 1860, On Syllogism IV and on the logic of relations, started the sustained interest in the study of relations and their properties. De Morgan observed here that all valid syllogisms could be justified by the copula “is” being a transitive and convertible (as he calls what today would be named “symmetric”) relation, i.e., one for which $A \sim B$ and $B \sim C$ implies $A \sim C$
and, whenever $A \sim B$ then also $B \sim A$. Sometimes the mere transitivity suffices. The syllogism Barbara is valid for every transitive relation, e.g., if $A$ is greater than $B$ and $B$ is greater than $C$ then $A$ is greater than $C$. In some other cases, also symmetry is needed as, for instance, to verify Cesare of figure II. It says that: if $P \not\sim M$ and $S \sim M$ then $S \not\sim P$. For assuming contrapositively $S \sim P$, then also $P \sim S$ by symmetry which, together with $S \sim M$, implies by transitivity that $P \sim M$.

De Morgan made the point, taken up later by Peirce and implicitly endorsed by Frege, that relational inferences are not just one type reasoning among others but are the core of mathematical and deductive inference and of all scientific reasoning. Consequently (though not correctly, but in the right spirit) one often attributes to de Morgan the observation that all of Aristotelian logic was helpless to show the validity of the inference:

\begin{align}
\text{All horses are animals; therefore,} \\
\text{every head of a horse is the head of an animal.} \tag{D.2}
\end{align}

This limitation concerns likewise propositional logic of Boole and his followers. From today's perspective, this can be seen more as the limitation of language, which does not provide means for expressing predication. Its appropriate (and significant) extension allows to incorporate analysis of relational arguments. Such an extension, which initially seemed to be a distinct, if not directly opposite approach, was proposed by the German Gottlob Frege, and is today known as first order predicate logic.

D.2. GOTTLOB FREGE

In 1879 the young Gottlob Frege (1848-1925) published perhaps the most influential book on symbolic logic in the 19th century, \emph{Begriffsschrift} ("Conceptual Notation") – the title taken from Trendelenburg's translation of Leibniz' notion of a characteristic language. Frege gives here a rigorous presentation of the role and use of quantifiers and predicates. Frege was apparently familiar with Trendelenburg's discussion of Leibniz but was otherwise ignorant of the history of logic. His book shows no trace of the influence of Boole and little trace of the older German tradition of symbolic logic. Being a mathematician whose specialty, like Boole's, had been calculus, he was well aware of the importance of functions. These form the basis of his notation for predicates and he does not seem to have been aware of the work of de Morgan and Peirce on relations or of older medieval treatments. Contemporary mathematical reviews of his work criticized him for his failure to acknowledge these earlier developments, while reviews written
by philosophers chided him for various sins against reigning idealist conceptions. Also Frege's logical notation was idiosyncratic and problematically
two-dimensional, making his work hardly accessible and little read. Frege
ignored the critiques of his notation and continued to publish all his later
works using it, including his -- also little-read -- magnum opus, Grundgesetze

of 1893-1903, "The Basic Laws of Arithmetic").

Although notationally cumbersome, Frege's system treated precisely
several basic notions, in the way to be adopted by later logicians. "All
A's are B's" meant for Frege that the concept A implies the concept B,
or that to be A implies also to be B. Moreover, this applies to arbitrary x
which happens to be A. Thus the statement becomes: \(\forall x : A(x) \rightarrow B(x)\)
where the quantifier \(\forall x\) means "for all x" and \(\rightarrow\) denotes implication. The
analysis of this, and one other statement, can be represented as follows:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Every} & \text{horse} & \text{is} & \text{an animal} = \\
\text{Every} x & \text{which is a horse} & \text{is} & \text{an animal} \\
\text{Every} x & \text{if it is a horse} & \text{then it is an animal} \\
\forall x : & H(x) & \rightarrow & A(x) \\
\text{Some} & \text{animals} & \text{are} & \text{horses} = \\
\text{Some} x's & \text{which are animals} & \text{are} & \text{horses} \\
\text{Some} x's & \text{are animals} & \text{and} & \text{are horses} \\
\exists x : & A(x) & \land & H(x)
\end{array}
\]

This was not the way Frege would write it but this was the way he would
put it and think of it. The Barbara syllogism will be written today in first
order logic following exactly Frege's analysis, though not his notation, as:

\[
(\forall x : A(x) \rightarrow B(x)) \land (\forall x : B(x) \rightarrow C(x)) \rightarrow (\forall x : A(x) \rightarrow C(x)).
\]

It can be read as: "If every x which is A is also B, and every x which is
B is also C; then every x which is A is also C?" Judgments concerning
individuals can be obtained from the universal ones by substitution. For
instance:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Hugo} & \text{ is a horse} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Every horse is an animal}; \\
H(Hugo) & \land (\forall y : H(y) \rightarrow A(y)) \\
& \text{Sex is an animal.} (D.3)
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
H(Hugo) & \land (\forall y : H(y) \rightarrow A(y)) \\
& H(Hugo) \rightarrow A(Hugo) \quad \rightarrow \quad A(Hugo)
\end{align*}
\]
The relational arguments, like (D.2) about horse-heads and animal-heads, can be derived after we have represented the involved statements as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
y \text{ is a head of some horse } &= \\
\text{there is a horse } &\quad \text{and } y \text{ is its head} \\
\exists x : H(x) &\quad \land \quad H(y, x)
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
y \text{ is a head of some animal } &= \\
\exists x : A(x) &\quad \land \quad Hd(y, x)
\end{align*}
\]

Now, the argument (D.2) will be given the form as in the first line and (very informal) treatment as in the following ones:

\[
\forall v(H(v) \rightarrow A(v)) \rightarrow \forall y \left( \exists x(H(x) \land Hd(y, x)) \rightarrow \exists z(A(z) \land Hd(y, z)) \right)
\]

assume horses are animals and take an arbitrary horse-head \( y \), e.g., \( a \):

\[
\forall v(H(v) \rightarrow A(v)) \rightarrow \exists x \left( H(x) \land Hd(a, x) \right) \rightarrow \exists z \left( A(z) \land Hd(a, z) \right)
\]

assume horses are animals and that there is a horse \( h \) whose head is \( a \):

\[
\forall v(H(v) \rightarrow A(v)) \rightarrow H(h) \land Hd(a, h) \rightarrow \exists z \left( A(z) \land Hd(a, z) \right)
\]

but as horses are animals then \( h \) is an animal by (D.3), so \( A(h) \land Hd(a, h) \)

According to the last line, \( a \) is an animal-head and since \( a \) was an arbitrary horse-head, the claim follows.

In his first writings after the Begriffsschrift, Frege defended his own system and attacked bitterly Boolean methods, remaining apparently ignorant of the improvements by Peirce, Jevons, Schröder, and others. His main complaint against Boolean was the artificiality of their notation based on numerals and the failure to develop a genuinely logical notation.

In 1884 Frege published Die Grundlagen der Arithmetik ("The Foundations of Arithmetic") and then several important papers on a series of mathematical and logical topics. After 1879 he developed his position that

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{all of mathematics could be derived from basic logical laws} &\quad \text{- a position later known as logicism in the philosophy of mathematics.} \quad \text{(D.4)}
\end{align*}
\]

This view paralleled similar ideas about the reducibility of mathematics to set theory from roughly the same time. But Frege insisted on keeping them distinct and always stressed that his was an intensional logic of concepts, not of extensions and classes. His views are often marked by hostility to British extensional logic, like that of Boole, and to the general English-speaking tendencies toward nominalism and empiricism. In Britain, however, Frege's
work was much admired by Bertrand Russell who promoted Frege's logicist research program—first in his *Introduction to Mathematical Logic* (1903), and then with Alfred North Whitehead, in *Principia Mathematica* (1910-13). Still, Russell did not use Frege's notation and his development of relations and functions was much closer to Schröder's and Peirce's than to Frege's. Frege's hostility to British tradition did not prevent him from acknowledging the fundamental importance of Russell's paradox, which Russell communicated to him in a letter in 1902. The paradox seemed to Frege a shattering blow to his goal of founding mathematics and science in an intensional logic and he expressed his worries in an appendix, hastily added to the second volume of *Die Grundgesetze der Arithmetik*, 1903, which was in press as Russell's letter arrived.

It did not take long before also other mathematicians and logicians started to admire Frege's care and rigour. His derivations were so scrupulous and precise that, although he did not formulate his theories axiomatically, he is sometimes regarded as a founder of the modern, axiomatic tradition in logic. His works had an enormous impact on the mathematical and philosophical logicians of the 20th century, especially, after their translation into English in the 1960s.

D.3. Set Theory

As we have seen, the extensional view of concepts began gradually winning the stage with the advances of Boolean algebra. Set theory, founded by Georg Cantor (1845-1918), addresses collections—of numbers, points and, in general, of arbitrary elements, also of other collections—and is thus genuinely extensional. Besides this difference from the traditional logic, oriented more towards the intensional pole of the opposition, the initial development of set theory was completely separate from logic. But already in the first half of the 20th century, symbolic logic developed primarily in interaction with the extensional principles of set theory. Eventually, even Frege's analyses merged with the set theoretical approach to the semantics of logical formalism.

Booleans had used the notion of a set or a class, but did not develop tools for dealing with actually infinite classes. The conception of actual infinities, as opposed to merely potential, unlimited possibilities, was according to Aristotle a contradiction and most medieval philosophers shared this view. It was challenged in Renaissance, e.g., by Galileo, and then also by Leibniz. The problem had troubled 19th century mathematicians, like
Carl Friedrich Gauss and the Bohemian priest Bernhard Bolzano, who devoted his *Paradoxien des Unendlichen* (1851; "Paradoxes of the Infinite") to the difficulties posed by infinities. De Morgan and Peirce had given technically correct characterizations of infinite domains but these were not especially useful and went unnoticed in the German mathematical world. And the decisive development found place in this world.

Infinity — as the "infinitely small", infinitesimal (coming from the *infinitesimus* which, in the Modern Latin of the 17th century, referred to the "infinite-th" element in a series) — entered the mathematical landscape with the integral and derivative calculus, introduced independently by Leibniz and Newton in the 1660s. Infinitesimals have been often severely criticized (e.g., by bishop Berkeley, as the "ghosts of departed quantities") and only in the late 19th century obtained solid mathematical foundations in the work of the French baron Augustin-Louis Cauchy and German Karl Weierstrass.

Building now on their discussions of the foundations of the infinitesimals, Germans Georg Cantor and Richard Dedekind developed methods for dealing with the infinite sets of the integers and points on the real number line. First Dedekind and then Cantor used Bolzano's technique of measuring sets by one-to-one mappings. Defining two sets to be "equinumerous" if they are in one-to-one correspondence, Dedekind gave in *Was sind und sollen die Zahlen?* (1888; "What Are and Should Be the Numbers?") a precise definition of an infinite set:

> A set is infinite if and only if the whole set can be put into one-to-one correspondence with its proper subset.

This looks like a contradiction because, as long as we think of finite sets, it indeed is. But take the set of all natural numbers, \( \mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \ldots\} \) and remove from it 0 getting \( \mathbb{N}_0 = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \ldots\} \). The functions \( f : \mathbb{N}_0 \to \mathbb{N}_0 \) given by \( f(x) = x - 1 \), and \( f_1 : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}_0 \), given by \( f_1(x) = x + 1 \), are mutually inverse and establish a one-to-one correspondence between \( \mathbb{N}_0 \) and its proper subset \( \mathbb{N}_0 \).

A set \( A \) is said to be "countable" if it is equinumerous with \( \mathbb{N} \). One of the main results of Cantor was demonstration that there are uncountable infinite sets, in fact, sets "arbitrarily infinite". (For instance, the set \( \mathbb{R} \) of real numbers was shown by Cantor to be "genuinely larger" than \( \mathbb{N} \).)

Cantor developed the basic outlines of a set theory, especially in his treatment of infinite sets and the real number line. But he did not worry much about rigorous foundations for such a theory nor about the precise conditions governing the concept of a set and the formation of sets. In
D. 1850-1900 – MATHEMATICAL LOGIC

particular, he did not give any axioms for his theory. The initial attempts to formulate explicitly precise principles, not to mention rigorous axiomatizations, of set theory faced serious difficulties posed by the paradoxes of Russell and the Italian mathematician Cesare Burali-Forti (1897). Some passages in Cantor's writings suggest that he was aware of the potential problems, but he did not address them in a mathematical manner and, consequently, did not propose any technically satisfactory solution. They were first overcome in the rigorous, axiomatic set theory – initially, by Ernst Zermelo in 1908, and in its final version of Zermelo and Fraenkel in 1922.

D.4. 20TH CENTURY LOGIC

The first half of the 20th century was the most active period in the history of logic. The late 19th century work of Frege, Peano and Cantor, as well as Peirce's and Schröder's extensions of Boole's insights, had broken new ground and established new international communication channels. A new alliance – between logic and mathematics – emerged, gathering various lines of the late 19th century's development. Common to them was the effort to use symbolic techniques, sometimes called “mathematical” and sometimes “formal”. Logic became increasingly mathematical in two senses. On the one hand, it attempted to use symbolic methods that had come to dominate mathematics, addressing the questions about

1. the applications of the axiomatic method,
2. a consistent theory of properties/relations (or sets),
3. a logic of quantification.

On the other hand, it served the analysis of mathematics, as a tool in

4. defining mathematical concepts,
5. precisely characterizing mathematical systems, and
6. describing the nature of mathematical proof.

This later role of logic – as a meta-mathematical and eventually foundational tool – followed Frege's logicism and dictated much of the development in the first decades of the 20th century.

D.4.1. LOGICISM

An outgrowth of the theory of Russell and Whitehead, and of most modern set theories, was a stronger articulation of Frege's logicism (D.4), accord-
ing to which mathematical operations and objects are really purely logical constructions. Consequently, the question what exactly pure logic is and whether, for example, set theory is really logic in a narrow sense has received increased attention. There seems little doubt that set theory is not only logic in the way in which, for example, Frege viewed it, i.e., as a formal theory of properties. Cantorian set theory engenders a large number of transfinite sets, i.e., nonphysical, nonperceived abstract objects. For this reason it has been regarded—by some as suspiciously, by others as endearingly—Platonicist. Still others, such as Quine, have only pragmatically endorsed set theory as a convenient way of organizing our world, especially if this world contains some elements of transfinite mathematics. The controversies about the status of infinite sets notwithstanding, it is thanks to them that, today, set theory as a foundation for most (even all) mathematical disciplines is hardly questioned. Mathematical theorems—whether in finitary discrete mathematics, or else in topology or analysis—can, at least in principle, be formulated and proven in the language of set theory.

But the first decades of the 20th century displayed a strong finitist Zeitgeist, comparable to the traditional scepticism against actual infinities, and embodied now in various criticisms of transfinite set theory. Already Kronecker in 19th century, opposing Weierstrass and Cantor, declared that God made only integers, while everything else—in particular, of infinitary character—is the work of man. The same spirit, if not technical development, was represented by the constructivism (known as intuitionism) of Dutch Brouwer and Heyting, or by formalism searching for a finitary representation of mathematics in Hilbert’s program, named so after the German mathematician David Hilbert (1862–1943). This program asked for an axiomatization of the whole of mathematics as a logical theory in order to prove formally that it is consistent. Even for those who did not endorse this logicist program, logic's goal was closely allied with techniques and goals in mathematics, such as giving an account of formal systems or of the nature of nonempirical proof. The program stimulated much activity in the first decades of the 20th century. It waned, however, after Austrian Kurt Gödel demonstrated in 1931 that logic could not provide a foundation for mathematics nor even a complete account of its formal systems. He proved namely a theorem which, interpreted informally, says something like:

Gödel's (first) incompleteness theorem

Any logical theory, satisfying reasonable and rather weak conditions, cannot be consistent and prove all its logical consequences.
Thus mathematics can not be reduced to a provably complete and consistent logical theory. Interestingly, the proof of this theorem shows that in any formal theory satisfying its conditions, one can write an analog of the liar paradox, namely the sentence “I am not provable in this theory”, which cannot be provable unless the theory is inconsistent.

In spite of this negative result, logic has remained closely allied with mathematical foundations and principles. In particular, it has become a mathematical discipline. Traditionally, its task has been understanding of valid arguments, in particular, those formulated in natural language. It has developed tools needed for describing concepts, propositions, and arguments and – especially, as the “logical patterns” – for assessing argument’s quality. During the first decades of the 20th century, logic become gradually more and more occupied with the historically somewhat foreign role of analyzing arguments in only one field, mathematics. The philosophical and linguistic task of developing tools for analyzing arguments in some natural language, or else for analyzing propositions as they are actually (and perhaps necessarily) conceived by humans, was almost completely lost. This task was, to some extent, taken over by analytical philosophy and by scattered efforts attempting to reduce basic principles of other disciplines – such as physics, biology, and even music – to axioms usually in set theory or first order logic. But even if they might have shown that it could be done, at least in principle, they were not very enlightening: one does not better or more usefully understand a bacteria, an atom or an animal by being told that it is a certain set or a (model of) certain axiomatic theory. Such efforts, at their zenith in the 1950s and 60s, had virtually disappeared in the 70s. Logic has become a formal discipline with its relation to natural reasoning seriously severed. Instead, it found multiple applications in the field which originated from the same motivations and had been germinating underneath the developments of logic – the field of purely formal manipulations and mechanical reasoning, arising from the same finitist Zeitgeist of the first half of the 20th century: computer science. Its emergence from and dependence on logic will become even clearer after we have described the basic elements of modern, formal logical systems.

E. Modern Symbolic Logic

Already Aristotle and Euclid were aware of the notion of a rigorous logical theory, in the sense of a – possibly axiomatic – specification of its theorems.
Then, in the 19th century, the crises in geometry could be credited with renewing the attention for very careful presentations of these theories and other aspects of formal systems.

Euclid designed his *Elements* around 10 axioms and postulates which one could not resist accepting as obvious (e.g., “an interval can be prolonged indefinitely”, “all right angles are equal”). Assuming their truth, he deduced some 465 theorems. The famous postulate of the parallels was

**The fifth postulate**

*If a straight line falling on two straight lines makes the interior angles on the same side less than the two right angles, the two straight lines, if produced indefinitely, meet on that side on which the angles are less than the two right angles.*

This postulate, even if reformulated, was somehow less intuitive and more complicated than others. Through hundreds of years mathematicians had unsuccessfully tried to derive it from the others until, in the 19th century, they started to reach the conclusion that it must be independent from the rest. This meant that one might as well drop it! That was done independently by the Russian Nicolai Lobachevsky in 1829 and the Hungarian János Bolyai in 1832. (Gauss, too, considered this move, but he never published his ideas on this subject.) What was left was a new axiomatic system. The big question about what this subset of axioms possibly described was answered by Lobachevsky and Bolyai who created its models, which satisfied all the axioms except the fifth – the first non-Euclidean geometries. This first exercise in what in the 20th century became “model theory”, can be considered the beginning of modern axiomatic approach. For the discovery of non-Euclidean geometries unveiled the importance of admitting the possibility of manipulating the axioms which, perhaps, are not given by God and intuition but may be chosen with some freedom.

E.1. **FORMAL LOGICAL SYSTEMS: SYNTAX.**

Although set theory and the type theory of Russell and Whitehead were considered to be logic for the purposes of the logicist program, a narrower sense of logic re-emerged in the mid-20th century as what is usually called the “underlying logic” of these systems. It does not make any existential assumptions (as to what kinds of mathematical objects do or do not exist) and concerns only rules for propositional connectives, quantifiers, and nonspecific terms for individuals and predicates. (An interesting issue is
whether the privileged relation of identity, denoted "="

E. Modern Symbolic Logic

In the early 20th century and especially after Alfred Tarski's (1901-1983) work in the 1920s and '30s, a formal logical system was regarded as being composed of three parts, all of which could be rigorously described:

1. the syntax (or notation);
2. the rules of inference (or the patterns of reasoning);
3. the semantics (or the meaning of the syntactic symbols).

One of the fundamental contributions of Tarski was his analysis of the concept of 'truth' which, in the above three-fold setting is given a precise treatment as a particular

relation between syntax (language) and semantics (the world).

The Euclidean, and then non-Euclidean geometry were, as a matter of fact, built as axiomatic-deductive systems (point 2). The other two aspects of a formal system identified by Tarski were present too, but much less emphasized: notation was very informal, relying often on drawings; the semantics was rather intuitive and obvious. Tarski's work initiated rigorous study of all three aspects.

E.1.1. The Language

First, there is the notation:

the rules of formation for terms and for well-formed formulas in the logical system.

A formal language is simply a set of words (well formed formulas, wff), that is, strings over some given alphabet (set of symbols) and is typically specified by the rules of formation. For instance:

- the alphabet \( \Sigma = \{ \Box, \Diamond, \rightarrow, (,) \} \)
- the rules for forming words of the language \( L \): 
  - if \( A, B \in L \) then also \( \neg A \in L \) and \( (A \rightarrow B) \in L \).

This specification allows us to conclude that, for instance, \( \Box \neg \Diamond, (\Diamond \rightarrow \neg \Box) \neg (\Box \rightarrow \neg \Box) \) all belong to \( L \), while \( \Box \Diamond \) or \( \Box \rightarrow \) do not.

Previously, notation was often a haphazard affair in which it was unclear what could be formulated or asserted in a logical theory and whether
expressions were finite or were schemata standing for infinitely long wffs. Now, the theory of notation itself became subject to exacting treatment, starting with the theory of strings of Tarski, and the work of the American Alonzo Church. Issues that arose out of notational questions include definability of one wff by another (addressed in Beth's and Craig's theorems, and in other results), creativity, and replaceability, as well as the expressive power and complexity of different logical languages (gathered, e.g., in Chomsky hierarchy).

E.1.2. Reasoning — Axiomatic system

The second part of a logical system consists of

the axioms and rules of inference, or other ways of identifying what counts as a theorem.

This is what is usually meant by the logical “theory” proper: a (typically recursive) description of the theorems of the theory, including axioms and every wff derivable from axioms by admitted rules. Using the language $L$, one might, for instance, define the following theory $T$:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Axioms</th>
<th>Rules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) $\Box$</td>
<td>$R1$ $(A \rightarrow B) ; (B \rightarrow C)$ $A \rightarrow C$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) $(\Delta \rightarrow \Box)$</td>
<td>$R2$ $(A \rightarrow B) ; A \rightarrow B$ $B$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) $(A \rightarrow A \rightarrow A)$</td>
<td>$R3$ $(A \rightarrow B) ; \neg B$ $\neg A$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upper case letters are schematic variables for which we can substitute arbitrary formulae of our language $L$. We can now perform symbolic derivations, starting with axioms and applying the rules, so that correctness can be checked mechanically. For instance:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\Box \rightarrow \neg \neg \Box}{\Box \rightarrow \Box}}{\Delta \rightarrow \Box}}{\Delta \rightarrow \neg \Box}}{\neg \Delta \rightarrow \neg \neg \Delta} \quad \text{(E.1)}$$

Thus, $\neg \neg \neg \Delta$ is a theorem of our theory, and so is $\neg \Delta$ which is obtained by the (left) subderivation ending with the application of rule R3.
A formal description of a language, together with a specification of a theory’s theorems (derivable propositions), are often called the “syntax” of the theory. This may be somewhat misleading when compared to the practice in linguistics, which would limit syntax to the narrower issue of grammaticality. The term “calculus” is sometimes chosen to emphasize the purely syntactic, uninterpreted nature of reasoning system.

E.1.3. SEMANTICS

The last component of a logical system is the semantics for such a theory and language, a specification of

what the terms of a theory refer to, and how the basic operations and connectives are to be interpreted in a domain of discourse, including truth conditions for the formulae in this domain.

Consider, as an example the rule R1 from the theory T above. It is merely a “piece of text” and its symbols allow almost unlimited interpretations. We may, for instance, take \( A, B, C, \ldots \) to denote propositions and \( \rightarrow \) an implication. (Note how rules R2 and R3 capture then Stoics’ patterns (i) and (ii) from (A.3), p. 9.) But we may likewise let \( A, B, C, \ldots \) stand for sets and \( \rightarrow \) for set-inclusion. The following give then examples of applications of this rule under these two interpretations:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{If } & \text{ it’s nice } \text{ then we’ll leave } & \{1,2\} & \subseteq \{1,2,3\} \\
\text{If } & \text{ we leave } \text{ then we’ll see a movie } & \{1,2,3\} & \subseteq \{1,2,3,5\} \\
\text{If } & \text{ it’s nice } \text{ then we’ll see a movie } & \{1,2\} & \subseteq \{1,2,3,5\}
\end{align*}
\]

The rule is “sound” with respect to these interpretations - when applied to these domains in the prescribed way, it represents a valid argument. In fact, R1 expresses transitivity of \( \rightarrow \) and will be sound for every transitive relation interpreting \( \rightarrow \). This is just a more formal way of expressing de Morgan’s observation that the syllogism Barbara is valid for all transitive relations.

A specification of a domain of objects (de Morgan’s “universe of discourse”), and of the rules for interpreting the symbols of a logical language in this domain such that all the theorems of the logical theory are true is said to be a “model” of the theory. The two suggested interpretations are models of rule R1. (To make them models of the whole theory \( T \) would require more work, in particular, finding appropriate interpretation of \( \lor, \land \) and \( \rightarrow \), such that the axioms become true and all rules sound. For the
propositional case, one could for instance let $\neg$ denote negation, $\Box$ "true" and $\triangle$ "false".

If we chose to interpret the formulae of $L$ as events and $A \rightarrow B$ as, say, "$A$ is independent from $B$", the rule would not be sound. Such an interpretation would not give a model of the theory or, what amounts to the same, if the theory were applied to this part of the world, we could not trust its results. The next subsection describes some further concepts arising with the formal semantics.

E.2. Formal semantics

Formal semantics, or model theory, relates the mere syntax to the whole of mathematics by connecting the syntactic expressions with potentially unlimited number of mathematical entities. It is more complex than the logical syntax alone and has a more complicated history, which often seems insufficiently understood. Certainly, Frege's notion that propositions refer to (bedeutung) "the true" or "the false" - and this for complex propositions as a function of the truth values of simple propositions - counts as semantics. This intuition underlies the ancient law of excluded middle and is likewise reflected in the use of letters for referring to the values 1 and 0, that started with Boole. Although modal propositions and paradoxes pose severe problems for this view, it dominates most of the logic, perhaps, because it provides a relatively simple and satisfactory model for a very significant portion of mathematical and natural discourse. Medieval theories of supposition formulated many useful semantic observations. In the 19th century, both Peirce and Schröder occasionally gave brief demonstrations of the independence of certain postulates using models in which some postulates were true, but not others. This was also the technique used by the inventors of non-Euclidean geometry.

The first significant and general result of a clearly model theoretic character is usually accepted to be a result discovered by Löwenheim in 1915 and strengthened by Skolem in the 1920s.

Löwenheim-Skolem theorem

A theory that has a model at all, has a countable model.

That is to say, if there exists some model of a theory (i.e., an application of it to some domain of objects), then there is sure to be one with a domain no larger than the natural numbers. This theorem is in some ways a shocking result, since it implies that any consistent formal theory of anything - no
matter how hard it tries to address the phenomena unique to a field such as biology, physics, or even sets or just real numbers - can just as well be understood as being about natural numbers: it says nothing more about the actually intended field than it says about natural numbers.

E.2.1. Consistency

The second major result in formal semantics, Gödel’s completeness theorem of 1930 (see E.2.2 below), required even for its description, let alone its proof, more careful development of precise metalogical concepts about logical systems than existed earlier. One question for all logicians since Boole, and certainly since Frege, had been:

*Is the theory consistent? In its purely syntactic analysis, this amounts to the question: Is a contradictory sentence (of the form “A and not-A”) derivable?*

In most cases, the equivalent semantic counterpart of this is the question:

*Does the theory have a model at all?*

For a logical theory, consistency means that a contradictory theorem cannot be derived in the theory. But since logic was intended to be a theory of necessarily true statements, the goal was stronger: a theory is Post-consistent (named after Emil Post) if every theorem is valid - that is, if no theorem is a contradictory or a contingent statement. (In nonclassical logical systems, one may define many other interestingly distinct notions of consistency; these notions were not distinguished until the 1930s.) Consistency was quickly acknowledged as a desired feature of formal systems. Earlier assumptions about consistency of various theories of propositional and first order logic turned out to be correct. A proof of the consistency of propositional logic was first given by Post in 1921. Although the problem itself is rather simple, the original difficulties concerned the lack of precise syntactic and semantic means to characterize consistency. The first clear proof of the consistency of the first order predicate logic is found in the book of David Hilbert and Wilhelm Ackermann, *Grundzüge der theoretische Logik* (“Principles of theoretical logic”) from 1928. Here, in addition to a precise formulation of consistency, the main problem was also a rigorous statement of first order predicate logic as a formal theory.

Consistency of more complex systems proved elusive. Hilbert had observed that there was no proof that even Peano arithmetic was consistent,
while Zermelo was concerned with demonstrating that set theory was consistent. These questions received an answer that was not what was hoped for. Although Gerhard Gentzen (1909-1945) showed that Peano arithmetics is consistent, he needed for this purpose stronger assumptions than those of Peano arithmetics. Thus "true" consistency of arithmetics still depends on the consistency of the extended system used in the proof. But this system can not prove its own consistency and this is true about any system, satisfying some reasonably weak assumptions. This is the content of Gödel's second incompleteness theorem, which put a definite end to Hilbert's program of proving formally the consistency of mathematics.

E.2.2. COMPLETENESS

In their book from 1928 Hilbert and Ackermann also posed the question of whether a logical system and, in particular, first order predicate logic, was "complete", i.e.,

\[
\text{whether every valid proposition \(- that is, every proposition that is true in all intended models \(- is provable in the theory.}
\]

In other words, does the formal theory describe all the noncontingent truths of its subject matter? Some idea of completeness had clearly accompanied Aristotle's attempts to collect all human knowledge and, in particular, all valid arguments or, in geometry, Euclid's attempts to derive all true theorems from a minimal set of axioms. Completeness of a kind had also been a guiding principle of logicians since Boole - otherwise they would not have sought numerous axioms, risking their mutual dependence and even inconsistency. But all these earlier writers have lacked the semantic terminology to specify what their theory was about and wherein "aboutness" consists. In particular, they lacked the precise grasp of the "all truths" which they tried to capture. Even the language of Hilbert and Ackermann from 1928 is not perfectly clear by modern standards.

Post had shown the completeness of propositional logic in 1921 and Gödel proved the completeness of first order predicate logic in his doctoral dissertation of 1930. In many ways, however, explicit consideration of issues in semantics, along with the development of many of the concepts now widely used in formal semantics and model theory, first appeared in a paper by Alfred Tarski: The Concept of Truth in Formalized Languages, which was published in Polish in 1933 and became widely known through its German translation of 1936. Introducing the idea of a sentence being "true in" a
model, the paper marked the beginning of modern model theory. Even if the outlines of how to model propositional logic had been clear to the Booleans and to Frege, one of Tarski’s crucial contributions was an application of his general theory to the semantics of the first order logic (now termed the set-theoretic, or Tarskian, interpretation). Relativity of truth to a model suggests choosing the models with some freedom (recall de Morgan’s stipulated universe of discourse). Specifying precisely the class of intended models for a theory allows then to ask about proposition’s “validity”, i.e., its truth in all intended models. Completeness amounts to the syntactic derivability of every valid proposition, and this definition applies unchanged to propositional and first order logic, as well as to any other logical system.

Although the specific theory of truth Tarski advocated has had a complex and debated legacy, his techniques and precise language for discussing semantic concepts – such as consistency, completeness, independence – having rapidly entered the literature in the late 1930s, remained in the center of the subsequent development of logic and analytic philosophy. This influence accelerated with the publication of his works in German and then in English, and with his move to the United States in 1939.

E.3. Computability and decidability

The underlying theme of the whole development we have sketched is the attempt to formalize reasoning, hopefully to the level at which it can be performed mechanically. The idea of mechanical reasoning has always been present, if not always explicitly, in the logical investigations and could be almost taken as their primary, if only ideal, goal. Intuitively, “mechanical” involves some blind following of the rules and such a blind rule following is the essence of a symbolic system as described in E.1.2. This “mechanical blindness” follows from the fact the language and the rules are unambiguously defined. Consequently, correctness of the application of a rule to an actual formula can be verified mechanically. One can easily see that all rule applications in the derivation (E.1) are correct and equally easily that, for instance, \( \frac{T \vdash \Box \alpha}{\vdash \alpha} \) is not a correct application of any rule from \( T \).

Logic was supposed to capture correct reasoning and correctness amounts to conformance to some accepted rules. A symbolic reasoning system is an ultimately precise expression of this view of correctness which also makes its verification a purely mechanical procedure. Such a mechanism is possible because all legal moves and restrictions are expressed in the syntax: the language, axioms and rules. In other words, it is exactly the
uninterpreted nature of symbolic systems which leads to mechanization of
reasoning. Naturally enough, once the symbolic systems were defined
and one became familiar with them, i.e., in the beginning of the 20th
century, the questions about mechanical computability were raised by the
logicians. The answers led to the design and use of computers – devices for symbolic,
that is, uninterpreted manipulation.

E.3.1 What does it mean to “compute mechanically”?

In the 1930s this question acquired the ultimately precise, mathematical
meaning. Developing the concepts from Hilbert’s school, in his Princeton
lectures 1933-34 Gödel introduced the schemata for so called “recursive
functions” working on natural numbers. Some time later Alonzo Church
proposed the famous thesis

Church’s thesis

A function is (mechanically) computable if and only if it can be
defined using only recursive functions.

This may sound astonishing – why just recursive function are to have such
a special significance? The answer comes from the work of Alan Turing
who introduced “devices” which came to be known as Turing machines.
Although defined as conceptual entities, one could easily imagine that such
devices could be actually built as physical machines performing exactly
the operations suggested by Turing. The machines could, for instance,
recognize whether a string had some specific form and, generally, compute
functions. The functions which could be computed on Turing machines
were shown to be exactly the recursive functions! Even more significant for
us may be the fact that there is a well-defined sublogic of first order logic in
which proving a theorem amounts to computing a recursive function, that
is, which can code all possible computer programs. This subset comprises
Horn formulae, namely, the conditional formulae of the form

\[ \text{If } A_1 \text{ and } A_2 \text{ and } \ldots \text{ and } A_n \text{ then } C. \] (E.2)

Such rules might be claimed to have more “psychological plausibility” than
recursive functions. But they are computationally equivalent. With a few
variations and additions, the formulae (E.2) give the syntax of an elegant
programming language PROLOG. Thus, in the wide field of logic, there is
a small subdomain providing sufficient means to study the issues of com-
putability. (Such connections are much deeper and more intricate but we
cannot address them all here.)
E. Modern Symbolic Logic

Church’s thesis remains only a thesis, claiming that the informal and intuitive notion of mechanical computability is formalized exactly by the notion of recursive functions (or their equivalents, like Horn formulæ or Turing machines.) The fact that they are exactly the functions computable on the physical computer lends this thesis a lot of plausibility. Moreover, so far nobody has managed to introduce a notion of computability which would be intuitively acceptable, physically realizable and, at the same time, would exceed the capacities of Turing machines. A modern computer program, with all its tricks and sophistication is, as far as its power and possibilities are concerned, nothing more than a Turing machine, a set of Horn formulæ. Thus, logical results, in particular the negative theorems stating the limitations of logical formalisms, determine also the ultimate limits of computers’ capabilities as exemplified below.

E.3.2. Decidability

By the 1930s almost all work in the foundations of mathematics and in symbolic logic was being done in a standard first order predicate logic, often extended with axioms or axiom schemata of set-theory. This underlying logic consisted of a theory of classical truth functional connectives, such as “and”, “not” and “if . . . then” (propositional logic, as with Stoics or Boole) and first order quantification permitting propositions that “all” and “at least one” individual satisfy a certain formula (Frege). Only gradually in the 1920s and ’30s did a conception of a “first order” logic, and of more expressive alternatives, arise.

Formal theories can be classified according to their expressive or representational power, depending on their language (notation) and reasoning system (inference rules). Propositional logic allows merely manipulation of simple, propositional patterns, combined with operators like “or”, “and”, (A,3), p.9. First order logic allows explicit reference to, and quantification over, individuals, such as numbers or sets, but not quantification over properties of these individuals. For instance, the statement “for all x: if x is man then x is human” is first order. But the following one is second order, involving quantification over properties P, R: “for every x and any properties P, R: if P implies R and x is P then x is R.”¹¹ (Likewise, the fifth

¹¹Note a vague analogy of the distinction between first order quantification over individuals and second order quantification over properties to the distinction between extensional and intensional aspects from B.3. Since in the extensional context, a property P is just a set of individuals (possessing P), the intensional or property-oriented language becomes higher-order, having to address not only individuals but also sets thereof. Third-order
postulate of Euclid is not finitely axiomisable in the first order language
but is rather a schema or second order formulation.

The question "why should one bother with less expressive formalisms,
when more expressive ones are available?" should appear quite natural.
The answer lies in the fact that increasing expressive power of a formalism
caches with another desired feature, namely:

decidability
there exists a finite mechanical procedure for determining whether
a proposition is, or is not, a theorem of the theory.

The germ of this idea is present in the law of excluded middle claiming
that every proposition is either true or false. But decidability adds to it
the requirement which can be expressed only with the precise definition of
a finite mechanical procedure, of computability. This is the requirement
that not only the proposition must be true/provable or not: there must
be a terminating algorithm which can be run (on a computer) to decide
which is the case. (In E.1.2 we have shown that, for instance, \( \lnot \Delta \)
is a theorem of the theory \( T \) defined there. But if you were now to tell whether
\( (\lnot \Delta \rightarrow (\Box \rightarrow \Box)) \) is a theorem, you might have hard time trying to
find a derivation and even harder trying to prove that no derivation of this
formula exists. Decidability of a theory means that there is a computer
program capable to answer every such question.)

The decidability of propositional logic, through the use of truth tables,
was known to Frege and Peirce; its proof is attributable to Jan Lukasiewicz
and Emil Post independently in 1921. L"ovenheim showed in 1915 that
first order predicate logic with only single-place predicates was decidable
and that the full theory was decidable if the first order predicate calcul-
us with only two-place predicates was decidable. Further developments
were made by Thoralf Skolem, Heinrich Behmann, Jacques Herbrand, and
Willard Quine. Herbrand showed the existence of an algorithm which, if a
theory of the first order predicate logic is valid, will determine it to be so;
the difficulty, then, was in designing an algorithm that in a finite amount
of time would determine that propositions were invalid. (We can easily
imagine a machine which, starting with the specified axioms, generates all
possible theorems by simply generating all possible derivations — sequences
of correct rule applications. If the formula is provable, the machine will,
sooner or later, find a proof. But if the formula is not provable, the ma-
language allows then to quantify over sets of sets of individuals, etc.
chinese will keep for ever since the number of proofs is, typically, infinite.) As early as the 1880s, Peirce seemed to be aware that the propositional logic was decidable but that the full first order predicate logic with relations was undecidable. The fact that first order predicate logic (in any general formulation) was undecidable was first shown definitively by Alan Turing and Alonzo Church independently in 1936. Together with Gödel's (second) incompleteness theorem and the earlier Löwenheim-Skolem theorem, the Church-Turing theorem of the undecidability of the first order predicate logic is one of the most important, even if "negative", results of 20th century logic.

Many facts about the limits of computers arise as consequences of these negative results. For instance, it is not (and never will be) possible to write a computer program which, given an arbitrary first order theory $T$ and some formula $f$, is guaranteed to terminate giving the answer "Yes" if $f$ is a theorem of $T$ and "No" if it is not. A more mundane example is the following. One can easily write a computer program which for some inputs does not terminate. It might be therefore desirable to have a program $U$ which could take as input another program $P$ (a piece of text just like "usual" input to any program) and description of its input $d$ and decide whether $P$ run on $d$ would terminate or not. Such a program $U$, however, will never be written as the problem is undecidable.

F. SUMMARY

The idea of correct thinking is probably as old as thinking itself. With Aristotle there begins the process of explicit formulation of the rules, patterns of reasoning, conformance to which would guarantee correctness. This idea of correctness has been gradually made precise and unambiguous leading to the formulation of (the general schema for defining) symbolic languages, the rules of their manipulation and hence criteria of correct "reasoning". It is, however, far from obvious that the result indeed captures the natural reasoning as performed by humans. The need for precision led to the complete separation of the reasoning aspect (syntactic manipulation) from its possible meaning. The completely uninterpreted nature of symbolic systems makes their relation to the real world highly problematic. Moreover, as one has arrived at the general schema of defining formal systems, no unique system has arisen as the right one and their variety seems surpassed only by the range of possible application domains. The discussions about
which rules actually represent human thinking can probably continue indefinitely. Most significantly, this purely syntactic character of formal reasoning systems provided the basis for a precise definition of the old theme of logical investigations: the unavoidable consequence, which now appears co-extensional, if not synonymous, with the mechanical computability.

The question whether human mind can be reduced to such a mechanical computation and simulated by a computer is still discussed by the philosophers and cognitive scientists. Also, much successful research is driven by the idea, if not the explicit goal, of such a reduction. The “negative” results as those quoted at the end of the last section, established by human mind and demonstrating limitations of logic and computers, suggest that human cognition may not be reducible to mechanical computation. In particular, such a reduction would imply that all human thinking could be expressed as applications of simple rules like (E2) on p. 38. Its possibility has not been disproved but it does not appear plausible. Yet, as computable functions correspond only to a small part of logic, even if this reduction turns out impossible, the question of reduction of thinking to logic at large would still remain open. Few researchers seem to believe in such reductions and, indeed, one need not believe in them to study logic. In spite of its philosophical roots and apparently abstract character, it turned out to be the fundamental tool in the development, and later in the use and management, of the most useful appliance of the 20th century – the computer.

### The Greek alphabet

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Chapter 1

SETS, FUNCTIONS, RELATIONS

1.1 SETS AND FUNCTIONS

A set is an arbitrary collection of arbitrary objects, called its members. One should take these two occurrences of “arbitrary” seriously. Firstly, sets may be finite, e.g., the set $C$ of cars on the parking lot outside the building, or infinite, e.g., the set $N$ of numbers greater than 5.

Secondly, any objects can be members of sets. We can talk about sets of cars, blood-cells, numbers, Roman emperors, etc. We can also talk about the set $X$ whose elements are: my car, your mother and number 6. (Not that such a set necessarily is useful for any purpose, but it is possible to collect these various elements into one set.) In particular sets themselves can be members of other sets. We can, for instance, form the set whose elements are: your favorite pen, your two best friends and the set $N$. This set will have 4 elements, even though the set $N$ itself is infinite.

A set with only one element is called a singleton, e.g., the set containing only planet Earth. There is one special and very important set - the empty set - which has no members. If it seems startling, you may think of the set of all square circles or all numbers $x$ such that $x < x$. This set is mainly a mathematical convenience - defining a set by describing the properties of its members in an inviolable way, we may not know from the very beginning what its members are. Eventually, we may find that no such objects exist, that is, that we defined an empty set. It also makes many formulations simpler since, without the assumption of its existence, one would often had to take special precautions for the case a set happened to contain no elements.
It may be legitimate to speak about a definite set even if we do not know exactly its members. The set of people born in 1964 may be hard to determine exactly but it is a well-defined object because, at least in principle, we can determine membership of any object in this set. Similarly, we will say that the set $R$ of red objects is well defined even if we certainly do not know all its members. But confronted with a new object, we can determine if it belongs to $R$ or not (assuming, that we do not dispute the meaning of the word “red”).

There are four basic means of specifying a set.

1. If a set is finite and small, we may list all its elements, e.g., $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ is a set with four elements.

2. A set can be specified by determining a property which makes objects qualify as its elements. The set $R$ of red objects is specified in this way. The set $S$ can be described as ‘the set of natural numbers greater than 0 and less than 5’.

3. A set may be obtained from other sets. For instance, given the set $S$ and the set $S' = \{3, 4, 5, 6\}$ we can form a new set $S'' = \{3, 4\}$ which is the intersection of $S$ and $S'$. Given the sets of odd numbers $\{1, 3, 5, 7, \ldots\}$ and even numbers $\{0, 2, 4, 6, 8, \ldots\}$ we can form a new set $N$ by taking their union.

4. Finally, a set can be also given by means of the rules for generating its elements. For instance, the set $N$ of natural numbers $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \ldots\}$ can be described as follows: 0 belongs to $N$, if $n$ belongs to $N$ then also $n+1$ belongs to $N$ and, finally, nothing else belongs to $N$.

In this chapter we will use mainly the first three ways of describing sets. In particular, we will use various set building operations as in point 3. In the later chapters, we will constantly encounter sets described by the last method. One important point is that the properties of a set are entirely independent from the way the set is described. Whether we just say ‘the set of natural numbers’ or the set $N$ as defined in point 2, or 4, we get the same set. Another thing is that studying and proving properties of a set may be easier when the set is described in one way rather than another.

We start by introducing some notational conventions for sets and some basic operations allowing to obtain new sets from other ones.
1.1. Sets and Functions

Definition 1.1 Given some sets $S$ and $T$ we write:
- $x \in S$ - $x$ is a member (element) of $S$
- $S \subseteq T$ - $S$ is a subset of $T$ for all $x$ if $x \in S$ then $x \in T$
- $S \subseteq T$ and $S \neq T$ - for all $x$ if $x \in S$ then $x \in T$
  and for some $x : x \in T$ and $x \notin S$

Set building operations:
- $\emptyset$ - empty set for any $x : x \notin \emptyset$
- $S \cup T$ - union of $S$ and $T$ $x \in S \cup T$ if $x \in S$ or $x \in T$
- $S \cap T$ - intersection of $S$ and $T$ $x \in S \cap T$ if $x \in S$ and $x \in T$
- $S \setminus T$ - difference of $S$ and $T$ $x \in S \setminus T$ if $x \in S$ and $x \notin T$
- $S^c$ - complement of $S$ given a universe $U$ of all elements $S = U \setminus S$
- $S \times T$ - Cartesian product of $S$ and $T$ $x \in S \times T$ if $x = (s, t)$ and $s \in S$ and $t \in T$

- $\wp(S)$ - the power set of $S$ $x \in \wp(S)$ if $x \subseteq S$

Also, $\{x \in S : \text{Prop}(x)\}$ denotes the set of those $x \in S$ which have the specified property Prop.

Sets may be members of other sets. For instance $\{\emptyset\}$ is the set with one element — which is the empty set $\emptyset$. In fact, $\{\emptyset\} = \wp(\emptyset)$. It is different from the set $\emptyset$ which has no elements. $\{\{a, b\}, a\}$ is a set with two elements: $a$ and the set $\{a, b\}$. Also $\{\{a, b\}\}$ has two different elements: $a$ and $\{a\}$. In particular, the power set contains only sets as elements: $\wp(\{a, \{a, b\}\}) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{\{a, b\}\}, \{a, \{a, b\}\}\}$.

In the definition of Cartesian product, we used the notation $(s, t)$ to denote an ordered pair whose first element is $s$ and second $t$. In set theory, all possible objects are modeled as sets. An ordered pair $(s, t)$ is then represented as the set with two elements — both being sets — $\{\{s\}, \{s, t\}\}$. Why not $\{\{s\}, \{t\}\}$ or, even simpler, $\{s, t\}$? Because elements of a set are not ordered. Thus $\{s, t\}$ and $\{t, s\}$ denote the same set. Also, $\{\{s\}, \{t\}\}$ and $\{\{t\}, \{s\}\}$ denote the same set (but different from the set $\{s, t\}$). In ordered pairs, on the other hand, the order does matter — $(s, t)$ and $(t, s)$ are different pairs. This ordering is captured by the representation $\{(s), \{s, t\}\}$.

We have here a set with two elements $\{A, B\}$ where $A = \{s\}$ and $B = \{s, t\}$. The relationship between these two elements tells us which is the first and which the second: $A \subseteq B$ identifies the member of $A$ as the first element of the pair, and then the element of $B \setminus A$ as the second one (provided that $A \neq B$). Thus $(s, t) = \{(s), \{s, t\}\} \neq \{\{t\}, \{s, t\}\} = (t, s)$.

1The abbreviation "iff" stands for two-way implication "if and only if".
The set operations \( \cup \), \( \cap \), and \( \setminus \) obey some well known laws:

1. Empty set, the universe
   \[
   A \cup \emptyset = A \\
   A \cap \emptyset = A
   \]
2. Associativity
   \[
   (A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C) \\
   (A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)
   \]
3. Commutativity
   \[
   A \cup B = B \cup A \\
   A \cap B = B \cap A
   \]
4. Distributivity
   \[
   A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C) \\
   A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)
   \]
5. Complement
   \[
   A \cap \overline{A} = \emptyset \\
   A \cup \overline{A} = \mathbb{U}
   \]
6. de Morgan
   \[
   (A \cup B) = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B} \\
   (A \cap B) = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}
   \]

7. a) \( A \subseteq B \) iff \( A \cup B = B \) iff \( A \cap B = A \)  
   
   b) \( A \setminus B = A \cap \overline{B} \)

Note that the “universe” \( U \) can be any set, chosen depending on the application context. It is therefore convenient to denote it simply as the complement of the empty set, \( \mathbb{U} \).

**Remark 1.2 [Venn’s diagrams]**

It is very common to represent sets and set relations by means of Venn’s diagrams - overlapping figures, typically, circles or rectangles. On the left, the figure below, we have two sets \( A \) and \( B \) in some universe \( \mathbb{U} = U \). Their intersection \( A \cap B \) is marked as the area belonging to both by both vertical and horizontal lines. If we take \( A \) to represent Armenians and \( B \) bachelors, the darkest region in the middle represents Armenian bachelors. The region covered by only vertical, but not horizontal, lines is the set difference \( A \setminus B \) - Armenians who are not bachelors. The whole region covered by either vertical or horizontal lines represents all those who are either Armenian or are bachelors.

![Venn Diagram](image)

Now, the white region is the complement of the set \( A \cup B \) (in the universe \( U \)) - all those who are neither Armenians nor bachelors. The diagram to the right is essentially the same but was constructed in a different way. Here, the region covered with vertical lines is the complement of \( A \) - all non-Armenians. The region covered with horizontal lines represents all non-bachelors. The region covered with both horizontal and vertical lines
1.1. Sets and functions

is the intersection of these two complements — all those who are neither
Americans nor bachelors. The two diagrams illustrate the first de Morgan
law since the white area on the left, \((A \cup B)\), is exactly the same as the
area covered with both horizontal and vertical lines on the right, \(A \cap \overline{B}\). □

Venn’s diagrams may be handy tool to visualize simple set operations.
However, the equalities above can be also seen as a (not yet quite, but al-
most) formal system allowing one to derive various other set equalities.
The rule for performing such derivations is ‘substitution of equals for equals’,
known also from elementary arithmetics. For instance, idempotency of \(\cap\),
\(A = A \cap A\) follows by \(A \equiv \emptyset \cup A \equiv A \cap (A \cup \emptyset) \equiv (A \cap A) \cup \emptyset \equiv A \cap A\). The fact that, for an arbitrary set \(A : A \subseteq A\)
amounts then to a single application of (7) to \(A \subseteq A\) iff \(A \cap A = A\), while
\((A \cup B) \cup C = (C \cup A) \cup B\) follows by \(A \cup B) \cup C \equiv C \cup (A \cup B) \equiv (C \cup A) \cup B\).
Exercises contain more elaborate examples.

In addition to the set building operations from the Definition 1.1, one
often encounters also disjoint union of sets \(A\) and \(B\), written \(A \uplus B\) and
defined as \(A \uplus B = (A \times \{0\}) \cup (B \times \{1\})\). The idea is to use \(0\), resp. \(1\),
as indices to distinguish the elements originating from \(A\) and from \(B\). If
\(A \cap B = \emptyset\), this would not be necessary, but otherwise the “disjointness”
of this union requires that the common elements be duplicated. E.g., for
\(A = \{a, b, c\}\) and \(B = \{b, c, d\}\), their union is \(A \uplus B = \{a, b, c, d\}\), while the
disjoint union \(A \uplus B = \{(a, 0), (b, 0), (c, 0), (b, 1), (c, 1), (d, 1)\}\), which can be thought of as \(\{a_0, b_0, c_0, b_1, c_1, d_1\}\).

Definition 1.3 Given two sets \(S\) and \(T\), a function \(f\) from \(S\) to \(T\), \(f : S \rightarrow T\), is a subset of \(S \times T\) such that
• whenever \((s, t) \in f\) and \((s, t') \in f\), then \(t = t'\), and
• for each \(s \in S\) there is some \(t \in T\) such that \((s, t) \in f\).

A subset of \(S \times T\) that satisfies the first condition above but not necessarily
the second, is called a partial function from \(S\) to \(T\).

For a function \(f : S \rightarrow T\), the set \(S\) is called the source or domain of
the function, and the set \(T\) its target or codomain.

The second point of this definition means that function is total—for each argument
\((element s \in S)\), the function has some value, i.e., an element \(t \in T\) such that \((s, t) \in f\). Sometimes this requirement is dropped and one
speaks about partial functions which may have no value for some arguments
but we will be for the most concerned with total functions.
Example 1.4
Let \( \mathbb{N} \) denote the set of natural numbers \( \{0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots\} \). The mapping \( f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \) defined by \( f(n) = 2n \) is a function. It is the set of all pairs \( f = \{ (n, 2n) : n \in \mathbb{N} \} \). If we let \( M \) denote the set of all people, then the set of all pairs \( \text{father} = \{ (m, m's \text{ father}) : m \in M \} \) is a function assigning to each person his/her father. A mapping 'children', assigning to each person his/her children is not a function \( M \rightarrow M \) for two reasons. For the first, a person may have no children, while saying "function" we mean a total function. For the second, a person may have more than one child. These problems may be overcome if we considered it instead as a function \( M \rightarrow \wp(M) \) assigning to each person the set (possibly empty) of all his/her children.

Notice that although intuitively we think of a function as a mapping assigning to each argument some value, the definition states that it is actually a set (a subset of \( S \times T \) is a set). The restrictions put on this set are exactly what makes it possible to think of this set as a mapping. Nevertheless, functions - being sets - can be elements of other sets. We may encounter situations involving sets of functions, e.g., the set \( T^S \) of all functions from set \( S \) to set \( T \), which is just the set of all subsets of \( S \times T \), each satisfying the conditions of Definition 1.3.

Remark 1.5 [Notation]
A function \( f \) associates with each element \( s \in S \) a unique element \( t \in T \). We write this \( t \) as \( f(s) \) - the value of \( f \) at point \( s \).
When \( S \) is finite (and small) we may sometimes write a function as a set \( \{(s_1, t_1), \ldots, (s_n, t_n)\} \) or else as \( (s_1 \mapsto t_1, \ldots, s_n \mapsto t_n) \).
If \( f \) is given then by \( f(s \mapsto p) \) we denote the function \( f' \) which is the same as \( f \) for all arguments \( x \neq s : f'(x) = f(x) \), while \( f'(s) = p \).

Definition 1.6 A function \( f : S \rightarrow T \) is
injective iff whenever \( f(s) = f(s') \) then \( s = s' \);
surjective iff for all \( t \in T \) there exists an \( s \in S \) such that \( f(s) = t \);
bijective iff it is both injective and surjective.

Injectivity means that no two distinct elements from the source set are mapped to the same element in the target set; surjectivity that each element in the target is an image of some element from the source.

Example 1.7
The function \( \text{father} : M \rightarrow M \) is injective - everybody has exactly one
(biological) father, but it is not surjective – not everybody is a father of somebody. The following drawing gives some more examples:

Here \( h \) is neither injective nor surjective, \( f \) is injective but not surjective, \( g : T \rightarrow S \) is surjective but not injective. \( b \) and \( b' \) are both injective and surjective, i.e., bijections.

Soon we will see the particular importance of bijections. There may exist several bijections between two sets \( S \) and \( T \). If there is at least one bijection between the two sets, we write \( S \cong T \). The following lemma gives another criterion for a function to be a bijection.

**Lemma 1.8** \( f : S \rightarrow T \) is a bijection if and only if there exists an inverse function \( f^- : T \rightarrow S \), such that for all \( s \in S \) : \( f^-(f(s)) = s \) and for all \( t \in T \) : \( f(f^-(t)) = t \).

**Proof.** We have to show two implications:

only if) If \( f \) is bijective, we can define \( f^- \) simply as the set of pairs \( f^- := \{(t,s) : t = f(s)\} \).

if) If \( f(s) = f(s') \) then \( s = f^-(f(s)) = f^-(f(s')) = s' \), i.e., \( f \) is injective. Also, for any \( t \in T \), taking \( s = f^-(t) \) we obtain \( f(s) = f(f^-(t)) = t \), i.e., \( f \) is surjective.

In Example 1.7 both \( b \) and \( b' \) are bijective. In fact, they act as mutual inverses satisfying the conditions of the above lemma: for each \( s \in S \) : \( b'(b(s)) = s \) and for each \( t \in T \) : \( b(b^-(t)) = t \).
Definition 1.9  For any set $U$ and $A \subseteq U$, the characteristic function of $A$ (relatively to $U$), denoted $f_A$, is the function
\[ \{ \langle x, 1 \rangle : x \in A \} \cup \{ \langle x, 0 \rangle : x \in \overline{A} \}. \]
Hence $f_A(x) = 1$ iff $x \in A$. Note that $f_A$ is a function from $U$ to $\{1, 0\}$, where $\{1, 0\}$ is an (any) set with exactly two elements.

Let $f : \mathcal{P}(U) \to 2^U$ denote the function sending each subset $A$ of $U$ to its characteristic function $f_A$ (the notation $2^U$ stands for the set of all functions from $U$ to a two-element set, e.g., to $\{1, 0\}$).

It is clear that if $A \neq B$ then $f_A \neq f_B$. The first inequality means that there is an $x$ such that either $x \in A \setminus B$ or $x \in B \setminus A$. In either case we will have that $f_A(x) \neq f_B(x)$. Thus $f$ is injective.

On the other hand, every function $f \in 2^U$ is the characteristic function of some subset of $U$, namely, of the set $A_f = \{ x \in U : f(x) = 1 \}$. That is, $f$ is surjective. Together, these two facts mean that we have a bijection $f : \mathcal{P}(U) \to 2^U$.

1.2 Relations

Definition 1.10  A relation $R$ on sets $S_1, \ldots, S_n$ is a subset $R \subseteq S_1 \times \cdots \times S_n$. A binary relation on a set $S$ is a subset of $S^2 = S \times S$ and, generally, an $n$-ary relation on $S$ is a subset of $S^n = S \times S \times \cdots \times S$.

This definition makes any subset of $S \times T$ a relation. Definition 1.3 of function, on the other hand, required this set to satisfy some additional properties. Hence a function is a special case of relation, namely, a relation which relates each element of $S$ with exactly one element of $T$.

Binary relations are sets of ordered pairs, i.e., $\langle s, t \rangle \neq \langle t, s \rangle$ if $s \in S$ and $t \in T$, then the former belongs to $S \times T$ and the latter to $T \times S$, which are different sets. It is common to write the fact that $s$ and $t$ stand in a relation $R$, $\langle s, t \rangle \in R$, as $s R t$ or as $R(s, t)$.

In general, relations may have arbitrary arities, for instance a subset $R \subseteq S \times T \times U$ is a ternary relation, etc. As a particular case, a unary relation (also called a predicate) on $S$ is simply a subset $R \subseteq S$. In the following we are speaking only about binary relations (unless explicitly stated otherwise).

Example 1.11
Functions, so to speak, map elements of one set onto the elements of another
1.2. Relations

set (possibly the same). Relations relate some elements of one set with some elements of another. Recall the problem from Example 1.4 with treating children as a function $M \rightarrow M$. This problem is overcome by treating children as a binary relation on the set $M$ of all people. Thus children$(p, c)$ holds if an only if $c$ is a child of $p$. Explicitly, this relation is children $= \{(p, c) : p, c \in M \text{ and } c \text{ is a child of } p\}$. □

Definition 1.12 Given two relations $R \subseteq S \times T$ and $P \subseteq T \times U$, their composition is the relation $R ; P \subseteq S \times U$, defined as the set of pairs $R ; P = \{(s, u) \in S \times U : \text{there is an } t \in T \text{ with } R(s, t) \text{ and } P(t, u)\}$.

As functions are special cases of relations, the above definition allows us to form the composition $g ; f$ of functions $g : S \rightarrow T$ and $f : T \rightarrow U$, namely, the function from $S$ to $U$ given by the equation $(g ; f)(s) = f(g(s))$.

Definition 1.13 A relation $R \subseteq S \times S$ is:
- connected iff for all pairs of distinct $s, t \in S : R(s, t)$ or $R(t, s)$
- reflexive iff for all $s \in S : R(s, s)$
- irreflexive iff for no $s \in S : R(s, s)$
- transitive iff when $R(s_1, s_2)$ and $R(s_2, s_3)$ then $R(s_1, s_3)$
- symmetric iff when $R(s, t)$ then $R(t, s)$
- asymmetric iff when $R(s, t)$ then not $R(t, s)$
- antisymmetric iff when $R(s, t)$ and $R(t, s)$ then $s = t$
- equivalence iff it is reflexive, transitive and symmetric.

Numerous connections hold between these properties: every irreflexive, transitive relation is also symmetric, and every asymmetric relation is also antisymmetric. Note also that just one relation is both connected, symmetric and reflexive, namely the universal relation $S \times S$ itself.

The most common (and smallest) example of equivalence is the identity relation $id_S = \{(s, s) \in S \times S\}$. The relation $\sim$—existence of a bijection—is also an equivalence relation on any set (collection) of sets. An equivalence relation $\sim$ on a set $S$ allows us to partition $S$ into disjoint equivalence classes $[s] = \{s' \in S : s' \sim s\}$.

Given a relation $R \subseteq S \times S$, we can form its closure with respect to one or more of these properties. For example, the reflexive closure of $R$, written $R_\mathbb{R}$, is the relation $R \cup id_S$. (It may very well happen that $R$ already is reflexive, $R_\mathbb{R} = R$, but then we do have that $R = R_\mathbb{R}$.) The transitive closure of $R$, written $R^+$, can be thought of as the infinite union $R \cup (R ; R) \cup (R ; R ; R) \cup (R ; R ; R ; R) \cup (R ; R ; R ; R ; R) \cup \ldots$ and can be defined as the least relation $R^+$ such that $R^+ = R \cup (R^+ ; R)$.
1.3 ORDERING RELATIONS

Of particular importance are the ordering relations which we will use extensively in Chapter 1.4 and later. Often we assume an implicit set $S$ and talk only about relation $R$. However, it is important to realize that when we are talking about a relation $R$, we are actually considering a set with structure, namely a pair $(S,R)$.

Definition 1.14 \( (S, R) \) is a quasiorder (or preorder), QO, if $R$ is:
- transitive: \( R(x,y) \land R(y,z) \rightarrow R(x,z) \)
- reflexive: \( R(x,x) \)

\( (S, R) \) is a weak partial order, wPO, if $R$ is:
- a quasiorder: \( R(x,y) \land R(y,z) \rightarrow R(x,z) \)
- \( R(x,x) \)
- antisymmetric: \( R(x,y) \land R(y,x) \rightarrow x = y \)

\( (S, R) \) is a strict partial order, sPO, if $R$ is:
- transitive: \( R(x,y) \land R(y,z) \rightarrow R(x,z) \)
- reflexive: \( \neg R(x,x) \)

A total order, TO, is a PO which is connected: \( x \neq y \rightarrow R(x,y) \lor R(y,x) \)

A QO allows loops, for instance the situations like $R(a_1, a_2)$, $R(a_2, a_3)$, $R(a_3, a_1)$ for distinct $a_1, a_2, a_3$. A PO forbids such situations: by applications of transitivity we have:
- \( R(a_2, a_1) \) as well as \( R(a_1, a_2) \), which for wPO's imply $a_1 = a_2$,
- \( R(a_1, a_1) \), which is impossible for sPO's.

Obviously, given a wPO, we can trivially construct its strict version (by making it irreflexive) and vice versa. We will therefore often say “partial order” or PO without specifying which one we have in mind.

Instead of writing \( R(x,y) \) for a PO, we often use the infix notation $x \leq y$ for a wPO, and $x < y$ for the corresponding sPO. In other words, $x \leq y$ means $x < y$ or $x = y$, and $x < y$ means $x \leq y$ and $x \neq y$.

Example 1.15
Consider the set of all people and their ages:

1. The relation ‘$x$ is older than $y$’ is an sPO on the set of all people: it is transitive, irreflexive (nobody is older than himself) and asymmetric: if $x$ is older than $y$ then $y$ is not older than $x$.
2. The relation ‘$x$ is not younger than $y$’ is a QO. It is not a wPO since it is not antisymmetric. (There are different people of the same age.)
1.3. Ordering relations

The weak version of the relation in 1 is the relation `$x$ is older than $y$ or $x, y$ is the same person', which is clearly different from the relation in 2.

The relation in 1 is not a TO of two different persons there may be none who is older than the other.

Example 1.16

Given a set of symbols, for instance $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$, the set $\Sigma^*$ contains all finite strings over $\Sigma$, e.g., $a, a, ab, abba, aababababa$,... There are various natural ways of ordering $\Sigma^*$. Let $s, p \in \Sigma^*$

1. Define $s \triangleleft_{Q} p$ iff $\text{length}(s) < \text{length}(p)$. This gives an sPO. The weak relation $s \triangleleft_{Q} p$ iff $\text{length}(s) \leq \text{length}(p)$ will be a QO but not a wPO since now any subseq containing strings of equal length will form a loop.

2. Define $s \triangleleft_{P} p$ iff $s$ is a prefix of $p$. (Prefix is an initial segment.) We now obtain a wPO because any string is its own prefix and if both $s$ is a prefix of $p$ and $p$ is a prefix of $s$ the two must be the same string. This is not, however, a TO: neither of the strings $a$ and $bc$ is a prefix of the other.

3. Suppose that the set $\Sigma$ is totally ordered, for instance, let $\Sigma$ be the Latin alphabet with the standard ordering $a < b < c < d$,... We may then define the lexicographic TO on $\Sigma^*$ as follows:

$s \triangleleft_{L} p$ iff either $s$ is a prefix of $p$ or else the two have a longest common prefix $u$ (possibly empty) such that $s = uw$, $t = uw$ and $\text{head}(v) \prec \text{head}(w)$, where $\text{head}$ is the first symbol of the argument string. This defines the usual ordering used, for instance, in dictionaries.

Homomorphisms

The following notions will not be used extensively, but it is often important to realize that functions between ordered sets should consider not only the elements of the sets but also the relation between these elements.

Definition 1.17 Given two orderings (of any kind) $P = (S_P, R_P)$ and $Q = (S_Q, R_Q)$, a homomorphism $h : P \rightarrow Q$ is an order preserving function, i.e., a function $h : S_P \rightarrow S_Q$ such that $R_Q(x, y)$ implies $R_Q(h(x), h(y))$.

An order-isomorphism is a bijection $h : S_P \cong S_Q$ such that both $h$ and $h^{-1}$ are homomorphisms.

Thus, an order-isomorphism is a bijection which, in addition, preserves the structure of the isomorphic relations. One often encounters two ordered sets which are bijective but not order-isomorphic.

Example 1.18

Given two 4-element sets $A$ and $B$, consider two sPO's $A = (A, \prec_A)$ and $B =$
\(\langle B, \prec_B\rangle\) as shown below:

\[
\begin{array}{cccccc}
 & & a_2 & & & \\
A & a_1 & \searrow & A & & B \\
& a_4 & \swarrow & b_1 & \prec_B & b_2 \\
& & A & b_3 & \prec_B & b_4 \\
& & & A & & A
\end{array}
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(f(a_1))</th>
<th>(h_1(a_2))</th>
<th>(h_2(a_2))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a_1)</td>
<td>(b_1)</td>
<td>(b_2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a_2)</td>
<td>(b_2)</td>
<td>(b_3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a_3)</td>
<td>(b_3)</td>
<td>(b_4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a_4)</td>
<td>(b_4)</td>
<td>(b_4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any injective \(f : A \to B\) is also a bijection, i.e., \(A \cong B\). However, a homomorphism \(a : A \to B\) must also satisfy the additional condition, e.g., \(a_1 \prec_A a_2\) requires that also \(h(a_1) \prec_B h(a_2)\). Thus, for instance, \(f\) from the table is not a homomorphism \(A \to B\) while \(b_1\) and \(b_2\) are.

Now, although the underlying sets A and B are isomorphic, there is no order-isomorphism between \(A = \langle A, \prec_A\rangle\) and \(B = \langle B, \prec_B\rangle\) because there is no homomorphism from the latter to the former. B is connected, i.e., a total order while A is not — any homomorphism would have to preserve the relation \(\prec_B\) between arbitrary two elements of B, but in A there is no relation \(\prec_A\) between \(a_2\) and \(a_3\).

1.4 INFINITIES — a background story

Imagine a primitive shepherd who possesses no idea of number or counting — when releasing his sheep from the cottage in the morning he wants to find the means of figuring out if, when he collects them in the evening, all are back or, perhaps, some are missing.

He can, and most probably did, proceed as follows. Find a stick and let the sheep leave one by one, marking each on the stick, e.g., by something like \(\_\). When all the sheep have left, there will be as many marks on the stick as there were sheep. On their return, do the same: let them go through the gate one by one. For each sheep, erase one mark — e.g., set a \(\_\) making one \(\_\) into \(\times\). When all the sheep are inside, check if there are any \(\_\)-marks left. If no, i.e., there are only \(\times\) on the stick, then everything is ok — as many sheep returned home as had left in the morning. If yes, then some sheep are missing.

Notice, that the shepherd still does not know “how many” sheep he has — he still does not have the idea of a number. But, perhaps a bit paradoxically, he has the idea of two equal numbers! This idea is captured by the correspondence, in fact, several functions: the first is a morning-function \(m\) which for each sheep from the set \(S_M\) of all sheep, assigns a new \(\_\) on the stick — all the marks obtained in the morning form a set \(M\). The other, evening-function \(e\), assigns to each returning sheep (from the set of returning sheep \(S_E\)) another mark \(\times\).
Superimposing the evening marks \( \backslash \) onto the morning marks \( / \), i.e., forming \( \times \)-marks, amounts to comparing the number of elements in the sets \( M \) and \( E \) by means of a function \( c \) assigning to each returning sheep marked by \( \backslash \) a morning sheep \( / \).

\[
\begin{array}{c}
S_M \uparrow M \xrightarrow{c} E \xrightarrow{c} S_E \\
\cdot \rightarrow / \times \backslash \leftarrow \\
\cdot \rightarrow / \times \backslash \leftarrow \\
\cdot \rightarrow / \times \backslash \leftarrow \\
\ldots
\end{array}
\]

In fact, this simple procedure may be considered as a basis of counting - comparing the number of elements in various sets. In order to ensure that the two sets, like \( S_M \) and \( M \), have equal number of elements, we have to insist on some properties of the involved function \( m \). Each sheep must be given a mark (\( m \) must be total) and for two distinct sheep we have to make two distinct marks (\( m \) must be injective). The third required property - that of surjectivity - follows automatically in the above procedure, since the target set \( M \) is formed only along as we mark the sheep. In short, the shepherd knows that there are \textit{as many sheep as} the morning marks on the stick because he has a bijective function between the respective sets. For the same reason, he knows that the sets of returning sheep and evening marks have the same number of elements and, finally, establishing a bijection between the sets \( M \) and \( E \), he rests satisfied. (Violating a bit the profiles of the involved functions, we may say that the composite function \( c ; c ; m : S_E \rightarrow E \rightarrow M \rightarrow S_M \) turns out to be bijective.)

You can now easily imagine what is going on when the shepherd discovers that some sheep are missing in the evening. He is left with some \( \times \)-marks which cannot be converted into \( \times \)-marks. The function \( c : E \rightarrow M \) is injective but not surjective. This means that the set \( E \) has strictly fewer elements than the set \( M \).

These ideas do not express immediately the concept of a number as we are used to it. (They can be used to do that.) But they do express our intuition about one number being equal to, smaller or greater than another number. What is, perhaps, most surprising is that they work equally well when the involved sets are infinite, thus allowing us to compare “the number of elements” in various infinite sets.
In this section, we consider only sets and set functions, in particular, bijections.

**Definition 1.19** Two sets \( S \) and \( T \) have equal cardinality iff they are bijective. \( S \equiv T \).

The cardinality of a set \( S \), \( |S| \), is the equivalence class \( [S] = \{ T : T \equiv S \} \).

This is not an entirely precise definition of cardinality which, as a matter of fact, is the number associated with such an equivalence class. The point is that it denotes the intuitive idea of the number of elements in the set – all bijective sets have the same number of elements.

**Definition 1.20** \( |S| \leq |T| \) iff there exists an injective function \( f : S \rightarrow T \).

It can be shown that this definition is consistent, i.e., that if \( |S_1| = |S_2| \) and \( |T_1| = |T_2| \) then there exists an injective function \( f_1 : S_1 \rightarrow T_1 \) iff there exists an injective function \( f_2 : S_2 \rightarrow T_2 \). A set \( S \) has cardinality strictly less than a set \( T \), \( |S| < |T| \), iff there exists an injective function \( f : S \rightarrow T \) but there exists no such surjective function.

**Example 1.21**
\[
|\varnothing| = 0, \quad |\{\varnothing\}| = 1, \quad |\{\varnothing, \{\varnothing\}\}| = 2.
\]
\[
|\{a, b, c\}| = |\{\#, \#, \#\}| = |\{a, 1, 2\}| = 3.
\]

For finite sets, all operations from Definition 1.1 yield sets with possibly different cardinality:
1. \(|a, b| \cup \{a, c, d\} = |\{a, b, c, d\}| \quad |S \cup T| \geq |S|\)
2. \(|a, b| \cap \{a, c, d\} = |\{a\}| \quad |S \cap T| \leq |S|\)
3. \(|a, b| \setminus \{a, c, d\} = |\{b\}| \quad |S \setminus T| \leq |S|\)
4. \(|a, b| \times \{a, d\} = |\{(a, a), (a, d), (b, a), (b, d)\}| \quad |S \times T| = |S| \ast |T|\)
5. \(|s(a, b)| = |\{(a, a), (b, b)\}| \quad |s(S)| > |S|\)

From certain assumptions ("axioms") about sets it can be proven that the relation \( \leq \) on cardinalities has the properties of a weak TO, i.e., it is reflexive (obvious), transitive (fairly obvious), antisymmetric (not so obvious) and total (less obvious).

**SCHIÖLD-BERNSTEIN THEOREM**..........................[optional]

As an example of how intricate reasoning may be needed to establish such "not quite but almost obvious" facts, we show that \( \leq \) is antisymmetric.

**Theorem 1.22** For arbitrary sets \( X, Y \), if there are injections \( i : X \rightarrow Y \) and \( j : Y \rightarrow X \), then there is a bijection \( f : X \rightarrow Y \) (i.e., if \( |X| \leq |Y| \) and \( |Y| \leq |X| \) then \( |X| = |Y| \)).
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Proof. If the injection \( i : X \to Y \) is surjective, i.e., \( i(X) = Y \), then \( i \) is a bijection and we are done. Otherwise, we have \( Y_0 = Y \setminus i(X) \neq \emptyset \) and we apply \( j \) and \( i \) repeatedly as follows:

\[
Y_0 = Y \setminus i(X) \quad X_0 = j(Y_0) \\
Y_{n+1} = i(X_n) \quad X_{n+1} = j(Y_{n+1}) \\
Y^* = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} Y_n \quad X^* = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} X_n
\]

So we can divide both sets into disjoint components as in the diagram below.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
Y \\
\downarrow j \\
X \\
\end{array} 
\begin{array}{c}
\downarrow j \\
Y^* \\
\downarrow i \\
X^* \\
\end{array} 
= \begin{array}{c}
(Y \setminus Y^*) \\
\bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} Y_n \\
\bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} X_n = X^*
\end{array}
\]

We show that the respective restrictions of \( j \) and \( i \) are bijections. First, \( j : Y^* \to X^* \) is a bijection (it is injective, and the following equation shows that it is surjective):

\[
j(Y^*) = j(\bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} Y_n) = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} j(Y_n) = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} X_n = X^*
\]

By Lemma 1.8, \( i : X^* \to Y^* \), defined by \( i^*(y) = y : j(y) = x \) is a bijection too. Furthermore:

\[
i(X^*) = i(\bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} X_n) = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} i(X_n) = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\omega} Y_{n+1} = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\omega} Y_n = Y^* \setminus Y_0. \tag{1.23}
\]

Below, the first equality holds since \( i \) is injective, the second one by (1.23) and since \( i(X) = Y \setminus Y_0 \) (definition of \( Y_0 \)), and the last one since \( Y_0 \subseteq Y^* \):

\[
i(X \setminus Y^*) = i(X) \setminus Y_0 = (Y \setminus Y_0) \setminus (Y^* \setminus Y_0) = Y \setminus Y^*,
\]

i.e., \( i : (X \setminus Y^*) \to (Y \setminus Y^*) \) is a bijection. We obtain a bijection \( f : X \to Y \) defined by

\[
f(x) = \begin{cases} 
 i(x) & \text{if } x \in X \setminus X^* \\
 j^*(x) & \text{if } x \in X^*
\end{cases}
\]

QED (1.22)
A more abstract proof

The construction of the sets $X^*$ and $Y^*$ in the above proof can be subsumed under a more abstract formulation implied by Claims 1 and 2.

**Claim 1.** For any set $X$, if $h : g(X) \to g(X)$ is monotonic, i.e., such that, whenever $A \subseteq B \subseteq X$ then $h(A) \subseteq h(B)$; then there is a set $T \subseteq X$ : $h(T) = T$.

We show that $T = \bigcup \{ A \subseteq X : A \subseteq h(A) \}$.

a) $T \subseteq h(T)$ : for each $t \in T$ there is an $A : t \in A \subseteq T$ and $A \subseteq h(A)$. But then $A \subseteq T$ implies $h(A) \subseteq h(T)$, and so $t \in h(T)$.

b) $h(T) \subseteq T$ : from a) $T \subseteq h(T)$, so $h(T) \subseteq h(h(T))$ which means that $h(T) \subseteq T$ by definition of $T$.

**Claim 2.** Given injections $i, j$ define $\ast : g(X) \to g(X)$ by $A^* = X \setminus j(Y \setminus i(A))$. If $A \subseteq B \subseteq X$ then $A^* \subseteq B^*$. Follows trivially from injectivity of $i$ and $j$. $A \subseteq B$, so $i(A) \subseteq i(B)$, so $Y \setminus i(A) \subseteq Y \setminus i(B)$, so $j(Y \setminus i(A)) \subseteq j(Y \setminus i(B))$, and hence $X \setminus (Y \setminus i(A)) \subseteq X \setminus (Y \setminus i(B))$.

3. Claims 1 and 2 imply that there is a $T \subseteq X$ such that $T = T^*$, i.e., $T = X \setminus j(Y \setminus i(T))$. Then $f : X \to Y$ defined by $f(x) = \begin{cases} \ast(x) & \text{if } x \in T \\ j^{-1}(x) & \text{if } x \notin T \end{cases}$ is a bijection. We have $X = j(Y \setminus i(T)) \cup T$ and $Y = (Y \setminus i(T)) \cup j(T)$, and obviously $j^{-1}$ is a bijection between $j(Y \setminus i(T))$ and $Y \setminus i(T)$, while $i$ is a bijection between $T$ and $i(T)$.

The cardinality of every finite set is a natural number, representing the number of elements in the set. The apparently empty Definition 1.19 becomes more significant when we look at the infinite sets.

**Definition 1.24** A set $S$ is infinite iff there exists a proper subset $T \subset S$ such that $S \sim T$.

**Example 1.25**

Denote the cardinality of the set of natural numbers by $|N| \equiv \aleph_0$. Sometimes it is also written $\omega$, although axiomatic set theory distinguishes between the cardinal number $\aleph_0$ and the ordinal number $\omega$. Ordinal number is a more fine-grained notion than cardinal number, but we shall not worry about this. We have, for instance, that $|N| = |N \setminus \{0\}|$, as shown below to the left. In fact, the cardinality of $N$ is the same as the cardinality of the even natural numbers! It is easy to see that the pair of functions $f(n) = 2n$ and $f^{-1}(2n) = n$, as shown to the right, forms a bijection:

\[
\begin{align*}
\{ 0 \} & \pm \{ 1 \} \\
\downarrow & \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \\
\{ 1 \} & \pm \{ 2 \} \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\{ 0 \} & \pm \{ 1 \} \pm \{ 2 \} \pm \{ 3 \} \pm \{ 4 \} \pm \{ 5 \} \\
\downarrow & \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \\
\{ 0 \} & \pm \{ 2 \} \pm \{ 4 \} \pm \{ 6 \} \pm \{ 8 \} \pm \{ 10 \} \\
\end{align*}
\]
1.4. INFINITIES

In general, when |S| = |T| = \(\aleph_0\) and |P| = n < \(\aleph_0\), we have

\[|S \cup T| = \aleph_0 \quad |S \setminus P| = \aleph_0 \quad |S \times T| = \aleph_0\]

The following drawing illustrates a possible bijection \( \mathbb{N} = \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \):

```
03 13 23 33 43
02 12 22 32 42
01 11 21 31 41
00 → 10 → 20 → 30 → 40 → 50
```

A bijection \( S \mapsto \mathbb{N} \) amounts to an enumeration of the elements of \( S \). Thus, if |S| ≤ \(\aleph_0\) we say that \( S \) is enumerable or countable; in case of equality, we say that it is countably infinite. Now, the question "are there any uncountable sets?" was answered by the founder of modern set theory:

**Theorem 1.26** [Georg Cantor] For any set \( A : |A| < |\wp(A)| \).

**Proof.** The construction applied here shows that the contrary assumption \( A = \wp(A) \) leads to a contradiction. Obviously, |A| ≤ |\wp(A)|, since the inclusion defined by \( f(a) = \{a\} \) is an injective function \( f : A \to \wp(A) \). So assume the equality \( |A| = |\wp(A)| \), i.e., a corresponding \( F : A \to \wp(A) \) which is both injective and surjective. Define the subset of \( A \) by \( B = \{a \in A : a \notin F(a)\} \). Since \( B \subseteq A \), so \( B \in \wp(A) \) and, since \( F \) is surjective, there is a \( b \in A \) such that \( F(b) = B \). Is \( b \) in \( B \) or not? Each of the two possible answers yields a contradiction:

1. \( b \in F(b) \) means \( b \in \{a \in A : a \notin F(a)\} \), which means \( b \notin F(b) \)
2. \( b \notin F(b) \) means \( b \notin \{a \in A : a \notin F(a)\} \), which means \( b \in F(b) \).

\( \quad \Box \) (1.26)

**Corollary 1.27** There is no greatest cardinal number.

In particular, \( \aleph_0 = |\mathbb{N}| < |\wp(\mathbb{N})| < |\wp(\wp(\mathbb{N}))| < \ldots \). Theorem 1.26 proves that there exist uncountable sets, but are they of any interest? Another theorem of Cantor shows that such sets have been around in mathematics for quite a while.

**Theorem 1.28** The set \( \mathbb{R} \) of real numbers is uncountable.
Proof. Since \( \mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{R} \), we know that \( |\mathbb{N}| \leq |\mathbb{R}| \). The diagonalisation technique introduced here by Cantor, reduces the assumption that \( |\mathbb{N}| = |\mathbb{R}| \) ad absurdum. If \( \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{N} \) then, certainly, we can enumerate any subset of \( \mathbb{R} \). Consider only the closed interval \([0,1] \subseteq \mathbb{R} \). If it is countable, we can list all its members, writing them in decimal expansion (each \( r_{ij} \) is a digit):

\[
\begin{align*}
n_1 &= 0. r_{11} r_{12} r_{13} r_{14} r_{15} r_{16} \ldots \\cr
n_2 &= 0. r_{21} r_{22} r_{23} r_{24} r_{25} r_{26} \ldots \cr
n_3 &= 0. r_{31} r_{32} r_{33} r_{34} r_{35} r_{36} \ldots \cr
n_4 &= 0. r_{41} r_{42} r_{43} r_{44} r_{45} r_{46} \ldots \cr
n_5 &= 0. r_{51} r_{52} r_{53} r_{54} r_{55} r_{56} \ldots \cr
n_6 &= 0. r_{61} r_{62} r_{63} r_{64} r_{65} r_{66} \ldots \\
&\vdots
\end{align*}
\]

Form a new real number \( r \) by replacing each \( r_{ij} \) with another digit, for instance, let \( r = 0.r_{13}r_{24}r_{35} \ldots \), where \( r_i = r_{ii} + 1 \) mod 10. Then \( r \) cannot be any of the listed numbers \( n_1, n_2, n_3, \ldots \). For each such number \( n_i \) has a digit \( r_{ij} \) at its \( i \)-th position which is different from the digit \( r_i \) at the \( i \)-th position in \( r \). \( \Box \) (1.28)

"Sets” which are not sets

Among the set building operations introduced in Definition 1.1, the power set operation \( \mathcal{P}(\cdot) \) has proven particularly potent. However, the most peculiar one is the comprehension operation, namely, the one allowing us to form a set of elements satisfying some property \( \{ x : \text{Prop}(x) \} \). Although apparently very natural, its unrestricted use leads to severe problems.

Russell’s Paradox

Define the set \( U = \{ x : x \notin x \} \) and ask if \( U \in U \). Each possible answer leads to absurdity:

1. \( U \in U \) means that \( U \) is one of \( x \) in \( U \), i.e., \( U \in \{ x : x \notin x \} \), so \( U \notin U \)
2. \( U \notin U \) means that \( U \in \{ x : x \notin x \} \), so \( U \in U \).

The problem arises because in the definition of \( U \) we did not specify what kind of \( x \)'s we are gathering. Among many solutions to this paradox, the most commonly accepted is to exclude such definitions by requiring that \( x \)'s which are to satisfy a given property when collected into a new set must already belong to some other set. This is the formulation we used in
1.4. INFINITIES

Definition 1.1, where we said that if $S$ is a set then $\{x \in S : \text{Prop}(x)\}$ is a set too. The "definition" of $U = \{x : x \notin x\}$ does not conform to this format and hence is not considered a valid description of a set.

EXERCISE 1.1 Given the following sets

$S_1 = \{\emptyset, A, \{A\}\}$, $S_5 = \emptyset$

$S_2 = \{A\}$

$S_3 = \{\{A\}\}$

$S_4 = \{A, \{A\}\}$

$S_6 = \{\emptyset\}$

$S_7 = \{\emptyset\}$

$S_8 = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$

Of the sets $S_1-S_8$, which

(1) are members of $S_1$?

(2) are members of $S_3$?

(3) are members of $S_8$?

(4) are subsets of $S_1$?

(5) are subsets of $S_3$?

(6) are subsets of $S_8$?

EXERCISE 1.2 Let $A = \{a, b, c\}$, $B = \{c, d\}$, $C = \{d, e, f\}$.

(1) Write the sets $A \cup B$, $A \cap B$, $A \cup (B \cap C)$

(2) Is $a$ a member of $\{A, B\}$, of $A \cup B$?

(3) Write the sets $A \times B$ and $B \times A$.

EXERCISE 1.3 Using the set theoretic equalities (page 46), show that:

(1) $A \cap (B \backslash A) = \emptyset$ and $A \cap (A \backslash B) = A \backslash B$.

(2) $((A \cup C) \cap (B \cup C)) \subseteq (A \cup B)$

Show first some lemmata:

a) $A \cap B \subseteq A$

b) if $A \subseteq B$ then $A \subseteq B \cup C$

c) if $A_1 \subseteq X$ and $A_2 \subseteq X$ then $A_1 \cup A_2 \subseteq X$

Expand then the expression $(A \cup C) \cap (B \cup C)$ to one of the form $X_1 \cup X_2 \cup X_3 \cup X_4$, show that each $X_i \subseteq A \cup B$ and use Lemma c).

EXERCISE 1.4 Let $S = \{0, 1, 2\}$ and $T = \{0, 1, \{0, 1\}\}$. Construct $\varphi(S)$ and $\varphi(T)$.

EXERCISE 1.5 Given two infinite sets

$S = \{3, 10, 15, 20, 25, \ldots\}$ and $T = \{3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 19, 20, \ldots\}$.

(1) Specify each of these sets by defining the properties $P_S$ and $P_T$ such that $S = \{x \in \mathbb{N} : P_S(x)\}$ and $T = \{x \in \mathbb{N} : P_T(x)\}$.
(2) For each of these sets specify two other properties $P_{S1}, P_{S2}$ and $P_{T1}, P_{T2}$, such that $S = \{ x \in \mathbb{N} : P_{S1}(x) \} \cup \{ x \in \mathbb{N} : P_{S2}(x) \}$ and similarly for $T$.

**EXERCISE 1.6** Prove the claims cited below Definition 1.13, that

1. Every sPO (irreflexive, transitive relation) is asymmetric.
2. Every asymmetric relation is antisymmetric.
3. If $R$ is connected, symmetric and reflexive, then $R(s,t)$ for every pair $s, t$. What about a relation that is both connected, symmetric and transitive? In what way does this depend on the cardinality of $S$?

**EXERCISE 1.7** Assuming $\prec \subseteq \Sigma \times \Sigma$ to be a total ordering of a finite alphabet $\Sigma$, show that its lexicographic extension, as defined in Example 1.16.(3), is also a total order of $\Sigma^*$.

**EXERCISE 1.8** For any (non-empty) collection of sets $C$, show that

1. the inclusion relation $\subseteq$ is a wPO on $C$
2. $\subseteq$ is its strict version
3. $\subseteq$ is not (necessarily) a TO on $C$.

**EXERCISE 1.9** If $|S| = n$ for some natural number $n$, what will be the cardinality of $\wp(S)$?

**EXERCISE 1.10** Let $A$ be a countable set.

1. If also $B$ is countable, show that:
   a. the disjoint union $A \cup B$ is countable (specify its enumeration, assuming the existence of the enumerations of $A$ and $B$);
   b. the union $A \cup B$ is countable (specify an injection into $A \cup B$).

2. If $B$ is uncountable, can $A \times B$ ever be countable?

**EXERCISE 1.11** Let $A$ be a countable set. Show that $A$ has countably many finite subsets, proceeding as follows:

1. Show first that for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the set $\wp^n(A)$ of finite subsets — with exactly $n$ elements — of $A$ is countable.
2. Using a technique similar to the one from Example 1.25, show that the union $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \wp^n(A)$ of all these sets is countable.
Chapter 2

Induction

2.1 Well-founded orderings

Ancients had many ideas about the basic structure and limits of the world. According to one of them our world—the earth—rested on a huge tortoise. The tortoise itself couldn’t just be suspended in a vacuum—it stood on the backs of several elephants. The elephants stood all on a huge disk which, in turn, was perhaps resting on the backs of some camels. And camels? Well, the story obviously had to stop somewhere because, as we notice, one could produce new sub-levels of animals resting on other objects resting on yet other animals, resting on ... indefinitely. The idea is not well founded because such a hierarchy has no well defined beginning. Any attempt to provide the last, the most fundamental level is immediately met with the question “And what is beyond that?”

The same problem of the lacking foundation can be encountered when one tries to think about the beginning of time. When was it? Physicists may say that it was Big Bang. But then one immediately asks “OK, but what was before?”. Some early opponents of the Biblical story of creation of the world—and thus, of time as well—asked “What did God do before He created time?”. St. Augustine, realising the need for a definite answer which, however, couldn’t be given in the same spirit as the question, answered “He kept preparing the hell for those asking such questions.”

One should be wary here of the distinction between the beginning and the end, or else, between moving backward and forward. For sure, we imagine that things, the world may continue to exist indefinitely in the future—this idea does not cause much trouble. But our intuition
is uneasy with things which do not have any beginning, with chains of events extending indefinitely backwards, whether it is a backward movement along the dimension of time or causality.

Such non well-founded chains are hard to imagine and even harder to do anything with – all our thinking, activity, constructions have to start from some basis. Having an idea of a beginning, one will often be able to develop it into a description of the ensuing process. One will typically say: since the beginning was so-and-so, such-and-such had to follow since it is implied by the properties of the beginning. Then, the properties of this second stage, imply some more, and so on. But having nothing to start with, we are left without foundation to perform any intelligible acts.

Mathematics has no problems with chains extending infinitely in both directions. Yet, it has a particular liking for chains which do have a beginning, for orderings which are well-founded. As with our intuition and activity otherwise, the possibility of ordering a set in a way which identifies its least, first, starting elements, gives a mathematician a lot of powerful tools. We will study in this chapter some fundamental tools of this kind. As we will see later, almost all our presentation will be based on well-founded orderings.

\textbf{Definition 2.1} Let \( (S, \leq) \) be a PO and \( T \subseteq S \).

- \( x \in T \) is a minimal element of \( T \) if there is no element smaller than \( x \), i.e., for any \( y \in T \), if \( y \leq x \) then \( y = x \).
- \( (S, \leq) \) is well-founded iff each non-empty \( T \subseteq S \) has a minimal element.

The set of natural numbers with the standard ordering \( (\mathbb{N}, \leq) \) is well-founded, but its extension to the set of all integers, \( (\mathbb{Z}, \leq) \), is not – the subset of negative integers has no \( \leq \)-minimal element. Intuitively, well-foundedness means that the ordering has a "basis", minimal "starting points", and can be traversed by going always to the "next" minimal points, "just after" the current ones. This is captured by the following lemma.

\textbf{Lemma 2.2} A PO \( (S, \leq) \) is well-founded iff there is no infinite decreasing sequence, i.e., no sequence \( \{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \) of elements of \( S \) such that \( a_n > a_{n+1} \).

\textbf{Proof.} We have to show two implications.

\( \Rightarrow \) If \( (S, \leq) \) is not well-founded, then let \( T \subseteq S \) be a subset without a minimal element. Let \( a_0 \in T \) – since it is not minimal, we can find
2.1. Well-founded Orderings

$a_2 \in T$ such that $a_1 > a_2$. Again, $a_2$ is not minimal, so we can find
$a_3 \in T$ such that $a_2 > a_3$. Continuing this process we obtain an
infinite descending sequence $a_1 > a_2 > a_3 > \ldots$.

$\Rightarrow$ If there is such a sequence $a_1 > a_2 > a_3 > \ldots$ then, obviously, the
set $\{a_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subseteq S$ has no minimal element.

Example 2.3
Consider again the orderings on finite strings as defined in Example 1.16.

1. The relation $\prec Q$ is a well-founded sPO; there is no way to construct an
   infinite sequence of strings with ever decreasing length.

2. The relation $\prec L$ is a well-founded PO: any subset of strings will contain
   element(s) such that none of their prefixes (except the strings themselves) are in the set. For instance, $a$ and $bc$ are $\prec L$-minimal elements
   in $S = \{ab, abc, a, baa, bca, bc\}$.

3. The relation $\prec L$ is not well-founded, since there exist infinite descending sequences like
   
   \[ \ldots \prec L aabaab \prec L aabab \prec L aabab \prec L ab \prec L b. \]

   In order to construct any such descending sequence, however, there is
   a need to introduce ever longer strings as we proceed towards infinity.

   Hence the alternative ordering below is also of interest.

4. Define $s \prec L p$ iff $s \prec Q p$ or $(\text{length}(s) = \text{length}(p)$ and $s \prec L p)$,
   i.e., sequences are ordered primarily by length and secondarily by the
   previous lexicographic order. The ordering $\prec L$ is indeed well-founded
   and, in addition, connected, i.e., a well-founded TO.

Definition 2.4 A well-ordering, $WO$, is a well-founded TO.

Notice that well-founded ordering is not the same as well-ordering. The
former can still be a PO which is not a TO. The requirement that a $WO = \langle S, \leq \rangle$ is a TO implies that each subset of $S$ has not only a minimal element
but a unique minimal element (called also minimum, or least element).

Example 2.5
The set of natural numbers with the "less than" relation, $\langle \mathbb{N}, < \rangle$, is an
sPO. It is also a TO (one of two distinct natural numbers must be smaller
than the other) and well-founded (any non-empty set of natural numbers
contains a least element).

Although sets like $\mathbb{N}$ or $\mathbb{Z}$ have the natural orderings, these are not the
only possible orderings of these sets. In particular, for a given set $S$ there
may be several different ways of imposing a well-founded ordering on it.
Example 2.6
The set of integers, \( \langle \mathbb{Z}, \langle \rangle \rangle \), is a TO but not well-founded -- negative numbers have no minimal element.

That \( < \) and \( \leq \) fail to be WO on \( \mathbb{Z} \) does not mean that \( \mathbb{Z} \) cannot be made into a WO. One has to come up with another ordering. For instance, let \( |x| \) for an \( x \in \mathbb{Z} \) denote the absolute value of \( x \) (i.e., \( |x| = x \) if \( x \geq 0 \) and \( |x| = -x \) if \( x < 0 \)). Say that \( x < y \) if either \( |x| < |y| \) or \( |x| = |y| \) and \( x < y \). This means that we order \( \mathbb{Z} \) as \( 0 < -1 < 1 < -2 < 2 \ldots \). This \( < \) is clearly a WO on \( \mathbb{Z} \).

Of course, there may be many different WOs on a given set. Another WO on \( \mathbb{Z} \) could be obtained by swapping the positive and negative integers with the same absolute values, i.e., \( 0 \not\prec 1 \not\prec -1 \not\prec 2 \not\prec -2 \). \( \Box \)

2.1.1 Inductive proofs

Well-founded orderings play a central role in many contexts because they allow one to apply a particularly convenient proof technique -- proof by induction -- which we now proceed to study.

A background story

Given some set \( S \), a very typical problem is to show that all elements of \( S \) satisfy some property, call it \( P \), i.e., to show that for all \( x \in S : P(x) \). How one can try to prove such a fact depends on how the set \( S \) is described.

A special case is when \( S \) is finite and has only few elements -- in this case, we can just start proving \( P(x) \) for each \( x \) separately.

A more common situation is that \( S \) has infinitely many elements. Let \( S = \{2i : i \in \mathbb{Z}\} \) and show that each \( x \in S \) is an even number. Well, this is trivial by the way we have defined the set. Let \( x \) be an arbitrary element of \( S \). Then, by definition of \( S \), there is some \( i \in \mathbb{Z} \) such that \( x = 2i \). But this means precisely that \( x \) is an even number and, since \( x \) was assumed arbitrary, the claim holds for all \( x \in S \).

Of course, in most situations, the relation between the definition of \( S \) and the property we want to prove isn’t that simple. Then the question arises: How to ensure that we check the property for all elements of \( S \) and that we can do it in finite time? The idea of proof by induction answers this question in a particular way. It tells us that we have to find some well-founded ordering of the elements of \( S \) and then proceed in a prescribed fashion: one shows the statement for the minimal elements and then proceeds to greater elements in the
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ordering. The trick is that the strategy ensures that only finitely many steps of the proof are needed in order to conclude that the statement holds for all elements of $S$.

Inductive proof is not guaranteed to work in all cases and, particularly, it depends heavily on the choice of the ordering. It is, nevertheless, a very powerful proof technique which will be of crucial importance for all the rest of the material we will study.

The most general and abstract statement of the inductive proof strategy is as follows.

**Theorem 2.7** Let $\langle S, \leq \rangle$ be a well-founded ordering and $T \subseteq S$. Assume the following condition: for all $y \in S$ : if (for all $x \in S : x < y \rightarrow x \in T$) then $y \in T$. Then $T = S$.

**Proof.** Assume that $T$ satisfies the condition but $T \neq S$, that is, $S \setminus T \neq \emptyset$. Since $S$ is well-founded, $S \setminus T$ has a minimal element $y$. Since $y$ is minimal in $S \setminus T$, any $x < y$ must be in $T$. But then the condition implies $y \in T$. This is a contradiction - we cannot have both $y \in T$ and $y \in S \setminus T$ - showing that $T = S$. \qedsymbol (2.7)

This theorem of induction is the basis for the following proof strategy for showing properties of sets on which some well-founded ordering has been defined.

**Idea 2.8** [Inductive proof] Let $\langle S, \leq \rangle$ be well-founded and $P$ be a predicate. Suppose we want to prove that each element $x \in S$ has the property $P$ - that $P(x)$ holds for all $x \in S$. I.e., we want to prove that the sets $T = \{ x \in S : P(x) \}$ and $S$ are equal. Proceed as follows:

**INDUCTION** :: Let $x$ be an arbitrary element of $S$. Assuming that for all $y < x : P(y)$ holds, (IH)

prove that this implies that also $P(x)$ holds.

**CLOSURE** :: If you managed to show this, you may conclude $S = T$, i.e., $P(x)$ holds for all $x \in S$.

Observe that the hypothesis in the Induction step, called the *induction hypothesis*, IH, allows us to assume $P(y)$ for all $y < x$. Since we are working with a well-founded ordering, there are some minimal elements $x$ for which no such $y$ exists. For these minimal $x$'s, we then have no hypothesis and simply have to show that the claim $P(x)$ holds for them without any assumptions. This part of the proof is called the Basis of induction.
Example 2.9
Consider the natural numbers greater than 1, i.e. the set \( \mathbb{N}_2 = \{ n \in \mathbb{N} : n \geq 2 \} \). We prove the existence part of the fundamental theorem of arithmetic for each \( n \in \mathbb{N}_2 : P(n) \), where \( P(n) \) stands for ‘\( n \) is a product of prime numbers’. (The full theorem states also uniqueness of such a factorization.) First, we have to decide which well-founded ordering on \( \mathbb{N}_2 \) to use – the most obvious first choice is to try the natural ordering \( \langle \cdot, < \rangle \), that is, we prove the statement on the well-founded ordering \( (\mathbb{N}_2, <) \):

BASIS : Since 2 – the minimal element in \( \mathbb{N}_2 \) – is a prime number, we have \( P(2) \).
IND. : So let \( n > 2 \) and assume IH: that \( P(k) \) holds for every \( k < n \).
If \( n \) is prime, \( P(n) \) holds trivially. So, finally, assume that \( n \) is a non-prime number greater than 2. Then \( n = x \cdot y \) for some \( 2 \leq x, y < n \). By IH, \( P(x) \) and \( P(y) \), i.e., \( x \) and \( y \) are products of primes. Hence, \( n \) is a product of primes.

Clsr. : So \( P(n) \) for all \( n \in \mathbb{N}_2 \). \( \square \)

Example 2.10
For any number \( x \neq 1 \) and any \( n \in \mathbb{N} \) we want to show: \( 1 + x + x^2 + \ldots + x^n = \frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1} \). There are two different sets involved (of \( x \)'s and of \( n \)'s), so we first try the easiest way – we attempt induction on the well-founded ordering \( (\mathbb{N}, <) \), which is simply called ‘induction on \( n \)’:

BASIS : For \( n = 0 \), we have \( 1 = \frac{x^1 - 1}{x - 1} \).
IND. : Let \( n' > 0 \) be arbitrary, i.e., \( n' = n + 1 \). We expand the left hand side of the equality:

\[
1 + x + x^2 + \ldots + x^n + x^{n+1} = (1 + x + x^2 + \ldots + x^n) + x^{n+1}
\]

(by IH since \( n < n' = n + 1 \))

\[
= \frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1} + x^{n+1}
\]

\[
= \frac{x^{n+1} - 1 + (x - 1)x^{n+1}}{x - 1}
\]

\[
= \frac{x^{n+1} - 1}{x - 1}
\]

Notice that here we have used much weaker IH – the hypothesis that the claim holds for \( n = n' - 1 \) (implied by IH) is sufficient to establish the induction step. Closure yields the claim for all \( n \in \mathbb{N} \). \( \square \)

The proof rule from Idea 2.8 used in the above examples may be written
2.1. WELL-FOUNDED ORDERINGS

more succinctly as

\[
\forall x \forall y (y < x \rightarrow P(y)) \rightarrow P(x)
\]

(2.11)

where "\forall x" is short for "for all \( x \in \mathbb{N} \)" (in 2.9), resp. "for all \( x \in \mathbb{N} \)" (in 2.10) and the horizontal line indicates that the sentence below can be inferred from the sentence above.

**Example 2.12**

A convex \( n \)-gon is a polygon with \( n \) sides and where each interior angle is less than 180\(^\circ\). A triangle is a convex 3-gon and, as you should know from the basic geometry, the sum of the interior angles of a triangle is 180\(^\circ\). Now, show by induction that the sum of interior angles of any convex \( n \)-gon is \((n - 2)180\(^\circ\).

The first question is: induction on what? It seems natural to try induction on the number \( n \) of sides, i.e., to consider the well-founded ordering \( < \) on \( n \)-gons in which \( X < Y \) iff \( X \) has fewer sides than \( Y \).

The basis case is: let \( X \) be an arbitrary triangle, i.e., 3-gon. We use the known result that the sum of interior angles of any triangle is indeed 180\(^\circ\).

For the induction step: let \( n > 3 \) be arbitrary number and \( X \) an arbitrary convex \( n \)-gon. Selecting two vertices with one common neighbour vertex between them, we can always divide \( X \) into a triangle \( X_3 \) and \((n-1)\)-gon \( X_r \), as indicated by the dotted line on the drawing below.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
X \\
| \\
| \\
\downarrow \\
X_3 \\
\downarrow \\
\downarrow \\
X_r
\end{array}
\]

\( X_r \) has one side less than \( X \) so, by induction hypothesis, we have that the sum of its angles is \((n - 3)180\(^\circ\). Also by IH, the sum of angles in \( X_3 \) is 180\(^\circ\). At the same time, the sum of the angles in the whole \( X \) is simply the sum of angles in \( X_3 \) and \( X_r \). Thus it equals \((n - 3)180\(^\circ\) + 180\(^\circ\) = \((n - 2)180\(^\circ\) and the proof is complete. \( \square \)

The simplicity of the above examples is not only due to the fact that the problems are easy but also that the ordering to be used is very easy to identify. In general, however, there may be different orderings on a given set and then the first question about inductive proof concerns the choice of appropriate ordering.

**Example 2.13**

We want to prove that for all integers \( z \in \mathbb{Z} \):

\[
\text{(Your statement here)}
\]
\[
\begin{align*}
\begin{cases}
1 + 3 + 5 + \ldots + (2z - 1) &= z^2 & \text{if } z > 0 \\
(-1) + (-3) + (-5) + \ldots + (2z + 1) &= -(z^2) & \text{if } z < 0
\end{cases}
\end{align*}
\]

We show examples of two proofs using different orderings.

(1) For the first, this looks like two different statements, so we may try to prove them separately for positive and negative integers. Let’s do it:

**Basis**: For \( z = 1 \), we have \( 1 = 1^2 \).

**Ind.**: Let \( z' > 1 \) be arbitrary, i.e., \( z' = z + 1 \) for some \( z > 0 \):

\[
1 + 3 + \ldots + (2z' - 1) = 1 + 3 + \ldots + (2z - 1) + (2z + 1 - 1)
\]

(by IH since \( z < z' = z + 1 \))

\[
= z^2 + 2z + 1 = (z + 1)^2 = (z')^2
\]

The proof for \( z < 0 \) is entirely analogous, but now we have to reverse the ordering: we start with \( z = -1 \) and proceed along the negative integers only considering \( z < z' \) iff \( \lvert z \rvert < \lvert z' \rvert \), where \( \lvert z \rvert \) denotes the absolute value of \( z \) (i.e., \( \lvert z \rvert = -z \) for \( z < 0 \)). Thus, for \( z, z' < 0 \), we have actually that \( z < z' \) iff \( z > z' \).

**Basis**: For \( z = -1 \), we have \( -1 = -(1^2) \).

**Ind.**: Let \( z' < z \) be arbitrary, i.e., \( z' = z - 1 \) for some \( z < 0 \):

\[
-1 - 3 + \ldots + (2z' + 1) = -1 - 3 + \ldots + (2z + 1) + (2z - 1 + 1)
\]

(by IH since \( z < z' \))

\[
= -z^2 - 2z + 1
\]

\[
= -(\lvert z \rvert ^2 + 2\lvert z \rvert + 1) = - (\lvert z \rvert + 1)^2
\]

\[
= -(z + 1)^2 = -(z')^2
\]

The second part of the proof makes it clear that the well-founded ordering on the whole \( \mathbb{Z} \) we have been using was not the usual \(<\). We have, in a sense, ordered both segments of positive and negative numbers independently in the following way (the arrow \( x \rightarrow y \) indicates the ordering \( x < y \)):

1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow \ldots

\[ \begin{array}{cccccc}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \ldots \\
\end{array} \]

\[ \begin{array}{cccccc}
-1 & -2 & -3 & -4 & -5 & \ldots \\
\end{array} \]

The upper part coincides with the typically used ordering \(<\) but the lower one was the matter of more specific choice.

Notice that the above ordering is different from another, natural one, which orders two integers \( z < z' \) iff \( \lvert z \rvert < \lvert z' \rvert \). This ordering (shown below) makes, for instance, \( 3 < -4 \) and \( -4 < 5 \). The ordering above did not relate any pair of positive and negative integers with each other.

\[ \begin{array}{cccccc}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \ldots \\
\end{array} \]

\[ \begin{array}{cccccc}
-1 & -2 & -3 & -4 & -5 & \ldots \\
\end{array} \]
2.2. Inductive definitions

(2) The problem can be stated a bit differently. We have to show that

\[
\begin{align*}
1 + 3 + 5 + \ldots + (2z - 1) &= z^2 & \text{if } z > 0 \\
-(1 + 3 + 5 + \ldots + (2|z| - 1)) &= -(z^2) & \text{if } z < 0.
\end{align*}
\]

Thus formulated, it becomes obvious that we only have one statement to prove: we show the first claim (in the same way as we did it in point (1)) and then apply trivial arithmetics to conclude from \(x = y\) that also \(-x = -y\).

This, indeed, is a smarter way to prove the claim. Is it induction? Yes it is. We prove it first for all positive integers – by induction on the natural ordering of the positive integers. Then, we take an arbitrary negative integer \(z\) and observe (assume induction hypothesis!) that we have already proved \(1 + 3 + \ldots + (2|z| - 1) = |z|^2\). The well-founded ordering on \(\mathbb{Z}\) we are using in this case orders first all positive integers along \(<\) (for proving the first part of the claim) and then, for any \(z < 0\), puts \(z\) after \(|z|\), but unrelated to other \(n > |z| > 0\) – the induction hypothesis for proving the claim for such a \(z < 0\) is, namely, that the claim holds for \(|z|\). The ordering is shown on the left:

\[
\begin{array}{cccccccc}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & \cdots & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & \cdots \\
-1 & -2 & -3 & -4 & \cdots & & & & & \cdots
\end{array}
\]

As a matter of fact, the structure of this proof allows us to view the used ordering in yet another way. We first prove the claim for all positive integers. Thus, when proving it for an arbitrary negative integer \(z < 0\), we can assume the stronger statement than the one we are actually using, i.e., that the claim holds for all positive integers. This ordering puts all negative integers after all positive ones as shown on the right in the figure above.

None of the orderings we encountered in this example was total. \(\Box\)

2.2 Inductive definitions

We have introduced the general idea of inductive proof over an arbitrary well-founded ordering defined on an arbitrary set. The idea of induction – a kind of stepwise construction of the whole from a “basis” by repetitive applications of given rules – can be applied not only for constructing proofs but also for constructing, that is defining, sets. We now illustrate this technique of definition by induction and then (Subsection 2.2.2) show how
it gives rise to the possibility of using a special case of the inductive proof strategy – the structural induction – on sets defined in this way.

a background story

Suppose I make a simple statement, for instance, (1) ‘John is a nice person’. Its truth may be debatable – some people may think that, on the contrary, he is not nice at all. Pointing this out, they might say – “No, he is not, you only think that he is”. So, to make my statement less definite I might instead say (2) ‘I think that ‘John is a nice person’. In the philosophical tradition one would say that (2) expresses a reflection over (1) – it expresses the act of reflecting over the first statement. But now, (2) is a new statement, and so I can reflect over it again: (3) ‘I think that ‘I think that ‘John is nice’”. It isn’t perhaps obvious why I should make this kind of statement, but I certainly can make it and, with some effort, perhaps even attach some meaning to it. Then, I can just continue: (4) ‘I think that (3)”, (5) ‘I think that (4)” etc. The further (or higher) we go, the less idea we have what one might possibly intend with such expressions. Philosophers used to spend time analysing their possible meaning – the possible meaning of such repetitive acts of reflection over reflection over reflection ... over something. In general, they agree that such an infinite regress does not yield anything intuitively meaningful and should be avoided.

In the daily discourse, we hardly ever attempt to carry such a process beyond the level (2) – the statements at the higher levels do not make any meaningful contribution to a conversation. Yet they are possible for purely linguistic reasons – each statement obtained in this way is grammatically correct. And what is this way? Simply:

**Basis ::** Start with some statement, e.g., (1) ‘John is nice’.

**Step ::** Whenever you have produced some statement (n) – at first, it is just (1), but after a few steps, you have some higher statement (n) – you may produce a new statement by prepending (n) with ‘I think that ...’. Thus you obtain a new, (n+1), statement ‘I think that (n)’.

Anything you obtain according to this rule happens to be grammatically correct and the whole infinite chain of such statements constitutes what philosophers call an infinite regress.

The crucial point here is that we do not start with some set
2.2. Inductive definitions

which we analyze. We are defining a new set – the set of statements
{(1), (2), (3), ...} – in a peculiar way. The idea of induction – step-
wise construction from a "basis" – is not applied here for proving
properties of a given set but for defining a new one.

Very often, one encounters sets described by means of abbreviations like
\( E = \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8, \ldots\} \) or \( T = \{1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, \ldots\} \). The abbreviation "..." indicates that the author assumes that you have figured out what the sub-
sequent elements will be – and that there will be infinitely many of them.

It is assumed that you have figured out the rule by which to generate all the
elements. The same sets may be defined more precisely with the explicit
reference to the respective rule:

\[
E = \{2 \cdot n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \quad \text{and} \quad T = \{3 \cdot n + 1 : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \quad (2.14)
\]

Another way to describe these rules is as follows. The set \( E \) is defined by:

\[
\text{Basis} :: 0 \in E \quad \text{and,} \\
\text{Step} :: \text{whenever an } x \in E, \text{ then also } x + 2 \in E. \\
\text{Clshr.} :: \text{Nothing else belongs to } E.
\]

The other set is defined similarly:

\[
\text{Basis} :: 1 \in T \quad \text{and,} \\
\text{Step} :: \text{whenever an } x \in T, \text{ then also } x + 3 \in T. \\
\text{Clshr.} :: \text{Nothing else belongs to } T.
\]

Here we are not so much defining the whole set by one static formula, as
we did in (2.14), but are specifying the rules for generating new elements
from some elements which we have already included in the set. Not all formulae allow equivalent formula in terms of such generation rules.

Yet, quite many sets of interest can be defined by means of such generation rules – quite many sets can be introduced by means of \textit{inductive definitions}.

Inductively defined sets will play a central role in all subsequent chapters.

\textbf{Idea 2.15} \hspace{1em} An \textit{inductive definition} of a set \( S \) consists of

\[
\text{Basis} :: \text{a list of some (at least one) elements } B \subseteq S, \\
\text{Ind.} :: \text{one or more rules to construct new elements of } S \text{ from already} \\
\text{existing elements}, \\
\text{Clshr.} :: \text{the statement that } S \text{ contains only the elements obtained from} \\
\text{the basis by the induction steps.}
\]

Saying that something is defined by induction, the closure condition be-
comes implicitly assumed and is not stated.
**Example 2.16**

The finite strings $\Sigma^*$ over $\Sigma$, Example 1.16, can be defined inductively, starting with the empty string, $\epsilon$, i.e., the string of length 0, as follows:

**Basis.** $\epsilon \in \Sigma^*$

**Ind.** if $s \in \Sigma^*$ then $xs \in \Sigma^*$ for all $x \in \Sigma$

Constructors are the empty string $\epsilon$ and the operations prepending an element in front of a string $x$, for all $x \in \Sigma$. Notice that 1-element strings like $x$ will be here represented as $xe$.

**Example 2.17**

The finite non-empty strings $\Sigma^+$ over alphabet $\Sigma$ are defined by starting with a different basis.

**Basis.** $x \in \Sigma^+$ for all $x \in \Sigma$

**Ind.** if $s \in \Sigma^+$ then $xs \in \Sigma^+$ for all $x \in \Sigma$

Often, one is not interested in all strings but only in their subsets. Such subsets are called languages and, typically, are defined by induction.

**Example 2.18**

Define the set of strings $\mathbb{N}$ over $\Sigma = \{0, s\}$:

**Basis.** $0 \in \mathbb{N}$

**Ind.** if $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then $sn \in \mathbb{N}$

This language is the basis of the formal definition of natural numbers. The constructors are 0 and the operation of appending the symbol ‘$s$’ to the left. (The ‘$s$’ signifies the “successor” function corresponding to $n+1$.) Notice that we do not obtain the set $\{0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots\}$ but $\{0, s0, ss0, ss0s0, \ldots\}$, which is a kind of unary representation of natural numbers. For instance, the strings $00s, ss0s0 \notin \mathbb{N}$, i.e., $\mathbb{N} \neq \Sigma^*$.

**Example 2.19**

(1) Let $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ and let us define the language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ consisting of the strings starting with a number of $a$'s followed by the equal number of $b$'s, i.e., $\{aa^nbb^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

**Basis.** $\epsilon \in L$

**Ind.** if $s \in L$ then $asb \in L$

Constructors of $L$ are $\epsilon$ and the operation adding an $a$ in the beginning and a $b$ at the end of a string $s \in L$. 


2.2. Inductive Definitions

(2) Here is a more complicated language over \( \Sigma = \{a, b, c, (,), \neg, \to\} \) with two rules of generation.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Basis} & : a, b, c \in L \\
\text{Ind.} & : \begin{cases} 
\text{if } s \in L \text{ then } \neg s \in L \\
\text{if } s, r \in L \text{ then } (s \to r) \in L
\end{cases}
\end{align*}
\]

By the closure, we can see that, for instance, \((a, a) \not\in L\) and \((\neg b) \not\in L\). \(\square\)

In Section 2.4, e.g., Example 2.13, we saw that a given set may be endowed with various well-founded orderings. Such an ordering enables us to use the powerful technique of proof by induction according to Theorem 2.7. The usefulness of inductive definitions is related to the fact that such an ordering may be obtained for free—the resulting set obtains implicitly a well-founded ordering induced by its very definition as follows.\(^1\)

**Idea 2.20** [Induced wf Order] For an inductively defined set \( S \), define a function \( f : S \to \mathbb{N} \) as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Basis} & : \text{Let } S_0 = B \text{ and for all } b \in S_0 : f(b) \equiv 0. \\
\text{Ind.} & : \text{Given } S_i, \text{ let } S_{i+1} \text{ be the union of } S_i \text{ and all the elements } \\
& \quad x \in S \setminus S_i \text{ which can be obtained according to one of the } \\
& \quad \text{rules from some elements } y_1, \ldots, y_n \text{ of } S_i. \text{ For each such new } \\
& \quad x \in S_{i+1} \setminus S_i, \text{ let } f(x) \equiv i + 1. \\
\text{Clsr.} & : \text{The actual ordering is then } x < y \text{ iff } f(x) < f(y).
\end{align*}
\]

The function \( f \) is essentially counting the minimal number of steps—consecutive applications of the rules allowed by the induction step of Definition 2.15—needed to obtain a given element of the inductive set.

**Example 2.21** Refer to Example 2.16. Since the induction step amounts there to increasing the length of a string by 1, following the above idea, we would obtain the ordering on strings \( s \prec p \text{ iff } \text{length}(s) < \text{length}(p) \).

(2.2.1) "1-1" Definitions

A common feature of the above examples is the impossibility of deriving an element in more than one way. In Example 2.17, for instance, the only way to derive \( abc \) is to start with \( c \) and then add \( b \) and \( a \) to the left in sequence. One apparently tiny modification changes this state of affairs.

\(^1\)In fact, an inductive definition imposes at least two such orderings of interest, but here we consider just one.
Example 2.22
The finite non-empty strings over alphabet $\Sigma$ can also be defined inductively as follows.

\begin{align*}
\text{BASIS} & \quad x \in \Sigma^+ \text{ for all } x \in \Sigma \\
\text{Ind.} & \quad \text{if } s \in \Sigma^+ \text{ and } p \in \Sigma^+ \text{ then } sp \in \Sigma^+ \quad \Box
\end{align*}

According to this example, $abc$ can be derived by concatenating either $a$ and $bc$, or $ab$ and $c$. We often say that the former definitions are $1$-$1$, while the latter is not. Given a 1-1 inductive definition of a set $S$, there is an easy way to define new functions on $S$ — again by induction.

Idea 2.23 [Inductive function definition] Let $S$ be defined inductively from basis $B$ and some construction rules. To define a function $f$ on elements of $S$ do the following:

\begin{align*}
\text{BASIS} & \quad \text{Specify the value } f(x) \text{ for each } x \in B. \\
\text{Ind.} & \quad \text{For each way an } x \in S \text{ can be obtained from some } y_1, \ldots, y_n \in S, \text{ specify how to obtain } f(x) \text{ from the values } f(y_1), \ldots, f(y_n). \\
\text{CLSR.} & \quad \text{The closure property of } S \text{ ensures that } f \text{ is defined for all } x \in S.
\end{align*}

When the set’s definition is 1-$1$, there is only one way to obtain each $x$, and this guarantees consistency of such a function definition. The next few examples illustrate this case.

Example 2.24
We define the length and the concatenation functions of finite strings by induction on the definition in Example 2.16 as follows:

\begin{align*}
\text{BASIS} & \quad \text{length}(e) = 0 \\
\text{Ind.} & \quad \text{length}(xs) = \text{length}(s) + 1
\end{align*}

\begin{align*}
\text{BASIS} & \quad \epsilon \cdot t = t \\
\text{Ind.} & \quad xs \cdot t = x(s \cdot t) \quad \Box
\end{align*}

Example 2.25
In Example 2.16 strings were defined by a left append (prepend) operation which we wrote as juxtaposition $xs$. A corresponding right append operation can be now defined inductively as shown to the left, and the operation of reversing a string as shown to the right:

\begin{align*}
\text{BASIS} & \quad \epsilon \vdash y = ye \\
\text{Ind.} & \quad xs \vdash y = x(s \vdash y)
\end{align*}

\begin{align*}
\text{BASIS} & \quad \epsilon^R = \epsilon \\
\text{Ind.} & \quad (xs)^R = s^R \vdash x \quad \Box
\end{align*}

The right append operation $\vdash$ does not quite fit the format of Idea 2.23 since it takes two arguments — a symbol as well as a string. It is possible to
give a more general version that covers such cases as well, but we shall not
do so here. The definition below also apparently goes beyond the format of
Idea 2.23, but in order to make it fit we merely have to think of addition,
for instance in \(m + n\), as an application of the one-argument function \(\text{add } n\)
to the argument \(m\).

**Example 2.26**
Using the definition of \(N\) from Example 2.18, we can define the plus opera-
tion for all \(n, m \in N\):

\[
\text{BASIS :: } 0 + n = n \\
\text{IND. :: } s(m) + n = s(m + n)
\]

It is not obvious that this is the usual addition. For instance, does it hold
that \(n + m = m + n\)? We shall verify this in an exercise.

We can use this definition to calculate the sum of two arbitrary nat-
ural numbers represented as elements of \(N\). For instance, \(2 + 3\) would be
processed as follows:

\[
ss0 + sss0 \mapsto s(s0 + sss0) \mapsto ss(0 + ss0) \mapsto ss(ss0) = sssss0 
\]

Note carefully that Idea 2.23 of inductive function definition is guaranteed
to work only when the set is given by a 1-1 definition. Imagine that we
tried to define a version of the length function in Example 2.24 by in-
duction on the definition in Example 2.22 as follows: \(\text{len}(x) = 1\) for \(x \in \Sigma\)
while \(\text{len}(ps) = \text{len}(p) + 1\). This would give different (and hence mutually
contradictory) values for \(\text{len}(abc)\), depending on which way we choose to
derive \(abc\). Idea 2.23 can be applied also when the definition of the set
is not 1-1, but then one has to ensure that the function value for every
element is independent from the way it is derived. In the present case, the
two equations \(\text{len}(x) = 1\) and \(\text{len}(ps) = \text{len}(p) + \text{len}(s)\) provide a working
definition, but it takes some reasoning to check that this is indeed the case.

2.2.2: RECURSIVE PROGRAMMING ..........................[optional]

If you are not familiar with the basics of programming you may skip this subsec-
tion and go directly to Subsection 2.2.2. No new concepts are introduced here
but merely illustrations of the relation between inductive definitions and recursive
programming.

All basic data structures in computer science are defined inductively — any
instance of a List, Stack, Tree, etc., is generated in finitely many steps by
applying some basic constructor operations. These operations themselves may
vary from one programming language to another, or from one application to
another, but they always capture the inductive structure of these data types. We
give here but two simple examples which illustrate the inductive nature of two
basic data structures and show how this leads to the elegant technique of recursive
programming.

1. Lists
A List (to simplify matters, we assume that we store only integers) is a sequence
of 0 or more integers. The idea of a sequence or, more generally, of a linked
structure is captured by pointers between objects storing data. Thus, one would
define objects of the form shown to the left.

```
List
  int x;
  List next;
```

The list \(3, 7, 5\) would contain 3 List objects, plus the additional null object at
the end, as shown to the right.

The declaration of the List objects tells us that a List is

1. either a null object (the default value for pointers)
2. or an integer (stored in the current List object) followed by another List
   object.

But this is exactly an inductive definition, namely, the one from Example 2.16,
the only difference being that of the language used.

1a. From inductive definition to recursion
The above is also a 1-1 definition and thus gives rise to natural recursive
programming over lists. The idea of recursive programming is to traverse a structure
in the order opposite to the way we imagine it built along its inductive defi-

dition. We start at some point of the structure and proceed to its subparts until
we reach the basis case. For instance, the function computing length of a list is
programmed recursively to the left:

```plaintext
int length(List L) { int sum(List L)
  IF (L is null) return 0;
  ELSE return 1+length(L.next);
}
```

It should be easy to see that the pseudo-code on the left is nothing more than
the inductive definition of the function from Example 2.24. Instead of the mathe-
matical formulation used there, it uses the operational language of programming
to specify:

1. the value of the function in the basis case (which also terminates the recur-
sion) and then
2. the way to compute the value in the non-basis case from the value for some
   subcase which brings recursion “closer to” the basis.

The same schema is applied in the function to the right which computes the sum
of all integers in the list.
2.2. Inductive Definitions

Notice that, abstractly, Lists can be viewed simply as finite strings. You may rewrite the definition of concatenation from Example 2.24 for Lists as represented here.

1b. Equality of Lists
Inductive 1-1 definition of a set (here, of List objects) gives also rise to the obvious recursive function checking equality. Two lists are equal iff

1. they have the same structure (i.e., the same number of elements) and
2. respective elements in both lists are equal.

The corresponding function checks, in lines 1-2, point (1) and ensures termination upon reaching the basis case. Line 3 checks point (2) and, if elements are equal, recursion proceeds to check the rest of the lists in line 4:

```java
boolean equal(List L, R)
    IF (L is null AND R is null) return TRUE;
    ELSE IF (L is null OR R is null) return FALSE;
    ELSE IF (L.x != R.x) return FALSE;
    ELSE return equal(L.next, R.next);
```

2. Trees
Another very common data structure is binary tree BT. (Again, we simplify presentation by assuming that we only store integers as data.) Unlike a list, each node (except the null ones) has two successors (called "children") left and right:

```
BT
int x;
BT left;
BT right;
```

The inductive definition says that a binary tree BT is

1. either a null object
2. or an integer (stored in the current BT object) with two pointers (left and right) to other (always distinct) BT objects.

2a. From inductive definition to recursion
To compute the sum of integers stored in a given tree, we have to compute the sums stored in its left and right subtrees and add to them the value stored at the current node itself. The recursive function reflecting the inductive definition is

```
int sum(BT T)
    IF (T is null) return 0;
    ELSE return (sum(T.left) + T.x + sum(T.right));
```

Again, the first line detects the basis case, while the second one computes the non-basis case, descending recursively down the tree structure.
2b. Equality of Binary Trees

Using the operational intuition of inductive generation might suggest that the
definition of binary tree is not I-L. To generate the tree from the example drawing,
we might first generate its left subtree and then the right one, or else other way
around. The sequence of steps leading to the construction of the whole tree would
not be unique.

However, this operational intuition, relying on the temporal ordering of con-
struction steps is not what matters for a definition to be I-L. There is only one
logical way to obtain this tree: we must have both its left and its right subtree,
and only then we can make this tree. That is, there are unique elements (left and
right subtrees, and the integer to be stored in the root node itself) and the unique
rule to be applied (put left subtree to the left, right to the right, and the integer
in the node). The definition is I-L.

Equality of binary trees follows naturally: two trees are equal iff
(1) they have the same structure and
(2) respective elements stored at respective nodes in both trees are equal.

Having the same structure amounts here to the following condition: trees T1 and
T2 have the same structure iff:

(1a) both are null or
(1b) T1 = (L1,x1,R1), T2 = (L2,x2,R2), i.e., neither is null, and both
L1,L2 have the same structure and R1,R2 have the same structure.

This is clearly an inductive definition of "having the same structure", giving us
the recursive pseudo-code for checking equality of two binary trees. In addition
to the equality of structures, the function ensures also, in line 3, that elements x,
stored at respective nodes in both trees, are equal:

```c
boolean equal(BT T1,T2)
  IF (T1 is null AND T2 is null) return TRUE;
  ELSE IF (T1 is null OR T2 is null) return FALSE;
  ELSE IF (T1.x != T2.x) return FALSE;
  ELSE return ( equal(T1.left, T2.left) AND
                 equal(T1.right,T2.right) )
```

Ending now this programming excursion, we return to the proof strategy arising
from inductive definitions of sets which will be of crucial importance in later
chapters.................................................................[end optional]

2.2.2 Proofs by Structural Induction

Since, according to Idea 2.20, an inductive definition of a set induces a well-
founded ordering, it allows us to perform inductive proofs of the properties
of this set. This is called proof by structural induction – the word "struc-
tural" indicating that the proof, so to speak, proceeds along the structure
of the set imposed by its inductive definition. In contrast to the defini-
tions of functions on inductive sets 2.23, this proof strategy works for all
inductively defined sets, regardless of whether the definitions are 1-1.

Proof by structural induction is just a special case of the inductive proof Idea 2.8. Simply, because any inductive definition of a set induces a well-founded ordering on this set according to the Idea 2.20. Using this ordering leads to the following proof strategy:

Idea 2.27 [Proof by Structural Induction] Suppose that, given a set $S$ defined inductively from basis $B$, we want to prove that each element $x \in S$ has the property $P$—that $P(x)$ holds for all $x \in S$. Proceed as follows:

Basis :: Show that $P(x)$ holds for all $x \in B$.
Ind. :: For each way an $x \in S$ can be constructed from one or more $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in S$, show that the induction hypothesis $P(y_1), \ldots, P(y_n)$ implies $P(x)$.
Clos. :: If you managed to show this, then the closure property of $S$ allows you to conclude that $P(x)$ holds for all $x \in S$.

It is straightforward to infer the proof rule in Idea 2.27 from the one in Idea 2.8. We assume that 2.8 holds. Then, assuming Basis and Induction step of 2.27, we merely have to prove the Induction step in Idea 2.8. So let $x$ be an arbitrary member of $S$ and assume the IH that $P(y)$ holds for all $y < x$. There are two possible cases: Either $f(x) = 0$, in which case $x \in S_0 = B$, and $P(x)$ follows from the Basis part of Idea 2.27. Otherwise $x \in S_{i+1} \setminus S_i$ for some $i \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $x$ can be obtained from some $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in S_i$. Since these are all less than $x$ in the sense of $<$ by the IH $P(y_1)$ and $\ldots$ and $P(y_n)$, But then $P(x)$ follows from the Induction part of Idea 2.27, and the argument is complete.

The great advantage of inductively defined sets is that, in order to prove their properties, one need not know the details of the induced ordering but merely has to follow the steps of the definition, as given in Idea 2.27.

Example 2.28
The set of natural numbers was defined inductively in Example 2.18. The induced well-founded ordering will say that $s^0 < s^m$ iff $n < m$. Thus, writing the natural numbers in the usual way $0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ and replacing $sn$ by $n + 1$, the induced ordering is the standard ordering $<$—the structural induction on this set will be the usual mathematical induction. That is:

Basis :: Show that $P(0)$ holds.
Ind. :: Assuming the induction hypothesis $P(n)$, show that it implies also $P(n + 1)$.
It is the most common form of induction used in mathematics. The proof in Example 2.10 used this form, observed there as a “weaker induction hypothesis” (than the one allowed by the general formulation from Idea 2.8). Using structural induction, we show that for all \( n \in \mathbb{N} \):
\[
1 + 2 + \ldots + n = \frac{n(n + 1)}{2}.
\]

**Basis**: \( n = 0 \): \( 0 = \frac{0(0 + 1)}{2} = 0 \)

**Ind.**: Assume the \( 1 + 2 + \ldots + n = \frac{n(n + 1)}{2} \). Then
\[
1 + 2 + \ldots + n + (n + 1) = \frac{n(n + 1)}{2} + (n + 1) = \frac{(n + 1)(n + 2)}{2} \quad \square
\]

The proof rule for natural numbers used above can be written more succinctly as follows:

\[
\frac{P(0) \& \forall x(P(x) \rightarrow P(x + 1))}{\forall xP(x)} \tag{2.29}
\]

This rule can be sometimes more cumbersome to use than the rule (2.11). To see this, try to use it to prove the prime number theorem which was shown in Example 2.9 using the general induction schema for natural numbers (i.e., the rule (2.11)). The difference between the two concerns, actually, only the “easiness” of carrying out the proof — as you are asked to show in Exercise 2.10, the two proof rules have the same power.

**Example 2.30**

We show that concatenation from Example 2.24 is associative, i.e., for all strings \( s \cdot (t \cdot p) = (s \cdot t) \cdot p \). We proceed by structural induction on the first argument:

**Basis**: \( \epsilon \cdot (t \cdot p) = t \cdot p = (\epsilon \cdot t) \cdot p \)

**Ind.**: \( xs \cdot (t \cdot p) = x(s \cdot (t \cdot p)) \Rightarrow x((s \cdot t) \cdot p) = (x(s \cdot t)) \cdot p = (xs \cdot t) \cdot p \quad \square \)

**Example 2.31**

Define the set \( U \) inductively:

**Basis**: \( \emptyset \in U \)

**Ind.**: if \( S \in U \) then \( \mathcal{P}(S) \in U \).

and show that for all \( S \in U : S \neq S \). What is the ordering \( \prec \) induced on the set \( U \) by this definition? Well, \( \emptyset \) is the least element and then, for any set \( S \) we have that \( S \prec \mathcal{P}(S) \), \( \prec \) is the transitive closure of this relation.
2.2. Inductive Definitions

The nice thing about structural induction is that one actually need not have a full insight into the structure of the induced ordering but merely has to follow the inductive definition of the set.

**Basis.** Since for all $X : X \not\in \emptyset$, in particular, $\emptyset \not\in \emptyset$.

**Ind.** Assume IH : $S \not\in S$ and, conversely, $\varphi(S) \in \varphi(S)$, i.e.,

$\varphi(S) \subseteq S$. We also have $S \in \varphi(S)$. But since $X \subseteq Y$ iff for all $x : x \in X \Rightarrow x \in Y$, we thus obtain that $\varphi(S) \subseteq S$ and $S \in \varphi(S)$ imply $S \in S$, contradicting IH.

**Example 2.32**

Show that the set $L$, Example 2.19(1), equals the set $T = \{a^n b^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

1. (1) We show first the inclusion $L \subseteq T$ by structural induction on $L$.

**Basis.** $\varepsilon = a^0 b^0 \in T$.

**Ind.** Assume that $s \in L$ satisfies the property, i.e., $s = a^n b^n$

for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. From this $s$, the rule will produce $asb = a^n b^n = a^{n+1} b^{n+1} \in T$. Hence all the strings of $L$ have the required form and $L \subseteq \{a^n b^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

Notice again that the precise nature of the induced ordering is inessential for this proof, which merely follows the steps of the inductive definition of $L$. (This induced ordering $<$ is given by: $a^n b^n < a^m b^m$ iff $n < m$.)

2. (2) On the other hand, each element of $\{a^n b^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ can be generated in $n$ steps applying the $L$'s construction rule. This is shown by induction on $n$, that is, on the natural ordering $(\mathbb{N}, \prec)$:

**Basis.** For $n = 0$, we have $a^0 b^0 = \varepsilon \in L$.

**Ind.** If IH : $a^n b^n \in L$, then $a a^n b b = a^n b^{n+1} \in L$ by the induction step of definition of $L$.

Hence $\{a^n b^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subseteq L$.

**Example 2.33**

Recall the language $L$ defined in Example 2.19(2). Define its subset $S$:

**Basis.** $B = \{a, b, \varepsilon, (a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c)), (c \rightarrow b)\} \subseteq S$

**Ind.** if $s \in S$ and $(s \rightarrow t) \in S$ then $t \in S$

if $t \in S$ and $(s \rightarrow t) \in S$ then $-s \in S$

We show that $S = B \cup \{(b \rightarrow c), -b, c\}$ constructing $S$ step by step.

$S_0 = B = \{a, b, \varepsilon, (a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c)), (c \rightarrow b)\}$
\[ S_1 = S_0 \cup \{(b \rightarrow c)\}, \text{ with } a \text{ for } s \text{ and } (b \rightarrow c) \text{ for } t \text{ in the first rule} \\
= \{a, b, c, (a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c)), (c \rightarrow b), (b \rightarrow c)\} \]
\[ S_2 = S_1 \cup \{-b, c\} \text{ taking } b \text{ for } s \text{ and } c \text{ for } t \text{ and applying both rules} \\
= \{a, b, c, (a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c)), (c \rightarrow b), (b \rightarrow c), -b, c\} \]
\[ S = \text{ Every application of a rule to some new combination of strings} \]
\[ \text{now yields a string which is already in } S_2. \text{ Since no new strings} \]
\[ \text{can be produced, the process stops here and we obtain } S = S_2. \quad \Box \]

The last example illustrates some more intricate points which often may appear in proofs by structural induction.

**Example 2.34**

Recall the definition of finite non-empty strings \( \Sigma^+ \) from Example 2.17.

For the same alphabet \( \Sigma \), define the set \( \Sigma^\prime \) inductively as follows:

**Basis**: \( x \in \Sigma^\prime \) for all \( x \in \Sigma \)

**Ind-A**: if \( x \in \Sigma \) and \( s \in \Sigma^\prime \) then \( xs \in \Sigma^\prime \)

**Ind-B**: if \( x \in \Sigma \) and \( s \in \Sigma^\prime \) then \( sx \in \Sigma^\prime \).

This definition allows to generate most finite non-empty strings in various ways - it is not 1-1. For instance, \( abc \) may be obtained from \( bc \) by prepending \( a \) according to rule A, or from \( ab \) by appending \( c \) according to rule B. To make sure that these operations yield the same result, we should augment the above definition with the equation:

\[ x(sy) = (xs)y \quad (2.35) \]

Intuitively, \( \Sigma^+ = \Sigma^\prime \) but this needs a proof. We show two inclusions.

\( \Sigma^+ \subseteq \Sigma^\prime \). This inclusion is trivial since anything which can be generated according to definition of \( \Sigma^+ \) can be generated by the same process following definition of \( \Sigma^\prime \). (Strictly speaking, we show it by structural induction following the definition of \( \Sigma^+ \); every element of its basis is also in the basis of \( \Sigma^\prime \); and whatever can be obtained by the rule from the definition of \( \Sigma^+ \) can be obtained by the first rule from the definition of \( \Sigma^\prime \).)

\( \Sigma^\prime \subseteq \Sigma^+ \), i.e., for every \( s : s \in \Sigma^\prime \rightarrow s \in \Sigma^+ \). We show the claim by structural induction on \( s \), i.e., on the definition of \( \Sigma^\prime \).

**Basis**: if \( x \in \Sigma \), then \( x \in \Sigma^\prime \) and also \( x \in \Sigma^+ \).

**IH**: Assume the claim for \( s \), i.e., \( s \in \Sigma^\prime \rightarrow s \in \Sigma^+ \). According to Idea 2.27, we have to show now the claim for each way a "new" element may be obtained. The two different rules in the inductive definition of \( \Sigma^\prime \), give two cases to be considered.
2.2. Inductive definitions

**Ind-A**: \(xs \in \Sigma^*\) by IH, \(s \in \Sigma^+\), and so by the induction step of the definition of \(\Sigma^+ : xs \in \Sigma^+\).

**Ind-B**: \(s \in \Sigma^* \Rightarrow \) There does not seem to be any helpful information to show that then \(sx \in \Sigma^+\).

Let us therefore try a new level of induction, now for showing this particular case. We have the assumption of IH above, and proceed by sub-induction, again on \(s\):

**Base2**: \(s = y \in \Sigma\) and \(x \in \Sigma\) – then \(xy \in \Sigma^+\), by the induction step of its definition.

**IH2**: Basis has been shown for arbitrary \(x\) and \(y = s\), and so we may assume that: for every \(x \in \Sigma\) and for \(s \in \Sigma^* : sx \in \Sigma^+\).

We have again two cases for \(s\):

**Ind2-A**: \(ys \in \Sigma^*\), and \((ys)x \in \Sigma^*\) then \((ys)x \mapsto y(sx)\) and \(sx \in \Sigma^+\) by IH2. This suffices to conclude \(y(sx) \in \Sigma^+\).

**Ind2-B**: \(sy \in \Sigma^*\), and \((sy)x \in \Sigma^*\) by IH2 we have that \(sy \in \Sigma^+\), but what can we then do with the whole term \((sy)x\)? That \(sy \in \Sigma^+\) means, by the definition of \(\Sigma^+\), that \(sy\) can be actually written as \(zt\) for some \(z \in \Sigma\) and \(t \in \Sigma^*\), i.e., \(sy = zt\).

Can we conclude that \((sy)x = (xt)z \mapsto z(tx) \in \Sigma^+\)? Not really, because this would require \(tx \in \Sigma^+\), and that we do not know. We might, perhaps, try yet another level of induction – now on \(t\) – but this should start looking suspicious.

What we know about \(tx\) is that i) \(tx \in \Sigma^*\) (since \(zt \in \Sigma^*\) so \(t \in \Sigma^*\)) and that ii) \(\text{length}(tx) = \text{length}(sy)\). If IH2 could be assumed for all such \(tx\) (and not only for the particular \(sy\) from which the actual \((sy)x\) is built), we would be done. And, as a matter of fact, we are allowed to assume just that in our (sub-)induction hypothesis IH2. Why? Because proving our induction step for the term of the form \((sy)x\) or \((ys)x\) we can assume the claim for all terms which are smaller in the actual ordering. This is the same as the strong version of the induction principle, like the one used in Example 2.9, as compared to the weaker version used, for instance, in Example 2.10.

The actual formulation of Idea 2.27 allows us only the weaker version of induction hypothesis – namely, the assumption of the claim only for the immediate predecessors of the element for which we are proving the claim in the induction step. However, if we inspect the actual ordering induced by the inductive definition according to Idea 2.20 and apply the general Theorem 2.7, then we see that also this stronger version will be correct. □

We will encounter many examples of inductive proofs in the rest of the
book. In fact, the most important sets we will consider will be defined inductively and most proofs of their properties will use structural induction.

2.3 Transfinite induction

As a final example, we give an inductive definition of ordinals (introduced by Cantor and called also "ordinal numbers" though, as a matter of fact, they are sets), and show inductively some properties of this set. The example shows that induction is by no means restricted to finitely generated elements. It can be carried over to sets of arbitrary cardinality. Although the principle is the same as before, emphasizing the context, one calls it "transfinite induction".

Define the collection of ordinals $\mathbb{O}$ inductively as follows:

**Basis**: $\varnothing \in \mathbb{O}$

**Ind.**: 1) If $x \in \mathbb{O}$ then $x^+ = x \cup \{x\} \in \mathbb{O}$. "successor" of an ordinal is an ordinal.

2) For any index set $I$, if for all $i \in I : x_i \in \mathbb{O}$ then $\bigcup_{i \in I} x_i \in \mathbb{O}$. Arbitrary (possibly infinite) union of ordinals is an ordinal.

A small initial segment of $\mathbb{O}$ is shown below, with the standard abbreviated notation indicated in the right column.

$$
\begin{array}{c|c}
\omega + \omega & \omega \\
\hline
\emptyset & 0 \\
\{\emptyset\} & 1 \\
\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\} & 2 \\
\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}\} & 3 \\
\vdots & \vdots \\
\bigcup_{i \in \omega} x & \omega \\
\{\omega, \{\emptyset\}\} & \omega + 1 \\
\{\omega, \{\emptyset\}, \{\omega, \{\emptyset\}\}\} & \omega + 2 \\
\vdots & \vdots \\
\{2\omega, \{\omega\}\} & 2\omega \\
\vdots & \vdots \\
\end{array}
$$

The rule 2) allows us to form infinite ordinals by taking unions of ordinals. This gives the possibility of forming special kind of limit ordinals, which have no immediate predecessor. $\omega$ is the first such limit ordinal (the union of all finite ordinals); $\omega + \omega = 2\omega$ the second one, $3\omega$ the third one, etc. – the sequence of ordinals continues indefinitely:

$$
0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \ldots, \omega, \omega + 1, \omega + 2, \ldots, 2\omega, 2\omega + 1, 2\omega + 2, \ldots, 3\omega, 3\omega + 1, \ldots, 4\omega, 4\omega + 1, \ldots, \omega * \omega = \\
\omega^2, \omega^2 + 1, \omega^2 + 2, \ldots, \omega^3, \omega^3 + 1, \ldots, \omega^2 \omega, \omega^2 \omega + 1, \ldots, \\
\omega^3, \omega^3 + 1, \omega^3 + 2, \ldots, \omega^4, \omega^4 + 1, \ldots, \\
\omega^4, \omega^4 + 1, \ldots, \omega^5, \ldots, \omega^\omega, \ldots, \omega^{(\omega^\omega)}, \ldots.
$$
2.2. Inductive Definitions

We show a few simple facts about $\omega$ using structural induction.

(A) For all $x \in \omega : y \in x \Rightarrow y \in \omega$

Basis :: Since there is no $y \in \omega$, this follows trivially.

Ind :: Let $x \in \omega$ and 1) assume IH : $y \in x \Rightarrow y \in \omega$. If $y \in x \cup \{x\}$ then either $y \in x$ and by IH $y \in \omega$ or else $y = x$ but $x \in \omega$.

2) IH : for all $x_i : y \in x_i \Rightarrow y \in \omega$. If $y \in \bigcup x_i$, then there is some $x_k$ for which $y \in x_k$. Then, by IH, $y \in \omega$.

(B) For all $x \in \omega : y \in x \Rightarrow y \subseteq x$.

Basis :: $x = \emptyset$, and as there is no $y \in \emptyset$, the claim follows trivially.

Ind :: 1) From IH : $y \in x \Rightarrow y \subseteq x$ show that $y \in x^+ \Rightarrow y \subseteq x^+$. $y \in x^+$ means that either a) $y \in x$, from which, by IH, we get $y \subseteq x$ and thus $y \subseteq x \cup \{x\}$, or b) $y = x$, and then $y \subseteq x$ but $y \neq x \cup \{x\}$, i.e., $y \subseteq x \cup \{x\}$.

2) IH : for all $x_i : y \in x_i \Rightarrow y \subseteq x_i$. If $y \in \bigcup x_i$, then there is some $k : y \in x_k$ and, by IH, $y \subseteq x_k$. But then $y \subseteq \bigcup x_i$.

Property (A) says that every member of an ordinal is itself an ordinal, while (B) that every ordinal $x$ is a transitive set, in the sense that its members are also its subsets, i.e., a member of a member of an ordinal $x$ is also a member of $x$. (An ordinal can be defined as a transitive set of transitive sets, or else, as a transitive set totally ordered by set inclusion.)

As noted, rule 2) of the definition of $\omega$ enables one to construct elements of $\omega$ without any immediate predecessor. In the above proofs, the case 1) is treated by a simple induction assuming the claim about the immediate predecessor. The case 2), however, requires the stronger version assuming the claim for all ordinals $x_i$ involved in forming the new ordinal by union. This step amounts to transfinite induction, allowing to “pass through” the limit ordinals.

Ordinals play the central role in set theory, providing the paradigmatic well-orderings. As the concept includes ordering, which is abstracted away in the concept of a cardinal number, there may be several ordinals of the same cardinality. E.g., the ordinals $\omega$, $\omega + 1$ and $1 + \omega$ are easily seen to have the same cardinality, denoted $\aleph_0$:

$\omega = 0 < 1 < 2 < 3 < 4 < 5 < ...$

$\omega + 1 = 0 < 1 < 2 < 3 < 4 < 5 < ... < \omega$

$1 + \omega = 0 < 1 < 2 < 3 < 4 < 5 < ...$

The functions $f : \omega + 1 \rightarrow 1 + \omega$ defined by $f(\omega) = \cdot$ and $f(n) = n$, and $g : 1 + \omega \rightarrow \omega$, defined by $g(\cdot) = 0$ and $g(n) = n + 1$, are obviously bijections. $g$ is, in addition order-homomorphism, since for all $x, y \in 1 + \omega : x < y \Rightarrow g(x) < g(y)$. This means that these two sets represent the same ordering. However, $f$ does not preserve the ordering, since it maps the greatest element $\omega$ of the ordering $\omega + 1$ onto the smallest element $\cdot$ of the ordering $1 + \omega$. These two ordinals represent different ways of well-ordering the same number, $\aleph_0$, of elements. Consequently, the inequality $\omega + 1 \neq 1 + \omega$ holds in the ordinal arithmetics in spite of the cardinal equality $|\omega + 1| = \aleph_0 = |1 + \omega|$. 

[end optional]
EXERCISES 2.

EXERCISE 2.1. Given the following inductively defined set $S \subseteq \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$

**Basis:** $(0, 0) \in S$

**Ind.:** If $(n, m) \in S$ then $(\sigma(n), m) \in S$ and $(\rho(n), \rho(m)) \in S$

Determine a property $P$ allowing to set $S = \{(n, m) : P(n, m)\}$.

Describe these elements of $S$ which can be derived in more than one way.

EXERCISE 2.2. Let $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$, $\Gamma = \{\neg, \rightarrow, (\cdot)\}$ and define the language $\text{WFF}^\Sigma$ over $\Sigma \cup \Gamma$ inductively as follows.

**Basis:** If $A \in \Sigma$ then $A \in \text{WFF}^\Sigma$

**Ind.:** If $A, B \in \text{WFF}^\Sigma$ then $\neg A \in \text{WFF}^\Sigma$ and $(A \rightarrow B) \in \text{WFF}^\Sigma$.

(1) Which of the following strings belong to $\text{WFF}^\Sigma$:
   
   $(a \rightarrow \neg b) \rightarrow c, a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c, \neg(a \rightarrow b), (\neg a \rightarrow b), \neg a \rightarrow b$?

(2) Replace $\Sigma$ with $\Delta = \{+, \#\}$ and use the analogous definition of $\text{WFF}^\Delta$.

   Which strings are in $\text{WFF}^\Delta$:
   
   $\#\#, \neg(\#\#), (\ast \rightarrow \#), \ast \rightarrow \#, \ast \leftarrow \#$?

EXERCISE 2.3 Describe the ordering induced on the set $\Sigma^*$ from Example 2.22 by following Idea 2.20.

EXERCISE 2.4 Use induction on $\mathbb{N}$ to prove for all $1 \leq n \in \mathbb{N}$:

$$(1 + 2 + \ldots + n)^2 = 1^3 + 2^3 + \ldots + n^3$$

(Hint: the induction step expand the expression $(1 + 2 + \ldots + n + (n + 1))^2$ and use Example 2.28.)

EXERCISE 2.5 Use induction to prove that a finite set with $n$ elements has $2^n$ subsets (cf. Exercise 1.9).

EXERCISE 2.6 For a set $A$, $|A|$ denotes its cardinality (number of elements).

Let $A$, $B$ range over non-empty, finite sets. Given two such sets, let $A^B$ denote the set of all functions from $B$ to $A$, i.e., $A^B = \{f : B \rightarrow A\}$.

(1) Show by appropriate induction that the cardinality of this set equals $|A|^B$ to the power $|B|$, i.e., $|A^B| = |A|^{|B|}$.

(2) Show that there are $2^{n^2}$ binary relations over a set with $n \in \mathbb{N}$ elements. (One sentence, referring to the relevant definitions/results and with an adequate use of the previous point, can be enough.)

EXERCISE 2.7 Let $X$ be a country with finitely many cities. Show that for any such $X$, if every two cities in $X$ have (at least) one one-way road between them, then there is some starting city $x_0$ and a route from $x_0$
which passes through every city exactly once.

**Exercise 2.8** Using the definition of strings $\Sigma^*$ from Example 2.16 as the schema for structural induction, show that the reverse operation from Example 2.25 satisfies the following equations:

1. for all $y \in \Sigma, s \in \Sigma^* : (s \dashv y)^R = y(s^R)$,
2. for all $s \in \Sigma^* : (s^R)^R = s$ (idempotency).

**Exercise 2.9** Show that the operation $+$ on $\mathbb{N}$, defined in Example 2.26, is commutative, i.e., that the identity $n + m = m + n$ holds for all $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$. This requires a nested induction, i.e.,

- the basis: for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $0 + m = m$;
- the induction: for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $s(n) + m = m + s(n)$, given that for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $n + m = m + n$.

Can themselves be proved only by the use of induction (on $m$).

**Exercise 2.10** We have seen two different proof rules for induction on natural numbers — one (2.11) in Example 2.9 and another (2.29) in Example 2.28. Show that each can be derived from the other. Begin by stating clearly what exactly you are asked to prove! (One part of this proof is actually the argument after Idea 2.27.)
Chapter 3

COMPUTABILITY AND DECIDABILITY

The idea of “mechanical” reasoning underlies the whole development of logic, and this chapter presents its ultimate expression as a Turing machine or, in more modern language, a computer program. It captures the “mechanical” decidability of a problem in terms of purely symbolic transformations of the input following precisely defined rules. It relies on the idea of an uninterpreted language, so we begin with this concept.

3.1 ALPHABETS AND LANGUAGES

The languages we use for daily communication are what we call natural languages. They are acquired in childhood and are suited to just about any communication we may have. They have developed along with the development of mankind and form a background for any culture and civilization. Formal languages, on the other hand, are explicitly designed by people for a clear, particular purpose. A semi-formal language was used in the preceding chapters for the purpose of talking about sets, functions, relations, etc. It was only semi-formal because it was not fully defined. It was introduced along as we needed some notation for particular concepts.

Formal language is a fundament of formal logical system and we will later encounter several examples of formal languages. Its most striking feature is that, although designed for some purposes, it is an entity on its own. It is completely specified without necessarily referring to its possible meaning. It is a pure syntax. Similar distinction can be drawn with respect to natural languages. The syntax of a natural language is captured by the intuition of the grammatically correct
expressions. At the basic (written) level, there is an alphabet, e.g., the
Latin one with a, b, c, ... from which words are formed. Yet, not all
possible combinations of the letters form words; aabz is a syntactic
possibility but there is no such word. Using only valid words, still does
not guarantee correctness. But even grammatically correct sentences
may remain meaningless. Quadrille drinks procrastination is a
grammatically correct expression consisting of the subject quadrille,
verb in the proper form drinks, and object procrastination. But the
fact that it is grammatical, does not ensure that it is meaningful. The
sentence does convey an idea of some strange event which, unless it
is employed in a very particular context, does not make any sense.

Pure syntax may try to approach but does not guarantee meaning. Yet, on the positive side, syntax is much easier to define and
control than its intended meaning and we will now start using such
purely syntactic languages. Their basis is determined by some, ar-
bitrarily chosen alphabet. Then, one may design various syntactic
rules determining which expressions built from the alphabet's sym-
ols, form valid, well-formed words and sentences. In this chapter,
we will merely introduce the fundamental definition of a language and
observe how the formal notion of computability relates necessarily to
some formal language. In the subsequent chapters, we will study some
particular formal languages forming the basis of most common logical
systems.

**Definition 3.1** An alphabet is a (typically finite) set, its members are called
symbols. The set of all finite strings over an alphabet $\Sigma$ is denoted $\Sigma^*$. A
language $L$ over an alphabet $\Sigma$ is a subset $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$.

**Example 3.2**
The language with natural numbers as the only expressions is a subset of
$N \subseteq \Sigma^*$ where $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$.

Typically, languages are defined inductively. The language $L$ of natural
number arithmetic can be defined over the alphabet $\Sigma' = \Sigma \cup \{+, -, *, 0\}$

**Basis**: If $n \in N$ then $n \in L$

**Ind.**: If $m, n \in L$ then $(m + n), (m - n), (m \times n) \in L$

Alphabets of particular importance are the ones with only two symbols.
Any finite alphabet $\Sigma$ with $n$ distinct symbols can be encoded using an
alphabet with only two symbols, e.g., $\Delta = \{0, 1\}$
3.2. TURING MACHINES

Example 3.3
To code any 2-symbol alphabet \( \Sigma \), we just choose any bijection \( \Sigma \leftrightarrow \Delta \).

To code an alphabet with 3 symbols, \( \Sigma = \{a, b, c\} \), we can represent \( a \mapsto 00, b \mapsto 01, c \mapsto 10 \). The string \( aabc \) will be represented as \( 0001001 \).

Notice that to decode this string, we have to know that any symbol from \( \Sigma \) is represented by a string of exactly two symbols from \( \Delta \). □

In general, to code an alphabet with \( n \) symbols, one has to use binary strings of length \( \lceil \log_2 n \rceil \). Coding a 5-symbol alphabet, requires strings of length at least 3.

Binary representation of natural numbers is a more specific coding utilizing also positions at which symbols occur. We will not use it but it is worth mentioning as the basis of computer’s operations.

Definition 3.4 A binary number \( b \) is an element of \( \Delta^* \) where \( \Delta = \{0, 1\} \).

A binary number \( b = b_n b_{n-1} \cdots b_2 b_1 b_0 \) represents the natural number

\[
b_n \cdot 2^n + b_{n-1} \cdot 2^{n-1} + b_{n-2} \cdot 2^{n-2} + \cdots + b_1 \cdot 2^1 + b_0 \cdot 2^0.
\]

For instance, 001 and 01 both represent 1; 1101 represents the number \( 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 1 = 13 \).

3.2 TURING MACHINES

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A background story

Turing machine (after English mathematician Alan Turing, 1912-1954) was the first general model designed for the purpose of separating problems which can be solved automatically from those which cannot. Although the model was purely mathematical, it was easy to imagine that a corresponding physical device could be constructed. In fact, it was and is today known as the computer.

Many other models of computability have been designed but, as it turns out, all such models define the same concept of computability, i.e., the same problems are mechanically computable irrespectively of which model one is using. The fundamental results about Turing machines apply to all computations on even most powerful computers. The limits of Turing computability are also the limits of the modern computers.

The rest of the story below is taken from Turing’s seminal paper “On computable numbers, with an application to the Entscheidungsproblem” from 1936:
"Computing is normally done by writing certain symbols on paper. We may suppose this paper is divided into squares like a child's arithmetic book. In elementary arithmetic the two-dimensional character of the paper is sometimes used. But such a use is always avoidable, and I think that it will be agreed that the two-dimensional character of paper is no essential of computation. I assume then that the computation is carried out on one one-dimensional paper, i.e., on a tape divided into squares. I shall also suppose that the number of symbols which may be printed is finite. If we were to allow an infinity of symbols, then there would be symbols differing to an arbitrary small extent. The effect of this restriction of the number of symbols is not very serious. It is always possible to use sequences of symbols in the place of single symbols. Thus an Arabic numeral such as 17 or 99999999999999 is normally treated as a single symbol. Similarly, in any European language words are treated as single symbols. (Chinese, however, attempts to have an enumerable infinity of symbols). The differences from our point of view between the single and compound symbols is that the compound symbols, if they are too lengthy, cannot be observed at one glance. This is in accordance with experience. We cannot tell at a glance whether 99999999999999 and 99999999999999 are the same.

The behaviour of the computer at any moment is determined by the symbols which he is observing, and his "state of mind" at that moment. We may suppose that there is a bound $B$ to the number of symbols of squares which the computer can observe at one moment. If he wishes to observe more, he must use successive observations. We will also suppose that the number of states of mind which need be taken into account is finite. The reasons for this are of the same character as those which restrict the number of symbols. If we admitted an infinity of states of mind, some of them will be "arbitrarily close" and will be confused. Again, the restriction is not one which seriously affects computation, since the use of more complicated states of mind can be avoided by writing more symbols on the tape.

Let us imagine the operations performed by the computer to be split up into "simple operations" which are so elementary that it is not easy to imagine them further divided. Every such operation consists of some change of the physical system consisting of the computer and his tape. We know the state of the system if we know the sequence of symbols on the tape, which of these are observed by the computer.
3.2. Turing Machines

(possibly with a special order), and the state of mind of the computer. We may suppose that in a simple operation not more than one symbol is altered. Any other change can be split up into simple changes of this kind. The situation in regard to the squares whose symbols may be altered in this way is the same as in regard to the observed squares. We may, therefore, without loss of generality, assume that the squares whose symbols are changed are always "observed" squares.

Besides these changes of symbols, the simple operations must include changes of distribution of observed squares. The new squares must be immediately recognisable by the computer. I think it is reasonable to suppose that they can only be squares whose distance from the closest of the immediately previously observed squares does not exceed a certain fixed amount. Let us say that each of the new observed squares is within \( L \) squares of an immediately previously observed square.

In connection with "immediate recognisability", it may be thought that there are other kinds of square which are immediately recognisable. In particular, squares marked by special symbols might be taken as immediately recognisable. Now if these squares are marked only by single symbols there can be only a finite number of them, and we should not upset our theory by adjoining these marked squares to the observed squares. If, on the other hand, they are marked by a sequence of symbols, we cannot regard the process of recognition as a simple process. This is a fundamental point and should be illustrated. In most mathematical papers the equations and theorems are numbered. Normally the numbers do not go beyond (say) 1000. It is, therefore, possible to recognise a theorem at a glance by its number. But if the paper was very long, we might reach Theorem 15776773343477; then, further on in the paper, we might find "...hence (applying Theorem 15776773343477) we have...". In order to make sure which was the relevant theorem we should have to compare the two numbers figure by figure, possibly ticking the figures off in pencil to make sure of their not being counted twice. If in spite of this it is still thought that there are other "immediately recognisable" squares, it does not upset my contention so long as these squares can be found by some process of which my type of machine is capable. [...]
L squares of one of the previously observed squares.
It may be that some of these changes necessarily involve a change of
state of mind. The most general single operation must therefore be
taken to be one of the following:
(A) A possible change (a) of symbol together with a possible change of
state of mind.
(B) A possible change (b) of observed squares, together with a possible
change of mind.

The operation actually performed is determined, as has been sug-
gested, by the state of mind of the computer and the observed symbols.
In particular, they determine the state of mind of the computer after
the operation is carried out.

We may now construct a machine to do the work of this com-
puter. To each state of mind of the computer corresponds an "m-
configuration" of the machine. The machine scans B squares cor-
responding to the B squares observed by the computer. In any move the
machine can change a symbol on a scanned square or can change any
one of the scanned squares to another square distant not more than
L squares from one of the other scanned squares. The move which is
done, and the succeeding configuration, are determined by the scanned
symbol and the m-configuration.

**Definition 3.5** A Turing machine M is a quadruple \((K, \Sigma, q_0, \tau)\) where
\begin{itemize}
  \item \(K\) is a finite set of states of M
  \item \(\Sigma\) is a finite alphabet of M
  \item \(q_0 \in K\) is the initial state
  \item \(\tau : K \times \Sigma \to K \times (\Sigma \cup \{L, R\})\) is a (partial) transition function of M.
\end{itemize}

For convenience, we will assume that \(\Sigma\) always contains the 'space' symbol #. This definition deviates only slightly from the one sketched by Turing
and does not deviate from it at all with respect to the computational power
of the respective machines. The difference is that our machine reads only
a single symbol (a single square, or position) at a time, \(B = 1\), and that it
moves at most one square at the time, \(L = 1\).

**Idea 3.6** [Operation of TM] Imagining M as a physical device with a
"reading head" moving along an infinite "tape" divided into discrete positions,
the transition function \(\tau\) determines its operation as follows:
\begin{itemize}
  \item M starts in the initial state \(q_0\) with its "head" at some position on the
        input tape.
\end{itemize}
3.2. Turing Machines

- When \( M \) is in a state \( q \) and "reads" a symbol \( a \), and the pair \( (q, a) \) is in the domain of \( \tau \), then \( M \) "performs the action" \( (q', a') = \tau((q, a)) \):
  - "passes to the state" \( q' \) "doing" \( a' \) which may be one of the two things:
    - if \( a' \in \Sigma \), \( M \) "prints" the symbol \( a' \) at the current position on the tape;
    - otherwise \( a' = L \) or \( a' = R \) — then \( M \) "moves its head" one step to the left or right, respectively.
- When \( M \) is in a state \( q \) and reads a symbol \( a \), and the pair \( (q, a) \) is not in the domain of \( \tau \) then \( M \) "stops its execution" — it halts.
- To "run \( M \) on the input string \( w \)" is to write \( w \) on an otherwise blank tape, placing the reading head, typically, on the first symbol of \( w \) (anywhere on the tape, if \( w \) is the empty string), and then starting the machine (from the state \( q_0 \)).
- \( M(w) \) denotes the tape's content after \( M \) has run on the input \( w \).

\( \tau \) may be written as a set of quadruples \( (q_0, a_0, a'_0, b_0), (q_0, a_2, a'_2, b_2), \ldots \) called instructions. We will often write a single instruction as \( (q, a) \mapsto (q', a') \). Initially, the tape contains the "input" for the computation, but it is also used by \( M \) for writing the "output".

**Remark.**

Sometimes, one allows \( \tau \) to be a relation which is not a function. This leads to nondeterministic Turing machines. However, such machines are not more powerful than the machines from our definition, and we will not study them.

Another variant, which does not increase the power and will not be discussed here either, allows \( \text{TM} \) to use several tapes. For instance, a machine with 2 tapes would have \( \tau : K \times \Sigma \times \Sigma \to K \times (\Sigma \cup \{L, R\}) \times (\Sigma \cup \{L, R\}) \).

Turing machines embody the idea of *mechanically computable functions* or *algorithms*. The following three examples illustrate different flavours of such functions. The one in Example 3.7 disregards its input (for simplicity we made the input blank) and merely produces a constant value — it computes a constant function. The one in Example 3.8 does not modify the input but recognizes whether it belongs to a specific language. Starting on the leftmost 1 it halts if and only if the number of consecutive 1s is even — in this case we say that it accepts the input string. If the number is odd the machine goes forever. The machine in Example 3.9 computes a function of the input \( x \). Using unary representation of natural numbers, it returns \( \lfloor x/2 \rfloor \) — the least natural number greater than or equal to \( x/2 \).

**Example 3.7**

The following machine goes PING! Starting on an empty (filled with blanks) tape, it writes “PING” and halts. The alphabet is \( \{\#, P, I, N, G\} \),
there are 4 states $q_0 \ldots q_3$ with the initial state $q_0$, and the transition function is as follows (graphically, on the right, state $q_3$ is marked by $\square$ and the initial state $q_0$ by $\square$):

\[
\begin{align*}
q_0, \# & \rightarrow q_0, P \\
q_1, \# & \rightarrow q_1, I \\
q_2, \# & \rightarrow q_2, N \\
q_3, \# & \rightarrow q_3, G
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{(graphical representation)} \\
\begin{array}{c}
\text{PR} \\
\text{IR} \\
\text{NR} \\
\text{GR}
\end{array}
\end{array}
\]

**Example 3.8**

The alphabet is \{\#, 1\} and machine has 2 states. It starts on the leftmost 1 in state $q_0$ – the transition function is given on the left, while the corresponding graphical representation on the right:

\[
\begin{align*}
q_0, 1 & \rightarrow q_1, R \\
q_1, 1 & \rightarrow q_2, R \\
q_1, \# & \rightarrow q_3, \#
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{IR} \\
\text{I}_R \\
\text{I}_R \\
\text{I}_R \\
\text{I}_R
\end{array}
\]

Write the computations of this machine on the inputs 11, 111. □

The machine in this last example was deliberately partial, entering an infinite loop whenever encountering blank in state 1. This could be easily remedied by introducing a new "halting" state $h$, extending the alphabet with $Y, N$ and adding two instructions $(q_0, \#) \rightarrow (h, Y)$ and $(q_3, \#) \rightarrow (h, N)$ with the convention that output $Y$ denotes acceptance and $N$ rejection of the input. In general, such an operation may be impossible – there are partial functions which can not be computed for all arguments by any known means, but we have to wait a little before showing that.

**Example 3.9**

To make a machine computing $[x/2] –$ using the alphabet \{\#, 1\} and unary representation of numbers – one might go through the input removing every second 1 (replacing it with \#) and then compact the result to obtain a contiguous sequence of 1's. We apply a different algorithm which keeps all 1's together all the time. The machine starts at the leftmost 1:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{IR} \\
\text{IR} \\
\text{IR} \\
\text{IR} \\
\text{IR}
\end{array}
\]
3.2.1: COMPOSING TURING MACHINES

The following machine starts its computation anywhere within or just after a string of 1's and adds a single 1 at the end of the string, $M_{1+} : 1 \underbrace{1,1 \ldots 1}_n \rightarrow 1$.

Now taking, for instance the machine $M_{2}$ from Example 3.9, we should be able to put the two together into a machine $M_f$ computing the function $f(x) = \lfloor x/2 \rfloor + 1$, by running first $M_2$ and then $M_{1+}$.

To do this in general, one has to ensure that the configuration in which the first machine halts (if it does) is of the form assumed by the second machine when it starts. A closer look at the machine $M_{2}$ from Example 3.9 enables us to conclude that it halts with the reading head just after the rightmost 1. This is an acceptable configuration for starting $M_{1+}$ and so we can write our machine $M_f$ as

$$M_f : \underbrace{\# \ldots \#}_{n} \rightarrow 1$$

This abbreviated notation says that $M_f$ starts by running $M_2$ from its initial state and then, whenever $M_2$ halts and reads a blank #, it passes to the initial state of $M_{1+}$ writing #, and then runs $M_{1+}$.

We give a more elaborate example illustrating composition of Turing machines. A while-loop in a programming language is a command of the form while $B$ do $F$, where $B$ is a boolean function and $F$ is a command which we will assume computes some function. Assuming availability of machines $M_B$ and $M_F$, we construct a machine computing the function $G(y)$ which returns the least $x > 0$ such that $B(x, F(x,y))$ is true (if no such $x$ exists $G(y)$ is undefined). It is expressed by the following while-loop:

$$G(y) = \{ \text{while } B(x,y) \text{ do } \{ z := z+1; \text{ if } x = y \text{ then } \text{ return } x \} \}$$

We consider the alphabet $\Sigma = \{\#, 1, Y, N\}$ and functions over positive natural numbers (without 0) $N$, with unary representation as strings of 1’s. Let our given functions be $F : N \times N \rightarrow N$ and $B : N \times N \rightarrow \{Y, N\}$, and the corresponding Turing machines, $M_F$, resp. $M_B$. More precisely, $s_F$ is the initial state of $M_F$ which, starting in a configuration of the form $C_1$, halts if $x = F(x,y)$ is defined in the final state $s_F$ in the configuration of the form $C_2$.
If, for some pair $x, y$, $F(x, y)$ is undefined, $M_F(y, x)$ may go forever.

$B$, on the other hand, is total and $M_B$ always halts in its final state $e_B$, when started from a configuration of the form $C_2$ and initial state $e_B$, yielding a configuration of the form $C_3$:

\[
C_2: \ldots \# 1 \ldots 1 \# 1 \ldots 1 \# \ldots
\]

$M_B \downarrow
\[
C_3: \ldots \# 1 \ldots 1 \# 1 \ldots 1 \# u \# \ldots
\]

where $u = Y$ iff $B(y, z) = Y$ (true) and $u = N$ iff $B(x, z) = N$ (false).

Using $M_F$ and $M_B$, we design a TM $M_G$ which starts in its initial state $s_G$ in a configuration $C_0$, and halts in its final state $e_G$ iff $G(y) = x$ is defined, with the tape as shown in $T$:

\[
C_0: \ldots \# 1 \ldots 1 \# \ldots
\]

$M_G \downarrow
\[
T: \ldots \# 1 \ldots 1 \# 1 \ldots 1 \#\ldots
\]

$M_G$ adds a single 1 (= $x$) past the first # to the right of the input $y$, and runs $M_F$ and $M_B$ on these two numbers. If $M_B$ halts with $Y$, it only cleans up $F(x, y)$. If $M_B$ halts with $N$, $M_G$ erases $F(x, y)$, extends $x$ with a single 1 and continues:

In case of success, $M_B$ exits along the $Y$ and states 5-6 erase the sequence of 1's.
representing $F(x, y)$, $M_G$ stops in state 6 to the right of $x$. If $M_B$ got $N$, this $N$ is erased, and states 3-4 erase the current $F(x, y)$. The first blank # encountered in the state 3 is the blank right to the right of the last $x$. This # is replaced with 1—increasing $x$ to $x + 1$—and $M_B$ is started in a configuration of the form $CL$.

$M_G(y)$ will go forever if no $x$ exists such that $B(x, F(x, y)) = Y$. However, it may also go forever if such $x$ exists but $F(x', y)$ is undefined for some $0 < x' < x$.

Then the function $G(y)$ computed by $M_G$ is undefined. In the theory of recursive functions, such a schema is called $\rho$-recursion ("\rho" for minimal) — here it is the function $G : N \to N$:

$$G(y) = \begin{cases} \text{the least } x \in N \text{ such that } B(x, F(x, y)) = Y \\ \text{and } F(x', y) \text{ is defined for all } x' \leq x. \end{cases}$$

If $G(y) = x$ (i.e., when $G$ is defined on $y$), then also $F(x', y)$ must be defined for all $x' \leq x$, and this reflects the mechanical, or blind, computability — $M_G$ simply checks all consecutive values of $x'$ until the correct one is found... [end optional]

### 3.3 Universal Turing Machine

Informally, we might say that one Turing machine $M'$ simulates another one $M$ if $M'$ is able to perform all the computations which can be performed by $M$ or, more precisely, if any input $w$ for $M$ can be represented as an input $w'$ for $M'$ and the result $M'(w')$ represents the result $M(w)$.

This may happen in various ways, the most trivial one being the case when $M'$ is strictly more powerful than $M$. If $M$ is a multiplication machine (returning $n \times m$ for any two natural numbers), while $M'$ can do both multiplication and addition, then augmenting the input $w$ for $M$ with the indication of multiplication, we can use $M'$ to do the same thing as $M$ would do. Another possibility might be some encoding of the instructions of $M$ in such a way that $M'$, using this encoding as a part of its input, can act as if it was $M$. This is what happens in a computer since a computer program is a description of an algorithm, while an algorithm is just a mechanical procedure for performing computations of some specific type — i.e., it is a Turing machine. A program in a high level language is a Turing machine $M$ — compiling it into a machine code amounts to constructing a machine $M'$ which can simulate $M$. Execution of $M(w)$ proceeds by representing the high level input $w$ as an input $w'$ acceptable for $M'$, running $M'(w')$ and converting the result back to the high level representation.

We won’t define formally the notions of representation and simulation, relying instead on their intuitive understanding and the example of a Universal Turing machine, UTM, we will present. Such a machine is a Turing
machine which can simulate any other Turing machine. It is a conceptual
prototype and paradigm of the programmable computers as we know them.

**Idea 3.10 [UTM]** To build a UTM which can simulate an arbitrary TM $M$:

1. choose a coding of Turing machines so that they can be represented on an
   input tape for UTM,
2. represent the input of $M$ on the input tape for UTM,
3. choose a way of representing the state of the simulated machine $M$ (the
   current state and position of the head) on the tape of UTM,
4. design the set of instructions for the UTM.

To simplify the task, without losing generality, we will assume that the
simulated machines work only on the default alphabet $\Sigma = \{*,\#\}$. At the
same time, the UTM will use an extended alphabet with several symbols,
which is the union of the following sets:

- $\Sigma$ – the alphabet of $M$
- $\{S,N,R,L\}$ – additional symbols to represent instructions of $M$
- $\{X,Y,0,1\}$ – symbols to keep track of the state and position of $M$
- $\{(,.,A,B)\}$ – auxiliary symbols for bookkeeping

We will code machine $M$ together with its original input as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructions of $M$</th>
<th>Current state</th>
<th>Input and head position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. **A possible coding of TMs**

1. Get the set of instructions from the description of a TM $M = 
   (K, \Sigma, q_0, \tau)$.
2. Each instruction $t \in \tau$ is a four-tuple
   
   $t : \quad \langle q_i, a \rangle \mapsto \langle q_j, b \rangle$
   
   where $q_i, q_j \in K$, $a$ is $\#$ or $*$, and $b \in \Sigma \cup \{L,R\}$. We assume that
   states are numbered from 1 up to $n > 0$. Represent $t$ as $C_t$:

   $C_t : \quad 1 \ldots |S| \hat{a} |\hat{b}| 1 \ldots |N|$

   i.e., first $i$ $S$-symbols representing the current state $q_i$, then the read
   symbol $a$, so the action $b$ – either the symbol to be written or $R$, $L$ –
   and finally $j$ $N$-symbols for the resulting state $q_j$.
3. String the representations of all the instructions, with no extra spaces,
   in increasing order of state numbers. If for a state $i$ there are two
   instructions, $t_1^i \hat{a}$ for input symbol $\#$ and $t_1^i$ for input symbol $*$, put $t_1^i$
   before $t_1^i \hat{a}$. 


3.3. UNIVERSAL TURING MACHINE

(4) Put the "end" symbol '}' to the left:
\[
[C_1 C_2 \cdots C_k; \text{current state}]
\]

Example 3.12
For \( M = \{ \langle q_1, q_2, q_3 \rangle, \{ \#, \} \}, q_1, \tau \) the \( \tau \) is given in the left part of the table, and its coding in the right part:

\[
\begin{align*}
1 & \quad \# \quad 2 \\
& \quad \# \quad \# \\
& \quad \# \quad R \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\langle q_1, \# \rangle & \mapsto \langle q_1, R \rangle & S & \mapsto RN \\
\langle q_2, \# \rangle & \mapsto \langle q_2, \# \rangle & S \# & \mapsto NN \\
\langle q_3, \# \rangle & \mapsto \langle q_3, R \rangle & SS & \mapsto LNN \\
\end{align*}
\]

The whole machine will be coded as:
\[
\{S \# R N N \# N Y S \# S \# R N N \cdots \}
\]

It is not necessary to perform the above conversion but can you tell what \( M \) does? 

2. Input representation. We included the alphabet of the original machines \( \Sigma = \{ \#, \} \) in the alphabet of the UTM. There is no need to code this part of the simulated machines.

3. Current state. After the instruction set of \( M \), we reserve part of the tape for the representation of the current state. There are \( n \) states of \( M \), so we reserve \( n + 1 \) fields for unary representation of the number of the current state. The \( i \)-th state is represented by \( i \) 'X's followed by \((n + 1 - i) \)' Y's: if \( M \) is in the state \( i \), this part of the tape will be:

\[
\text{instructions} \quad \overbrace{X \cdots X}^{i} Y \cdots Y \quad \text{input}
\]

We use \( n + 1 \) positions so that there is always at least one Y to the right of the sequence of X's representing the current state.

To "remember" the current position of the head, we will use the two extra symbols 0 and 1 corresponding, respectively, to \# and \(*\). The current symbol under the head will be always changed to 0, resp. 1. When the head is moved away, these symbols will be restored back to the original ones \#, resp. \(*\). For instance, if \( M \)'s head on the input tape \( ** \# \# \# \# \# \) is in the 4-th place, the input part of the UTM tape will be \( ** \# 0 \# 0 \# 0 \).

4. Instructions for UTM. We let UTM start execution with its head at the rightmost X in the bookkeeping section of the tape. After completing the simulation of one step of \( M \)'s computation, the head will again be placed at the rightmost X. The simulation of each step of computation of \( M \) will involve several things:
(4.1) Locate the instruction to be used next.
(4.2) Execute this instruction, i.e., either print a new symbol or move the head on $M$'s tape.
(4.3) Write down the new state in the bookkeeping section.
(4.4) Prepare for the next step: clean up and go to the rightmost $X$.

In more detail, UTM performs these four steps as follows:

**4.1. Find instruction.** In a loop we erase one $X$ at a time, replacing it by $Y$, and pass through all the instructions converting one $S$ to $A$ in each instruction. If there are too few $S$'s in an instruction, we convert all the $N$'s to $B$'s in that instruction.

When all $X$'s have been replaced by $Y$'s, the instructions corresponding to the actual state have only $A$'s instead of $S$. We deactivate the instructions which still contain $S$ by going through all the instructions: if there is some $S$ not converted to $A$, we replace all $N$'s by $B$'s in that instruction. Now, there remain at most 2 $N$-lists associated with the instruction(s) for the current state.

We go and read the current symbol on $M$'s tape and replace $N$'s by $B$'s at the instruction (if any) which does not correspond to what we read.

The instruction to be executed has $N$'s — others have only $B$'s.

**4.2. Execute instruction.** UTM starts now looking for a sequence of $N$'s. If none is found, then $M$ — and UTM — stops. Otherwise, we check what to do looking at the symbol to the left of the leftmost $N$. If it is $R$ or $L$, we go to the $M$'s tape and move its head restoring the current symbol to its $\Sigma$ form and replacing the new symbol by $L$, resp. $R$. If the instruction is to write a new symbol, we just write the appropriate thing.

**4.3. Write new state.** We find again the sequence of $N$'s and write the same number of $X$'s in the bookkeeping section indicating the next state.

**4.4. Clean up.** Finally, convert all $A$'s and $F$'s back to $S$ and $N$'s, and move the head to the rightmost $X$.

### 3.4 Undecidability

Turing machine is a possible formal expression of the idea of mechanical computability — we are willing to say that a function is computable iff there is a Turing machine which computes its values for all possible arguments. (Such functions are also called recursive.) Notice that if a function is not
3.4. Undecidability

defined on some arguments this would require us to assign some special, perhaps new, values for such arguments. In general, we may be unable to decide if a function is defined on a given argument. For such partial functions one uses therefore a slightly different notion.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{function } F \text{ is} \\
\text{computable (recursive)} \quad & \quad \text{if there is a TM which halts with } F(x) \text{ for all inputs } x \\
\text{semi-computable} \quad & \quad \text{if there is a TM which halts with } F(x) \text{ whenever } F \text{ is defined on } x \text{ but may not halt when } F \text{ is undefined on } x
\end{align*}
\]

A problem \( P \) of YES-NO type is a set \( L_P \) of its instances, together with a subset \( Y_P \subseteq L_P \), of the instances for which the answer is YES. For example, the problem if a given natural number is odd consists of the set \( N \) of natural numbers and its subset \( Y \) of odd numbers. A problem gives rise to a special case of function \( f_P \) which, for each instance \( x \in L_P \), returns one of the only two values, YES or NO, depending on whether \( x \in Y_P \) or not. We get here a third notion.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{problem } P \text{ is} \\
\text{decidable} \quad & \quad \text{if } f_P \text{ is computable – the machine computing } f_P \text{ always halts returning correct answer YES or NO} \\
\text{semi-decidable} \quad & \quad \text{if } f_P \text{ is semi-computable – the machine computing } f_P \text{ halts with the correct answer YES, but may not halt when the answer is NO} \\
\text{co-semi-decidable} \quad & \quad \text{if } \neg f_P \text{ is semi-computable – the machine computing } f_P \text{ halts with the correct answer NO, but may not halt when the answer is YES}
\end{align*}
\]

Thus a problem is decidable iff it is both semi- and co-semi-decidable.

Set membership is a special case of YES-NO problem but for sets one uses a different terminology than for their membership problem:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{set } S \subseteq \mathbb{N} \text{ is} \\
\text{recursive} \quad & \quad \text{if } \text{decidable} \\
\text{recursively enumerable} \quad & \quad \text{if } \text{semi-decidable} \\
\text{co-recursively enumerable} \quad & \quad \text{if } \text{co-semi-decidable}
\end{align*}
\]
A set is recursive iff it is both recursively and co-recursively enumerable.

One of the fundamental results about Turing machines, besides the existence of UTMs, concerns the undecidability of the halting problem. Following our strategy for encoding TMs and their inputs for simulation by a UTM, we assume that the encoding of the instruction set of a machine $M$ is $E(M)$, while the encoding of input $w$ for $M$ is just $w$ itself.

**Problem 3.13** [The halting problem] Is there a Turing machine $M_H$ such that for any machine $M$ and input $w$, $M_H(E(M), w)$ always halts and

$$M_H(E(M), w) = \begin{cases} Y(x) & \text{if } M(w) \text{ halts} \\ N(x) & \text{if } M(w) \text{ does not halt} \end{cases}$$

The problem is trivially semi-decidable: given an $M$ and $w$, simply run $M(w)$ and see what happens. If the computation halts, we get the correct YES answer. If it does not halt, then we may wait forever. Unfortunately, the following theorem ensures that, in general, there is not much else to do than waiting and seeing what happens.

**Theorem 3.14** [Undecidability of the halting problem] There is no Turing machine which decides the halting problem.

**Proof.** Assume, on the contrary, that there is such a machine $M_H$.

1. We can easily design a machine $M_N$ that is undefined (does not halt) on input $Y$ and defined everywhere else, e.g., a machine with one state $q_0$ and instruction $(q_0, Y) \rightarrow (q_0, Y)$.
2. Now, construct machine $M_I$ which on the input $(E(M), w)$ gives $M_N(M_H(E(M), w))$. It has the property that $M_I(E(M), w)$ halts iff $M(w)$ does not halt. In particular:

$$M_I(E(M), E(M)) \text{ halts iff } M(E(M)) \text{ does not halt.}$$

3. Let $M^*$ be a machine which to an input $w$ first computes $(w, w)$ and then $M_I(w, w)$. In particular, $M^*(E(M^*)) = M_I(E(M^*), E(M^*))$.

This one has the property that:

$$M^*(E(M^*)) \text{ halts iff } M_I(E(M^*), E(M^*)) \text{ halts}$$

$$\text{iff } M^*(E(M^*)) \text{ does not halt.}$$

This is clearly a contradiction, from which the theorem follows.

Thus the set $H = \{ (E(M), w) : M \text{ halts on input } w \}$ is semi-recursive but not recursive. In terms of programming, the undecidability of halting problem means that it is impossible to write a program which could 1) take
3.4. Undecidability

as input an arbitrary program $M$ and its possible input $w$ and 2) determine whether $M$ run on $w$ will terminate or not.

The theorem gives rise to a series of corollaries identifying other undecidable problems. The usual strategy for such proofs is to show that if a given problem were decidable then we could use it to decide another (e.g., halting) problem already known to be undecidable. As indicated before, a problem $P$ (of YES-NO type) can be seen as a language $Y_P \subseteq L_P \subseteq \Sigma^*$, where $\Sigma^*$ is the used alphabet, $L_P$ contains all strings identifying instances of $P$ and $Y_P$ is the subset of instances with the YES answer. A (computable) reduction from a problem $P$ to a problem $Q$ is a computable function $r : L_P \to L_Q$ such that for every instance $p \in L_P : p \in Y_P$ iff $r(p) \in Y_Q$. Given such a reduction and an instance $p \in L_P$, we can compute the instance $r(p) \in L_Q$ and, if we can decide $Q$, the conclusion about $r(p) \in Y_Q$ can be applied to $p \in Y_P$ by the equivalence.

Corollary 3.15 There is no Turing machine

(1) $M_D$ which, for any machine $M$, always halts with $M_D(E(M)) = Y$ iff $M$ is total (always halts) and with $N$ iff $M$ is undefined for some input;
(2) $M_E$ which, for given two machines $M_1$, $M_2$, always halts with $Y$ iff the two halt on the same inputs and with $N$ otherwise.

Proof. (1) Assume that we have an $M_D$. Given an instance of the halting problem, an $M$ and some input $w$, we can easily construct a machine $M_w$ which, for any input $x$ computes $M(w)$. In particular $M_w$ is total iff $M(w)$ halts. Then we can use $M_D(E(M_w))$ to decide the halting problem. Hence there is no such $M_D$.
(2) Assume that we have an $M_E$. Take as $M_1$ a machine which does nothing but halts immediately on any input. Then we can use $M_E$ and $M_1$ to construct an $M_D$, which does not exist by the previous point.

For the further use of Turing machines, we observe that although they do provide an ultimately precise definition of computability and of (un)decidable problems, they are not necessarily easiest to use. Our (un-) decidability arguments will often rely on some informal intuitions arising from experience with programming. Correctness of such a simplification is ensured by the fact that each Turing machine can be expressed as a computer program while each computer program is a Turing machine.
EXERCISES 3.

EXERCISE 3.1 The questions at the end of Examples 3.8 and 3.9 (run the respective machines on the suggested inputs).

EXERCISE 3.2 Consider the alphabet \( \Sigma = \{a, b\} \) and the language from Example 2.19.(1), i.e., \( L = \{a^n b^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \).

1. Build a TM \( M_1 \) which given a string \( s \) over \( \Sigma \) (possibly with additional blank symbol \#) halts iff \( s \in L \) and goes forever iff \( s \notin L \). If you find it necessary, you may allow \( M_1 \) to modify the input string.
2. Modify \( M_1 \) to an \( M_2 \) which does a similar thing but always halts in the same state indicating the answer. For instance, the answer ‘YES’ may be indicated by \( M_2 \) just halting, and ‘NO’ by \( M_2 \) writing some specific string (e.g., ‘NO’) and halting.

EXERCISE 3.3 Let \( \Sigma = \{a, b, c\} \) and \( \Delta = \{0, 1\} \) (Example 3.3). Specify an encoding of \( \Sigma \) in \( \Delta^* \) and build two Turing machines:

1. \( M_a \) which, given a string over \( \Sigma \), converts it to a string over \( \Delta \).
2. \( M_b \) which, given a string over \( \Delta \), converts it to a string over \( \Sigma \).

The two should act so that their composition gives identity, i.e., for all \( s \in \Sigma^* : M_a(M_b(s)) = s \) and for all \( d \in \Delta^* : M_b(M_a(d)) = d \). Choose the initial and final position of the head for both machines so that, executing the one after another will actually produce the same initial string.

Run each machine on some example tapes. Run them one after the other to check whether the final tape is the same as the initial one.

EXERCISE 3.4 The correct \(!\)-expressions are defined inductively (relatively to a given set \( S \) of other expressions):

Basis :: Each \( s \in S \) and empty word are correct \(!\)-expressions

Ind. :: If \( s \) and \( t \) are correct \(!\)-expressions then so are \( !s \) and \( !t \).

1. Show the following equivalence by induction on the length of correct \(!\)-expressions and on their structure, respectively:

   \( s \) is correct iff
   
   (a) the numbers of left \( ( \) and right \( ) \) parentheses are equal, say \( n \), and
   
   (b) for each \( 1 \leq i \leq n \) the \( i \)-th \( ( \) comes before the \( i \)-th \( ) \), i.e., the leftmost \( ( \) comes before the leftmost \( ) \), the second leftmost \( ( \) before the second leftmost \( ) \), etc.

2. The machine below reads a \(!\) expression starting on its leftmost symbol and halting in state 7 iff the input was correct and in state 3 otherwise. Its alphabet \( \Sigma \) consists of two disjoint sets \( \Sigma_1 \cap \Sigma_2 = \emptyset \), where \( \Sigma_1 \) is some
set of symbols (for writing $S$-expressions) and $\Sigma_2 = \{X, Y, (, )#, \}$. In the
diagram we use an abbreviation "#" to indicate "any other symbol from
$\Sigma$ not mentioned explicitly among the transitions from this state". For
instance, when in state 2 and reading # the machine goes to state 3 and
writes #; reading ) it writes Y and goes to state 4 — while reading any
other symbol ?, it moves the head to the right remaining in state 2.

Run the machine on a couple of your own tapes with $S$-expressions (correct
and incorrect). Justify, using the claim from (1), that this machine does
the right thing, i.e., decides the correctness of $S$-expressions.

**Exercise 3.5** The representation of the tape for the simulated TM $M$,
given in (3.11), allows it to be infinite only in one direction, extending
indefinitely to the right, but terminating on the left at the preceding block
of $X$'s and $Y$'s coding the current state. Explain why this is not any real
restriction, i.e., why everything computed by a TM with tape infinite in
both directions, can also be computed by a TM with tape which is infinite
only in one direction.

**Exercise 3.6** Define the set $TM = \{E(M) : M$ is a Turing machine$\}$,
assuming a uniform representation of Turing machines (i.e., all machines
work on the same finite alphabet and are coded in the same way, so that
each occurs exactly once in $TM$.)
(1) What is the cardinality of the set $TM$ ?
(2) What is the cardinality of the set $\wp(\{1\}^*)$ ?
(3) Now, show that there exists an undecidable subset of $\{1\}^*$.

**Exercise 3.7** Following Theorem 3.14, was the observation that the set
$H = \{(E(M), w) : M$ halts on input $w$} is not recursive. For this state-
ment to be meaningful, $H$ must be a subset of $\mathbb{N}$, so show that it can be
seen as such.
(Hint: Use (1) from the previous exercise and the idea of enumerating $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$
from Example 1.25.)
Chapter 4

SYNTAX AND PROOF SYSTEMS

4.1 AXIOMATIC SYSTEMS

One of the fundamental goals of all scientific inquiry is to achieve precision and clarity of a body of knowledge. This "precision and clarity" means, among other things:

- all assumptions of a given theory are stated explicitly;
- the language of the theory is designed carefully by choosing some basic, primitive notions and defining others in terms of these ones;
- the theory contains some basic principles— all other claims of the theory follow from its basic principles by applications of definitions and some explicit laws.

Axiomatization in a formal system is the ultimate expression of these postulates. Axioms play the role of basic principles — explicitly stated fundamental assumptions which may be disputable but, once assumed, imply other claims, the theorems. These follow from the axioms not by some unclear arguments but by formal deductions according to well defined rules.

The most famous example of an axiomatization (and the one which, in more than one way gave the origin to the modern axiomatic systems) was Euclidean geometry. Euclid systematized geometry by showing how many geometrical statements could be logically derived from a small set of axioms and principles. The axioms he postulated were supposed to be intuitively obvious:

A1. Given two points, there is an interval that joins them.
A2. An interval can be prolonged indefinitely.
A3. A circle can be constructed when its center, and a point on it, are given.
A4. All right angles are equal.

There was also the famous fifth axiom — we will return to it shortly. Another part of the system were “common notions” which may be perhaps more adequately called inference rules about equality:
R1. Things equal to the same thing are equal.
R2. If equals are added to equals, the wholes are equal.
R3. If equals are subtracted from equals, the remainders are equal.
R4. Things that coincide with one another are equal.
R5. The whole is greater than a part.

Presenting a theory as an axiomatic system has tremendous advantages. For the first, it is economical — instead of long lists of facts and claims, we can store only axioms and deduction rules, since the rest is derivable from them. They, so to speak, “code” the knowledge of the whole field. More importantly, it systematizes knowledge by displaying the fundamental assumptions which form the logical basis of the field. In a sense, Euclid uncovered “the essence of geometry” by identifying axioms and rules which are sufficient and necessary for deriving all geometrical theorems. Finally, having such a compact presentation of a complicated field, makes it possible to relate not only to particular theorems but also to the whole field as such. This possibility is reflected in us speaking about Euclidean geometry vs. non-Euclidean ones. The differences between them concern precisely changes of some basic principles — inclusion or removal of the fifth postulate.

As an example of a proof in Euclid’s system, we show how using the above axioms and rules he deduced the following proposition (“Elements”, Book 1, Proposition 4):

**Proposition 4.1.** If two triangles have two sides equal to two sides respectively, and have the angles contained by the equal straight lines equal, then they also have the base equal to the base, the triangle equals the triangle, and the remaining angles equal the remaining angles respectively, namely those opposite the equal sides.

**Proof.** Let $ABC$ and $DEF$ be two triangles having the two sides $AB$ and $AC$ equal to the two sides $DE$ and $DF$ respectively,
4.1. AXIOMATIC SYSTEMS

namely \( AB \) equal to \( DE \) and \( AC \) equal to \( DF \); and the angle \( BAC \) equal to the angle \( EDF \).

\[ \begin{array}{c}
A \\
\downarrow \\
B \\
\downarrow \\
C \\
\downarrow \\
E \\
\downarrow \\
D \\
\downarrow \\
F \\
\end{array} \]

I say that the base \( BC \) also equals the base \( EF \), the triangle \( ABC \) equals the triangle \( DEF \); and the remaining angles equal the remaining angles respectively, namely those opposite the equal sides, that is, the angle \( ABC \) equals the angle \( DEF \), and the angle \( ACB \) equals the angle \( DFE \).

If the triangle \( ABC \) is superposed on the triangle \( DEF \); and if the point \( A \) is placed on the point \( D \) and the straight line \( AB \) on \( DE \); then the point \( B \) also coincides with \( E \), because \( AB \) equals \( DE \).

Again, \( AB \) coinciding with \( DE \), the straight line \( AC \) also coincides with \( DF \); because the angle \( BAC \) equals the angle \( EDF \). Hence the point \( C \) also coincides with the point \( F \), because \( AC \) again equals \( DF \).

But \( B \) also coincides with \( E \), hence the base \( BC \) coincides with the base \( EF \) and \( AB \) by \( R4 \) equals it. Thus the whole triangle \( ABC \) coincides with the whole triangle \( DEF \) and \( AB \) by \( R4 \) equals it.

\[ \text{QED (4.1)} \]

The proof is allowed to use only the given assumptions, the axioms and the deduction rules. Yet, the Euclidean proofs are not exactly what we mean by a formal proof in an axiomatic system. Why? Because Euclid presupposed a particular model, namely, the abstract set of points, lines and figures in an infinite, homogeneous space. This presupposition need not be wrong (although, according to modern physics, it is), but it has important bearing on the notion of proof. For instance, it is intuitively obvious what Euclid means by “superposing one triangle on another”. Yet, this operation hides some further assumptions, for instance, that length does not change during such a process. This implicit assumption comes most clearly forth in considering the language of Euclid’s geometry. Here are just few definitions from “Elements”:

D1. A point is that which has no part.
D2. A line is breadthless length.
D3. The ends of a line are points.
D4. A straight line is a line which lies evenly with the points on itself.
D23. Parallel straight lines are straight lines which, being in the same plane and being produced indefinitely in both directions, do not meet one another in either direction.

These are certainly smart formulations but one can wonder if, say, D1 really defines anything or, perhaps, merely states a property of something intended by the name “point.” Or else, does D2 define anything if one does not presuppose some intuition of what length is? To make a genuinely formal system, one would have to identify some basic notions as truly primitive—that is, with no intended interpretation. For these notions one may postulate some properties. For instance, one might say that we have the primitive notions of P; L and LL (for point, line and indefinitely prolonged line). P has no parts; L has two ends, both being P’s; any two P’s determine an L (whose ends they are—this reminds of A1); any L determines uniquely an LL (cf. A2.), and so on. Then, one may identify derived notions which are defined in terms of the primitive ones. Thus, for instance, the notion of parallel lines can be defined from the primitives as it was done in D23.

The difference may seem negligible but is of the utmost importance. By insisting on the uninterpreted character of the primitive notions, it opens an entirely new perspective. On the one hand, we have our primitive, uninterpreted notions. These can be manipulated according to the axioms and rules we have postulated. On the other hand, there are various possibilities of interpreting these primitive notions. All such interpretations will have to satisfy the axioms and conform to the rules, but otherwise they may be vastly different. This was the insight which led, first, to non-Euclidean geometry and, then, to the formal systems. We now illustrate this first stage of the development.

The strongest, and relatively simple formulation of the famous fifth axiom, the “Parallel Postulate”; is as follows:
A5. Given a line L and a point p not on line L, exactly one line L’ can be drawn through p parallel to L (i.e., not intersecting L no matter how far extended).

This axiom seems to be much less intuitive than the other ones and mathematicians had spent centuries trying to derive it from the other ones. Failing to do that, they started to wonder: “But, does this postulate have to be true? What if it isn’t?”
4.1. Axiomatic Systems

Well, it may seem that it is true – but how can we check? It may be hard to prolong any line indefinitely. Thus we encounter the other aspect of formal systems, which we will study in the following chapters, namely, what is the meaning or semantics of such a system. Designing an axiomatic system, one has to specify precisely what are its primitive terms and how these terms may interact in derivation of the theorems. On the other hand, one specifies what these terms are supposed to denote. In fact, terms of a formal system may denote anything which conforms to the rules specified for their interaction. Euclidean geometry was designed with a particular model in mind – the abstract set of points, lines and figures that can be constructed with compass and straightedge in an infinite space. But now, allowing for the primitive character of the basic notions, we can consider other interpretations. We can consider as our space a finite, open circle $C$, interpret $P$ as any point within $C$, $L$ as any closed interval within $C$ and $II$, as an open-ended chord of the circle, i.e., a straight line within the circle which approaches indefinitely closely, but never touches the circumference. (Thus one can “prolong a line indefinitely” without ever meeting the circumference.)

This interpretation does not satisfy the fifth postulate. Starting with a line $L$ and a point $p$ not on $L$, we can choose two other points $x$ and $y$ and, by $A1$, obtain two lines $xp$ and $yp$ which can be prolonged indefinitely according to $A2$. As we see, neither of these indefinitely prolonged lines intersects $L$. Thus, both are parallel to $L$ according to the very same, old definition $D23$.

Failing to satisfy the fifth postulate, this interpretation is not a model of Euclidean geometry. But it is a model of the first non-Euclidean geometry – the Bolzoi•Lobachevsky geometry, which keeps all the definitions, postulates and rules except the fifth postulate. Later, many other non-Euclidean geometries have been developed – perhaps the most famous one, by Hermann Minkowski as a four-dimensional space-time universe of the relativity theory.
Now we can see another advantage of using axiomatic systems. Since non-Euclidean geometry preserves all Euclid's postulates except the fifth one, all the theorems derived without the use of the fifth postulate remain valid. For instance, Proposition 4.1 needs no new proof in the new geometries. Revealing which sets of postulates are needed to establish which consequences, allows their reuse. Studying some new phenomena, one can then start by asking which postulates are satisfied by them. An answer to this question yields then immediately all the theorems which have been proven from these postulates.

It should be constantly kept in mind that axiomatic systems, their primitive terms and proofs, are purely syntactic, that is, do not presuppose any interpretation. Of course, their eventual usefulness depends on whether we can find interesting interpretations for their terms and rules but this is another story. In this chapter, we study some fundamental axiomatic systems without considering such interpretations, which will be addressed later on.

Recall that an inductive definition of a set consists of a basis, an induction part, and an implicit closure condition. When the set defined is a language, i.e., a set of strings, we often talk about an axiomatic system. In this case, the elements of the basis are called axioms, the induction part is given by a set of proof rules, and theorems are the members of so defined set. The symbol \( \vdash \) denotes the set of theorems, but the fact that \( A \) is a theorem is written \( \vdash A \) and not \( A \in \vdash \). Usually \( \vdash \) is identified as a subset of some other language \( L \subseteq \Sigma^* \), thus \( \vdash \subseteq L \subseteq \Sigma^* \).

**Definition 4.2** An axiomatic system \( \vdash \) over \( L \subseteq \Sigma^* \) has the form:

**Axioms:** A set \( Ax \subseteq \vdash \subseteq L \), and

**Proof Rules:**

- the elements \( R \in L^n \times L \), written \( R : \vdash A_1 ; \ldots ; \vdash A_n \vdash C \).

A proof rule says that if the premises are theorems, \( \vdash A_1 ; \ldots ; \vdash A_n \), then so is the conclusion \( \vdash C \). The rules are always designed so that \( C \) is in \( L \) if \( A_1 , \ldots , A_n \) are, thus \( \vdash \) is guaranteed to be a subset of \( L \). A formula \( A \) is a theorem of the system iff there is a proof of \( A \) in the system.

**Definition 4.3** A proof in an axiomatic system is a finite sequence \( A_1 , \ldots , A_n \) of strings from \( L \), such that for each \( A_i \):

- either \( A_i \in Ax \) or else
4.2 Propositional Syntax

- there are $A_{i_1}, \ldots, A_{i_k}$ in the sequence with all $i_1, \ldots, i_k < i$, and an application of a proof rule $R: \vdash A_{i_1}; \ldots; \vdash A_{i_k} \vdash A_i$.

A proof of $A$ is a proof in which $A$ is the final string.

**Remark.**

For a given language $L$, there may be several axiomatic systems which all define the same subset of $L$, albeit, by means of very different axioms and rules. There are also variations which we will consider, where the predicate $\vdash$ is defined on various sets built over $L$, for instance $S(L) \times L$.

4.2 Propositional Syntax

The basic logical system, originating with Boole's algebra, is propositional logic (PL). The name reflects the fact that the expressions of the language are "intended as" propositions. This interpretation will be part of the semantics of PL to be discussed in the following chapter. Here we introduce syntax and the associated axiomatic proof system for PL.

**Definition 4.4** The language of well-formed formulae of PL is given by:

1. An alphabet: a set of propositional variables $\Sigma = \{a, b, c, \ldots\}$, together with the (formula building) connectives: $\neg$ and $\rightarrow$, and auxiliary symbols (,).
2. The well-formed formulae, $\text{WFF}_\text{PL}$, are defined inductively:
   - **Basis**: $\Sigma \subseteq \text{WFF}_\text{PL}$;
   - **Induction**: (a) if $A \in \text{WFF}_\text{PL}$, then $\neg A \in \text{WFF}_\text{PL}$
     - (b) if $A, B \in \text{WFF}_\text{PL}$, then $(A \rightarrow B) \in \text{WFF}_\text{PL}$.
3. The propositional variables are called atomic formulae, the formulae of the form $A$ or $\neg A$, where $A$ is atomic are called literals.

**Remark 4.5** [Some conventions]

1) Compare this definition to Exercise 2.2.

2) The outermost pair of parentheses is often suppressed, hence $A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)$ stands for the formula $(A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C))$ while $(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow C$ stands for the formula $((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow C)$.

3) Formulae are strings over $\Sigma$ extended with additional symbols, $\text{WFF}_\text{PL} \subseteq (\Sigma \cup \{, \}, \neg, \rightarrow)$*$\Sigma$. We use lower case letters for the propositional variables from $\Sigma$, while upper case letters for the schematic variables, standing for arbitrary formulae. The sets of $\text{WFF}_\text{PL}$ over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ and over $\Sigma_1 = \{c, d\}$ are disjoint.
(though in a bijective correspondence). Thus, the definition yields a different set of formulae for different $\Sigma$. Writing $\text{WFF}_{\text{PL}}$ we mean well-formed PL formulae over an arbitrary alphabet and most of our discussion is concerned with this general case irrespective of the particular $\Sigma$.

4) It is always implicitly assumed that $\Sigma \neq \emptyset$.

5) For the reasons which we will explain later, occasionally we may use the abbreviations $\bot$ for $\neg(B \rightarrow B)$ and $\top$ for $B \rightarrow B$, for arbitrary $B$.

In the following we will always—unless explicitly stated otherwise—assume that the considered formulae are well-formed.

### 4.3 Hilbert’s Axiomatic System $\mathcal{H}$

Hilbert’s system $\mathcal{H}$ for PL is defined as the predicate $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} \subseteq \text{WFF}_{\text{PL}}$, and $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} B$ is read as $B$ is provable in $\mathcal{H}$.

**Definition 4.6** The predicate $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}}$ of Hilbert’s system for PL is defined inductively by:

**Axioms** ::

$A1$: $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A)$;

$A2$: $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C))$;

$A3$: $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$;

**Proof Rule** :: called Modus Ponens: 

$$\frac{\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} A \quad \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} A \rightarrow B}{\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} B}.$$

**Remark [Axioms vs. axiom schemata]**

$A1$–$A3$ are in fact axiom schemata; the actual axioms comprise all formulae of the indicated form with the letters $A, B, C$ instantiated to arbitrary formulae. For each particular alphabet $\Sigma$, there will be a different (infinite) collection of actual axioms. Similar instantiations are performed in the proof rule. For instance, for $\Sigma = \{a, b, c, d\}$, all the following formulae are instances of axiom schemata:

$A1$: $b \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b)$, $(b \rightarrow d) \rightarrow (\neg a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow d))$, $a \rightarrow (a \rightarrow a)$,

$A3$: $(\neg d \rightarrow \neg b) \rightarrow (b \rightarrow \neg d)$.

The following formulae are not (instances of the) axioms:

$a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow b)$, $(\neg b \rightarrow a) \rightarrow (\neg a \rightarrow b)$.

Hence, an axiom schema, like $A1$, is actually a predicate giving, for any $\Sigma$, the set of $\Sigma$-instances $\text{AI}^\Sigma = \{x \rightarrow (y \rightarrow x) : x, y \in \text{WFF}_{\text{PL}}^\Sigma \} \subset \text{WFF}_{\text{PL}}^\Sigma$.

Also every proof rule $R$ with $n$ premises (in an axiomatic system over a language $L$) is typically given as a schema—a relation $R \subseteq L^n \times L$. 
4.3. HILBERT’S AXIOMATIC SYSTEM $\mathcal{H}$

Each substitution for the schematic variables $A, B, \ldots$ of some formulae over the actual alphabet $\Sigma$ yields a particular application of the rule $r \in R$. For instance, Hilbert’s Modus Ponens schema yields an infinite set of its applications $MP^\Sigma = \{ \langle x, x \rightarrow y, y : x, y \in \text{WFF}_{PL} \rangle \} \subseteq \text{WFF}_{PL} \times \text{WFF}_{PL} \times \text{WFF}_{PL}$. The following are examples of such applications for $\{a, b, c\} \subseteq \Sigma$:

$$\frac{\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} a \quad \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} a \rightarrow b}{\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} b} \quad \frac{\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} a \rightarrow \neg b \quad \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} (a \rightarrow \neg b) \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c)}{\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} b \rightarrow c} \quad \ldots$$

In $\mathcal{H}$, the sets $AP$ and $MP^\Sigma$ are recursive, provided that $\Sigma$ is (which it always is by assumption). Recursivity of $MP^\Sigma$ means that we can always decide whether a given triple of formulae is an application of the rule. Recursivity of the set of axioms means that we can always decide whether a given formula is an axiom or not. Axiomatic systems which do not satisfy these conditions are of lesser interest and we will not encounter them. □

That both sets $AP$ and $MP^\Sigma$ of $\mathcal{H}$ are recursive does not imply that so is $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}}$. This only means that given a sequence of formulae, we can decide whether it is a proof or not. To decide if a given formula belongs to $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}}$ would require a procedure for deciding if such a proof exists — probably, a procedure for constructing a proof. We will see several examples illustrating that, even if such a procedure for $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}}$ exists, it is by no means simple.

**Lemma 4.7** For an arbitrary $B \in \text{WFF}_{PL} : \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} B \rightarrow B$

**Proof.**

1. $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} (B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow B)) \rightarrow ((B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow B)) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow B))$ $A2$
2. $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} B \rightarrow ((B \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B)$ $A1$
3. $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} (B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow B)) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow B)$ $MP : 2, 1$
4. $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow B)$ $A1$
5. $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} B \rightarrow B$ $MP : 4, 3$

$\text{QED (4.7)}$

The phrase “for an arbitrary $B \in \text{WFF}_{PL}$” indicates that any formula of the above form (with any well-formed formula over any actual alphabet $\Sigma$ substituted for $B$) will be derivable, e.g., $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} a \rightarrow a, \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} (a \rightarrow \neg b) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow \neg b), \text{etc}$. All the results about PL will be stated in such schematic way.

But we cannot substitute different formulae for the two occurrences of $B$. If we try to apply the above proof to deduce $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} A \rightarrow B$ it will fail — identify the place(s) where it would require invalid transitions.

The above lemma means that we can always, for arbitrary formula $B$, use $\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} B \rightarrow B$ as a step in a proof. Also derivations can be reused, when they are “stored” as admissible rules.
Definition 4.8 Let $C$ be an axiomatic system. A rule \( \frac{\vdash A_1 \land \cdots \land \vdash A_n}{\vdash C} \) is admissible in $C$ if whenever there are proofs in $C$ of all the premises, i.e., $\vdash A_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$, then there is a proof in $C$ of the conclusion $\vdash C$.

Lemma 4.9 The following rules are admissible in $\mathcal{H}$:

(1) \( \frac{\vdash A \rightarrow B \quad \vdash B \rightarrow C}{\vdash A \rightarrow C} \)

(2) \( \frac{\vdash B}{\vdash A \rightarrow B} \)

Proof.

(1) 1: $\vdash \neg \neg (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C))$ A2
2: $\vdash (B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C))$ A1
3: $\vdash B \rightarrow C$ assumption
4: $\vdash A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)$ MP : 3, 2
5: $\vdash (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)$ MP : 4, 1
6: $\vdash A \rightarrow B$ assumption
7: $\vdash A \rightarrow C$ MP : 6, 5

(2) 1: $\vdash B$ assumption
2: $\vdash B \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$ A1
3: $\vdash A \rightarrow B$ MP : 1, 2

\[ \text{QED (4.9)} \]

The proof of the following lemma illustrates the usefulness of admissible rules in constructing new proofs.

Lemma 4.10 (1) $\vdash \neg \neg B \rightarrow B$  (2) $\vdash B \rightarrow \neg \neg B$

Proof.

(1) 1: $\vdash \neg \neg B \rightarrow (\neg \neg \neg B \rightarrow \neg \neg \neg B)$ A1
2: $\vdash (\neg \neg \neg B \rightarrow \neg \neg \neg B) \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow \neg \neg \neg B)$ A3
3: $\vdash \neg \neg B \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow \neg \neg \neg B)$ L4A9 (1) : 1, 2
4: $\vdash (\neg B \rightarrow \neg \neg \neg B) \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow B)$ A3
5: $\vdash \neg \neg B \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow B)$ L4A9 (1) : 3, 4
6: $\vdash (\neg \neg B \rightarrow (\neg \neg B \rightarrow B)) \rightarrow ((\neg \neg B \rightarrow \neg \neg \neg B) \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow B))$ A2
7: $\vdash (\neg \neg B ightarrow \neg \neg \neg B) \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow B)$ MP : 5, 6
8: $\vdash \neg \neg B \rightarrow \neg \neg \neg B$ MP : 7, L4A7

(2) 1: $\vdash \neg \neg B \rightarrow \neg B$ point (1)
2: $\vdash (\neg \neg B \rightarrow \neg B) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow \neg \neg B)$ A3
3: $\vdash B \rightarrow \neg \neg B$ MP : 1, 2

\[ \text{QED (4.10)} \]
4.4 THE AXIOMATIC SYSTEM $\mathcal{N}$

In the system $\mathcal{N}$, instead of the unary predicate $\vdash_N$, we use a binary relation $\vdash_N \subseteq \phi(\text{WFF}_P) \times \text{WFF}_P$, written as $\Gamma \vdash_N B$. It reads $B$ is provable in $\mathcal{N}$ from the assumptions $\Gamma$.

Definition 4.11 The axioms and rules of $\mathcal{N}$ are as in Hilbert's system with the additional axiom schema $A0$:

**Axioms:**

A0: $\Gamma \vdash_N B$, whenever $B \in \Gamma$;
A1: $\Gamma \vdash_N \vdash_A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A)$;
A2: $\Gamma \vdash_N (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C))$;
A3: $\Gamma \vdash_N (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$;

**Proof Rule:** Modus Ponens: $\Gamma \vdash_N A ; \Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow B \Rightarrow \Gamma \vdash_N B$.

As for $\mathcal{H}$, the "axioms" are actually schemata. The real set of axioms is the infinite set of actual formulae obtained from these schemata by substituting actual formulae for the upper case variables. Similarly for the proof rule.

The next lemma corresponds exactly to Lemma 4.9. In fact, the proof of that lemma (and most others) can be taken over line for line from $\mathcal{H}$, without any modification (just replace $\vdash_N$ by $\Gamma \vdash_N$), giving a proof in $\mathcal{N}$.

Lemma 4.12 The following rules are admissible in $\mathcal{N}$:

1. $\frac{\Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow B ; \Gamma \vdash_N B \rightarrow C}{\Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow C}$
2. $\frac{\Gamma \vdash_N B}{\Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow B}$

The name $\mathcal{N}$ reflects the intended association with the so called "natural deduction" reasoning. This system is not exactly what is usually so called and we have adopted $\mathcal{N}$ because it corresponds so closely to $\mathcal{H}$. But while $\mathcal{H}$ derives only single formulae, tautologies, $\mathcal{N}$ provides also means for reasoning from the assumptions $\Gamma$. This is the central feature which it shares with natural deduction systems; they both satisfy the following Deduction Theorem. (The expression "$\Gamma , \vdash_A B$" is short for "$\Gamma \cup \{A\} \vdash B".

Theorem 4.13 [Deduction Theorem] If $\Gamma , A \vdash_N B$, then $\Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow B$.

Proof. By induction on the length $l$ of a proof of $\Gamma , A \vdash_N B$. Basis, $l = 1$, means that the proof consists merely of an instance of an axiom and it has two cases depending on which axiom was involved:
A1-A3: if $B$ is one of these axioms, then we also have $\Gamma \vdash_N B$ and Lemma 4.12(2) gives the conclusion.
A0 :: If $B$ results from this axiom, we have two subcases:
1. If $B = A$, then Lemma 4.7 gives that $\Gamma \vdash_N B \rightarrow B$.
2. If $B \neq A$, then $B \in \Gamma$, and so $\Gamma \vdash_N B$. Lemma 4.12.(2) gives $\Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow B$.

**MP ::** $B$ follows by MP: $\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash_N C; \; \Gamma, A \vdash_N C \rightarrow B}{\Gamma, A \vdash_N B}$

Induction hypothesis gives lines 1-2.

- 1: $\Gamma, A \vdash_N C$
- 2: $\Gamma, A \vdash_N (C \rightarrow B)$

Lemma gives lines 3-4.

- 3: $\Gamma, A \vdash_N (A \rightarrow (C \rightarrow B)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B))$
- 4: $\Gamma, A \vdash_N (A \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$

Proof of MP: $\Gamma, A \vdash_N B$

- 5: $\Gamma, A \vdash_N A \rightarrow B$
- 6: $\Gamma, A \vdash_N \neg A \rightarrow \neg B$
- 7: $\Gamma, A \vdash_N \neg B \rightarrow \neg A$
- 8: $\Gamma, A \vdash_N (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A)$

Example 4.14

Deduction Theorem significantly shortens the proofs. The tedious proof of Lemma 4.7 takes now two lines, from $B \vdash_N B$, which is a priori A0, DT gives $\vdash_N B \rightarrow B$. □

**Lemma 4.15** $\vdash_N (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A)$

**Proof.**

1. $A \rightarrow B \vdash_N (\neg \neg A \rightarrow \neg B) \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A)$
2. $A \rightarrow B \vdash_N \neg \neg A 
\rightarrow A$  L4.10(1)
3. $A \rightarrow B \vdash_N \neg A 
\rightarrow B$  A0
4. $A \rightarrow B \vdash_N \neg \neg A 
\rightarrow B$  L4.12(1) : 2,3
5. $A \rightarrow B \vdash_N \neg B 
\rightarrow \neg B$  L4.10(2)
6. $A \rightarrow B \vdash_N \neg A 
\rightarrow \neg B$  L4.12(1) : 4,5
7. $A \rightarrow B \vdash_N \neg B 
\rightarrow \neg A$  MP : 6,1
8. $\vdash_N (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A)$  DT  q.e.d. (4.15)

Deduction Theorem is a kind of dual to MP: each gives one implication of the following equivalence.

**Corollary 4.16** $\Gamma, A \vdash_N B$ if $\Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow B$.

**Proof.** $\Rightarrow$ is Deduction Theorem 4.13. $\Leftarrow$ By Exercise 4.4, the assumption can be strengthened to $\Gamma, A \vdash_N A \rightarrow B$. But then also $\Gamma, A \vdash_N A$, and by MP $\Gamma, A \vdash_N B$. □

We can now easily show the following:
4.5. \( \mathcal{H} \) vs. \( \mathcal{N} \)

Corollary 4.17 The following rule is admissible in \( \mathcal{N} \):

\[
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)}
\]

Proof. Follows trivially from the above 4.16: \( \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C) \) if \( \Gamma, A \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \rightarrow C \). As \( \Gamma, A, B \) abbreviates the set \( \Gamma \cup \{A, B\} \), this is also equivalent to \( \Gamma, B \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \rightarrow C \), and then to \( \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C) \). \( \Box \) (4.17)

4.5. \( \mathcal{H} \) vs. \( \mathcal{N} \)

In \( \mathcal{H} \) we prove only single formulae, while in \( \mathcal{N} \) we work “from assumptions \( \Gamma \)” proving their consequences. Since the axiom schemata and rules of \( \mathcal{H} \) are special cases of their counterparts in \( \mathcal{N} \), it is obvious that for any formula \( B \), if \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \) then \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \). In fact, this can be strengthened to an equivalence. (We follow the convention of writing \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \) for \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \).)

Lemma 4.18 For any formula \( B \) we have: \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \) if \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \).

Proof. One direction is noted above. In fact, any proof of \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \) itself qualifies as a proof of \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \). The other direction is almost as obvious, since there is no way to make any real use of \( A_0 \) in a proof of \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \). More precisely, take any proof of \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \) and delete all lines (if any) of the form \( \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \) for \( \Gamma \neq \emptyset \). The result is still a proof of \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \), and now of \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \).

More formally, the lemma can be proved by induction on the length of a proof of \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \). Since \( \Gamma = \emptyset \) the last step of the proof could have used either an axiom A1, A2, A3 or MP. The same step can be then done in \( \mathcal{H} \) for MP, the proofs of \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \) and \( \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \rightarrow B \) for the appropriate \( A \) are shorter and hence the II have counterparts in \( \mathcal{H} \). \( \Box \) (4.18)

The next lemma is a further generalization of this result.

Lemma 4.19 \( \vdash_{\mathcal{H}} G_1 \rightarrow (G_2 \rightarrow \ldots (G_n \rightarrow B) \ldots) \) iff \( \{G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_n\} \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \).

Proof. We prove the lemma by induction on \( n \):

Basis :: This case, corresponding to \( n = 0 \), is just the previous lemma.

Ind. :: Suppose the III, i.e., for any \( B \):

\[
\vdash_{\mathcal{H}} G_1 \rightarrow (G_2 \rightarrow \ldots (G_n \rightarrow B) \ldots) \iff \{G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_n\} \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B.
\]
Then, taking \((G_{n+1} \rightarrow B)\) for \(B\), we obtain
\[ \vdash_N G_1 \rightarrow (G_2 \rightarrow \ldots \rightarrow (G_n \rightarrow (G_{n+1} \rightarrow B))) \]
(by III) \iff \{G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_n\} \vdash_N (G_{n+1} \rightarrow B)
(by Corollary 4.16) \iff \{G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_n, G_{n+1}\} \vdash_N B\]
\(\Box\) (4.19)

Lemma 4.18 stated the equivalence of \(N\) and \(H\) with respect to the simple formulae of \(H\). This lemma states a more general equivalence of these two systems: for every finite \(\Gamma, B\) there is a corresponding \(H\)-expression \(H\) such that \(\Gamma \vdash_H B\) if and only if \(\vdash_N B\), and vice versa.

Observe, however, that this equivalence is restricted to finite \(\Gamma\). The significant difference between the two systems consists in that \(N\) allows to consider also consequences of infinite sets of assumptions, for which there are no corresponding formulae in \(H\), since every formula must be finite.

### 4.6 Provable Equivalence

Equational reasoning is based on the simple principle of substitution of equals for equals. E.g., having the arithmetical expression \(2 + (7 + 3)\) and knowing that \(7 + 3 = 10\), we also obtain \(2 + (7 + 3) = 2 + 10\). The rule applied in such cases may be written as \(a = b\) \(\Rightarrow\) \(F[a] = F[b]\) where \(F[a]\) is an expression “with a hole” (a variable or a place-holder) into which we may substitute other expressions. We now illustrate a logical counterpart of this idea.

Lemma 4.7 showed that any formula of the form \((B \rightarrow B)\) is derivable in \(H\) and, by Lemma 4.18, in \(N\). It allows us to use, for instance, 1) \(\vdash_N a \rightarrow a\), 2) \(\vdash_N (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b)\), 3) \(\vdots\) as a step in any proof. Putting it a bit differently, the lemma says that 1) is provable if and only if 2) is provable if and only if. Recall the abbreviation \(\top\) for an arbitrary formula of this form introduced in Remark 4.5. It also introduced the abbreviation \(\bot\) for an arbitrary formula of the form \(\neg(B \rightarrow B)\). These abbreviations indicate that all the formulae of the respective form are equivalent in the following sense.

**Definition 4.20** Formulae \(A\) and \(B\) are provably equivalent in a system \(C\) for \(PL\), if both \(\vdash_C A \rightarrow B\) and \(\vdash_C B \rightarrow A\) (denoted \(\vdash_C A \leftrightarrow B\)).

In view of Lemma 4.7 and 4.18, the relation \(\mathcal{R}_{PL} \subseteq \mathcal{WFF}_{PL} \times \mathcal{WFF}_{PL}\) defined by \(\mathcal{R}(A, B) \Leftrightarrow \vdash_C A \rightarrow B\) is reflexive and transitive. Definition 4.20 adds the requirement of symmetricity making \(\leftrightarrow\) the greatest equivalence on the set \(\mathcal{WFF}_{PL}\) contained in \(\mathcal{R}\).
4.6. Provable equivalence

Lemma 4.10 provides an example of provable equivalence, namely

\[ N \vdash B \leftrightarrow \neg \neg B \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.21)

Another example follows from axiom A3 and Lemma 4.15:

\[ N \vdash (A \rightarrow B) \leftrightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A) \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.22)

In Exercise 4.2, you are asked to show that all formulae \( \vdash \) are provably equivalent, i.e.,

\[ N \vdash (A \rightarrow A) \leftrightarrow (B \rightarrow B). \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.23)

To show the analogous equivalence of all \( \vdash \) formulae,

\[ N \vdash \neg (A \rightarrow A) \leftrightarrow \neg (B \rightarrow B), \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.24)

we have to proceed differently since we do not have \( N \vdash \neg (B \rightarrow B). \) (This is not true, as we will see later on.) We can use (4.23) and Lemma 4.15:

1: \( N \vdash (A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow B) \)
2: \( N \vdash ((A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow B)) \rightarrow (\neg (B \rightarrow B) \rightarrow \neg (A \rightarrow A)) \)  L4.15
3: \( N \vdash \neg (B \rightarrow B) \rightarrow \neg (A \rightarrow A) \)  MP : 1, 2

and the opposite implication is again an instance of this one.

The provable equivalence \( A \leftrightarrow B \) means — and this is its main importance — that the two formulae are interchangeable. Whenever we have a proof of a formula \( F[A] \) containing \( A \) (as a subformula, possibly with several occurrences), we can replace \( A \) by \( B \) — the result will be provable too.

This fact is a powerful tool in simplifying proofs and is expressed in the following theorem. (The analogous version holds for \( \mathcal{H} \))

**Theorem 4.25** For any formula \( F[A] \), the following rule is admissible in \( N \) : 

\[ N \vdash A \leftrightarrow B \rightarrow N \vdash F[A] \leftrightarrow F[B]. \]

**Proof.** By induction on the complexity of \( F[A] \) viewed as a formula "with a hole" (there may be several occurrences of the "hole", i.e., \( F[A] \) may have the form \( \neg [\cdot] \rightarrow G \) or else \( [\cdot] \rightarrow (\neg G \rightarrow ([\cdot] \rightarrow H)), \) etc.).

\( [\cdot] :: \neg \omega, F[A] = A \) and \( F[B] = B \) - the conclusion is then the same as the premise.

\( \neg [\cdot] :: \neg \omega \) gives the claim for \( G[\cdot] : \)

\[ N \vdash A \leftrightarrow B \rightarrow N \vdash G[A] \leftrightarrow G[B]. \]

Then

1: \( N \vdash A \rightarrow B \) \hspace{1cm} assumption
2: \( N \vdash G[A] \rightarrow G[B] \) \hspace{1cm} IH
3: \( N \vdash (G[A] \rightarrow G[B]) \rightarrow (\neg G[B] \rightarrow \neg G[A]) \)  L4.15
4: \( N \vdash \neg G[B] \rightarrow \neg G[A] \) \hspace{1cm} MP : 2, 3

Similarly, starting with \( N \vdash B \rightarrow A \) gives \( N \vdash \neg G[A] \rightarrow \neg G[B] \).
Given $A \leftrightarrow B$, the IH gives the following four assumptions:

1. \( \vdash \neg \neg A \rightarrow \neg \neg B \)
2. \( \vdash \neg \neg B \rightarrow \neg \neg A \)
3. \( \vdash A \rightarrow \neg \neg A \)
4. \( \vdash B \rightarrow \neg \neg B \)

We show only one implication, namely, \( \vdash F[A] \rightarrow F[B] \):

1: \( \vdash H[A] \rightarrow H[B] \)
2: \( \vdash G[A] \rightarrow H[B] \)
3: \( \vdash G[B] \rightarrow G[A] \)
4: \( \vdash G[A] \rightarrow G[B] \)
5: \( \vdash F[B] \rightarrow G[A] \)
6: \( \vdash G[A] \rightarrow H[B] \)
7: \( \vdash G[B] \rightarrow G[A] \)
8: \( \vdash H[A] \rightarrow H[B] \)

The other implication follows by a symmetric proof.

Theorem 4.26

For any formula $F[A]$, the following rule is admissible:

\[
\frac{\vdash F[A] ; \vdash A \leftrightarrow B}{\vdash F[B]}.
\]

Proof. If \( \vdash A \leftrightarrow B \), Theorem 4.25 gives us \( \vdash F[A] \leftrightarrow F[B] \) which, in particular, implies \( \vdash F[A] \rightarrow F[B] \). MP applied to this and the premise \( \vdash F[A] \) gives \( \vdash F[B] \).

Theorem 4.27

A set of formulae $\Gamma$ is consistent if $\Gamma \not\vdash \bot$.

An equivalent formulation says that $\Gamma$ is consistent if there is a formula $A$ such that $\Gamma \not\vdash A$. In fact, if $\Gamma \vdash A$ for all $A$ then, in particular, $\Gamma \vdash \bot$. Equivalence follows then by the next lemma.
4.8. GENTZEN'S AXIOMATIC SYSTEM \( \mathcal{G} \)

Lemma 4.28 If \( \Gamma \vdash \perp \), then \( \Gamma \vdash A \) for all \( A \).

Proof. (Observe how Corollary 4.26 simplifies the proof)

1: \( \Gamma \vdash (B \rightarrow B) \) assumption
2: \( \Gamma \vdash B \rightarrow B \) \( \text{LA7} \)
3: \( \Gamma \vdash \neg A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow B) \) \( 2 + \text{LA12} \) (2)
4: \( \Gamma \vdash \neg (B \rightarrow B) \rightarrow \neg A \) \( \text{C4.26} \) (4.22)
5: \( \Gamma \vdash \neg A \) \( \text{MP} \) : 1, 4
6: \( \Gamma \vdash A \) \( \text{C4.26} \) (4.21) \( \text{q.e.d} \) (4.28)

This is the syntactic reason for why inconsistent theories, sets of "assumptions" \( \Gamma \), are uninteresting. Such a set makes the machinery of the proof system irrelevant for checking whether something is a theorem or not — every well-formed formula is a theorem. Similarly, an axiomatic system, like \( \mathcal{H} \), is inconsistent if its rules and axioms allow us to derive \( \Gamma \vdash \perp \).

Notice that the definition of consistency requires that \( \perp \) is not derivable. Thus, to decide if \( \Gamma \) is consistent it does not suffice to run enough proofs and see what can be derived from \( \Gamma \). One must show that, no matter what, one will never be able to derive \( \perp \). This, in general, may be an infinite task requiring searching through all the proofs. If \( \perp \) is derivable, we will eventually construct a proof of it, but if it is not, we will never reach any conclusion. In general, consistency of a given theory may be only co-semi-decidable. In \( \mathcal{N} \), consistency of any finite \( \Gamma \) is decidable, since "being a theorem" is decidable for finite \( \Gamma \) (see Subsection 4.8.1). But for infinite \( \Gamma \), it is only co-semi-decidable. In some cases, the following theorem may be used to ease the process of determining the (in)consistency of an infinite \( \Gamma \).

Theorem 4.29 [Compactness] \( \Gamma \) is consistent iff each finite subset \( \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \) is consistent.

Proof. \( \Rightarrow \) If \( \Gamma \vdash \perp \) then no subset of \( \Gamma \) proves \( \perp \).

\( \Leftarrow \) Contrapositively, assume that \( \Gamma \) is inconsistent. The proof of \( \perp \) must be finite and, in particular, uses only a finite number of assumptions \( \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \). This means that the proof \( \Gamma \vdash \perp \) can be carried from a finite subset \( \Delta \) of \( \Gamma \), i.e., \( \Gamma \vdash \Delta \perp \). \( \text{q.e.d} \) (4.29)

4.8 GENTZEN'S AXIOMATIC SYSTEM \( \mathcal{G} \)

By now you should be convinced that it is rather cumbersome to design proofs in \( \mathcal{H} \) or \( \mathcal{N} \). From the mere form of the axioms and rules of these systems it is by no means clear that they define recursive sets of formulas.
(As usual, it is easy to see (a bit more tedious to prove) that these sets are recursively enumerable.)

We give yet another axiomatic system for PL in which proofs can be constructed mechanically. The relation $\vdash \subseteq \wp(\text{WFF}_{\text{PL}}) \times \wp(\text{WFF}_{\text{PL}})$ contains expressions, called segments, of the form $\Gamma \vdash \Delta$, where $\Gamma, \Delta \subseteq \text{WFF}_{\text{PL}}$ are finite sets of formulae. It is defined inductively as follows:

**Axioms**: $\Gamma \vdash \Delta$, whenever $\Gamma \cap \Delta \neq \emptyset$

**Rules**: 

- $\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A$; $\Gamma, \neg A \vdash \Delta$ 
- $\Gamma, \neg A \vdash \Delta$; $\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A$ 
- $\Gamma, B \vdash \Delta$; $\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \rightarrow B$ 
- $\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A$; $\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \rightarrow B$ 

The power of the system is the same whether we allow $\Gamma$'s and $\Delta$'s in the axioms to contain arbitrary formulae or only atomic ones. We comment now on the "mechanical" character of $\mathcal{G}$ and the way one can use it.

### 4.8.1 Decidability of PL

Gentzen's system defines a set $\vdash \subseteq \wp(\text{WFF}_{\text{PL}}) \times \wp(\text{WFF}_{\text{PL}})$. Unlike for $\mathcal{H}$ or $\mathcal{N}$, it is (almost) obvious that this set is recursive—we do not give a formal proof but indicate its main steps.

**Theorem 4.30** Relation $\vdash$ is decidable.

**Proof.** Given any segment $\Gamma \vdash \Delta = G_1, \ldots, G_n \vdash D_1, \ldots, D_m$, we view both $\Gamma$ and $\Delta$ as sequences, rather than as sets. We can start processing the formulae in an arbitrary order, for instance, from left to right, applying relevant rules bottom-up! For instance, $B \rightarrow A, \neg A \vdash \neg B$ is shown by building the proof starting at the bottom line:

$$
\begin{align*}
(\neg \rightarrow) & \quad B \vdash \neg B, A \\
(\rightarrow) & \quad \Gamma \vdash \neg B, B, A \\
(\neg \rightarrow) & \quad \Gamma \vdash \neg B, A \\
(\neg \rightarrow) & \quad \Gamma \vdash \neg B, A \\
(\rightarrow) & \quad \Gamma \vdash \neg B, A \\
(\neg \rightarrow) & \quad \Gamma \vdash \neg B, A \\
(\rightarrow) & \quad \Gamma \vdash \neg B, A \\
\end{align*}
$$

In general, the proof in $\mathcal{G}$ proceeds as follows:

- If $G_i$ is atomic, we continue with $G_{i+1}$, and then with $D_i$'s.
- If $G_i / D_i$ is not atomic, it is either $\neg X$ or $X \rightarrow Y$. In either case there is only one rule which can be applied (bottom-up). Premise(s) of this rule are uniquely determined by the conclusion ($G_i / D_i$ pri-
cessed at the moment) and its application will remove the main connective, i.e., reduce the number of \( \neg \) resp. \( \rightarrow! \)

- Thus, eventually, we will arrive at a sequent \( \Gamma' \vdash \Delta' \) which contains only atomic formulae. We then only have to check whether \( \Gamma' \cap \Delta' = \emptyset \), which is obviously a decidable problem since both sets are finite.

Notice that the rule \( (\to!) \) "splits" the proof into two branches, but each of them contains fewer connectives. We have to process both branches but, again, for each we will eventually arrive at sequents with only atomic formulae. The initial sequent is derivable in \( \mathcal{G} \) iff all such branches terminate with axioms. And it is not derivable iff at least one terminates with a non-axiom (i.e., \( \Gamma' \vdash \Delta' \) where \( \Gamma' \cap \Delta' = \emptyset \)). Since all branches are guaranteed to terminate, \( \vdash \) is decidable. \( \blacksquare \) (4.30)

Now, notice that the expressions used in \( \mathcal{N} \) are special cases of sequents, namely, the ones with exactly one formula on the right of \( \vdash \). If we restrict our attention in \( \mathcal{G} \) to such sequents, the above theorem still tells us that the respective restriction of \( \vdash \) is decidable. We now indicate the main steps involved in showing that this restricted relation is the same as \( \vdash \). As a consequence, \( \vdash \) is decidable, too. That is, we want to show that

\[
\Gamma \vdash_N B \text{ iff } \Gamma \vdash \vdash B. \tag{4.31}
\]

(1) In Exercise 4.3, you are asked to prove a part of the implication "if \( \vdash_N B \) then \( \vdash \vdash B' \), by showing that all axioms of \( \mathcal{N} \) are derivable in \( \mathcal{G} \). It is tedious, but not too difficult, to show that also the MP rule is admissible in \( \mathcal{G} \). It is there called the \((\text{cut})\)-rule, whose instance can be formulated as:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\Gamma \vdash A \\
\Gamma, A \vdash B
\end{array}
\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash B} \quad (\text{cut}) \tag{4.32}
\]

and MP is easily derivable from it. (If \( \Gamma \vdash A \to B \), then it must have been derived using the rule \( (\to!) \), i.e., we must have had earlier ("above") in the proof of the right premise \( \Gamma, A \vdash B \). Thus we could have applied \((\text{cut})\) at this earlier stage and obtain \( \Gamma \vdash B \), without deriving \( \Gamma \vdash A \to B \).)

(2) To complete the proof we would have to show also that \( \mathcal{G} \) does not prove more formulae than \( \mathcal{N} \) does, namely, "if \( \vdash \vdash B \) then \( \vdash_N B' \). (Otherwise, the problem would be still open, since we would have a decision procedure for \( \vdash \) but not for \( \vdash_N \subset \vdash \).) For some formula \( B \notin \vdash_N \), we might still get the positive answer, which would merely mean that \( B \in \vdash \).) This part is more involved since Gentzen’s rules for \( \neg \) do not produce \( \mathcal{N} \)-expressions, i.e., a proof in \( \mathcal{G} \) may go through intermediary steps involving expressions not existing ("illegal") in \( \mathcal{N} \). (Exercise 6.10 gives another proof of (4.31).)
(3) Finally, if $N$ is decidable, then so is $H$ by Lemma 4.18 – according to it, to decide if $\vdash B$ is the same as deciding if $\vdash V B$.

4.8.2 Rules for abbreviated connectives

Gentzen's rules form a very well-structured system. For each connective, $\rightarrow$, $\neg$ there are two rules – one treating its occurrence on the left, and one on the right of $\vdash$. As we will see, it makes often things easier if one is allowed to work with some abbreviations for frequently occurring combinations of symbols. For instance, assume that in the course of some proof, we run again and again in the sequence of the form $\neg A \rightarrow B$. Processing it requires application of at least two rules. One may be therefore tempted to define a new connective $A \lor B \equiv \neg A \rightarrow B$, and a new rule for its treatment. In fact, in Gentzen's system we should obtain two rules for the occurrence of this new symbol on the left, resp. on the right of $\vdash$. Looking back at the original rules from the beginning of this section, we can see how such a connective should be treated:

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A, B \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \neg A, B \Delta} \quad (\neg \vdash) \quad \frac{\Gamma, A \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, \neg A \vdash \Delta} \quad (\neg \vdash) \quad \frac{\Gamma, B \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, A \lor B \vdash \Delta} \quad \text{def.}$

Abbreviating these two derivations yields the following two rules:

$\frac{\neg \vdash}{\Gamma \vdash A, B \Delta} \quad \frac{\vdash}{\Gamma \vdash A \lor B \Delta}$

In a similar fashion, we may construct the rules for another, very common abbreviation, $A \land B \equiv \neg (A \rightarrow \neg B)$:

$\frac{\vdash}{\Gamma \vdash A, \Delta} \quad \frac{\vdash}{\Gamma \vdash B, \Delta} \quad \frac{\vdash}{\Gamma \vdash A \land B, \Delta}$

$\frac{A \lor B \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, A \land B \vdash \Delta} \quad \text{def.}$

It is hard to imagine how to perform a similar construction in the systems $H$ or $N$. We will meet the above abbreviations in the following chapters.

4.9 Some proof techniques

In the next chapter we will see that the formulae of PL may be interpreted as propositions – statements possessing boolean value true or false. The connective $\neg$ may then be interpreted as negation of the argument proposition, while $\rightarrow$ as (a kind of) implication. With this intuition, we may
recognize some of the provable facts (either formulae or admissible rules) as giving rise to particular strategies of proof which can be - and are - utilized at all levels, in fact, throughout the whole of mathematics, as well as in much of informal reasoning. Most results from PL can be viewed in this way, and we give only a few common examples.

- As a trivial example, the provable equivalence $\vdash B \leftrightarrow \neg \neg B$ from (4.21), means that in order to show double negation $\neg \neg B$, it suffices to show $B$. One will hardly try to say "I am not unmarried." — "I am married." is both more convenient and natural.

- Let $G, D$ stand, respectively, for the statements 'I $\vdash \bot$' and 'A $\vdash \bot$ for some A $\subseteq \Gamma$' from the proof of Theorem 4.29. In the second point, we showed $\neg \neg D \rightarrow \neg G$ contrapositively, i.e., by showing $G \rightarrow D$. That this is a legal and sufficient way of proving the first statement can be justified by appealing to (4.22) $\neg (A \rightarrow B) \leftrightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A)$ says precisely that proving one is the same as (equivalent to) proving the other.

- Another proof technique is expressed in Corollary 4.16: $A \vdash B$ iff $\vdash A \rightarrow B$. Treating formulae on the left of $\vdash$ as assumptions, this tells us that in order to prove that $A$ implies $B$, $A \rightarrow B$, we may prove $A \vdash B$, i.e., assume that $A$ is true and show that then also $B$ must be true.

- In Exercise 4.1(5) you are asked to show admissibility of the rule: 

$$
\frac{A \vdash \bot}{\vdash \neg A}
$$

Interpreting $\bot$ as something which can never be true, a contradiction or an absurdity, this rule expresses reductio ad absurdum (see Zeno's argument about Achilles and tortoise in Section A.1 of the history of logic): if $A$ can be used to derive an absurdity, then $A$ cannot be true i.e., applying the law of excluded middle, its negation must be.

**Exercises 4.**

**Exercise 4.1** Prove the following statements in $\mathcal{N}$:

1. $\vdash A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$
   
   (Hint: Complete the following proof:
   
   1: $\vdash A \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A)$ $AI$
   
   2: $\vdash A \rightarrow \neg B \rightarrow \neg A$ $C4,16$
   
   3: $\vdash A \rightarrow B$ $A3$
   
   4: $\vdash MP: 2, 3$
   
   5: $\vdash DT: 4$ )

2. $\neg B, A \vdash \neg (A \rightarrow B)$
(Hint: Start as follows, apply DT, Lemma 4.15 and, possibly, Corollary 4.16:
1: \( \Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \vdash \neg A \)
2: \( \Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \vdash A \rightarrow \neg A \)
3: \( \Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \vdash B \rightarrow \neg A \)
\[ \vdots \]
(3) \( \Gamma \vdash \neg B \rightarrow \neg (A \rightarrow B) \)
(4) \( \Gamma \vdash (A \rightarrow \bot) \rightarrow \neg A \)
(5) Show now admissibility in \( N \) of the rules
\[
\frac{\Gamma \vdash \bot \quad \neg A \vdash \bot}{\Gamma \vdash \bot}
\]
(Hint: for (a) use (4) and MP, and for (b) use Deduction Theorem and (a).)
(6) Prove the first formula in \( H \), i.e., \( \Gamma \vdash \neg A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B) \).

**Exercise 4.2** Show the claim (4.23), i.e., \( \Gamma \vdash (A \rightarrow A) \leftrightarrow (B \rightarrow B) \).
(Hint: use Lemma 4.7 and then Lemma 4.12(2).)

**Exercise 4.3** Consider Gentzen’s system \( G \) from Section 4.8.
(1) Show that all axioms of the \( N \) system are derivable in \( G \).
(2) Using the same bottom-up strategy, prove in \( G \) the formulae (1), (2) and (3) from Exercise 4.1.

**Exercise 4.4** Lemma 4.12 generalized Lemma 4.9 to the expressions involving assumptions \( \Gamma \vdash \neg \ldots \). We can, however, reformulate the rules in a different way, namely, by placing the antecedents of \( \rightarrow \) to the left of \( \Gamma \).
Show the admissibility in \( N \) of the rules:
\[
\begin{align*}
(1) & \quad \frac{\Gamma, A \vdash B \quad \Gamma \vdash B}{\Gamma, A \vdash B} \\
(2) & \quad \frac{\Gamma, A \vdash C \quad \Gamma, B \vdash \neg C}{\Gamma, A \vdash B}
\end{align*}
\]
((1) must be shown directly by induction on the length of the proof of \( \Gamma \vdash B \), without using Corollary 4.16 – why? For (2) you can then use 4.16.)

**Exercise 4.5** Show that the following definition is equivalent to 4.27:
\( \Gamma \) is consistent iff there is no formula \( A \) such that both \( \Gamma \vdash A \) and \( \Gamma \vdash \neg A \).
(Hint: You should show that for arbitrary \( \Gamma \) one has that:
\( \Gamma \vdash \bot \) iff for no \( A \) : \( \Gamma \vdash A \) and \( \Gamma \vdash \neg A \), which is the same as:
\( \Gamma \vdash \bot \) iff for some \( A \) : \( \Gamma \vdash A \) and \( \Gamma \vdash \neg A \).
The implication \( \Rightarrow \) follow from the assumption \( \Gamma \vdash \neg (B \rightarrow B) \) and Lemma 4.7.
For the opposite, start as follows (use Corollary 4.26 on 3, and then MP):
1: \( \Gamma \vdash A \) \hspace{1cm} \text{assumption}
2: \( \Gamma \vdash \neg A \) \hspace{1cm} \text{assumption}
3: \( \Gamma \vdash \neg (A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow \neg A \) \hspace{1cm} \text{L.A.12(2) : 2}
\[ \vdots \]
Chapter 5

SEMANTICS OF PL

In this chapter we are leaving the proofs and axioms aside. For the time be-
ing, none of the concepts below should be referred to any earlier results on
axiomatic systems. (Such connections will be studied in the following chap-
ters.) Here, we are studying exclusively the language of PL – Definition 4.4
– and the standard way of assigning meaning to its expressions.

5.1 THE BOOLEAN SEMANTICS

There is a huge field of Proof Theory which studies axiomatic systems
per se, i.e., without reference to their possible meanings. This was the
kind of study we were carrying out in the preceding chapter. As we
emphasized at the beginning of that chapter, an axiomatic system may
be given different interpretations and we will in this chapter see a few
possibilities for interpreting the system of propositional logic. Yet,
axiomatic systems are typically introduced for the purpose of study-
ing particular areas or particular phenomena therein. They provide
syntactic means for such a study: a language for referring to objects
and their properties and a proof calculus capturing, hopefully, some
of the essential relationships between various aspects of the domain.

As described in the history of logic, its original intention was to
capture the patterns of correct reasoning which we otherwise carry out
in natural language. Propositional logic, in particular, emerged as a logic of statements: propositional variables may be interpreted as
arbitrary statements, while the connectives as the means of construct-
ing new statements from others. For instance, consider the following
argument:
If it is raining, we will go to cinema.

and

If we go to cinema, we will see a Kurosawa film.

hence

If it is raining, we will see a Kurosawa film.

If we agree to represent the implication if ... then ... by the syntactic symbol $\rightarrow$, this reasoning is represented by interpreting $A$ as it will rain, $B$ as we will go to cinema, $C$ as we will see a Kurosawa film and by the deduction $\frac{A \rightarrow B \quad B \rightarrow C}{A \rightarrow C}$. As we have seen in Lemma 4.9, this is a valid rule in the system $N$. Thus, we might say that the system $N$ (as well as $L$) captures this aspect of our natural reasoning.

However, one has to be extremely careful with this kind of analogies. They are never complete and any formal system runs, sooner or later, into problems when confronted with the richness and sophistication of natural language. Consider the following argument:

If I am in Paris then I am in France.

and

If I am in Rome then I am in Italy.

hence

If I am in Paris then I am in Italy or else

if I am in Rome then I am in France.

It does not look plausible, does it? Now, let us translate it into statement logic: $P$ for being in Paris, $F$ for being in France, $R$ in Rome and $I$ in Italy. Using Gentzen’s rules with the standard reading of $\land$ as ‘and’ and $\lor$ as ‘or’, we obtain:

$\vdash R \rightarrow I, F, P \quad ; \quad F, R \rightarrow I, P, R \vdash I, F$

$\vdash P \rightarrow F, R \rightarrow I, P, R \vdash I, F$

$\vdash P \rightarrow F, R \rightarrow I \vdash I, R \rightarrow F$

$\vdash P \rightarrow F, R \rightarrow I \vdash P \rightarrow I \lor R \rightarrow F$

$\vdash P \rightarrow F \land R \rightarrow I \vdash P \rightarrow I \lor R \rightarrow F$

$\vdash (P \rightarrow F \land R \rightarrow I) \rightarrow (P \rightarrow I \lor R \rightarrow F)$

Our argument – the implication from $(P \rightarrow F$ and $R \rightarrow I)$ to $(P \rightarrow I$ or $R \rightarrow F)$ turns out to be provable in $\vdash$. (It is so in the other systems as well.) Logicians happen to have an answer to this particular problem (we will return to it in Exercise 6.1). But there are other strange things which cannot be easily answered. Typically, any formal system attempting to capture some area of discourse, will capture only some
5.1. THE BOOLEAN SEMANTICS

...part of it. Attempting to apply it beyond this area, leads inevitably to counterintuitive phenomena.

Propositional logic attempts to capture some simple patterns of reasoning at the level of propositions. A proposition can be thought of as a declarative sentence which may be assigned a unique truth value. The sentence “It is raining” is either true or false. Thus, the intended and possible meanings of propositions are truth values: true or false. Now, the meaning of the proposition if it rains, we will go to a cinema, $A \rightarrow B$, can be construed as: if “it is true that it will rain” then “it is true that we will go to a cinema”. The implication $A \rightarrow B$ says that if $A$ is true then $B$ must be true as well.

Now, since this implication is itself a proposition, it will have to be given a truth value as its meaning. And this truth value will depend on the truth value of its constituents $A$ and $B$. If $A$ is true (it is raining) but $B$ is false (we are not going to a cinema), the whole implication $A \rightarrow B$ is false.

And now comes the question: what if $A$ is false? Did the implication $A \rightarrow B$ assert anything about this situation? No, it did not. If $A$ is false (it is not raining), we may go to a cinema or we may stay at home – nothing has been said about that case. Yet, the proposition has to have a meaning for all possible values of its parts. In this case – when the antecedent $A$ is false – the whole implication $A \rightarrow B$ is declared true irrespectively of the truth value of $B$. You should notice that here something special is happening which does not necessarily correspond so closely to our intuition. And indeed, it is something very strange! If I am a woman, then you are Dalai Lama. Since I am not a woman, the implication happens to be true! But, as you know, this does not mean that you are Dalai Lama. This example, too, can be explained by the same argument as the above one (to be indicated in Exercise 6.1). However, the following implication is true, too, and there is no formal way of excusing it being so or explaining it away: If it is not true that when I am a man then I am a man, then you are Dalai Lama, $\neg(M \rightarrow M) \rightarrow D$. It is correct, it is true and ... it seems to be entirely meaningless.

In short, formal correctness and accuracy does not always correspond to something meaningful in natural language, even if such a correspondence was the original motivation. A possible discrepancy indicated above concerned, primarily, the discrepancy between our intuition about the meaning of sentences and their representation in a
syntactic system. But the same problem occurs at yet another level — analogous discrepancies occur between our intuitive understanding of the world and its formal \textit{semantic} model. Thinking about axiomatic systems as tools for modeling the world, we might be tempted to look at the relation as illustrated on the left side of the following figure: an axiomatic system modeling the world. In truth, however, the relation is more complicated as illustrated on the right of the figure.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{axiomatic_system_illustration.png}
\caption{Illustration of axiomatic systems and their relation to the world.}
\end{figure}

An axiomatic system never addresses the world directly. It addresses a possible semantic model which tries to give a formal representation of the world. As we have repeatedly said, an axiomatic system may be given various interpretations, each providing a possible formal semantic model of the system. To what extent these models capture our intuition about the world is a different question — about the "correctness" or "incorrectness" of modeling. An axiomatic system in itself is neither, because it can be endowed with different interpretations. The problems indicated above were really the problems with the semantic model of natural language which was implicitly introduced by assuming that statements are to be interpreted as truth values.

We will now endeavour to study the semantics — meaning — of the syntactic expressions from $\mathcal{WFF}_\text{FL}$. We will see some alternative semantics starting with the standard one based on the so-called "truth functions" (which we will call "boolean functions"). To avoid confusion and surprises, one should always keep in mind that we are not talking about the world but are defining a \textit{formal} model of $\text{FL}$, which, at best, can provide an imperfect link between the syntax of $\text{FL}$ and the world. The formality of the model, as always, will introduce some discrepancies as those described above and many things may turn out not exactly as we would expect them to be in the real world.
5.1. The Boolean Semantics

Let $\mathbb{B}$ be a set with two elements. Any such set would do but, for convenience, we will typically let $\mathbb{B} = \{1, 0\}$. Whenever one tries to capture the meaning of propositions as their truth value, and uses propositional logic with this intention, one interprets $\mathbb{B}$ as the set $\{true, false\}$. Since this gives too strong associations and leads often to incorrect intuitions without improving anything, we avoid the words true/false and talk, instead, about “boolean values” ($1$ and $0$), “boolean functions”, “boolean tables”, etc..

For any $n \geq 0$, there are various functions mapping $\mathbb{B}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$. For instance, for $n = 2$, a function $f : \mathbb{B} \times \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ can be defined by $f(1, 1) \equiv 1$, $f(1, 0) \equiv 0$, $f(0, 1) \equiv 1$ and $f(0, 0) \equiv 1$. It can be written more concisely as the boolean table:

\[
\begin{array}{c|cc}
  x \mid y & f(x, y) \\
  \hline
  1 \mid 1 & 1 \\
  1 \mid 0 & 0 \\
  0 \mid 1 & 1 \\
  0 \mid 0 & 1
\end{array}
\]

The first $n$-columns contain all the possible combinations of the arguments (giving $2^n$ distinct rows), and the last column specifies the value of the function for this combination of the arguments. For each of the $2^n$ rows a function takes one of the two possible values, so for any $n$ there are exactly $2^{2^n}$ different functions $\mathbb{B}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$. For $n = 0$, there are only two (constant) functions, for $n = 1$ there will be four distinct functions (which ones?) and so on. Surprisingly, the language of PL describes exactly such functions!

Definition 5.2 A PL structure consists of:
1. A domain with two boolean values, $\mathbb{B} = \{1, 0\}$
2. Interpretation of the connectives as boolean functions:
   - $\neg : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ given by $\neg(1) = 0$ and $\neg(0) = 1$, and
   - $\rightarrow : \mathbb{B}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, given by the boolean table (5.1).
3. Given an alphabet $\Sigma$, a PL structure for $\Sigma$ is a PL structure with an assignment of boolean values to all propositional variables, i.e., a function $V : \Sigma \rightarrow \{1, 0\}$ (also called a valuation of $\Sigma$.)

Connectives are thus interpreted as functions on the set $\{1, 0\}$. To distinguish the two, we use the simple symbols $\neg$ and $\rightarrow$ when talking about syntax, and the underlined ones $\underline{\neg}$ and $\underline{\rightarrow}$ when we are talking about the semantic interpretation as boolean functions. $\neg$ is interpreted as the function $\underline{\neg} : \{1, 0\} \rightarrow \{1, 0\}$, defined by $\underline{\neg}(1) \equiv 0$ and $\underline{\neg}(0) \equiv 1$. $\rightarrow$ is binary and represents one of the functions from $\{1, 0\}^2$ into $\{1, 0\}$.\[\]
Example 5.3
Let $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$, $V = \{a \mapsto 1, b \mapsto 1\}$ is a $\Sigma$-structure (i.e., a structure interpreting all symbols from $\Sigma$) assigning 1 (true) to both variables. Another $\Sigma$-structure is, for instance, $V' = \{a \mapsto 1, b \mapsto 0\}$.

Let $\Sigma = \{\text{Jon smokes?}, \text{Ann sings?}\}$ - two propositional variables with rather lengthy names. We can view $V = \{\text{Jon smokes?} \mapsto 1, \text{Ann sings?} \mapsto 0\}$ as a $\Sigma$-structure where "Jon smokes?" and "Ann does not sing?".

The domain of interpretation has two boolean values 1 and 0, and so we can imagine various functions, in addition to those interpreting the connectives. As remarked above, for arbitrary $n \geq 0$ there are $2^{2^n}$ distinct functions mapping $\{1, 0\}^n$ into $\{1, 0\}$.

Example 5.4
Here is a (somewhat involved) boolean function $F : \{1, 0\}^3 \to \{1, 0\}$:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$x$</th>
<th>$y$</th>
<th>$z$</th>
<th>$F(x, y, z)$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to Definition 5.2, the interpretation of the connectives is fixed once for all and only the valuation differs from one $\Sigma$-structure to another. Consequently, any valuation $V$ can be extended in a canonical way to the interpretation of all formulae - a valuation of propositional variables induces a valuation of all well-formed formulae. We sometimes write $\tilde{V}$ for this extended valuation. This is given in the following definition which, intuitively, corresponds to the fact that if we know that "John smokes" and "Mary does not sing", then we also know that "John smokes and Mary does not sing", or else that it is not true that "John does not smoke".

Definition 5.5 Any valuation $V : \Sigma \to \{1, 0\}$ induces a unique valuation $\tilde{V} : \text{WFPL} \to \{1, 0\}$ as follows:
1. for $A \in \Sigma$ : $\tilde{V}(A) = V(A)$
2. for $A = \neg B$ : $\tilde{V}(A) = \overline{\tilde{V}(B)}$
3. for $A = (B \to C)$ : $\tilde{V}(A) = \tilde{V}(B) \implies \tilde{V}(C)$
5.1. The Boolean Semantics

For the purposes of this section it is convenient to assume that some total ordering has been selected for the propositional variables, so that for instance a "comes before" b, which again "comes before" c.

Example 5.6
Given the alphabet \( \Sigma = \{a, b, c\} \), we use the fixed interpretation of the connectives to determine the boolean value of, for instance, the formula \( a \rightarrow (\neg b \rightarrow c) \) as follows:

\[
\begin{array}{c|cc|c|c|} \hline a & b & \neg b & c & a \rightarrow (\neg b \rightarrow c) \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]

Ignoring the intermediary columns, this table displays exactly the same dependence of the entries in the last column on the entries in the first three ones as the function \( F \) from Example 5.4. We say that the formula \( a \rightarrow (\neg b \rightarrow c) \) determines the function \( F \). The general definition is given below.

Definition 5.7 For any formula \( B \), let \( \{b_1, \ldots, b_n\} \) be the propositional variables in \( B \), listed in increasing order. Each assignment \( V : \{b_1, \ldots, b_n\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\} \) determines a unique boolean value \( \tilde{V}(B) \). Hence, each formula \( B \) determines a function \( \tilde{B} : \{1, 0\}^n \rightarrow \{1, 0\} \), given by the equation

\[ \tilde{B}(x_1, \ldots, x_n) = \{ b_1 \mapsto x_1, \ldots, b_n \mapsto x_n \}(B). \]

Example 5.8
Suppose \( a \) and \( b \) are in \( \Sigma \), and \( a \) comes before \( b \) in the ordering. Then \( (a \rightarrow b) \) determines the function \( \rightarrow \), while \( (b \rightarrow a) \) determines the function \( \leq \) with the boolean table shown below:

\[
\begin{array}{c|cc|c|} \hline x & y & x \rightarrow y & x \leq y \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]

Observe that although for a given \( n \) there are exactly \( 2^{2^n} \) boolean func-
tions, there are infinitely many formulae over \( n \) propositional variables. Thus, different formulae will often determine the same boolean function. Deciding which formulae determine the same functions is an important problem which we will soon encounter.

5.1.1 Syntaxic Abbreviations

Intuitively, \( \neg \) is supposed to express negation and we read \( \neg B \) as "not \( B \)". \( \rightarrow \) corresponds to implication: \( A \rightarrow B \) is similar to "if \( A \) then \( B \)". These formal symbols and their semantics are not exact counterparts of the natural language expressions but they do try to mimic the latter as far as possible. In natural language there are several other connectives but, as we will see in Chapter 4.9, the two we have introduced for PL are all that are needed. We will, however, try to make our formulae shorter and more readable by using the following abbreviations:

**Definition 5.9** Define the following abbreviations:

- \( A \lor B \overset{\Delta}{=} \neg A \rightarrow B \), read as "\( A \) or \( B \)"
- \( A \land B \overset{\Delta}{=} (A \rightarrow \neg B) \), read as "\( A \) and \( B \)"
- \( A \leftrightarrow B \overset{\Delta}{=} (A \rightarrow B) \land (B \rightarrow A) \), read as "\( A \) if and only if \( B \)".

The abbreviation \( \leftrightarrow \) uses the same symbol as the provable equivalence from Definition 4.20. There is a connection between the two, but beware of confusing them. The one defined here introduces only a syntaxic abbreviation, while provable equivalence concerns a proof system, and occurs only in contexts with \( \vdash \), e.g., as \( \vdash A \leftrightarrow B \).

**Example 5.10**

Some intuitive justification for the reading of these abbreviations comes from the boolean tables for the functions they denote. For instance, the table for \( \land \) is constructed according to the definition \( x \land y \overset{\Delta}{=} \neg(x \rightarrow \neg y) \):

\[
\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c}
 x & y & x \rightarrow \neg y & \neg(x \rightarrow \neg y) & x \land y \\
 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
\end{array}
\]

Thus \( A \land B \) evaluates to 1 (true) iff both components are true and, in this sense, corresponds to "and" used in natural language. (In Exercise 5.1 you are asked to do the analogous thing for \( \lor \)\) \( \Box \)
5.2 Semantic properties

A formula determines a boolean function and we now list some semantic properties of formulae, i.e., properties which are actually the properties of such induced functions.

Definition 5.11 Let $A, B \in \text{WFF}_{PL}$, and $V$ be a valuation.

$A$ is satisfied in $V$ if $V(A) = 1$ \hspace{1cm} $V \models A$

$A$ is not satisfied in $V$ if $V(A) = 0$ \hspace{1cm} $V \not\models A$

$A$ is valid/tautology if for all $V : V \models A \models A$

$A$ is falsifiable if there is a $V : V \models A \models A$

$A$ is satisfiable if there is a $V : V \models A$

(tautological consequence of $B$ if $B \rightarrow A$ is valid \hspace{1cm} $B \models A$

(tautologically equivalent to $B$ if $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow A$ \hspace{1cm} $A \equiv B$

The first line makes 1 the designated element, representing the truth in the structure. If $A$ is satisfied in $V$, we say that $V$ satisfies $A$, or is a model of $A$. Otherwise $V$ falsifies $A$. (Sometimes, one also says that $A$ is valid in $V$, when $A$ is satisfied in $V$. But notice that validity of $A$ in $V$ does not mean or imply that $A$ is valid (in general), only that it is satisfiable.) Valid formulae – those satisfied in all structures – are also called tautologies and the unsatisfiable ones contradictions. Those which are both falsifiable and satisfiable, i.e., which are neither tautologies nor contradictions, are called contingent.

Sets of formulae are usually called theories. Many of the properties defined for formulae are defined for theories as well. Thus a valuation is said to satisfy a theory iff it satisfies every formula in the theory. Such a valuation is also said to be a model of the theory. The class of all models of a theory $\Gamma$ is denoted $\text{Mod}(\Gamma)$. Like a single formula, a set of formulae $\Gamma$ is satisfiable iff it has a model, i.e., iff $\text{Mod}(\Gamma) \neq \emptyset$. A theory which has no model is called unsatisfiable (rather than contradictory).

Example 5.12

$a \rightarrow b$ is not a tautology – assign $V(a) = 1$ and $V(b) = 0$. Hence $a \rightarrow b$ does not hold. However, it is satisfiable, since it is true, for instance, under the valuation $\{a \rightarrow 1, b \rightarrow 1\}$. The formula is contingent.

$B \rightarrow B$ evaluates to $1$ for any valuation (and any $B \in \text{WFF}_{PL}$), and so
$B \Rightarrow B$. As a last example, we have that $B \iff \neg \neg B$.

$$
\begin{array}{c|c|c}
B & BB & \Rightarrow B \\
\hline
0 & 0 & 1 \\
1 & 1 & 1 \\
\end{array}
\quad
\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c}
B & \neg B & B \iff \neg B & B \Rightarrow \neg B & \text{and} & \neg B \Rightarrow B \\
\hline
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
\end{array}
$$

The operators $\Rightarrow$ and $\iff$ are meta-connectives stating that a corresponding relation (→ and ↔, respectively) between the two formulae holds for all boolean assignments. These operators are therefore used only at the outermost level, like for $A \Rightarrow B$—we avoid something like $A \iff (A \Rightarrow B)$ or $A \Rightarrow (A \iff B)$. Often, $\iff$/$\Rightarrow$ are used also in the statements of theorems instead of "iff"/"only if".

**Fact 5.13** We have the obvious relations between the sets of Sat(isfiable), Fal(sifiable), Taut(ological), Contr(adictory) and All formulae:

- $\text{Contr} \subset \text{Fal}$
- $\text{Taut} \subset \text{Sat}$
- $\text{Fal} \cap \text{Sat} \neq \emptyset$
- $\text{All} = \text{Taut} \cup \text{Contr} \cup (\text{Fal} \cap \text{Sat})$

### 5.2.1 Some propositional laws

The logical equivalence $A \iff B$ means that for all valuations (of the propositional variables in $A$ and $B$) both formulae have the same boolean value. This means almost that they determine the same function, with one restriction which is discussed in Exercise 5.10. The definitions of semantics of the connectives together with the introduced abbreviations entitle us to conclude validity of some logical equivalences:

1. **Neutral elements**
   - $A \lor \bot \iff A$
   - $A \land \top \iff A$

2. **Associativity**
   - $(A \lor B) \lor C \iff A \lor (B \lor C)$
   - $(A \land B) \land C \iff A \land (B \land C)$

3. **Commutativity**
   - $A \lor B \iff B \lor A$
   - $A \land B \iff B \land A$

4. **Distributivity**
   - $A \lor (B \land C) \iff (A \lor B) \lor (A \lor C)$
   - $A \land (B \lor C) \iff (A \land B) \lor (A \land C)$

5. **Complement**
   - $A \land \neg A \iff \bot$
   - $A \lor \neg A \iff \top$

6. **de Morgan**
   - $\neg (A \lor B) \iff \neg A \land \neg B$
   - $\neg (A \land B) \iff \neg A \lor \neg B$

7. **Conditional**
   - $A \Rightarrow B \iff \neg A \lor B$
   - $A \Rightarrow B \iff \neg B \lor \neg A$
5.3. Set-based semantics

As shown in Example 5.12, \( \top \) evaluates always to \( 1 \) and \( \bot \) to \( 0 \). Thus, for instance, the second law of neutral element can be verified as follows:

\[
\begin{array}{c|c|c|c}
A & \top & \top & \top \rightarrow (A \rightarrow \top) = A \land \top \\
\hline
1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
\end{array}
\]

Also the first complement law is verified directly from the definition of \( \land \):

\[
\begin{array}{c|c|c|c}
A & \top & \top & A \rightarrow A \land \top = \bot \\
\hline
1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
\end{array}
\]

For any \( A, B, C \) the two formulae \( (A \land B) \land C \) and \( A \land (B \land C) \) are distinct. However, as they are tautologically equivalent it is not a very urgent matter to distinguish between them. In general, there are a great many ways to insert the missing parentheses in an expression like \( A_1 \land A_2 \land \cdots \land A_n \), but since they all yield equivalent formulae we usually do not care where these parentheses go. Hence for a sequence \( A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_n \) of formulae we may just talk about their conjunction and mean any formula obtained by supplying missing parentheses to the expression \( A_1 \land A_2 \land \cdots \land A_n \).

Analogously, the disjunction of \( A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_n \) is any formula obtained by supplying missing parentheses to the expression \( A_1 \lor A_2 \lor \cdots \lor A_n \).

Moreover, the laws of commutativity and idempotency (which can be easily verified) tell us that order and repetition don't matter either. Hence we may talk about the conjunction of the formulae in some finite set, and mean any conjunction formed by the elements in some order or other. Similarly for disjunction.

The elements \( A_1, \ldots, A_n \) of a conjunction \( A_1 \land \cdots \land A_n \) are called the conjuncts. The term disjunct is used analogously.

5.3 Set-based semantics

Semantics of propositional logic was defined by interpreting the formulae as elements of the two-element set \( \mathbb{B} \) and connectives as functions over \( \mathbb{B} \). Some consequences, in form of the laws following from this definition, were listed in Subsection 5.2.1. Below, we note a close relationship to the laws obeyed by the set operations from Section 1.1 and define an alternative semantics of the propositional language based on set interpretation. The optional Subsection 5.3.2 gathers these similarities in the common concept of boolean algebra.
5.3.1 SETS AND Propositions

Compare the set laws (1)-(6) from Section 1.1, p. 46, with the tautological equivalences (1)-(6) from Subsection 5.2.1. It is easy to see that they have “corresponding form” and can be obtained from each other by the following translations.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{set-expression} & \rightarrow & \text{proposition} \\
\text{set variable } a \in b & \rightarrow & \text{propositional variable } a \in b \\
\land & \rightarrow & \land \\
\lor & \rightarrow & \lor \\
\Rightarrow & \rightarrow & \Leftrightarrow
\end{array}
\]

One also translates:

\[
U = \emptyset & \rightarrow & \top \\
\emptyset & \rightarrow & \bot
\]

Remark 5.14 [Formula- vs. set-operations]

Although there is some sense of connection between the subset \( \subseteq \) and implication \( \rightarrow \), the two have very different function. The latter allows us to construct new propositions. The former, \( \subseteq \), is not however a set building operation: \( A \subseteq B \) does not denote any set but states a relation between two sets. The consistency principles are not translated because they are not so much laws as definitions introducing a new relation \( \subseteq \) which holds only under the specified conditions. In order to find a set operation corresponding to \( \rightarrow \), we should reformulate the syntactic Definition 5.9 and verify that \( A \rightarrow B \equiv \neg A \lor B \). The corresponding set building operation \( \mapsto \), would be then defined by \( A \mapsto B \equiv A \cup B \).

The set difference abbreviation \( (7) \) from p. 46, \( A \setminus B = A \cap \overline{B} \), has no standard propositional form. But we can simply use the expression \( A \land \neg B \leftrightarrow A \land B \). We may translate the remaining set laws, e.g., \( A \cap \overline{A} = \emptyset \) as \( A \land \neg A \leftrightarrow \bot \), etc., and verify them as illustrated in Subsection 5.2.1.

Let us see if we can discover the reason for this exact match of laws. For the time being let us ignore the superficial differences of syntax, and settle for the logical symbols on the right. Expressions built up from \( \Sigma \) with the use of these, we call boolean expressions, \( \text{BE}^\Sigma \). As an alternative to a valuation \( V : \Sigma \rightarrow \{0, 1\} \) we may consider a set valuation \( SV : \Sigma \rightarrow \wp(U) \), where \( U \) is any non-empty set. Thus, instead of the boolean-value semantics in the set \( \mathbb{I} \), we are defining a set valued semantics in an arbitrary set \( U \). Such \( SV \) can be extended to \( \overline{SV} : \text{BE}^\Sigma \rightarrow \wp(U) \) according to the rules:
5.3. SET-BASED SEMANTICS

\[
\begin{align*}
\overline{SV}(a) &= SV(a) \quad \text{for all } a \in \Sigma \\
\overline{SV}(\top) &= U \\
\overline{SV}(\bot) &= \emptyset \\
\overline{SV}(\neg A) &= U \setminus \overline{SV}(A) \\
\overline{SV}(A \land B) &= \overline{SV}(A) \cap \overline{SV}(B) \\
\overline{SV}(A \lor B) &= \overline{SV}(A) \cup \overline{SV}(B)
\end{align*}
\]

The following lemma gives the first step for establishing the relation between the two semantics.

**Lemma 5.15** Let \( x \in U \) be arbitrary, \( V : \Sigma \rightarrow \{1, 0\} \) and \( \overline{SV} : \Sigma \rightarrow \wp(U) \) be such that for all \( a \in \Sigma \) we have \( x \in SV(a) \) iff \( V(a) = 1 \). Then for all \( A \in BE^\Sigma \) we have \( x \in \overline{SV}(A) \) iff \( \overline{V}(A) = 1 \).

**Proof.** By induction on the complexity of \( A \in BE^\Sigma \). For the basis of the induction, atomic \( a \), the equivalence is stated in the assumption: \( x \in \overline{SV}(a) \) iff \( V(a) = 1 \). In the induction step for \( \neg A \), the IH says that \( \overline{V}(A) = 1 \) iff \( x \in \overline{SV}(A) \), from which it follows that \( \overline{V}(\neg A) = 1 \) iff \( x \in U \setminus \overline{SV}(A) \). All inductive steps follow in this way from the boolean tables of \( \top, \bot, \neg, \land, \lor \) and the observation that:

\[
\begin{align*}
x \in U & \quad \text{always} \\
x \in \emptyset & \quad \text{never} \\
x \in P & \quad \text{iff } x \notin P \\
x \in P \cap Q & \quad \text{iff } x \in P \text{ and } x \in Q \\
x \in P \cup Q & \quad \text{iff } x \in P \text{ or } x \in Q
\end{align*}
\]

The designated element \( x \), satisfying the condition of the lemma, plays thus the role of the truth indicator: its presence/absence in the set interpretation of an expression represents expression’s truth/falsity.

**Example 5.16**

Let \( \Sigma = \{ a, b, c \} \), \( U = \{ 4, 5, 6, 7 \} \) and let the designated element be \( 4 \in U \). The upper part of the table shows an example of a valuation and set valuation satisfying the conditions of the lemma, and the lower part the
values of some formulae (boolean expressions) under these valuations.

\[
\begin{array}{c|cc|c}
1, 0 & \Sigma & SV & \rho(\{4, 5, 6, 7\}) \\
\hline
1 & a & \{4, 5\} \\
1 & b & \{4, 6\} \\
0 & c & \{5, 7\} \\
\hline
1 & \rho(\{4, 5, 6, 7\}) \\
0 & \rho(\{6, 7\}) \\
1 & \rho(\{4, 5, 7\}) \\
0 & \rho(\{6\}) \\
\end{array}
\]

The four formulae illustrate the general fact that for any \( A \in \text{BE}^2 \) we have \( \overline{V}(A) = 1 \iff 4 \in \overline{SV}(A) \). \qed

The set identities from Section 1.1 say that the BE's on each side are interpreted identically by every set valuation. Hence the following theorem expresses the correspondence between the set identities and tautological equivalences.

**Theorem 5.17** Let \( A, B \in \text{BE}^2 \). Then
\[
(\overline{SV}(A) = \overline{SV}(B) \text{ for all set valuations } SV, \text{ into all sets } U) \iff (A \leftrightarrow B).
\]

**Proof.** The idea is to show that for every set valuation that interprets \( A \) and \( B \) differently, there is some valuation that interprets them differently, and conversely.

\( \Leftarrow \) First suppose \( \overline{SV}(A) \neq \overline{SV}(B) \). Then there is some \( x \in U \) that is contained in one but not the other. Let \( V_x \) be the valuation such that for all \( a \in \Sigma \)\n
\[ V_x(a) = 1 \text{ iff } x \in SV(a). \]

Then \( \overline{V}_x(A) \neq \overline{V}_x(B) \) follows from Lemma 5.15.

\( \Rightarrow \) Now suppose \( \overline{V}(A) \neq \overline{V}(B) \). Let \( SV \) be the set valuation into \( \rho(\{\bullet\}) = \{\emptyset, \{\bullet\}\} \) such that for all \( a \in \Sigma \)\n
\[ \bullet \in SV(a) \text{ iff } V(a) = 1. \]

Again Lemma 5.15 applies, and \( \overline{SV}(A) \neq \overline{SV}(B) \) follows. \( \Box \)

This theorem provides an explanation for the validity of exactly the same laws for propositional logic and for sets. The set laws were universal equations; i.e., they stated equality of some set expressions for *all possible sets*. 
5.3. Set-based semantics

The propositional laws were logical equivalences between corresponding logical formulae, i.e., equality of their boolean values under all possible valuations. We can now rewrite any valid equality \( A = B \) between set expressions as \( A' \leftrightarrow B' \), where the primed symbols indicate the corresponding logical formulae; and vice versa. The theorem says that one is valid if and only if the other one is.

Let us reflect briefly over this result which is quite significant. For the first, observe that the semantics with which we started, namely, the one interpreting connectives and formulae over the set \( \mathbb{B} \), turns out to be a special case of the set based semantics. We said that \( \mathbb{B} \) may be an arbitrary two-element set. Now, take \( U = \{ \bullet \} \); then \( \varphi(U) = \{ \varnothing, \{ \bullet \} \} \) has two elements. Using \( \bullet \) as the designated element (\( x \) from Lemma 5.15), the set based semantics over this set will coincide with the propositional semantics which identifies \( \varnothing \) with 0 and \( \{ \bullet \} \) with 1. Reinterpreting corollary with this in mind, i.e., substituting \( \varphi(\{ \bullet \}) \) for \( \mathbb{B} \), tells us that \( A = B \) is valid (in all possible \( \varphi(U) \) for all possible assignments) if it is valid in \( \varphi(\{ \bullet \}) \). In other words, to check if some set equality holds under all possible interpretations of the involved set variables, it is enough to check if it holds under all possible interpretations of these variables in the structure \( \varphi(\{ \bullet \}) \). In this sense, this structure is a canonical representative of all such set based interpretations of propositional logic. It reduces the problem which might seem to involve infinitely many possibilities (all possible sets standing for each variable), to the simple task of checking the solutions with all combinations of \( \{ \bullet \} \) and \( \varnothing \) substituted for the involved variables.

5.3.2: BOOLEAN ALGEBRAS ...............................[optional]
The discussion in Subsection 5.3.1 shows the concrete connection between the set interpretation and the standard interpretation of the language of PL. The fact that both set operations and (functions interpreting the) propositional connectives obey essentially the same laws can be, however, stated more abstractly – they are both examples of yet other, general structures called "Boolean algebras".

Definition 5.18 The language of boolean algebra is given by 1) the set of boolean expressions, \( \text{BE}^\Sigma \), relatively to a given alphabet \( \Sigma \) of variables:

- **Basis:** \( \bot, \top \in \text{BE}_\Sigma \) and \( \Sigma \subseteq \text{BE}_\Sigma \)
- **Ind:** If \( t \in \text{BE}_\Sigma \) then \( \neg t \in \text{BE}_\Sigma \)
  - If \( s, t \in \text{BE}_\Sigma \) then \( s \lor t \in \text{BE}_\Sigma \) and \( s \land t \in \text{BE}_\Sigma \)

and by 2) the formulae which are equations \( s \equiv t \) for arbitrary \( s, t \in \text{BE}_\Sigma \).

A boolean algebra is any non-empty set \( X \) with an interpretation

- \( \bot, \top \) as elements \( \bot, \top \in X \) ("bottom" and "top");
• of \( \neg \) as a unary operation \( \neg : X \to X \) ("complement"), and
• of \( \vee, \wedge \) as binary operations \( \vee, \wedge : X^2 \to X \) ("join" and "meet"),
• of \( \equiv \) as identity,

satisfying the axioms (1)-(5) from Section 5.2.1, page 142 (with \( \equiv \) replacing \( \leftrightarrow \)).

Be wary of confusing these symbols, \( \lor, \neg, \) etc., used here with the logical connectives we have been using. The latter denote special instances of the former, but the boolean connectives can be interpreted much more freely, as we have just seen on the example of set interpretation. Also, the constant symbol \( \top \) (similarly for \( \bot \)) used here is only analogous to that introduced as an abbreviation for \( B \to B \).

Although the latter evaluates always to the designated value \( \bot \), strictly speaking does not denote \( \bot \) but only abbreviates constant functions returning \( \bot \).

Roughly speaking, the word "algebra", stands here for the fact that the formulæ are equalities and that one uses equational reasoning based on the properties of equality: reflexivity \( x \equiv x \), symmetry \( x \equiv y \iff y \equiv x \), transitivity \( x \equiv y, y \equiv z \iff x \equiv z \), and "substitution of equals for equals", according to the rule:

\[
\frac{g[x] \equiv z \quad x \equiv y}{g[y] \equiv z} \quad (5.19)
\]

(Compare this to the provable equivalence from Theorem 4.25, in particular, the rule from Corollary 4.26.) For instance, in this manner, and using only the axioms (1)-(5) (for sets), we have shown the idempotency of \( \wedge \):

\[
x \equiv x \wedge x \quad x \equiv x \vee x \quad (5.20)
\]

already in Section 1.1, on page 47.

• Another fact is a form of absorption:

\[
\bot \wedge x \equiv \bot \quad x \lor \top \equiv \top \quad (5.21)
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
: \bot \wedge x & \equiv (x \wedge \neg x) \wedge x \equiv \neg x \wedge (x \wedge x) \equiv \neg x \wedge \bot \equiv \bot, \\
: x \lor \top & \equiv x \lor (x \lor \neg x) \equiv x \lor \bot \equiv \top,
\end{align*}
\]

• Complement of any \( x \) is determined uniquely by the two properties from (5), namely, any \( y \) satisfying both these properties is necessarily \( x \)'s complement:

\[
\text{if a) } x \lor y \equiv \top \quad \text{and b) } y \wedge x \equiv \bot \quad \text{then } y \equiv \neg x \quad (5.22)
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
: y \equiv y \lor \neg x \equiv y \lor (x \lor \neg x) \equiv \bot \equiv (y \lor \neg x) \equiv (x \lor \neg x) \lor (y \lor \neg x) \equiv (x \lor y) \equiv \bot \equiv x \lor \neg x \equiv \top \equiv x, \\
: \neg \neg x \equiv \bot.
\end{align*}
\]

• Involution,

\[
\neg \neg x \equiv x \quad (5.23)
\]

follows from (5.22). By (3) we have \( x \wedge \neg x \equiv \bot \) and \( x \lor \neg x \equiv \top \) which, by (5.22) imply that \( x \equiv \neg \neg x \).
5.3. SET-BASED SEMANTICS

The fact that any set $\phi(U)$ obeys the set laws from page 46, and that the set $B = \{1, 0\}$ obeys the PL-laws from Subsection 5.2.1 amounts to the statement that these structures are, in fact, boolean algebras under the described interpretation of boolean operations. (We have not verified all the axioms of boolean algebras but this is an easy task.) Consequently, all the above formulae (5.20)–(5.23) will be valid in these structures:

\[
\begin{align*}
\phi(U)-\text{lawn} & \quad \text{ boolean algebra law } \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{ PL-law} \\
A \cap A = A & \quad \leftarrow \quad x \land x \equiv x \quad \rightarrow \quad A \land A \equiv A \quad (5.20) \\
\emptyset \cap A = \emptyset & \quad \leftarrow \quad \bot \land x \equiv \bot \quad \rightarrow \quad \bot \land A \equiv \bot \quad (5.21) \\
U \cup A = U & \quad \leftarrow \quad T \lor x \equiv T \quad \rightarrow \quad T \lor A \equiv T \quad (5.21) \\
(A) = A & \quad \leftarrow \quad \neg \neg x \equiv x \quad \rightarrow \quad \neg (\neg A) \equiv A \quad (5.23)
\end{align*}
\]

For instance, the last fact for PL was verified in Example 5.12.

Now, boolean algebras come with the reasoning system – equational logic – allowing one to prove equations $A \equiv B$, for $A, B \in BE$. On the other hand, Hilbert’s axiomatic systems for PL proves only simple boolean expressions $h_B A$.

Are these two reasoning systems related in some way? They are, indeed, but we will not study precise relationship in detail. At this point we only observe that, in boolean algebras, $\top$ plays the role of the designated element in the sense that: if $h_B A$ then also the equation $A' \equiv \top$ is provable in equational logic, where $A'$ is obtained by replacing all subformulae $x \rightarrow y$ of $A$ by the respective expressions $\neg x \lor y$ (recall $x \rightarrow y \equiv \neg x \lor y$). For instance, the equation corresponding to the first axiom of $h_B A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A)$ is obtained by translating $\rightarrow$ to the equivalent boolean expression: $(\neg A \lor \neg B) \lor A \equiv \top$. You may easily verify provability of this equation from axioms (1)–(5), as well as that it holds under set interpretation – for any set $U$ and any of its subsets $A, B \subseteq U$; $A \cup B \cup A = U$, ... (and optional)

EXERCISE 5.

EXERCISE 5.1 Recall Example 5.10 and set up the boolean table for the formula $a \lor b$ with $\lor$ trying to represent "or". Use your definition to represent the following statements, or explain why it cannot be done:

(1) $x < y$ or $x = y$.
(2) John is ill or Paul is ill.
(3) Either we go to cinema or we stay at home.

EXERCISE 5.2 Using the boolean tables, decide to which among the four classes from Fact 5.13 (Definition 5.11) the following formulae belong:

(1) $a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow a)$
(2) $(a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c)) \rightarrow ((a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow c))$
(3) $(\neg b \rightarrow \neg a) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b)$
EXERCISE 5.3. Rewrite the laws 1. Neutral elements and 5. Complement of boolean algebra to their propositional form and verify their validity using boolean tables. (Use \( \top \) for 1 and \( \bot \) for 0.)

EXERCISE 5.4. Verify whether \( (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b \) is a tautology. Is the following proof correct? If not, what is wrong with it?

1: \( A, A \rightarrow B \) by \( A \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \)\( A \rightarrow 0 \)
2: \( A, A \rightarrow B \) by \( A \)
3: \( A \rightarrow B \) by \( B \) \( MP : 2,1 \)
4: \( b \) by \( (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B \) \( DT \)

EXERCISE 5.5. Verify the following facts:

1. \( A_1 \rightarrow (A_2 \rightarrow (A_3 \rightarrow B)) \iff (A_1 \land A_2 \land A_3) \rightarrow B \).
2. \( (A \land (A \rightarrow B)) \Rightarrow B \)

Use boolean tables to show that the following formulae are contradictions:

3. \( \neg (B \rightarrow B) \)
4. \( (B \lor C) \land C \)

Determine now what sets are denoted by these two expressions — for the set interpretation of \( \rightarrow \) recall Remark 5.14.

EXERCISE 5.6. Show which of the following pairs are logically equivalent:

1. \( A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C) \iff (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow C \)
2. \( A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C) \iff B \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C) \)
3. \( A \land \neg B \iff \neg (A \rightarrow B) \)

EXERCISE 5.7. Use Exercise 5.6.3 to verify the logical equivalence:

\( (C \land D) \rightarrow (A \land \neg B) \iff (C \land D) \rightarrow (A \land B) \).

How does this earlier exercise simplify the work here?

EXERCISE 5.8. Complete the proof of Lemma 5.15, by verifying the induction step for the cases of the formula \( A \) being \( B \lor C \), \( B \land C \) and \( B \rightarrow C \).

EXERCISE 5.9. (Compositionality and substitutivity)

Let \( F[A] \) be a formula with (one or more) "holes" and \( A, B \) be arbitrary formulae. Assuming that for all valuations \( V \), \( \hat{V}(A) = \hat{V}(B) \), use induction on the complexity of \( F[A] \) to show that then \( \hat{V}(F[A]) = \hat{V}(F[B]) \), for all valuations \( V \).

(Hint: The structure of the proof will be similar to that of Theorem 4.25. Observe, however, that here you are proving a completely different fact concerning not the provability relation but the semantic interpretation of the formulae — not their provable but tautological equivalence.)

EXERCISE 5.10. Tautological equivalence \( A \equiv B \) amounts almost to the fact
that $A$ and $B$ have the same interpretation. We have to make the meaning of this “almost” more precise.

(1) Show that neither of the two relations $A \iff B$ and $\Delta = \overline{B}$ imply the other, i.e., give examples of $A$ and $B$ such that (a) $A \iff B$ but $\Delta \neq \overline{B}$ and (b) $\Delta = \overline{B}$ but not $A \iff B$.

(Hint: Use extra/different propositional variables not affecting the truth of the formula.)

(2) Explain why the two relations are the same whenever $A$ and $B$ contain the same variables.

(3) Finally explain that if $\Delta = \overline{B}$ then there exists some formula $C$ obtained from $B$ by “renaming” the propositional variables, such that $A \iff C$.

Exercise 5.11 The biconditional is given by Definition 5.9 as $A \iff B = (A \rightarrow B) \land (B \rightarrow A)$. Show the following equivalence for every $n \geq 2$:

$Q_n \iff \bigg( (Q_{n-1} \iff (\ldots \iff (Q_1 \iff Q_0)) \bigg) \iff \bigg( Q_{n-1} \iff (\ldots \iff (Q_1 \iff \neg Q_0)) \bigg) \bigg)$.

(Hint: Induction on $n$ may be a good idea.)

Exercise 5.12 Let $\Phi$ be an arbitrary, possibly infinite, set of formulae. The following conventions generalize the notion of (satisfaction of) binary conjunction/disjunction to such arbitrary sets. Given a valuation $V$, we say that $\Phi$ is:

- conjunction is true under $V$, $\bar{V}(\land \Phi) = 1$, iff for all $A : if A \in \Phi$ then $\bar{V}(A) = 1$.
- disjunction is true under $V$, $\bar{V}(\lor \Phi) = 1$, iff there exists an $A$ such that $A \in \Phi$ and $\bar{V}(A) = 1$.

Let now $\Phi$ be a set containing zero or one formulae. What would be the most natural interpretations of the expressions “the conjunction of formulae in $\Phi$” and “the disjunction of formulae in $\Phi$”?

Exercise 5.13 Using only equational reasoning and the axioms of boolean algebra, (1)-(5), p. 142, derive the following equalities:

1. $x \lor T \equiv T$ and $x \land \bot \equiv \bot$.
2. $(x \lor y) \lor \neg (x \land y) \equiv T$.
3. $(x \lor y) \land \neg (x \land y) \equiv \bot$.
4. Conclude using (5.22), derivability from the axioms of boolean algebra of de Morgan’s law $\neg(x \lor y) \equiv \neg x \land \neg y$. 


Chapter 6

SOUNDNESS AND COMPLETENESS

This chapter studies the relations between the syntax, in particular, the
axiomatic systems for PL, and their semantic counterpart. Before we discuss
the central concepts of soundness and completeness of the proof systems,
we will first ask about the expressive completeness of the language we have
introduced. The expressive power of a language for propositional logic can
be identified with the possibilities it provides for defining various boolean
functions. In section 6.1 we show that all boolean functions can be defined
by the formulae in our language. Section 6.2 explores a useful consequence
of this fact showing that each formula can be written equivalently in a
special normal form. The rest of the chapter shows then soundness and
completeness of our axiomatic systems.

6.1 EXPRESSIVE COMPLETENESS

This and next section study the relation between formulae of PL and
boolean functions established by Definition 5.7, according to which every
PL formula defines a boolean function. The question now is the opposite:
Can every boolean function be defined by some formula of PL?

Introducing abbreviations ∧, ∨ and others in Section 5.1.1, we remarked
that they are not necessary but merely convenient. Their being "not neces-
sary" means that any function which can be defined by a formula containing
these connectives, can also be defined by a formula which does not contain
them. E.g., a function defined using ∨ can be also defined using ¬ and →.

Concerning our main question we need a stronger notion of an expres-
sively complete set of connectives, namely, one allowing to define all boolean
functions.
Definition 6.1 A set $S$ of connectives is expressively complete if for every $n > 0$, every boolean function $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ is determined by some formula containing only the connectives from $S$.

A formula $A$ determines a function $f$ if $A = f$, according to Definition 5.7.

Certainly, not every set is expressively complete. If we take, for example, the set with only negation ($\neg$), it is easy to see that it cannot be expressively complete. It is a unary operation, so that it will never give rise to, for instance, a function with two arguments. But it won’t even be able to define all unary functions. It can be used to define only two functions $\neg \rightarrow \neg$ – inverse (i.e., $\neg$ itself) and identity ($\neg\neg(x) = x$). (The proof-theoretic counterpart of this last fact was Lemma 4.10, showing provable equivalence of $B$ and $\neg\neg B$.) Any further applications of $\neg$ will yield one of these two functions. The constant functions ($f(x) = 1$ or $f(x) = 0$) can not be defined using exclusively this single connective. The following theorem identifies the first expressively complete set.

Theorem 6.2 The set $\{\neg, \land, \lor\}$ is expressively complete.

Proof. Let $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ be an arbitrary boolean function of $n$ arguments (for some $n > 0$) with a given boolean table. If $f$ always equals 0 then the contradiction $(a_1 \land \neg a_2) \lor \ldots \lor (a_n \land \neg a_m)$ determines $f$. For the case when $f$ equals 1 for at least one row of arguments, we write the proof to the left illustrating it with an example to the right.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proof</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Let $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n$ be distinct propositional variables listed in increasing order. The boolean table for $f$ has $2^n$ rows. Let $a_{cr}^c$ denote the entry in the $c$-th column and $r$-th row.</td>
<td>$f(a_1, a_2)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For each $1 \leq r \leq 2^n$, $1 \leq c \leq n$ let $L_c^r = \begin{cases} a_c &amp; \text{if } a_{cr}^c = 1 \ \neg a_c &amp; \text{if } a_{cr}^c = 0 \end{cases}$</td>
<td>$\begin{array}{c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For each row $1 \leq r \leq 2^n$ form the conjunction: $C^r = L_1^r \land L_2^r \land \ldots \land L_n^r$.</td>
<td>$L_1^1 = a_1, L_2^1 = a_2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Then for all rows $r$ and $p \neq r$:</td>
<td>$L_1^2 = a_1, L_2^2 = \neg a_2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C^r(a_1^r, \ldots, a_n^r) = 1$ and</td>
<td>$L_1^3 = \neg a_1, L_2^3 = a_2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C^p(a_1^p, \ldots, a_n^p) = 0$.</td>
<td>$L_1^4 = \neg a_1, L_2^4 = \neg a_2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let $D$ be the disjunction of those $C^r$ for which $f(a_1^r, \ldots, a_n^r) = 1$.</td>
<td>$C^2 = a_1 \land a_2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$C^3 = a_1 \land \neg a_2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$C^4 = \neg a_1 \land a_2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$D = C^2 \lor C^3$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$= (a_1 \land a_2) \lor (\neg a_1 \land a_2)$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.1. Expressive Completeness

The claim is: the function determined by $D$ is $f$, i.e., $D = f$. If $f(\vec{a}_1^r, \ldots, \vec{a}_n^r) = 1$ then $D$ contains the corresponding disjunct $C^r$ which, since $C^r(\vec{a}_1^r, \ldots, \vec{a}_n^r) = 1$, makes $D(\vec{a}_1^r, \ldots, \vec{a}_n^r) = 1$. If $f(\vec{a}_1^r, \ldots, \vec{a}_n^r) = 0$, then $D$ does not contain the corresponding disjunct $C^r$. But for all $p \neq r$ we have $C^p(\vec{a}_1^r, \ldots, \vec{a}_n^r) = 0$, so none of the disjuncts in $D$ will be 1 for these arguments, and hence $D(\vec{a}_1^r, \ldots, \vec{a}_n^r) = 0$.

\[\text{QED (6.2)}\]

Having some expressively complete set $S$, one shows expressively completeness of another set $T$ by demonstrating how every connective $s \in S$ can be defined using only connectives from $T$.

**Corollary 6.3** The following sets of connectives are expressively complete:

1. $\{\neg, \lor\}$
2. $\{\neg, \land\}$
3. $\{\neg, \rightarrow\}$

**Proof.** (1) By de Morgan's law $A \land B \leftrightarrow \neg(\neg A \lor \neg B)$. Thus we can express each conjunction by negation and disjunction. Using distributivity and associative laws, this allows us to rewrite the formula obtained in the proof of Theorem 6.2 to an equivalent one without conjunction.

(2) The same argument as above.

(3) According to Definition 5.9, $A \lor B \equiv \neg A \rightarrow B$. This, however, was a merely syntactic definition of a new symbol $\lor$. Here we have to show that the boolean functions $\lor$ and $\rightarrow$ can be used to define the boolean function $\lor$. But this was done in Exercise 5.2.(1) where the semantics (boolean table) for $\lor$ was given according to Definition 5.9, i.e., where $A \lor B \leftrightarrow \neg A \rightarrow B$, required here, was shown. So the claim follows from point (1).

\[\text{QED (6.3)}\]

**Remark.**

Our definition of "expressively complete" does not require that any formula determines the functions from $\{1, 0\}^0$ into $\{1, 0\}$. $\{1, 0\}^0$ is the singleton set $\{\epsilon\}$ and there are two functions from it into $\{1, 0\}$, namely $\{\epsilon \mapsto 1\}$ and $\{\epsilon \mapsto 0\}$. These functions are not determined by any formula in the connectives $\lor, \land, \neg, \rightarrow$. The best approximations are tautologies and contradictions like $(a \rightarrow a)$ and $\neg(a \rightarrow a)$, which we in fact took to be the special formulae $\top$ and $\bot$. However, these determine the functions $\{1 \mapsto 1, 0 \mapsto 1\}$ and $\{1 \mapsto 0, 0 \mapsto 0\}$, which in a strict set theoretic sense are distinct from the functions above. To obtain a set of connectives that is expressively complete in a stricter sense, one would have to introduce $\top$ or $\bot$ as a special formula (in fact, a 0-argument connective) that does not contain any propositional variables.
6.2 Disjunctive and Conjunctive normal form

The fact that, for instance, \( \{ \neg, \rightarrow \} \) is an expressively complete set, vastly reduces the need for elaborate syntax when studying propositional logic. We can (as we indeed have done) restrict the syntax of \( \text{WF}^{\text{PT}} \) to the necessary minimum. This simplifies many proofs concerned with the syntax and the axiomatic systems since such proofs involve often induction on the syntactic definitions (of \( \text{WF} \), of \( \neg \), etc.). Adequacy of the set means that any entity (any function defined by a formula) has some specific, "normal" form using only the connectives from the expressively complete set.

Now we will show that even more "normalization" can be achieved. Not only every (boolean) function can be defined by some formula using only the connectives from one expressively complete set — every such a function can be defined by such a formula which, in addition, has a very specific form.

**Definition 6.4** A formula \( B \) is in

1. **disjunctive normal form**, DNF, iff \( B = C_1 \lor \ldots \lor C_n \) where each \( C_i \) is a conjunction of literals.
2. **conjunctive normal form**, CNF, iff \( B = D_1 \land \ldots \land D_m \) where each \( D_i \) is a disjunction of literals.

**Example 6.5**

Let \( \Sigma = \{ a, b, c \} \).
- \( (a \land b) \lor (\neg a \land \neg b) \) and \( (a \land b) \lor (\neg a \land \neg c) \) are both in DNF
- \( a \lor b \) and \( a \land b \) are both in DNF and CNF
- \( (a \lor (b \land c)) \land (\neg b \lor a) \) is neither in DNF nor in CNF
- \( (a \lor b) \land c \land (\neg a \lor b \lor \neg c) \) is in CNF but not in DNF
- \( (a \land b) \lor (\neg a \land \neg b) \) is in DNF but not in CNF.

The last formula can be transformed into CNF applying the laws like those from Subsection 5.2.1, p. 142. The distributivity and associativity laws yield:

\[ (a \land b) \lor (\neg a \lor \neg b) \iff (a \lor \neg a \lor \neg b) \land (b \lor \neg a \lor \neg b) \]

and the formula on the right hand side is in CNF.

Recall the form of the formula constructed in the proof of Theorem 6.2— it was in DNF! Thus, this proof tells us not only that the set \( \{ \neg, \land, \lor \} \) is expressively complete but also

**Corollary 6.6** Each formula is logically equivalent to a formula in DNF.
6.2. DISJUNCTIVE AND CONJUNCTIVE NORMAL FORM

Proof. For any \( B \) there is a \( D \) in DNF such that \( B \equiv D \). By "renaming" the propositional variables of \( D \) (Exercise 5.10), one obtains a new formula \( B_D \) in DNF, such that \( B \equiv B_D \).

Corollary 6.6 allows us also to establish the existence of conjunctive normal form.

Corollary 6.7 Each formula is logically equivalent to a formula in CNF.

Proof. Assuming, by Corollary 6.3, that the only connectives in \( B \) are \( \neg \) and \( \land \), we proceed by induction on \( B \)'s complexity:

\( a \vdash A \) : A propositional variable is a conjunction over one literal, and hence is in CNF.

\( \neg A \vdash A \) : By Corollary 6.6, \( A \) is equivalent to a formula \( A_D \) in DNF. Exercise 6.11 allows us to conclude that \( B \) is equivalent to \( B_C \) in CNF.

\( C \land A \vdash A \) : By III, both \( C \) and \( A \) have CNF : \( C_C \land A_C \). Then \( C_C \land A_C \) is easily transformed into CNF (using associative laws), i.e., we obtain an equivalent \( B_C \) in CNF.

The concepts of disjunctive and conjunctive normal forms may be ambiguous, as the definitions do not determine uniquely the form. If 3 variables \( a, b, c \) are involved, the CNF of \( \neg(a \land \neg b) \) can be naturally seen as \( \neg a \lor b \). But one could also require all variables to be present, in which case the CNF would be \( (\neg a \lor b \lor c) \land (\neg a \lor b \lor \neg c) \). Applying distributivity to the following formula in DNF: \( (b \land a) \lor (c \land a) \lor (b \land \neg a) \lor (c \land \neg a) \), we obtain CNF \( (b \lor c) \land (a \lor \neg c) \). The last, tautological conjunct can be dropped, so that also \( b \lor c \) can be considered as the CNF of this formula.

6.2.1: CNF, CLAUSES AND SATISFIABILITY

An algorithm for constructing a DNF follows from the proof of Theorem 6.2: CNF can be constructed by performing the dual moves from a boolean table for a function. If it is always \( 1 \), take a tautology with appropriate variables, \((a_1 \lor \neg a_2) \land \ldots \land (a_n \lor \neg a_n) \). Otherwise, pick the rows with value 0 and for each such row form the conjunction of its literals, combining the conjunctions with the disjunction as in the proof of Theorem 6.2. Take now the negation of the whole formula – pushing the negation inwards using de Morgan, will yield the conjunction of disjunctions of the negations of all literals. CNF results now from removing double negations wherever they occur. For the function from the proof of Theorem 6.2, we obtain \( \neg(a_1 \land \neg a_2) \land (\neg a_1 \land a_2) \) which, after de Morgan and elimination of double negation, becomes \( \neg a_1 \lor \neg a_2 \lor a_1 \lor a_2 \).
A disjunction of literals is called a clause and thus CNF is a conjunction of clauses. It plays a crucial role in many applications and the problem of deciding if a given CNF formula is satisfiable, SAT, is the paradigmatic NP-complete problem. (Deciding if a given DNF formula is satisfiable is trivial—it suffices to check if it contains any conjunction without any pair of complementary literals.)

For a given set \( V \) of \( n = |V| \) variables, a \( V \)-clause or (abstracting from the actual names of the variables and considering only their number) \( n \)-clause is one with \( n \) literals. There are \( 2^n \) distinct \( n \)-clauses, and the set containing them all is denoted \( C(V) \). The following fact may seem at first surprising, claiming that every subset of such \( n \)-clauses except the whole \( C(V) \) is satisfiable.

**Fact 6.8** For a \( T \subseteq C(V) : \mod(T) = \emptyset \iff T = C(V) \).

**Proof.** Proceeding by induction on the number \( |V| = n \) of variables, the claim is trivially verified for \( n = 1 \) or \( n = 2 \). For any \( n + 1 > 2 \), in any subset of \( 2^{n-1} - 1 = 2^{n-1} + 2^{n-1} - 1 \) clauses, at least one of the literals, say \( x \), occurs \( 2^{n-1} \) times. These clauses are satisfied by making \( x = 1 \). From the remaining \( 2^{n-1} - 1 \) clauses, we remove \( x \) and obtain \( 2^{n-2} - 1 \) clauses over \( n - 1 \) variables, for which \( \mod \) applies. Since every subset of \( 2^{n-1} - 1 \) clauses is satisfiable, so is every smaller subset, for every \( n \). QED (68)

This follows, in fact, from a more general observation. Given a subset \( T \subseteq C(V) \) of \( V \)-clauses, its models are determined exactly by the clauses in \( C(V) \setminus T \). For an \( n \)-clause \( C \), let \( \val(C) \) denote the valuation assigning 0 to all positive literals and 1 to all negative literals in \( C \).

**Fact 6.9** Let \( T \subseteq C(V) : \mod(T) = \{\val(C) : C \in C(V) \setminus T\} \).

This holds because each \( C \in C(V) \setminus T \) differs from each \( M \in T \) at least at one literal, say \( \text{lcm} \in M \) and \( \text{lcm} \in C \) (where \( \text{lcm} \) denotes arbitrarily complementary pair of literals). Taking the complements of all literals in \( C \) will then make true \( \val(C) \iff M \subseteq T \) at least by the respective literal \( \text{lcm} \in M \), on which the two differ. Since \( C \) contains such a literal for each clause from \( T \), \( \val(C) \subseteq T \).

**Example 6.10** For \( V = \{a, b, c\} \), let the theory \( T \) contain the 5 \( V \)-clauses in the first column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( a \lor b \lor c )</th>
<th>( \neg a \lor b \lor c )</th>
<th>( \neg a \lor \neg b \lor c )</th>
<th>( \neg a \lor \neg b \lor \neg c )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
<td>( a \lor b \lor c )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The three clauses in \( C(V) \setminus T \) give valuations in the second row. Each of them
6.2. Disjunctive and Conjunctive Normal Form

makes 1 the literals marked in the rows for the respective clauses of $T$. □

Fact 6.9 finds important applications in the decision procedures for satisfiability and in counting the number of models of a theory. It is commonly applied as the so called "semantic tree", representing the models of a theory. Order the atoms $V$ of the alphabet in an arbitrary total ordering $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n$ and build a complete binary tree by starting with the empty root (level 0) and, at each level $i > 0$, adding two children, $v_i$ and $\neg v_i$, to each node at the previous level $i-1$.

A complete branch in such a tree (i.e., each of the 2$^n$ leaves) represents a possible assignment of the values 1 to each node $v_i$ and 0 to each node $\neg v_i$ on the branch. According to Fact 6.9, each clause from $C(V)$ excludes one such branch, formed by negations of all literals in the clause. One says that the respective branch becomes "closed" and, on the drawing below, these closed branches, for the five clauses from $T$, are marked by $\times$:

\[
\begin{align*}
 & \blacktriangleright \varepsilon \\
 & \blacktriangleright a \\
 & \blacktriangleright b \\
 & \blacktriangleright c \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg a \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg b \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg c \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg b \land \neg c \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg a \land \neg b \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg a \land \neg c \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg b \land \neg c \\
\end{align*}
\]

The literals on the open branches, terminating with the unmarked leafs, give the three models of $T$, as in Example 6.10.

In practice, the algorithms do not build the complete tree which quickly becomes prohibitively large as $n$ grows. Instead, it is developed gradually, observing if there remain any open branches. Usually, a theory is given by clauses of various length, much shorter than the total number $n$ of variables. Such a shorter clause excludes then all branches containing all its negated literals. For if the theory is extended with the clause $\neg a \lor \neg b$, all branches containing $a$ and $b$ become closed, as shown below. Once closed, a branch is never extended during the further construction of the tree.

\[
\begin{align*}
 & \blacktriangleright \varepsilon \\
 & \blacktriangleright a \\
 & \blacktriangleright b \\
 & \blacktriangleright c \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg a \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg b \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg c \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg a \land \neg b \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg a \land \neg c \\
 & \blacktriangleright \neg b \land \neg c \\
\end{align*}
\]

The resulting theory still has one model, represented by the open branch $\pi_b b c$. Adding any clause closing this branch, i.e., $a \lor \neg b \lor \neg c$ or $\neg c \lor \neg b$ or $\neg c \lor \neg a$, etc., makes the theory inconsistent. ........................................ [end optional]
6.3 Soundness

--- a background story ---

The library offers its customers the possibility of ordering books on the internet. From the main page one may ask the system to find the book one wishes to borrow. (We assume that appropriate search engine will always find the book one is looking for or else give a message that it could not be identified. In the sequel we are considering only the case when the book you asked for was found.)

The book (found by the system) may happen to be immediately available for loan. In this case, you may just reserve it and our story ends here. But the most frequent case is that the book is on loan or else must be borrowed from another library. In such a case the system gives you the possibility to order it: you mark the book and the system will send you a message as soon as the book becomes available. (You need no message as long as the book is not available and the system need not inform you about that.) Simplicity of this scenario notwithstanding, this is actually our whole story.

There are two distinct assumptions which make us rely on the system when we order a book. The first is that when you get the message that the book is available it really is. The system will not play a joke with you saying "Hi, the book is here" while it is still on loan with another user. We trust that what the system says ("The book is here") is true. This property is what we call "soundness" of the system - it never provides us with false information.

But there is also another aspect making up our trust in the system. Suppose that the book actually becomes available, but you do not get the appropriate message. The system is still sound - it does not give you any wrong information - but only because it does not give you any information whatever. It keeps silent although it should have said that the book is there and you can borrow it. The other aspect of our trust is that whenever there is a fact to be reported ("the book became available"), the system will do it - it is "complete".

Just like a system may be sound without being complete (keep silent even though the book arrived to the library), it may be complete without being sound. If it constantly sent messages that the book you ordered was available, it would, sooner or later (namely when the book eventually became available) report the true fact. However, in
the meantime, it would provide you with a series of incorrect information – it would be unsound.

Thus, soundness of a system means that whatever it says is correct; it says “The book is here” only if it is here. Completeness means that everything that is correct will be said by the system; it says “The book is here” if (always when) the book is here. In the latter case, we should pay attention to the phrase “everything that is correct”. It makes sense because our setting is very limited. We have one command ‘order the book ...’, and one possible response of the system: the message that the book became available. “Everything that is correct” means here simply that the book you ordered actually is available. It is only this limited context (i.e., limited and well-defined amount of true facts) which makes the notion of completeness meaningful.

In connection with axiomatic systems one often resorts to another analogy. The axioms and the deduction rules together define the scope of the system’s knowledge about the world. If all aspects of this knowledge (all the theorems) are true about the world, the system is sound. This idea has enough intuitive content to be grasped with reference to vague notions of ‘knowledge’, ‘the world’, etc. and our illustration with the system saying “The book is here” only when it actually is, merely makes it more specific.

Completeness, on the other hand, would mean that everything that is true about the world (and expressible in the actual language), is also reflected in the system’s knowledge (theorems). Here it becomes less clear what the intuitive content of ‘completeness’ might be. What can one possibly mean by “everything that is true”? In our library example, the user and the system use only very limited language allowing the user to ‘order the book ...’ and the system to state that it is available. Thus, the possible meaning of “everything” is limited to the book being available or not. One should keep this difference between ‘real world’ and ‘availability of a book’ in mind because the notion of completeness is as unnatural in the context of natural language and real world, as it is adequate in the context of bounded, sharply delineated worlds of formal semantics. The limited expressiveness of a formal language plays here crucial role of limiting the discourse to a well-defined set of expressible facts.

The library system should be both sound and complete to be useful. For axiomatic systems, the minimal requirement is that they are sound – completeness is a desirable feature which, typically, is much
harder to prove. There are axiomatic systems which are sound but inherently incomplete but we will not study such systems.  

Definition 5.11 introduced, among other concepts, the validity relation $\models A$, stating that $A$ is satisfied by all structures. On the other hand, we studied the syntactic notion of a proof in a given axiomatic system $S$, which we wrote as $\vdash A$. We also saw a generalization of the provability predicate $\vdash$ in Hilbert's system to the relation $\Gamma \vdash A$, where $\Gamma$ is a theory—a set of formulae. We now define the semantic relation $\Gamma \models A$ of "$A$ being a (meta)logical consequence of $\Gamma$".

**Definition 6.11** For $\Gamma \subseteq \text{WFF}_{PL}$, $A \in \text{WFF}_{PL}$ and a valuation $V$, we write:

- $V \models \Gamma$ iff $V \models G$ for all $G \in \Gamma$ — $V$ is a model of $\Gamma$
- $\text{Mod}(\Gamma) = \{V : V \models \Gamma\}$ — all models of $\Gamma$
- $\models \Gamma$ iff for all $V : V \models \Gamma$ — $\Gamma$ is valid
- $\Gamma \models A$ iff for all $V \in \text{Mod}(\Gamma) : V \models A$ — $A$ is a logical consequence of $\Gamma$

The analogy between the symbols $\models$ and $\vdash$ is not accidental. The former refers to a semantic notion, while the later to a syntactic one. Ideally, these two notions should be equivalent in some sense. The following table gives the picture of the intended equivalences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>syntactic vs. semantic</th>
<th>$\vdash_{\Gamma} A$</th>
<th>$\vdash A$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\vdash_{\Gamma} A$</td>
<td>$\models A$</td>
<td>$\Gamma \models A$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The implication $\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow \Gamma \models A$ is called soundness of the proof system $\mathcal{C}$ : whatever can be proven in $C$ from the assumptions $\Gamma$, is true in every structure satisfying $\Gamma$. This is usually easy to establish as we will see shortly. The problematic implication is the other one— Completeness— stating that any formula which is true in all models of $\Gamma$ is provable in $C$ from the assumptions $\Gamma$. ($\Gamma = \emptyset$ is a special case: the theorems $\vdash A$ are tautologies and the formulae $\models A$ are those satisfied by all possible structures, since every structure $V$ satisfies the empty set of assumptions.)

**Remark 6.19** [Soundness and Completeness]

Another way of viewing these two implications is as follows. Given an axiomatic system $\mathcal{C}$ and a theory $\Gamma$, the relation $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}}$ defines the set of formulae $\vdash_{\mathcal{C}}$ — the theorems $\text{Th}_{\mathcal{C}}(\Gamma) = \{ A : \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} A \}$. On the other hand, given the definition of $\Gamma \models_{\text{a}}$, we obtain a (possibly different) set of formulae, namely, the set $\models = \{ B : \Gamma \models B \}$ of (meta)logical consequences of $\Gamma$. Soundness of $\mathcal{C}$, i.e., the implication

1Thanks to Eivind Kollfahl for the library analogy.
6.3. SOUNESS

Γ ⊨ C, A ⇒ Γ ⊨ A means that any provable consequence is also a (tauto)logical consequence and amounts to the inclusion Thc(Γ) ⊆ Γ*. Completeness means that any (tauto)logical consequence of Γ is also provable and amounts to the opposite inclusion Γ* ⊆ Thc(Γ).

For proving soundness of a system consisting, like $\mathcal{H}$ or $\mathcal{N}$, of axioms and proof rules, one has to show that the axioms are valid and the rules preserve validity. (Typically, a stronger form is shown, namely, preservation of truth: whenever a structure satisfies the assumptions of the rule, then it satisfies also the conclusion.) These two facts establish, by induction on the length of the proof $\Gamma \vdash \forall A$, that all theorems of the system are valid.

**Theorem 6.14 [Soundness]** For every set $\Gamma \subseteq \text{WFF}_{PL}$ and $A \in \text{WFF}_{PL}$:

$$\Gamma \vdash \forall A \Rightarrow \Gamma \models A.$$  

**Proof.** We show that all axioms are valid, and that MP preserves truth in an arbitrary structure (and hence, validity and logical consequence).

A1–A3 :: In Exercise 5.2 we have seen that all axioms of $\mathcal{H}$ are valid, i.e., satisfied by any structure. In particular, the axioms are satisfied by all models of $\Gamma$, for any $\Gamma$.

A0 :: The axiom schema A0 allows us to conclude $\Gamma \vdash \forall B$ for any $B \in \Gamma$. This is obviously sound: any model $V$ of $\Gamma$ must satisfy all the formulae of $\Gamma$, and in particular, $B$.

MP :: Suppose $\Gamma \models A$ and $\Gamma \models A \rightarrow B$. Then, for an arbitrary $V \in \text{Mod}(\Gamma)$ we have $V(A) = 1$ and $V(A \rightarrow B) = 1$. Consulting the boolean table for $\rightarrow$: the first assumption reduces the possibilities for $V$ to the two rows for which $V(A) = 1$, and then, the second assumption to the only possible row in which also $V(A \rightarrow B) = 1$. In this row $V(B) = 1$, so $V \models B$. Since $V$ was an arbitrary model of $\Gamma$, it follows that $\Gamma \models B$.

Soundness of $\mathcal{H}$ follows by easy simplifications of this proof.

**Corollary 6.15** Every satisfiable theory is consistent.

**Proof.** We show the equivalent statement that every inconsistent theory is unsatisfiable. Indeed, if $\Gamma \models \bot$ then $\Gamma \models \bot$ by Theorem 6.14, hence $\Gamma$ is not satisfiable (since $\models \langle \forall x(x = x) \rangle = 0$).
Remark 6.16 [Equivalence of two soundness notions]
Soundness is often expressed as Corollary 6.15, since the two are equivalent:
6.14. $\Gamma \vdash Y \Rightarrow \Gamma \vdash A$, and
6.15. (exists $V : V \vdash \Gamma \Rightarrow \Gamma \not\vdash \bot$.

The implication 6.14 $\Rightarrow$ 6.15 is given in the proof of Corollary 6.15. For the opposite, if $\Gamma \vdash A$ then $\Gamma \cup \{\neg A\}$ is inconsistent (Exercise 4.5) and hence (by 6.15) unsatisfiable, i.e., for any $V : V \vdash \Gamma \Rightarrow \neg A$. But if $V \not\vdash \neg A$ then $V \vdash A$, and so, since $V$ was arbitrary, $\Gamma \vdash A$.

6.4 Completeness

The proof of completeness involves several lemmata which we now proceed to establish. Just as there are two equivalent ways of expressing soundness, there are two equivalent ways of expressing completeness. One (corresponding to Corollary 6.15) says that every consistent theory is satisfiable and the other that every valid formula is provable.

Lemma 6.17 The two formulations of completeness are equivalent:
(1) $\Gamma \not\vdash \bot$ $\Rightarrow$ Mod($\Gamma$) $\neq \emptyset$
(2) $\Gamma \vdash A$ $\Rightarrow$ $\Gamma \vdash Y A$

Proof. (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2). Assume (1) and $\Gamma \vdash A$, i.e., for any $V : V \vdash \Gamma \Rightarrow V \vdash A$. Then $\Gamma \cup \{\neg A\}$ has no model and, by (1), $\Gamma \vdash \neg A \not\vdash \bot$. By Deduction Theorem $\Gamma \vdash \neg A \not\vdash \bot$, and so $\Gamma \vdash A$ by Exercise 4.1.5(1) and Lemma 4.10(1).

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1). Assume (2) and $\Gamma \not\vdash \bot$. By the observation before Lemma 4.28 this means that there is an $A$ such that $\Gamma \vdash A$ and, by (2), that $\Gamma \not\vdash A$. This means that there is a structure $V$ such that $V \not\vdash A$ and $V \vdash \Gamma$. Thus (1) holds.

We prove the first of the above formulations: we take an arbitrary $\Gamma$ and, assuming that it is consistent, i.e., $\Gamma \not\vdash \bot$, we show that Mod($\Gamma$) $\neq \emptyset$ by constructing a particular structure which we prove to be a model of $\Gamma$. This proof is not the simplest possible for PL. However, we choose to do it this way because it illustrates the general strategy used in the completeness proof for FOL. Our proof uses the notion of a maximal consistent theory.

Definition 6.18 A theory $\Gamma \in WFF^2_{PL}$ is maximal consistent if it is consistent and, for any formula $A \in WFF^2_{PL}$, $\Gamma \vdash A$ or $\Gamma \vdash \neg A$. 
6.4. Completeness

From Exercise 4.5 we know that if \( \Gamma \) is consistent then for any \( A \) at most one, \( \Gamma \vdash_N A \) or \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg A \), is the case, i.e.:

\[
\Gamma \vdash_N A \text{ or } \Gamma \vdash_N \neg A \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \Gamma \vdash_N A \Rightarrow \Gamma \vdash_N \neg A \quad (6.19)
\]

Consistent \( \Gamma \) can not prove too much — if it proves something \( A \) then there is something else (namely \( \neg A \)) which it does not prove.

Maximality is a kind of the opposite — \( \Gamma \) can not prove too little: if \( \Gamma \) does not prove something \( \neg A \) then there must be something else it proves (namely \( A \)):

\[
\Gamma \vdash_N A \text{ or } \Gamma \vdash_N \neg A \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \Gamma \vdash_N A \iff \Gamma \vdash_N \neg A \quad (6.20)
\]

If \( \Gamma \) is maximal consistent it satisfies both (6.19) and (6.20) and hence, for any formula \( A \), exactly one of \( \Gamma \vdash_N A \) and \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg A \) is the case.

For instance, given \( \Sigma = \{a, b\} \), the theory \( \Gamma = \{a \rightarrow b\} \) is consistent. But it is not maximal consistent because, for instance, \( \Gamma \vdash_N a \) and \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg a \). (The same holds if we replace \( a \) by \( b \).) The following, equivalent formulation of maximal consistency for \( PL \), is easier to check.

**Fact 6.21** A theory \( \Gamma \subseteq \text{WFF}_N \) is maximal consistent iff it is consistent and for all \( a \in \Sigma : \Gamma \vdash_N a \) or \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg a \).

**Proof.** Only if part, i.e. \( \Rightarrow \), is trivial from definition 6.18 which ensures that \( \Gamma \vdash_N A \) or \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg A \) for all formulas in particular all atomic ones. The opposite implication is shown by induction on the complexity of \( A \).

\( A \) is:

- \( a \in \Sigma \) :: This case is trivial, being exactly the assumption.
  - \( \neg B \) :: By IH we have that \( \Gamma \vdash_N B \) or \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg B \). In the latter case, we are done (\( \Gamma \vdash_N A \)), while in the former we obtain \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg A \), i.e., \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg B \) from Lemma 4.10.
  - \( C \rightarrow D \) :: By IH we have that either \( \Gamma \vdash_N C \) or \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg D \). In the former case, we obtain \( \Gamma \vdash_N C \rightarrow D \) by Lemma 4.9. In the latter case, we have to consider two subcases — by IH either \( \Gamma \vdash_N C \) or \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg C \). If \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg C \) then, by Lemma 4.9, \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg D \rightarrow \neg C \).
    - Applying MP to this and axiom \( A_3 \), we obtain \( \Gamma \vdash_N C \rightarrow D \). So, finally, assume \( \Gamma \vdash_N C \) (and \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg D \)). But then \( \Gamma \vdash_N \neg(C \rightarrow D) \) by Exercise 4.14(3).

The maximality of a maximal consistent theory makes it easier to construct a model for it. We prove first this special case of the completeness theorem:
Lemma 6.22 Every maximal consistent theory is satisfiable.

Proof. Let $\Gamma$ be any maximal consistent theory, and let $\Sigma$ be the set of propositional variables. We define the valuation $V : \Sigma \rightarrow \{1, 0\}$ by the equivalence

$$V(a) = 1 \text{ iff } \Gamma \vdash_N a$$

for every $a \in \Sigma$. (Hence also $V(a) = 0$ if $\Gamma \nvdash a$.) We show that $V$ is a model of $\Gamma$, i.e., for any $B : if B \in \Gamma$ then $\hat{V}(B) = 1$. In fact, we prove a stronger claim that for every formula $B$,

$$\hat{V}(B) = 1 \text{ iff } \Gamma \vdash_N B.$$ 

The proof goes by induction on (the complexity of) $B$:

- $a ::$ Immediate from the definition of $V$.
- $\neg C :: \hat{V}(\neg C) = 1$ iff $\hat{V}(C) = 0$. By IH, the latter holds iff $\Gamma \nvdash C$, i.e., iff $\Gamma \vdash_N \neg C$.
- $C \rightarrow D ::$ We consider two cases:
  - $\hat{V}(C \rightarrow D) = 1$ implies that either $\hat{V}(C) = 0$ or $\hat{V}(D) = 1$. By the IH, this implies $\Gamma \nvdash C$ or $\Gamma \vdash_N D$, i.e., $\Gamma \vdash_N \neg C$ or $\Gamma \vdash_N D$. In the former case Exercise 4.11(1), and in the latter Lemma 4.12(2) gives that $\Gamma \vdash_N C \rightarrow D$.
  - $\hat{V}(C \rightarrow D) = 0$ implies $\hat{V}(C) = 1$ and $\hat{V}(D) = 0$, which by the IH imply $\Gamma \vdash_N C$ and $\Gamma \nvdash D$, i.e., $\Gamma \vdash_N C$ and $\Gamma \vdash_N \neg D$, which by Exercise 4.11(3) and two applications of MP imply $\Gamma \vdash_N \neg (C \rightarrow D)$. Since $\Gamma$ is consistent, this means that $\Gamma \nvdash (C \rightarrow D)$.

Next we use this result to show that every consistent theory is satisfiable. What we need, is a result stating that every consistent theory is a subset of some maximal consistent theory.

Lemma 6.23 Every consistent theory has a maximal consistent extension.

Proof. Let $\Gamma$ be a consistent theory, and let $\{a_0, \ldots, a_n\}$ be the set of propositional variables used in $\Gamma$. The case when $n = \omega$ (is countably infinite) is treated in the small font within the square brackets. Let

- $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma$
- $\Gamma_{i+1} = \begin{cases} \Gamma_i, a_i & \text{if this is consistent} \\ \Gamma_i, \neg a_i & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- $\hat{\Gamma} = \Gamma_{\omega+1} = \bigcup_{i<\omega} \Gamma_i$ if $n = \omega$

We show by induction on $i$ that for every $i$, $\Gamma_i$ is consistent.
6.4. Completeness

Basis :: $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma$ is consistent by assumption.

Ind. :: Suppose $\Gamma_j$ is consistent. If $\Gamma_{j+1}$ is inconsistent, then from the definition of $\Gamma_{j+1}$ we know that both $\Gamma_j, \alpha_j$ and $\Gamma_j, \neg \alpha_j$ are inconsistent, hence by Deduction Theorem $\alpha_j \rightarrow \bot$ and $\neg \alpha_j \rightarrow \bot$ are both provable from $\Gamma_j$. Exercise 4.1(4)-(5) tells us that in this case both $\neg \alpha_j$ and $\neg \neg \alpha_j$ are provable from $\Gamma_j$, contradicting consistency of $\Gamma_j$ (Exercise 4.5).

In particular, $\Gamma_0 = \widehat{\Gamma}$ is consistent. [For the infinite case, we use the above proof, the fact that any finite subtheory of $\widehat{\Gamma}$ must be contained in a $\Gamma_i$ for some $i$, and then the compactness Theorem 4.29.]

To finish the proof, we have to show that $\widehat{\Gamma}$ is not only consistent but also maximal, i.e., that for every $A$, either $\widehat{\Gamma} \vdash A$ or $\widehat{\Gamma} \vdash \neg A$. But this was shown in Fact 6.21, and so the proof is complete. $\Box$ (6.23)

The completeness theorem is now an immediate consequence.

Theorem 6.24 Every consistent theory is satisfiable.

Proof. Let $\Gamma$ be consistent. By Lemma 6.23 it can be extended to a maximal consistent theory $\widehat{\Gamma}$ which, by Lemma 6.22, is satisfiable, i.e., has a model $\mathcal{V}$. Since $\Gamma \subseteq \widehat{\Gamma}$ this model satisfies also $\Gamma$. $\Box$ (6.24)

Corollary 6.25 Let $\Gamma \subseteq WFF_{PL}$ and $A \in WFF_{PL}$. Then

1. $\Gamma \vDash A$ implies $\widehat{\Gamma} \vdash_{\mathcal{V}} A$, and
2. $\vdash_{\mathcal{V}} A$ implies $\Gamma \vDash A$.

Proof. In view of Lemma 4.18, (2) follows from (1). But (1) follows from Theorem 6.24 by Lemma 6.17. $\Box$ (6.25)

The soundness and completeness results are gathered in

Corollary 6.26 For any $\Gamma \subseteq WFF_{PL}$, $A \in WFF_{PL}$: $\Gamma \vDash A$ if and only if $\widehat{\Gamma} \vdash_{\mathcal{V}} A$.

Point (3) of the following corollary, giving a new, semantic characterization of consistency, follows from Remark 6.16 and Lemma 6.17. But it can be also seen as a consequence of soundness and completeness (if these were established without this remark and lemma).

Corollary 6.27 $\Gamma$ is consistent if any of the equivalent conditions holds:

1. $\Gamma \vDash_{\mathcal{V}} \bot$, or
2. for every formula $A$: $\Gamma \vDash_{\mathcal{V}} A$ or $\Gamma \vDash_{\mathcal{V}} \neg A$, or
3. modal($\Gamma$) $\neq \emptyset$. 
6.5 Some Applications

Having a sound and complete axiomatic system allows us to switch freely between the syntactic (concerning provability) and semantic (concerning validity) arguments depending on which one is easier in a given context.

1. Is a formula valid?

Validity of a PL formula is, typically, easiest to verify by making the appropriate boolean table. But we have also proved several formulae. For instance, asked whether \((A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C))\) is valid, we have a direct answer - it is axiom \(A2\) of \(\mathcal{H}\) and thus, by soundness of \(\mathcal{H}\), we can immediately conclude that the formula is valid.

2. Is a formula provable?

In Theorem 4.30 we gave an argument showing decidability of membership in \(\mathcal{N}\). In a bit roundabout way, we transformed \(\mathcal{N}\) expressions into corresponding \(\mathcal{G}\) expressions, and used \(\mathcal{G}\) to decide their derivability (which, we said, was equivalent to derivability in \(\mathcal{N}\)).

Corollary 6.26 gives us another, semantic, way of deciding membership in \(\mathcal{N}\). It says that \(\mathcal{N}\)-derivable formulae are exactly the ones which are valid. Thus, to see if \(G = A_1, \ldots, A_n \vdash \mathcal{N} B\) is derivable in \(\mathcal{N}\) it suffices to see if \(A_1, \ldots, A_n \models B\). Since \(G\) is derivable iff \(G' = \Gamma_1 \rightarrow (A_2 \rightarrow \ldots (A_n \rightarrow B)\ldots)\) is (Lemma 4.19), the problem can be decided by checking if \(G'\) is valid. But this is trivial! Just make the boolean table for \(G'\), fill out all the rows and see if the last column contains only 1. If it does, \(G'\) is valid and so, by completeness, derivable. If it does not (contains some 0), \(G'\) is not valid and, by soundness, is not derivable.

**Example 6.28**

Is \(\vdash \mathcal{N} A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A))\)? We make the boolean table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B \rightarrow A</th>
<th>B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A)</th>
<th>A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table tells us that \(\models A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A))\) and thus, by completeness of \(\mathcal{N}\), we conclude that the formula is derivable in \(\mathcal{N}\).

Now, is \(\vdash \mathcal{N} B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A)\)? The table is like the one above without the last column. The formula is not valid (third row gives 0), \(\not\models B \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A)\)
and, by soundness of $N$, we conclude that it is not derivable in $N$. □

Notice that to decide provability by such a reference to semantics we need both properties—completeness guarantees that whatever is valid is provable, while soundness that whatever is not valid is not provable.

This application of soundness/completeness is not typical because, usually, axiomatic systems are designed exactly to facilitate answering the more complicated questions about validity of formulae. In PL, however, the semantics is so simple and decidable that it is easier to work with it directly than using respective axiomatic systems (except, perhaps, for $G$).

3. Is a rule admissible?

For instance, is the rule 
\[ \frac{\vdash A \rightarrow B}{\vdash \neg B} \]
admissible in $N$?

First, we have to verify if the rule itself is sound. So let $V$ be an arbitrary structure (valuation) such that $V \vDash A \rightarrow B$ and $V \vDash \neg B$. From the latter we have that $V(B) = 0$ and so, using the definition of $\rightarrow$, we obtain that since $V(A \rightarrow B) = 1$, we must have $V(A) = 0$. This means that $V \vDash \neg A$. Since $V$ was arbitrary, we conclude that the rule is sound.

Now comes the application of soundness/completeness of $N$. If $\vdash A \rightarrow B$ and $\vdash \neg B$ then, by soundness of $N$, we also have $V \vDash A \rightarrow B$ and $V \vDash \neg B$. Then, by soundness of the rule itself, $V \vDash \neg A$. And finally, by completeness of $N$, this implies $\vdash \neg A$. Thus, the rule is, indeed, admissible in $N$, even though we have not shown how exactly the actual proof of $\neg A$ would be constructed. This form of an argument can be applied to show that any sound rule will be admissible in a sound and complete axiomatic system.

On the other hand, if a rule is not sound, the soundness of the axiomatic system immediately implies that the rule will not be admissible in it. For instance, the rule 
\[ \frac{\vdash A \rightarrow B}{\vdash \neg B} \]
\[ \frac{\vdash B}{\vdash A} \]
is not sound (verify it—find a valuation making both premises true and the conclusion false). By soundness of $N$, we may conclude that it isn’t admissible there.

**Exercises 6.**

**Exercise 6.1.** Translate the following arguments into formulæ of PL and show both semantically (by setting up appropriate boolean tables) and giving a syntactic proof (in any of the reasoning systems we have seen, assuming its soundness and completeness) that they are tautologies.
(1) If I am in Paris then I am in France and if I am in Rome then I am in Italy. Hence, if I am in Paris then I am in Italy or if I am in Rome then I am in France.

(2) If I press the gas pedal and turn the key, the car will start. Hence, either if I press the gas pedal the car will start or if I turn the key the car will start.

The confusion arises from the fact that in the daily language there is no clear distinction between $\rightarrow$ and $\Rightarrow$. The immediate understanding of the implications in the conclusions of these arguments will interpret them as $\Rightarrow$ rather than $\rightarrow$. This interpretation makes them sound absurd.

**Exercise 6.2** Let $F$, $G$ be two boolean functions given by

$$F(x,y) = 1 \text{ iff } x = 1, \quad G(x,y,z) = 1 \text{ iff } y = 1 \text{ or } z = 0.$$  

Write each of these functions as formulae in CNF and DNF.

**Exercise 6.3** Find DNF and CNF formulae inducing the same boolean functions as the formulae:

1. $(\neg a \land b) \rightarrow c$
2. $(a \rightarrow b) \land (b \rightarrow c) \land (a \lor \neg c)$
3. $(\neg a \lor b) \lor (a \lor (\neg a \land \neg b))$

[Recall first exercise 5.10. You may follow the construction from the proof of Theorem 6.2. But you may just use the laws which you have learned so far to perform purely syntactic manipulations. Which of these two ways is simpler?]

**Exercise 6.4** Define the binary connective $\downarrow$ (Sheffer’s stroke) as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$x$</th>
<th>$y$</th>
<th>$z$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Show that $\{\downarrow\}$ is an expressively complete set.

(Hint: Express some set you know is expressively complete using $\downarrow$)

**Exercise 6.5** Define inductively the language $\mathcal{P}$ (for a given alphabet $\Sigma$):

1. $\bot \in \mathcal{P}$ and $\top \in \mathcal{P}$ – two propositional constants
2. $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{P}$ – the parameter alphabet
3. If $A, B, C \in \mathcal{P}$ then also $\rightarrow (A, B, C) \in \mathcal{P}$.

The semantics is defined extending any valuation $V : \Sigma \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$, by:

$$V(\bot) = 0 \text{ and } V(\top) = 1$$

$$V(A) = V(a) \text{ for } a \in \Sigma$$

$$V(\rightarrow (A, B, C)) = \begin{cases} V(B) & \text{if } V(A) = 1 \\ V(C) & \text{if } V(A) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Show that the set $\{\top, \bot, \rightarrow (A, B, C)\}$ is expressively complete.
6.5. Some applications

**Exercise 6.6.** Show that \( \{v, \land\} \) is not an expressively complete set.

**Exercise 6.7.** Let \( \Sigma = \{a, b, c\} \) and consider two sets of formulae \( \Delta = \{a \land (a \to b)\} \) and \( \Gamma = \{a, a \to b, \neg c\} \). Give an example of
(1) an \( A \in \text{WFF}_{\text{PL}} \) such that \( \Delta \not\models A \) and \( \Gamma \models A \).
(2) a model (valuation) \( V \) such that \( V \models \Delta \) and \( V \not\models \Gamma \).

**Exercise 6.8.** Let \( \Sigma = \{a, b, c\} \). Which of the following sets of formulae are maximal consistent?
(1) \( \{a, b, \neg c\} \)
(2) \( \{\neg b \to a, \neg a \lor c\} \)
(3) \( \{\neg a \lor b, b \to c, \neg c\} \)
(4) \( \{\neg a \lor b, b \to c, \neg c, a\} \)

**Exercise 6.9.** Show that \( \Gamma \) is maximal consistent (in \( \mathcal{N} \)) iff it has exactly one model.

**Exercise 6.10.** We consider Gentzen’s system for \( \text{PL} \).

The interpretation of sequents is defined as follows. A structure (valuation) \( V \) satisfies the sequent \( \Gamma \vdash \Delta \), written \( V \models \Gamma \vdash \Delta \), iff either there is a formula \( \gamma \in \Gamma \) such that \( V \not\models \gamma \) or there is a formula \( \delta \in \Delta \) such that \( V \models \delta \), i.e., iff \( V \models \Lambda \Gamma \to \Lambda \Delta \). Writing the sequent explicitly:

\[
V \models \gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_\nu \vdash \delta_1, \ldots, \delta_\mu \quad \iff \quad V \models \gamma_1 \land \cdots \land \gamma_\nu \to \delta_1 \lor \cdots \lor \delta_\mu .
\]

\( \Gamma \vdash \Delta \) is valid iff it is satisfied by every valuation, i.e., iff \( \Lambda \Gamma \vdash \Lambda \Delta \).

We have remarked that the same formulae are provable whether in the axioms we require only atoms or allow general formulae. Here we take the version with only atomic formulae in the axioms (i.e., axioms are sequents \( \Gamma \vdash \Delta \) with \( \Gamma \cap \Delta \neq \emptyset \) and where all formulae in \( \Gamma \cup \Delta \) are atomic (i.e., propositional variables)). Also, we consider only the basic system with the rules for the connectives \( \to \) and \( \to \).

1. (a) Say (in only one sentence!) why the axioms of \( \text{PL} \) are valid, i.e., why every valuation \( V \) satisfies every axiom.
   (b) Given an irreducible sequent \( S \) (containing only atomic formulae) which is not an axiom, describe a valuation \( V \) making \( V \not\models S \) (a so called “counter-model” for \( S \)).

2. Verify that the rules are invertible, that is, are sound in the direction “bottom up”: for any valuation \( V \), if \( V \) satisfies the conclusion of the rule, then \( V \) satisfies all the premises.

3. Suppose that \( \Gamma \not\models \Delta \). Then, at least one of the branches of the proof (built bottom-up from this sequent) ends with a non-axiomatic sequent \( S \) (containing only atoms). Hence, as shown in point 1(b), \( S \) has a counter-model.
(a) On the basis of (one of) the above points, explain (in only one sentence) why this counter-model $V$ for $S$ will also be a counter-model for $\Gamma \vdash \Delta$, i.e., why it will be the case that $V \not\models \Gamma \rightarrow \forall \Delta$.

(b) You have actually proved completeness of the system $\Gamma_\omega$. Explain (in one sentence or formula) why this is the case.

Soundness and above completeness result for Gentzen’s system, together with the corresponding results for $\mathcal{N}$, establish now formally the equivalence (4.11), p. 129. Use these results to

(4) prove the equivalence (4.11), for arbitrary finite $\Gamma$ and formula $B$;

(5) show the admissibility of the (cut) rule in Gentzen’s system (in a more general form than (4.12) from p. 129), namely:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A ; A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

**EXERCISE 6.11** Apply de Morgan’s laws to show directly (without using Corollaries 6.6–6.7) that

(1) if $A$ is in CNF then $\neg A$ is equivalent to a formula in DNF

(2) if $A$ is in DNF then $\neg A$ is equivalent to a formula in CNF

**EXERCISE 6.12** The following rules, called (respectively) the constructive and destructive dilemmas, are often handy in constructing proofs

$$\begin{align*}
\text{(CD)} & \quad A \vee B ; A \rightarrow C ; B \rightarrow D \\
\text{(DD)} & \quad \neg C \vee \neg D ; A \rightarrow C ; B \rightarrow D
\end{align*}$$

Show that they are sound, i.e., in any structure $V$ which makes the assumptions of (each) rule true, the (respective) conclusion is true as well. Use this to show that these rules are admissible in $\mathcal{N}$. (If the syntax $X \vee Y$ seems confusing, it can be written as $\neg X \rightarrow Y$.)

**EXERCISE 6.13** [Galois connection]

(A) We used the word “theory” for an arbitrary set of formulae. Another, common, usage distinguishes between such a set — calling it non-logical axioms — and its closure under $\vdash$ which is called a theory (relatively to some given proof system $C$). In Remark 6.13 we defined this set — the theory of $\Gamma$ — as $\text{Th}_C(\Gamma) = \{ B \in \text{WFF} : \Gamma \vdash_{\omega} B \}$. Similarly, the models of $\Gamma$ are defined as $\text{Mod}(\Gamma) = \{ V : V \models \Gamma \}$. As an example, we can instantiate the generic notions of $\vdash$ and $\models$ to $\mathcal{N}$, obtaining:

- $\text{Th}_N(\Gamma) = \{ B \in \text{WFF}_{FL} : \Gamma \vdash_{\omega} B \}$
- $\text{Mod}(\Gamma) = \{ V : \Sigma \rightarrow \{0, 1\} : \forall (G) = 1 \text{ for all } G \in \Gamma \}$

Show the following statements:

(1) $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma \Rightarrow \text{Th}_N(\Delta) \subseteq \text{Th}_N(\Gamma)$

(2) $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma \Rightarrow \text{Mod}(\Delta) \supseteq \text{Mod}(\Gamma)$
6.5. Some Applications

(B) We can view \( \text{Mod} \) as a function \( \text{Mod} : \varphi(\text{WFF}) \to \varphi(\text{Str}) \) assigning to a theory \( \Gamma \) (a set of non-logical axioms) the set of all Structures (valuations) which satisfy all the axioms from \( \Gamma \). On the other hand, we can define the function \( \text{Th} : \varphi(\text{Str}) \to \varphi(\text{WFF}) \) assigning to an arbitrary set of Structures the set of all formulae satisfied by all these structures. (This \( \text{Th} \) should not be confused with \( \text{Th}_C \) above which was defined relatively to a proof system.) That is:

- \( \text{Mod} : \varphi(\text{WFF}) \to \varphi(\text{Str}) \) is defined by \( \text{Mod}(\Gamma) \equiv \{ V : V \models \Gamma \} \)
- \( \text{Th} : \varphi(\text{Str}) \to \varphi(\text{WFF}) \) is defined by \( \text{Th}(K) \equiv \{ A : K \models A \} \)

Assuming a sound and complete proof system \( \mathcal{C} \), show that:

1. \( \text{Th}_C(\Gamma) = \text{Th}(\text{Mod}(\Gamma)) \)
2. What would you have to change in the above equation if you merely knew that \( \mathcal{C} \) is sound (but not complete) or complete (but not sound)?

Show that these two functions form the Galois connection, i.e., satisfy:

3. \( K \subseteq L \Rightarrow \text{Th}(K) \supseteq \text{Th}(L) \)  
4. \( \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \Rightarrow \text{Mod}(\Delta) \supseteq \text{Mod}(\Gamma) \)

5. \( K \subseteq \text{Mod}(\text{Th}(K)) \)  
6. \( \Gamma \subseteq \text{Th}(\text{Mod}(\Gamma)) \)

Exercise 6.1.4 [Łukasiewicz’s 3-valued logic \( \mathbf{L}_3 \)]

To the propositional language (with \( \neg \) and \( \to \)) from Def. 4.4, we give a 3-valued semantics, interpreting formulae over the set \( L = \{ 1, 0, \dfrac{1}{3} \} \). (The value \( \dfrac{1}{3} \) represents “undetermined”,) An assignment \( V : \Sigma \to L \) extends to all formulae, \( \overline{V}^3 : \text{WFF}^3 \to L \), according to the two tables below to the left (coinciding with the ones from Def. 5.2 on the boolean values \( \{ 0, 1 \} \)).

\[
\begin{array}{c|cccc|c}
\top & 1 & 0 & \dfrac{1}{3} \\
\hline
1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
\dfrac{1}{3} & 0 & 1 & 0
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c|cccc|c}

Satisfaction \( \models_3 \) and tautologies \( \mathbf{L}_3 \) are defined as expected to the right, using only \( 1 \in L \) as the designated element (marking “true” formulae). We are concerned only with the \( \mathbf{L}_3 \)-tautologies \( \mathbf{L}_3 \) and, on the other hand, the classical ones, \( \text{Taut} = \{ A \in \text{WFF}^3 : \models_3 A \} \).

1. Show that \( \mathbf{L}_3 \subseteq \text{Taut} \), i.e., for every \( A \in \text{WFF}^3 \), if for all \( V \in \mathbf{L}_3 \), \( V \models_3 A \) then also for all \( V : V \models A \), where \( \mathbf{L}_3 \) ranges over 3-valued assignments to \( L \) while \( V \) over assignments to \( B \).

(Hint: Try a contrapositive argument, using the fact that the 3-valued tables reduce to the usual boolean ones when applied only to the values \( \{ 0, 1 \} \).

2. Show that (all instances of) the following formulae are \( \mathbf{L}_3 \)-tautologies:
(a) \( \models_3 A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A) \)
(b) \( \models_3 (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)) \)
(c) \( \models_3 (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B) \).

(3) Show that the Modus Ponens rule of Hilbert’s system is \( \downarrow \downarrow \) sound:
\[
\frac{\models_3 A ; \models_3 A \rightarrow B}{\models_3 B}.
\]

(4) Using (2) and (3), explain how we can conclude that \( \downarrow \subseteq \text{Taut} \).
(Hint: Consider the formulae provable in Hilbert’s system and their relation to the classical tautologies \( \text{Taut} \), on the one hand, and to the \( \downarrow \)-tautologies \( \downarrow \), on the other.)
Chapter 7

SYNTAX AND PROOF SYSTEMS OF FOL

A background story

Propositional language is very rudimentary and has limited expressive power. The only relation between various statements it can handle is that of identity and difference - the axiom schema \( \forall x. A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A) \) sees merely that the first and last statements must be identical while the middle one is arbitrary (possibly different from \( A \)). Consider, however, the following argument:

\[
\begin{align*}
A & : \text{Every man is mortal;} \\
\text{and } B & : \text{Socrates is a man;} \\
\text{hence } C & : \text{Socrates is mortal.}
\end{align*}
\]

Since all the involved statements are different, the representation in PL will amount to \( A \land B \rightarrow C \) which, obviously, is not a valid formula. The validity of this argument rests on the fact that the minor premise \( B \) makes Socrates, so to speak, an instance of the subject of the major premise \( A \) - whatever applies to every man, applies to each particular man.

In this particular case, one might try to refine the representation of the involved statements a bit. Say that we use the following propositional variables: \( \text{Man} \) (for "being a man"), \( \text{Mo} \) (for "being mortal") and \( \text{So} \) (for "being Socrates"). Then we obtain: \( \text{So} \rightarrow \text{Man} \) and \( \text{Man} \rightarrow \text{Mo} \), which does entail \( \text{So} \rightarrow \text{Mo} \). We were lucky! - because the argument had a rather simple structure. If we, for instance, wanted to say that "Some men are thieves" in addition to "All men are mortal", we could hardly use the same \( \text{Man} \) in both cases. The following argument, too, is very simple, but it illustrates the need for talking not only about atomic statements, but also about involved entities and relations between them.
Every horse is an animal;

hence Every head of a horse is a head of an animal.

Its validity relies not so much on the form, let alone identity and difference, of the involved statements as on the relations between the involved entities, in particular, that of ‘being a head of...’ Since each horse is an animal, whatever applies to animals (or their heads) applies to horses as well. It is hard to imagine how such an argument might possibly be represented (as a valid statement) in PL.

Intuitively, the semantic “view of the world” underlying FOL can be summarised as follows.

1. We have a universe of discourse $U$ comprising all entities of (current) interest.
2. We may have particular means of picking some entities.
   a. For instance, a name, ‘Socrates’ can be used to designate a particular individual: Such names correspond to constants, or functions with 0 arguments.
   b. An individual may also be picked by saying ‘the father of...’. Here, ‘the father of ...’ (just like ‘the head of ...’) is a function taking 1 argument (preferably a man, but generally an arbitrary entity from $U$, since the considered functions are total) and pointing at another individual. Functions may have arbitrary arities, e.g., ‘the children of $x$ and $y’ is a function of 2 arguments returning a set of children, ‘the solutions of $x^2 - y^2 = 0’ is a function of 2 arguments returning a set of numbers.
   c. To facilitate flexible means of expression, we may use variables, $x$, $y$, etc. to stand for arbitrary entities in more complex expressions.
3. The entities from $U$ can be classified and related using various predicates and relations:
   a. We may identify subsets of $U$ by means of (unary) predicates: the predicate $M(y)$ – true about those $y$’s which are men, e.g. $M(\text{Socrates})$, but not about inanimate things – identifies a subset of those elements of $U$ about which it is true, i.e., $\{y \in U : M(y)\};$ the predicate $M(x)$ – true about the mortal beings and false about all other entities – identifies the subset of mortal beings; $H(y)$ – the subset of horses, $A(y)$ – the animals, etc.
7.1. Syntax of FOL

(b) The entities may stand in various relations to each other: ‘x is older than y’ is a 2-argument relation which will hold between some individuals but not between others; similarly for ‘x is the head of y’, \(Hd(x,y)\), etc.

(4) \(Hd(x,y)\), stating that ‘x is the head of y’, is very different from the function \(hd(y)\) returning, for every y, its head. The latter merely picks new individual objects. The former is a predicate – it states some fact. Predicates and relations are the means for stating the “atomic facts” about the world. (For this reason, first order logic is also called “predicate logic”.) These can be then combined using the connectives, as in PL, “and”, “or”, “not”, etc. In addition, we may also state facts about indefinite, unnamed entities, for instance, “for-every \(x: M(x) \to Mo(x)\)”, “for-no \(x: H(x) \land M(x)\)”, etc.

Agreeing on such an interpretation of the introduced symbols, the opening arguments would be written:

\[
\begin{align*}
A: \ & \text{for-every } y: \ M(y) \to Mo(y) \\
B: \ & \text{Mo(Socrates)} \\
C: \ & \text{Mo(Socrates)} \\
\hline
\text{for-every } y: \ H(y) \to A(y) \\
\text{for-every } x: \ (\text{there-is } y: H(y) \land Hd(x,y)) \to \\
\ & (\text{there-is } y: A(y) \land Hd(x,y))
\end{align*}
\]

This illustrates the intention of the language of FOL, which we now begin to study, and its semantics which will be our object in the following chapters.

7.1 Syntax of FOL

In propositional logic, the non-logical (i.e., relative to the context of application) part of the language was only the set \(\Sigma\) of propositional variables. In first order logic this part is much richer which also means that, in each particular application, the user can – and has to – make more detailed choices. Nevertheless, this non-logical part of the language has well defined components which will still make it possible to treat FOL in a uniform way, relatively independent of such contextual choices.

Definition 7.1 The alphabet of FOL consist of two disjoint sets \(\Sigma\) and \(\Phi\):
\[ \Sigma : \text{the non-logical alphabet contains non-logical symbols:} \]
\[ \begin{align*}
\text{- individual constants: } & \, I = \{ a, b, c, \ldots \} \\
\text{- individual variables: } & \, \mathcal{V} = \{ x_1, y_1, z_1, \ldots \} \\
\text{- function symbols: } & \, \mathcal{F} = \{ f, g, h, \ldots \} \text{ each taking a fixed finite number of arguments, called its arity.} \\
\text{- relation symbols: } & \, \mathcal{R} = \{ P, Q, R, \ldots \} \text{ each with a fixed finite arity.} 
\end{align*} \]
\[ \Phi : \text{contains the logical symbols:} \]
\[ \begin{align*}
\text{- the connectives of } \text{PL} : & \rightarrow \neg \\
\text{- quantifier: } & \exists 
\end{align*} \]

We make no assumption about the sizes of \( I, F, R \); any one of them may be infinite or empty, though typically each is finite. \( \mathcal{V} \), on the other hand, is always a countably infinite set.

We also use some auxiliary symbols like parentheses and commas. Relation symbols are also called predicate symbols or just predicates. Individual variables and constants are usually called just variables and constants.

**Example 7.2**

Suppose we want to talk about stacks – standard data structures. We might start by setting up the following alphabet \( \Sigma_{\text{Stack}} \) (to indicate arities, we use the symbol \( U \) for the whole universe):

1. \( I = \{ \text{empty} \} \) – the only constant for representing empty stack;
2. \( \mathcal{V} = \{ x_1, y_1, z_1, u_1, v_1, \ldots \} \) – we seldom list these explicitly; just mark that something is a variable whenever it is used;
3. \( \mathcal{F} = \{ \text{top} : U \rightarrow U, \text{pop} : U \rightarrow U, \text{push} : U^2 \rightarrow U \} \);
4. \( \mathcal{R} = \{ \text{St} \subseteq U, \text{El} \subseteq U, \equiv \subseteq U^2 \} \) – for identifying Stacks, Elements, and for expressing equality. \( \square \)

Unlike PL, the language of FOL is designed so that we may write not only formulae but also terms. The former, as before, will denote some boolean values. Terms are meant to refer to “individuals” or some “objects” of the “world”. Formulae are built using propositional connectives, as in PL, from simpler expressions – atomic formulae – which, however, are not merely propositional variables but have some internal structure involving terms. In addition, we have a new formula-building operation of quantification over individual variables.

**Definition 7.3** [Terms] The set of terms over \( \Sigma, T \), is defined inductively:

1. all constants are terms, \( I \subseteq T \).
2. all variables are terms, \( \mathcal{V} \subseteq T \).
7.1. Syntax of FOL

(3) if \( f \in F \) is an \( n \)-ary function symbol and \( t_1, \ldots, t_n \) are in \( T_\Sigma \), then 
\[
    f(t_1, \ldots, t_n) \in T_\Sigma.
\]

Terms not containing any variables are called ground terms, and the set of
ground terms is denoted \( G T_\Sigma \).

Example 7.4

Consider the alphabet of states from Example 7.2. The only ground terms are the
constant empty and applications of functions to it, e.g.,
\[
    pop(\text{empty}), \quad \text{top(\text{empty})}, \quad \text{pop(pop(\text{empty}))}.
\]
Notice, that also other terms, like for instance \( \text{push(\text{empty}, \text{empty})} \), \( \text{push(\text{empty}, \text{pop(\text{empty})})} \), are well-
formed ground terms, even if they do not necessarily correspond to our
intentions.

The non-ground terms will be of the same kind but will involve variables.
For instance, when \( x, s \) are variables, the following are non-ground terms:
\[
    \text{pop}(s), \quad \text{top(pop(s))}, \quad \text{push(\text{empty}, x)}, \quad \text{pop(push(x, empty))}, \quad \text{etc.}
\]

Definition 7.5 [Formulæ] The well-formed formulæ of predicate logic
over a given \( \Sigma \), \( W F F_{\Sigma} \), are defined inductively:

1. If \( \mathcal{P} \in \mathcal{R} \) is an \( n \)-ary relation symbol and \( t_1, \ldots, t_n \) are terms, then 
\[
    \mathcal{P}(t_1, \ldots, t_n) \in W F F_{\Sigma}.
\]
2. If \( A \in W F F_{\Sigma} \) and \( x \) is a variable, then \( \exists x.A \) is in \( W F F_{\Sigma} \).
3. If \( A, B \in W F F_{\Sigma} \) then \( \neg A \) and \( A \rightarrow B \) \( \in W F F_{\Sigma} \).

Formulae from point (1) are called atomic, those from (2) are quantified.
Thus the FOL language "refines" the PL language in that propositional
connectives connect not just propositional variables but more detailed atomic
or quantified formulæ.

Remark.
As in the case of PLs, these definitions are parameterized by \( \Sigma \), yielding a new
instance of the FOL language for each particular choice of \( \Sigma \). Nevertheless we will
often speak about "the FOL language," taking \( \Sigma \) as an implicit, and arbitrary
though non-empty, parameter.

Example 7.6

Continuing the example of stacks, atomic formulæ will be, for instance:
\[
    \text{El(\text{empty})}, \quad \text{St(x)}, \quad \text{empty \equiv pop(\text{empty})}, \quad \text{push(s, x) \equiv pop(pop(\text{empty}))}, \quad \text{etc.}
\]
The non-atomic ones contain boolean combinations of atoms, e.g.,
\[
    \text{El(x) \land St(s) \rightarrow pop(push(s, x))} \equiv s.
\]
The symbol $\exists$ is called the existential quantifier, $\exists x A$ reads as "there exists an $x$ such that $A$". For convenience, we define the following abbreviation:

**Definition 7.7** We define $\forall x A \equiv \neg \exists x \neg A$.

$\forall$ is the universal quantifier and $\forall x A$ is read "for all $x$, $A$ holds". Writing $Q x : A$, we will mean any one of the two quantifiers, i.e., $\forall x A$ or $\exists x A$.

We will also use the abbreviations $\lor$ and $\land$ for propositional connectives. Sometimes (when it is "safe") the arguments to $\lor$ and $\land$ will be written without the surrounding parentheses. Similarly for $\rightarrow$.

### 7.2 Scope of Quantifiers

Quantification introduces several important issues into the syntax of FOL. This section explains the concept of the scope of quantification, the resulting distinction between the free and bound occurrences of variables, and the operation of substitution which has to respect this distinction.

**Definition 7.8** In a quantified formula $Q x B$, $B$ is the scope of $Q x$.

Parentheses or colons are used to disambiguate the scope: the notation $Q x : B$, $Q x : B$, or ($Q x : B$) indicates that $B$ is the scope of $Q x$.

**Example 7.9**

The scopes of the various quantifiers are underlined:

- **in formula**
  - (1) $\forall x \exists y R(x,y)$
  - (2) $\forall x (R(x,y) \land R(x,x))$
  - (3) $\forall x R(x,y) \land R(x,x)$
  - (4) $\forall x R(x,x) \rightarrow \exists y Q(x,y)$
  - (5) $\exists x (R(x,y) \rightarrow \exists y Q(x,y))$
  - (6) $\forall x (R(x,y) \rightarrow \exists y Q(x,x))$

**Definition 7.10** For any formula $A$ we say that

- An occurrence of a variable $x$ which is not within the scope of any quantifier $Q x$ in $A$ is free in $A$. 


7.2. Scope of quantifiers

- An occurrence of a variable $x$ which is not free in $A$ is said to be bound. Moreover, it is bound by the innermost (i.e., closest to the left) quantifier of the form $Qx$ inside the scope of which it occurs.
- $A$ is closed if it has no free occurrences of any variable. (We also say that $A$ is a sentence.)
- $A$ is open if it is not closed.

For any $A$, $\mathcal{V}(A)$ is the set of variables with free occurrences in $A$. Thus $A$ is closed if $\mathcal{V}(A) = \emptyset$.

**Example 7.11**

In Example 7.9, $y$ is free in (2) and (3). In (3) the occurrences of $x$ in $R(x,y)$ are free too, but the occurrence of $x$ in $R(z,y)$ is bound. Similarly, in (4) the occurrences of $x$ in $R(x,x)$ are bound, but the one in $Q(x,y)$ is free. In (5) all occurrences of $x$ are bound by the frontmost $\forall x$. In (6), however, the occurrences of $x$ in $R(x,x)$ are bound by the frontmost $\forall x$, but the ones in $Q(x,x)$ are bound by the $\exists x$. Thus (2), (3) and (4) are open formulae while the others are closed. $\square$

**Remark 7.12** [An analogy to programming]

As we will see in next chapter, the difference between bound and free variables is that the names of the former do not make any difference while of the latter do influence the interpretation of formulae. As a convenient analogy, one may think about free variables in a formula $A$ as global variables in an imperative program $A$. The bound variables correspond to the local variables and quantifier to a block with declaration of local variables. Consider program P1 on the left:

```
P1: begin
  int x, y;
  x:=5; y:=10;
begin
  int x, z;
  x:=0; x:=x+3;
  z:=20; y:=30;
end;
end;
```

The global variable $x$ is redeclared in the inner block. This can be said to make the global $x$ "invisible" within this block. $y$ is another global variable, while $z$ is a local variable in the block. At the exit, we will have $x = 5$ and $y = 30$ since these global variables are not affected by the assignment to the local ones within the block. Also, $z$ will not be available after the exit from the inner block.

A formula with a similar scoping effect would be:
\[ A(x,y) \land QzQy: B(x, z, y) \text{ or alternatively } \]
\[ QzQy \left( (A(x,y) \land QzQy: B(x, z, y)) \right) \]
\[ (7.13) \]

where we ignore the meaning of the predicates \( A, B \) but concentrate only on the “visibility of the variables”, i.e., the scope of the quantifiers. Variable \( y \) is free (in the first formula, and within the scope of the same quantifier in the other) and thus its occurrence in \( B(x, y) \) corresponds to the same entity as its occurrence in \( A(x, y) \). On the other hand, \( x \) in \( A(x, y) \) – in the outermost block – is one thing, while \( x \) in \( B(x, y) \) – in the inner block – a completely different one, since the latter is in the scope of the innermost quantifier \( Qz \).

Program P2 on the right is equivalent to P1, the only difference being the renaming of the local \( x \) to \( w \). In fact, the formula (7.13) will be equivalent to the one where the bound \( x \) has been renamed, e.g., to the following one:

\[ A(x,y) \land QwQy: B(w, z, y) \text{ or alternatively } \]
\[ QzQy \left( (A(x,y) \land QwQy: B(w, z, y)) \right) \]

Renaming of free variables will not be allowed in the same way.

At this point, the distinction free vs. bound may seem unclear – at least, as far as its possible meaning and motivation are concerned. So, for now, it is best to accept Definition 7.10 at its face value. It makes it easy to distinguish free and bounded occurrences by simple syntactic check as illustrated in Example 7.9.

### 7.2.1 Some examples

Before we begin a closer discussion of the syntax of FOL, we give a few examples of vocabularies (alphabets) which can be used for describing some known structures.

#### Example 7.14 [Stacks]

Using the alphabet of stacks from Example 7.2, we may now set up the following (non-logical) axioms \( \Gamma_{\text{Stack}} \) for the theory of stacks \( (x, s \in V) \):

1. \( St(\text{empty}) \)
2. \( \forall x, s : El(x) \land St(s) \rightarrow St(\text{push}(s, x)) \)
3. \( \forall s : St(s) \rightarrow St(\text{pop}(s)) \)
4. \( \forall s : St(s) \rightarrow El(\text{top}(s)) \)

These axioms describe merely the profiles of the involved functions and determine the extension of the respective predicates. According to the first axiom \( \text{empty} \) is a stack, while the second axiom says that if \( x \) is an element and \( s \) is a stack then also the result of \( \text{push}(s, x) \) is a stack. Usually, one
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uses some abbreviated notation to capture this information. In typed programming languages, for instance, it is taken care of by the typing system.

The further (non-logical) axioms, determining more specific properties of stacks, would then be:

(5) \( \text{pop(\text{empty})} \equiv \text{empty} \)

(6) \( \forall x, s : E(x) \land S(t(s)) \rightarrow \text{pop}(\text{push}(s, x)) \equiv s \)

(7) \( \forall x, s : E(x) \land S(t(s)) \rightarrow \text{top}(\text{push}(s, x)) \equiv x \)

Notice that we have not given any axioms which would ensure that \( \equiv \) behaves as the identity relation. Axioms (8)(10) ensure that it is an equivalence relation, while (11) and (12) that it is a congruence relation, i.e., that \( \equiv \) equivalent elements are indistinguishable in any context, under applications of functions or relations.

(8) \( \forall x : x \equiv x \)

(9) \( \forall x, y : x \equiv y \rightarrow y \equiv x \)

(10) \( \forall x, y : x \equiv y \land y \equiv z \rightarrow x \equiv z \)

and two axiom schemata:

(11) for every \( n \)-ary \( f \in \mathcal{F} : \)

\( \forall x_1, x_1', \ldots, x_n, x_n' : x_1 \equiv x_1' \land \ldots \land x_n \equiv x_n' \rightarrow f(x_1, \ldots, x_n) \equiv f(x_1', \ldots, x_n') \)

(12) for every \( n \)-ary \( R \in \mathcal{R} : \)

\( \forall x_1, x_1', \ldots, x_n, x_n' : x_1 \equiv x_1' \land \ldots \land x_n \equiv x_n' \land R(x_1, \ldots, x_n) \rightarrow R(x_1', \ldots, x_n') \)

**Example 7.15 [Queues]**

We use the same alphabet as for stacks, although we intend different meaning to some symbols. Thus \( S_t \) is now to be interpreted as the set of (FIFO) queues, \( \text{pop} \) is to be interpreted as \( \text{tail} \), \( \text{push} \) as \( \text{add} \) (at the end) and \( \text{top} \) as the head, the frontmost element of the queue. We only need to replace axioms (6)(7) with the following:

(6a) \( \forall x, s : E(x) \land S(t(s)) \land s \equiv \text{empty} \rightarrow \text{pop}(\text{push}(s, x)) \equiv s \)

(6b) \( \forall x, s : E(x) \land S(t(s)) \land \neg(s \equiv \text{empty}) \rightarrow \text{pop}(\text{push}(s, x)) \equiv \text{push}(\text{pop}(s), x) \)

(7a) \( \forall x, s : E(x) \land S(t(s)) \land s \equiv \text{empty} \rightarrow \text{top}(\text{push}(s, x)) \equiv x \)

(7b) \( \forall x, s : E(x) \land S(t(s)) \land \neg(s \equiv \text{empty}) \rightarrow \text{top}(\text{push}(s, x)) \equiv \text{top}(s) \)

(6a) can be simplified to \( \forall x : E(x) \rightarrow \text{pop}(\text{push}(\text{empty}, x)) \equiv \text{empty} \), when \( \equiv \) is equality; similarly (7a).

**Example 7.16 [Graphs]**

All axioms in the above two examples were universal formulae (with only
\( \forall \text{-quantifier in front}. \) We now describe graphs which require more specific formulae.

Graph is a structure with two sets: \( V \) - vertices, and \( E \) - edges. Each edge has a unique source and target vertex. Thus, we take as our non-logical alphabet \( \Sigma_{\text{Graph}} \):

- \( \mathcal{F} = \{ sr, tr \} \) - for source and target functions
- \( \mathcal{R} = \{ V, E, \equiv \} \) - \( V, E \) unary predicates for the set of vertices and edges, binary \( \equiv \) for the identity relation (axioms (8)-(12) from Example 7.14).

The axiom

\[
(1) \forall e : E(e) \rightarrow (V(sr(e)) \land V(tr(e)) )
\]
determines the profile of the functions \( sr \) and \( tr \). This is all that must be said to get arbitrary graphs. Typically, we think of a graph with at most one edge between two vertices. For that case, we need to add the axiom:

\[
(2) \forall e_1, e_2 : (sr(e_1) \equiv sr(e_2) \land tr(e_1) \equiv tr(e_2)) \rightarrow e_1 \equiv e_2
\]

The graphs, so far, are directed. An undirected graph can be seen as a directed graph where for any edge from \( x \) to \( y \), there is also an opposite edge from \( y \) to \( x \):

\[
(3) \forall x, y : (\exists e : sr(e) \equiv x \land tr(e) \equiv y) \rightarrow (\exists e : tr(e) \equiv x \land sr(e) \equiv y)
\]

The intention of the above formula could be captured by a simpler one:

\[
\forall e_1 \exists e_2 : sr(e_1) \equiv tr(e_2) \land tr(e_1) \equiv sr(e_2).
\]

Finally, we may make a special kind of transitive graphs: if there is an edge from \( x \) to \( y \) and from \( y \) to \( z \), then there is also an edge from \( x \) to \( z \), and this applies for every pair of edges:

\[
(4) \forall e_1, e_2 : (tr(e_1) \equiv sr(e_2) \equiv tr(e_2) \equiv sr(e_1)) \rightarrow (sr(e) \equiv sr(e_1) \land tr(e) \equiv tr(e_2)) \quad \Box
\]

**Example 7.17** [Simple graphs]

If we want to consider only simple graphs, i.e., graphs satisfying the axiom (2) from the previous example, we can choose a much more convenient vocabulary \( \Sigma_{\text{SG}} \): our universe is the set of all possible vertices, we need no function symbols, and we use one binary relation symbol: \( E \) - the edge relation. Axioms (1) and (2) become then redundant. If we want to consider undirected graphs, we make \( E \) symmetric:

\[
(1) \forall x, y : E(x, y) \rightarrow E(y, x).
\]
7.2. Scope of quantifiers

If we want to consider transitive graphs, we make $E$ transitive:

(2) $\forall x, y, z : E(x, y) \land E(y, z) \rightarrow E(x, z)$.

Graphs without self-loops (i.e., where no edge leads from a vertex to itself) are ones where $E$ is irreflexive:

(3) $\forall x : \neg E(x, x)$

Using the representation from the previous example, this axiom would be:

$\forall e : E(e) \rightarrow \neg (s(e) \equiv t(e))$.

Notice that all above axioms are sentences (i.e., closed formulae).

7.2.2 Substitution

In a given term $t$ and formula $A$, we may substitute a term for the free occurrences of any variable. This can be done simultaneously for several variables. A substitution is a function from some set of variables $X$ to terms, $\sigma : X \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_E$, and the result of applying it to a term/formula, $\sigma(t)/\sigma(A)$, is defined inductively.

**Definition 7.18** Application of a substitution $\sigma$ to terms, $\sigma : \mathcal{T}_E \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_E$, is defined inductively on the structure of terms:

\[
\begin{align*}
\sigma(x) & \begin{cases} 
\sigma(x) & \text{if } x \in \text{dom}(\sigma) \\
 x & \text{if } x \notin \text{dom}(\sigma)
\end{cases} \\
\sigma(f(t_1, \ldots, t_k)) & \equiv f(\sigma(t_1), \ldots, \sigma(t_k)).
\end{align*}
\]

This determines the result $\sigma(t)$ of substitution $\sigma$ into any term $t$. Building on this, the application of substitution $\sigma$ to formulae, $\sigma : \text{WFF}^E \rightarrow \text{WFF}^E$, is defined by induction on the complexity of formulae:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ATOMIC} & : \sigma(P(t_1, \ldots, t_k)) \equiv P(\sigma(t_1), \ldots, \sigma(t_k)) \\
\neg B & : \sigma(\neg B) \equiv \neg \sigma(B) \\
B \rightarrow C & : \sigma(B \rightarrow C) \equiv \sigma(B) \rightarrow \sigma(C) \\
\exists_{x} A & : \exists x \cdot \sigma'(A) \equiv \exists x \cdot \sigma'(A) \text{ where } \sigma'( = \sigma \setminus \{(x) \times \mathcal{T}_E\)}
\end{align*}
\]

In the last case, the modification of $\sigma$ to $\sigma'$ removes $x$ from the domain of the substitution, ensuring that no substitution for $x$ occurs inside $A$.

Typically, the considered $\text{dom}(\sigma)$ has only one variable, $\sigma = \{ (x, e) \}$, and we write the result of such a substitution $\sigma(t)/\sigma(A)$ as $t^e_{\sigma}/A^e_{\sigma}$. 

**Example 7.19**

In Example 7.9 formulae (1), (5) and (6) had no free variables, so the application of any substitution will leave these formulae unchanged. For formulae (2), (3) and (4) from that example, we obtain:

\[
\begin{align*}
(2) & \quad (\forall x(R(x,y) \land R(x,x)))^f = \forall x(R(x,y) \land R(x,x)) \\
(3) & \quad (\exists xR(x,y) \land R(x,x))^f = \exists xR(x,y) \land R(t,t) \\
(4) & \quad (\forall xR(x,x) \rightarrow \exists yQ(x,y))^f = \forall xR(x,x) \rightarrow \exists yQ(t,y)
\end{align*}
\]

The following example shows that some caution is needed when for a variable we substitute a term that itself contains variables (or even is a variable). If such variables are “captured” by quantifiers already present, there may be unexpected results:

**Example 7.20**

As mentioned in Remark 7.12, renaming bound variables results in equivalent formulae, e.g., the formulae \(\forall yR(x,y)\) and \(\forall zR(x,z)\) mean the same thing. However, performing the same substitution on the two produces formulae with (as we'll see later) very different interpretations:

\[
\begin{align*}
(1) & \quad (\forall yR(x,y))^f_{(z)} = \forall yR(f(z),y) \quad \text{e.g.} \quad (\exists y(x < y))^f_{(z)} = \exists y(z + 1 < y) \\
(2) & \quad (\exists yR(x,z))^f_{(z)} = \exists yR(f(z),z) \quad \text{e.g.} \quad (\exists z(x < z))^f_{(z)} = \exists z(z + 1 < z)
\end{align*}
\]

The variable \(z\) is free throughout the first example, but in (2) gets captured by \(\forall z\) after substitution.

To guard against such unintended behaviour, we introduce the next definition. It makes \(z\) substitutable for \(x\) in \(\forall yR(x,y)\) but not in \(\forall zR(x,z)\).

**Definition 7.21** Let \(A\) be a formula, \(x\) a variable and \(s\) a term. The property "\(s\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(A\)" is defined by induction on \(A\) as follows:

**Atomic ::** If \(A\) is atomic, then \(s\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(A\).

\(\neg B :: s\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(\neg B\) if \(s\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(B\).

\(B \rightarrow C :: s\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(B \rightarrow C\) if \(s\) is substitutable for \(x\) in both \(B\) and \(C\).

\(\exists x A :: s\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(\exists x A\).

(Since no substitution in fact takes place.)

\(\forall y A :: \text{If } y \neq x \text{ then } s\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(\forall y A\) if either \(x\) does not occur free in \(A\), or both \(s\) does not contain the variable \(y\), and \(s\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(A\).
7.3. THE AXIOMATIC SYSTEM $\mathcal{N}$

Briefly put, $s$ is substitutable for $x$ in $A$ (or the substitution $A^s_x$ is legal) iff there are no free occurrences of $x$ in $A$ inside the scope of any quantifier that binds any variable occurring in $s$.

We may occasionally talk more generally about replacing an arbitrary term by another term, rather than just substituting a term for a variable.

7.3 THE AXIOMATIC SYSTEM $\mathcal{N}$

The proof system $\mathcal{N}$ for FOL uses the predicate $\vdash \subseteq \varphi(\text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}} \times \text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}}$ and is an extension of the system $\mathcal{N}$ for PL.

Definition 7.22 The $\mathcal{N}$ system for FOL consists of:

AXIOMS ::
A0: $\Gamma \vdash V$,
for all $B \in \Gamma$;

A1: $\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A)$;
A2: $\Gamma \vdash (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C))$;
A3: $\Gamma \vdash (\neg B \rightarrow \neg A) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$;
A4: $\Gamma \vdash A^x \rightarrow \exists x A$ if $A^x$ is legal

RULES ::
MP: $\Gamma \vdash A$; $\Gamma \vdash B$ ;

$\exists x \Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B$

$\Gamma \vdash \exists x A \rightarrow B$ if $x \notin \mathcal{V}(B)$

Since the system inherits all the axiom schemata and rules from Definition 4.11, every theorem in that earlier system has a counterpart in this system. For instance, Lemmata 4.7 and 4.15 can be taken over directly. The only difference is that the uppercase letters -- in the above rules, axioms and the following results -- stand now for arbitrary FOL-formulae. For instance, $\exists x A \rightarrow (\exists x \neg \neg B \rightarrow \exists x A)$ is an instance of A1. Thus any derivations we performed using propositional variables in PL, can be now performed in the same way, provided that the FOL-formulae involved are syntactically identical whenever required (like in the above instance of A1).

Admissible rules are a different matter, but in most cases these also carry over to the extended system. Thus the next lemma corresponds exactly to Lemmata 4.9 and 4.12, and is proved in exactly the same way.

Lemma 7.23 The following rules are admissible in $\mathcal{N}$:

1. $\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B$; $\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow C$; $\Gamma \vdash B \rightarrow C$

   $\Gamma \vdash \neg \neg A \rightarrow C$

2. $\Gamma \vdash B$

   $\Gamma \vdash \exists x A \rightarrow B$
The next lemma illustrates the use of the new elements, i.e., $A_4$ and the "∃ introduction" rule $\exists!$.

**Lemma 7.24** Formula (1) is provable and rules (2)-(5) are admissible in $\mathcal{N}$:

1. $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \forall x A \rightarrow A$
2. $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \rightarrow B$
3. $\forall \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \rightarrow A$
4. $\forall \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A$
5. $\vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A^f$ if $A^f$ is legal

**Proof.** If something is provable using only $A_0$-$A_3$ and $\mathsf{MP}$ we write just $\mathcal{L}$ to the right — these parts have been proven earlier or are left as exercises. (In view of the completeness theorem of $\mathcal{L}$ it is sufficient to convince oneself that it corresponds to a tautology.)

1. (1) $1 : \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \neg A \rightarrow \exists x \neg A$ $A_4$
   2 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} (\neg A \rightarrow \exists x \neg A) \rightarrow (\neg \exists x \neg A \rightarrow A)$ $\mathsf{PL}$
   3 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \neg \exists x \neg A \rightarrow A$ $\mathsf{MP} : 1, 2$

2. (2) $1 : \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \rightarrow B$ assumption
   2 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \rightarrow \exists x B$ $A_4$
   3 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \rightarrow \exists x B$ $L.7.23(1) : 1, 2$
   4 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \exists x A \rightarrow \exists x B$ $\exists! : 3$

3. (3) $1 : \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \rightarrow A$ assumption
   2 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \neg A \rightarrow \neg B$ $\mathsf{MP} : 1, L.4.15$
   3 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} (\exists x \neg A) \rightarrow \neg B$ $\exists! : 2 + x$ not free in $B$
   4 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} ((\exists x \neg A) \rightarrow \neg B) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow \neg \exists x \neg A)$ $\mathsf{PL}$
   5 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} B \rightarrow \neg \exists x \neg A$ $\mathsf{MP} : 3, 4$

4. (4) $1 : \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A$ assumption
   2 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} (\exists x \neg A) \rightarrow A$ $L.7.23(2) : 1$
   3 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} (\exists x \neg A) \rightarrow \neg \exists x \neg A$ $\forall! : 2$
   4 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} ((\exists x \neg A) \rightarrow \neg \exists x \neg A) \rightarrow \neg \exists x \neg A$ $\mathsf{PL}$
   5 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \neg \exists x \neg A$ $\mathsf{MP} : 3, 4$

5. (5) $1 : \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A$ assumption
   2 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \neg \exists x \neg A$ $L.7.24(4)$
   3 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \neg A^f \rightarrow \exists x \neg A$ $A_4$
   4 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} (\neg \exists x \neg A) \rightarrow A^f$ $\mathsf{PL} : 3$
   5 : $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A^f$ $\mathsf{MP} : 2, 4$ QED (7.24)
7.3.1 Deduction Theorem in FOL

Notice the difference between

(i) the provability \( \Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow B \) and (ii) the admissible rule \( \frac{\Gamma \vdash_N A}{\Gamma \vdash_N B} \).

Point (i) of Lemma 7.24 enables us to conclude, by a single application of MP, that the rule inverse to the one from point (ii), namely \( \frac{\Gamma \vdash_N \forall x \neg A}{\Gamma \vdash_N A} \) is admissible. In fact, quite generally, (i) implies (ii), for having (i) and the assumption of (ii), single application of MP yields the conclusion of (ii).

Now, in the \( N \) system for PL, the opposite implication holds too. For assuming admissibility of (ii), we have \( \Gamma, A \vdash_N A \) by axiom A0, from which \( \Gamma, A \vdash_N B \) follows by (ii), and then \( \Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow B \) by Deduction Theorem.

In FOL, however, the implication from (ii) to (i) is not necessarily true, and this is related to the limited validity of Deduction Theorem. For instance, point (4) does not allow us to conclude that also \( \Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow \forall x A \). In fact, this is not the case, but we have to postpone a precise argument showing that until we have discussed semantics. At this point, let us only observe that if this formula were provable, then we would also have \( \Gamma \vdash_N \exists x A \rightarrow \forall x A \) by a single application of \( \exists \). But this looks unsound: "if there exists an \( x \) such that \( A \), then for all \( x \) \( A \)." (Sure, in case the assumption of the rule (4) from Lemma 7.24 is satisfied we can obtain: \( \Gamma \vdash_N A, \Gamma \vdash_N \forall x A \), and so, by Lemma 7.23.(2) \( \Gamma \vdash_N A \rightarrow \forall x A \). But this is only a very special case dependent on the assumption \( \Gamma \vdash_N A \).)

Example 7.25

Let us return to the example with horse-heads and animal-heads from the background story of this chapter. Using the alphabet with two predicates, \( H \) for "being a horse" and \( A \) for "being an animal," and a binary relation \( Hd(x,y) \) for "\( x \) is a head of \( y \)," the argument becomes:

\[
\frac{\vdash_N \forall y (H(y) \rightarrow A(y))}{\vdash_N \forall x (\exists y (H(y) \land Hd(x,y)) \rightarrow \exists y (A(y) \land Hd(x,y)))} \quad (7.26)
\]

This (a bit peculiar) rule is admissible in \( N \):

1. \( \Gamma \vdash_N \forall y (H(y) \rightarrow A(y)) \) \hspace{1cm} assumption
2. \( \Gamma \vdash_N H(y) \rightarrow A(y) \) \hspace{1cm} MP: 1, L7.24.(1)
3. \( \Gamma \vdash_N H(y) \land Hd(x,y) \rightarrow A(y) \land Hd(x,y) \) \hspace{1cm} PL: 2
4. \( \Gamma \vdash_N \exists y (H(y) \land Hd(x,y)) \rightarrow \exists y (A(y) \land Hd(x,y)) \) \hspace{1cm} L7.24.(2) : 3
5. \( \Gamma \vdash_N \forall x (\exists y (H(y) \land Hd(x,y)) \rightarrow \exists y (A(y) \land Hd(x,y))) \) \hspace{1cm} VQ1, L7.24.(4) : 4

This shows the admissibility of (7.26) for arbitrary \( \Gamma \). In particular, if
we take \( \Gamma = \{ \forall y (H(y) \rightarrow A(y)) \} \), the first line (assumption) becomes an instance of the axiom \( A0 \) and the last line becomes an unconditional statement:

\[
\forall y (H(y) \rightarrow A(y)) \vdash \forall x \exists y (H(y) \land Hd(x,y)) \rightarrow \exists y (A(y) \land Hd(x,y)) \quad (7.27)
\]

As observed before this example, admissibility of a rule (ii), like (7.26), does not mean that the corresponding implication (i) is provable. We are not entitled to conclude from (7.27) that also the following holds:

\[
\Gamma \vdash \forall y (H(y) \rightarrow A(y)) \rightarrow \forall x \exists y (H(y) \land Hd(x,y)) \rightarrow \exists y (A(y) \land Hd(x,y)) \quad (7.28)
\]

This could be obtained from (7.27) if we had Deduction Theorem for FOL— we now turn to this issue.

As a matter of fact, the unrestricted Deduction Theorem from PL is not an admissible proof rule of FOL. It will be easier to see why when we turn to the semantics. For now we just prove the weaker version that does hold. Note the restriction on \( A \).

**Theorem 7.29** [Deduction Theorem for FOL] If \( \Gamma, A \vdash \forall y B \) and \( A \) is closed then \( \Gamma \vdash \forall y A \rightarrow B \).

**Proof.** By induction on the length of the proof \( \Gamma, A \vdash \forall y B \). The cases of axioms and MP are treated exactly as in the proof of the theorem for PL, 4.13 (using Lemmas 4.7 and 7.23(2)). We have to verify the induction step for the last case of the proof using \( \exists y \), i.e.,

\[
\Gamma, x \vdash \forall y C \rightarrow D \quad x \text{ not free in } D
\]

By III, we have the first line of the following proof:

1: \( \Gamma \vdash (C \rightarrow D) \)
2: \( \Gamma \vdash (A \rightarrow D) \quad \text{PL : C4.17} \)
3: \( \Gamma \vdash x \exists C \rightarrow (A \rightarrow D) \quad \exists y : 2 + A \text{ closed and } x \text{ not free in } D \)
4: \( \Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow (x \exists C \rightarrow D) \quad \text{PL : C4.17} \quad \text{q.e.d} \quad (7.29) \)

Revisiting (7.27) from Example 7.25, we see that the assumption of Deduction Theorem is satisfied: \( \forall y (H(y) \rightarrow A(y)) \) is closed. Thus, in this particular case, we actually may conclude that also (7.28) holds. However, due to the restriction in Deduction Theorem, such a transition will not be possible in general.

Just like in the case of PL, MP is a kind of dual to this theorem and we have the corollary corresponding to 4.16, with the same proof.
7.4 Gentzen’s System for FOL

Corollary 7.30 If \( A \) is closed then \( \Gamma, A \vdash_\forall B \) iff \( \Gamma, \forall x A \rightarrow B \).

Notice that the assumption that \( A \) is closed is needed because of the deduction theorem, i.e., only for the implication \( \Rightarrow \). The opposite \( \Leftarrow \) does not require \( A \) to be closed and is valid for any \( A \).

7.4 Gentzen’s System for FOL

Recall that the system \( G \) for PL works with sequents \( \Gamma \vdash_\forall \Delta \), where both \( \Gamma, \Delta \) are (finite) sets of formulae. The axioms and rules for propositional connectives give a sound and complete Gentzen system for PL — with all the connectives. Since the set \( \{ \neg, \rightarrow \} \) is expressively complete we restricted earlier our attention to these connectives but the complete set of rules is easier to use in the presence of other connectives. It is easy to see that treating, for instance, \( \lor \) and \( \land \) as abbreviations, the corresponding rules \( (\lor \vdash) \) (\( \lor \vdash \)) , \( (\land \vdash) \) and \( (\land \vdash) \) are derivable from the other rules (cf. Subsection 4.8.2). Gentzen’s system for FOL is obtained by adding the four quantifier rules:

\[
\begin{align*}
Ax & \quad \Gamma \vdash_\forall \Delta \quad \text{where} \quad \Gamma \cap \Delta \neq \emptyset \\
(\lor \vdash) & \quad \begin{array}{c}
\begin{array}{c}
\Gamma_1 \vdash_\forall A, B, \Delta \\
\Gamma_2 \vdash_\forall A \lor B, \Delta
\end{array}
\end{array} \\
(\land \vdash) & \quad \begin{array}{c}
\begin{array}{c}
\Gamma_1 \vdash_\forall A, \Delta \\
\Gamma_2 \vdash_\forall B, \Delta
\end{array}
\end{array} \\
(\rightarrow \vdash) & \quad \begin{array}{c}
\begin{array}{c}
\Gamma_1 \vdash_\forall B, \Delta \\
\Gamma_2 \vdash_\forall A, \Delta
\end{array}
\end{array} \\
(\rightarrow \vdash) & \quad \begin{array}{c}
\begin{array}{c}
\Gamma_1 \vdash_\forall A \rightarrow B, \Delta \\
\Gamma_2 \vdash_\forall A, B, \Delta
\end{array}
\end{array} \\
(\exists \vdash) & \quad \begin{array}{c}
\begin{array}{c}
\Gamma_1 \vdash_{\forall x} A, \Delta \\
\Gamma_2 \vdash_\forall \exists x, A, \Delta
\end{array}
\end{array} \\
(\forall \vdash) & \quad \begin{array}{c}
\begin{array}{c}
\Gamma_1 \vdash_{\forall x} A, \Delta \\
\Gamma_2 \vdash_\forall \forall x, A, \Delta
\end{array}
\end{array}
\end{align*}
\]

The requirement on a variable \( \forall x \) to be fresh means that it must be a new variable not occurring in the sequent. (One may require only that it does not occur freely in the sequent, but we will usually mean that it does not occur at all.) This, in particular, means that its substitution for \( x \) is legal.
Notice the peculiar repetition of $\exists z A$, resp. $\forall z A$ in rules ($\exists\i$) and ($\forall\i$). Semantically, they make the rules trivially invertible (as the propositional rules were shown in Exercise 6.10). In terms of building a bottom-up proof, they enable us to choose all the time new witnesses until, eventually and hopefully, we arrive at an instance of the axiom. However, there is typically infinitely many terms $t$ which might be substituted, so these rules do not solve the problem of decidability. As an example of their application, the axiom $A_4$ of $\mathcal{N}$ is proved as follows:

3. $\vdash A^f_2 \exists x A, A^g_2 \quad \text{Ax}$
2. $\vdash A^f_2 \exists x A \quad (\exists\i) \quad A^f_2$ legal
1. $\vdash A^f_2 \rightarrow \exists x A \quad (\rightarrow\i) \quad (A^f_2$ legal by assumption).

The point with these, apparently redundant, repetitions is that building a proof in a somehow mechanical fashion, we may “try” various terms in order. If we simply removed $\exists x A$ and replaced it by a “wrong” $A^f_2$, we would have to stop. For instance, if we have another term $s$ which is substitutable for $x$ in $A$ – and are “unlucky” – we might run the proof as follows:

4. $\vdash A^f_2 \exists x A, A^g_2, A^f_2 \quad \text{Ax}$
3. $\vdash A^f_2 \exists x A, A^g_2 \quad (\exists\i) \quad A^f_2$ legal
2. $\vdash A^f_2 \exists x A \quad (\exists\i) \quad A^f_2$ legal
1. $\vdash A^f_2 \rightarrow \exists x A \quad (\rightarrow\i) \quad (A^f_2$ legal by assumption).

Keeping $\exists x A$ enables us (or a machine!) to continue building the proof bottom-up past the “unlucky substitution” $A^g_2$ in line 3. This indicates the difficulties with treatment of the quantifiers. In general, a wrong choice of a witness in the rule ($\exists\i$) or ($\forall\i$) might terminate the proof with an inappropriate conclusion. If, on the other hand, the proof does not terminate, there may be no mechanical way of deciding this looking only at its initial, finite part. These are the reasons for undecidability of $\mathcal{G}$ for FOL. As we will see later in Theorem 9.38, validity in FOL is generally undecidable, so this is no fault of the system $\mathcal{G}$.

Observe also that the rule ($\rightarrow\i$) is an unrestricted Deduction Theorem (unlike the one in Theorem 7.29). We will comment this fact in the following chapter.

**Example 7.31**

Below, you find a proof of the formula from (7.28) in $\mathcal{G}$. As in $\mathcal{L}$, we use $\mathcal{G}$ for constructing the proof bottom-up.

All $x,y,z,w \in \mathcal{V}_4$. In applications repeating a formula, ($\exists\i$) and ($\forall\i$), we have dropped these repetitions to make the proof more readable. Of course, we have to choose the substituted terms in a way making the proof
go through, in particular, so that the respective substitutions are both legal. The \( F \), resp. \( G \) in the marking \( 'F/G' \) legal', refer to the formula where the substitution actually takes place \( \rightarrow F \) to \( A(y) \land H(z \downarrow y) \), and \( G \) to \( H(y) \rightarrow A(y) \). The last (highest) three lines use abbreviations: \( H = H(w), A = A(w), Hd = Hd(z \downarrow w) \).

Note that the rules requiring introduction of fresh variables in the assumption are applied before (seen bottom-up) the rules performing arbitrary legal substitutions. This is a standard rule to observe when constructing (bottom-up) proofs in \( G \) — one always tries first to introduce fresh variable, rules \( (\forall) \) or \( (\exists) \), and only later the ones which require merely legal substitutions, \( (\forall \downarrow) \) or \( (\exists \downarrow) \). The latter allow, namely, to choose substituted terms freely — one can thus adjust their choice to other terms occurring already in the sequent, to easier obtain axioms.

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{H, Hd; \forall \exists (A, H)}{H, Hd, H \rightarrow A \downarrow} & \quad \text{(\forall \downarrow)} \\
\frac{H, Hd, H \rightarrow A \downarrow} {H, Hd, H \rightarrow A \downarrow \land \exists (A, H)} & \quad \text{(\land \downarrow)} \\
\frac{\forall \exists (A, H) \land Hd(z \downarrow w), \forall \exists (A, H) \rightarrow A(y)} {\forall \exists (A, H) \rightarrow A(y) \downarrow} & \quad \text{G\_ legal} \\
\frac{\forall \exists (A, H) \land Hd(z \downarrow w), \forall \exists (A, H) \rightarrow A(y) \downarrow} {\forall \exists (A, H) \rightarrow A(y) \downarrow \land \exists (A, H) \land Hd(z \downarrow w)} & \quad \text{\_\_\_ legal} \\
\frac{\forall \exists (A, H) \land Hd(z \downarrow w), \forall \exists (A, H) \rightarrow A(y) \downarrow} {\forall \exists (A, H) \rightarrow A(y) \downarrow \land \exists (A, H) \land Hd(z \downarrow w)} & \quad \text{\_\_\_ fresh} \\
\end{align*}
\]

EXERCISE 7.1 Define inductively the function \( \forall : WFF_{\text{FOL}} \rightarrow \forall(V) \) returning the set of variables occurring freely in a formula.

EXERCISE 7.2 Prove the following:

1. \( \forall y \exists x \forall A \rightarrow \exists x \exists y A \)
   
   Hint: Complete the following proof by filling out appropriate things for (\exists).
   
   1. \( \forall y \exists x \forall A \rightarrow \exists x \exists y A \) \quad A4
   
   2. ? \quad A4
   
   3. \( \forall y \exists x \forall A \rightarrow \exists x \exists y A \) \quad L7.23(1) : 1, 2
   
   4. \( \forall y \exists x \forall A \rightarrow \exists x \exists y A \) \quad \exists x \not \text{free in } \exists x \exists y A
   
   5. \( \forall y \exists x \forall A \rightarrow \exists x \exists y A \) \quad \exists x (?)


(2) \( \forall y \exists z \forall A \rightarrow \exists x \exists z A \) - if \( y \) is substitutable for \( x \) in \( A \), and not free in \( A \)
(Hint: Two steps only! First an instance of \( \forall A \), and then \( \exists z \))

(3) \( \forall y \exists z A \rightarrow \forall y \exists z A \)
(Hint: Lemma 7.24, starting with point (1), then (2) and finally (3).)

(4) \( \forall y \exists z A \rightarrow \exists z A \)
(Hint: Lemma 7.24(1), \( \forall A \), and then Lemma 7.23(1).)

**EXERCISE 7.3** Is the following proof correct? If not, what is wrong?

1. \( \forall y \exists z (P(y) \lor R(z)) \rightarrow (P(y) \lor R(z)) \) \( L7.24(1) \)
2. \( \forall y \exists z (P(y) \lor R(z)) \rightarrow (\exists z P(y) \lor R(z)) \) \( \forall y \)
3. \( \forall y \exists z (P(y) \lor R(z)) \rightarrow (\exists z (P(y) \lor R(z))) \) \( \forall y \)

**EXERCISE 7.4** Re-work Example 7.25 for the other argument from the background story at the beginning of this chapter, i.e.:

1. Design a FOL alphabet for expressing the argument:
   
   Every man is mortal;
   
   hence Socrates is mortal.

2. Express it as a rule and show its admissibility in \( \mathcal{N} \).

3. Write it now as a single formula (an implication analogous to (7.28)) - decide which connective(s) to choose to join the two premises of the rule into the antecedent of the implication. Use the previous point (and restricted version of Deduction Theorem 7.29) to show that this formula is provable in \( \mathcal{N} \).

(4) Prove now your formula from the previous point using \( G \).

**EXERCISE 7.5** The following statement:

(1) \( \forall x \left( A \rightarrow \exists z B \right) \rightarrow \exists z (A \rightarrow B) \)

can be proven as follows:

1. \( \forall x \left( A \rightarrow \exists z B \right) \rightarrow \exists z (A \rightarrow B) \) \( A1 \)
2. \( \forall x \exists z B \rightarrow \exists z (A \rightarrow B) \) \( L7.24(2) \)
3. \( \forall x \left( A \rightarrow B \right) \rightarrow \exists x (A \rightarrow B) \) \( A4 \)
4. \( \forall x \neg A \rightarrow \exists x (A \rightarrow B) \) \( PL \) : 3
5. \( \forall x \left( A \rightarrow \exists z B \right) \rightarrow \exists z (A \rightarrow B) \) \( PL \) : 2, 4

Verify that the lines 4. and 5. really are valid transitions according to PL. (Hint: They correspond to provability (or validity!), for instance in \( \mathcal{G} \) of:

\( \vdash ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow Z) \rightarrow (\neg A \rightarrow Z) \) and \( B \rightarrow Z, \neg A \rightarrow Z) \vdash (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow Z. \)

**EXERCISE 7.6** Assuming that \( x \) has no free occurrences in \( A \), complete the proofs of the following:

(1) \( \forall x \left( A \rightarrow B \right) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow \exists x B) \)
EXERCISE 7.7 Show that the following rule is admissible
\[
\Gamma \vdash \forall x. A \rightarrow B
\]
without any side-conditions on \( x \).
(Hint: Lemma 7.24 (2), and two applications of some relevant result from PL.)

EXERCISE 7.8 Prove now all the formulae from Exercises 7.2 and 7.6 using Gentzen’s system.

EXERCISE 7.9 Using Gentzen’s system

1. show provability of the formula:
\[
\Gamma \vdash \forall x (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\forall x A \rightarrow \forall x B).
\]

2. Now try to construct a proof for the opposite implication, i.e.,
\[
\Gamma \vdash (\forall x A \rightarrow \forall x B) \rightarrow \forall x (A \rightarrow B).
\]
Can you tell why this proof will not “succeed”?
Chapter 8

SEMANTICS OF FOL

8.1 THE BASIC DEFINITIONS

**Definition 8.1** A FOL structure $M$ for an alphabet $\Sigma$ consists of

1. a non-empty set $M$ — the interpretation domain
2. for each constant symbol $c \in \mathcal{I}$, an element $[c]^M \in M$
3. for each function symbol $f \in \mathcal{F}$ with arity $n$, a function $[f]^M : M^n \rightarrow M$
4. for each relation symbol $R \in \mathcal{R}$ with arity $n$, a subset $[R]^M \subseteq M^n$

Thus, a structure is simply a set where all constant, function and relation symbols have been interpreted arbitrarily. The only restriction concerns the arities of the function and relation symbols which have to be respected by their interpretation.

Notice that according to Definition 8.1, variables do not receive any fixed interpretation. Thus, it does not provide sufficient means for assigning meaning to *all syntactic expressions* of the language. The meaning of variables, and expressions involving variables, will depend on the choice of the assignment.

**Definition 8.2** [Interpretation of terms] Any function $v : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow M$ is called a variable assignment or just an assignment. Given a structure $M$ and an assignment $v$, the interpretation of terms is defined inductively:

1. for $x \in \mathcal{V}$: $[x]^M = v(x)$
2. for $c \in \mathcal{I}$: $[c]^M = [c]^M$
3. for $n$-ary $f \in \mathcal{F}$ and $t_1, \ldots, t_n \in \mathcal{I}$:

   $[f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)]^M = [f]^M([t_1]^M, \ldots, [t_n]^M)$.

According to point (2), interpretation of constants does not depend on variable assignment. Similarly, the interpretation of a function symbol in point (3) does not either. This means that interpretation of an arbitrary
ground term \( t \in G^T \) is fixed in a given structure \( M \), i.e., for any assignment \( v : [\cdot]^M = \cdot^M \).

**Example 8.3**

Let \( \Sigma \) contain the constant symbol \( \circ \), one unary function symbol \( s \) and a binary function symbol \( \oplus \). Here are some examples of \( \Sigma \)-structures:

(1) \( A \) is the natural numbers \( \mathbb{N} \) with \([\circ]^A = 0, [s]^A = +1 \) and \([\oplus]^A = +\). Here, we understand \( s s \circ \circ \) as \( 5 \), i.e., \([s s \circ \circ]^A = 2 + 3 = 5\).

For an assignment \( v \) with \( v(x) = 2 \) and \( v(y) = 3 \), we get \([x \oplus y]^A = [x]^A + [y]^A = 2 + 3 = 5\).

For an assignment \( w \) with \( w(x) = 4 \) and \( w(y) = 7 \), we get \([x \oplus y]^A = [x]^A + [y]^A = 4 + 7 = 11\).

(2) \( B \) is the natural numbers \( \mathbb{N} \) with \([\circ]^B = 0, [s]^B = +1 \) and \([\oplus]^B = +\).

Here we have: \([s s \circ \circ]^B = 2 + 3 = 6\).

(3) \( C \) is the integers \( \mathbb{Z} \) with \([\circ]^C = 1, [s]^C = +2 \) and \([\oplus]^C = -\).

Here we have: \([s s \circ \circ]^C = 5 - 7 = -2\).

What will be the values of \( x \oplus y \) under the assignments from (1)?

(4) Given a non-empty set (e.g., \( S = \{a, b, c\} \)), we let the domain of \( D \) be \( S^n \) (the finite strings over \( S \)), with \([\circ]^D = \epsilon \) (the empty string), \([s]^D(\epsilon) = \epsilon \) and \([s]^D(x_1 x_2) = \epsilon \) (where \( x_2 \) is the last element in the string \( x_1 x_2 \)), and \([\circ]^D(x_1 x_2) = pt \) (i.e., concatenation of strings).

As we can see, the requirements on something being a \( \Sigma \)-structure are very weak — a non-empty set with arbitrary interpretation of constant, function and relation symbols respecting merely arity. Consequently, there is a huge number of structures for any alphabet — in fact, so huge that it is not even a set but a class. We will not, however, be concerned with this distinction. If necessary, we will denote the collection of all \( \Sigma \)-structures by \( \text{Str}(\Sigma) \).

A \( \Sigma \)-structure \( M \), together with an assignment, induces the interpretation of all \( \text{WFF}_\Sigma^\Sigma \). As in the case of \( \text{PL}_2 \), such an interpretation is a function \( \cdot^M : \text{WFF}_\Sigma^\Sigma \to \{1, 0\} \).

**Definition 8.4** (Interpretation of formulae) \( M \) determines a boolean value for every formula \( \phi \) relative to every variable assignment \( v \), according to the following rules:

(1) If \( P \in R \) is \( n \)-ary and \( t_1, \ldots, t_n \) are terms, then

\[ [P(t_1, \ldots, t_n)]^M = 1 \iff ([t_1]^M, \ldots, [t_n]^M) \in [P]^M \]

(2) Propositional connectives are combined as in \( \text{PL}_2 \). For \( A, B \in \text{WFF}_\Sigma \):
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\[ [\neg A]^M = 1 \iff [A]^M = 0 \]
\[ [A \rightarrow B]^M = 1 \iff [A]^M \text{ implies } [B]^M \]
\[ \iff [A]^M = 0 \text{ or } [B]^M = 1 \]

(3) Quantiﬁed formulae:

\[ [\exists x A]^M = 1 \iff \text{there is an } a \in M : [A]^M_{[x \mapsto a]} = 1 \]

Recall from Remark 1.5 that the notation \( v[x \mapsto a] \) denotes the function \( v \) modiﬁed at one point, namely so that now \( v(x) = a \). Thus the deﬁnition says that the value assigned to the bound variable \( x \) by valuation \( v \) is inessential when determining the boolean value \([A]^M_v\) — no matter what \( v(x) \) is, it will be “modiﬁed” \( v[x \mapsto a] \) if an appropriate \( a \) can be found. We will observe consequences of this fact for the rest of the current subsection.

The following fact justiﬁes the reading of \( \forall x \) as “for all \( x \)”,

**Fact 8.5** For any structure \( M \) and assignment \( v \):

\[ [\forall x A]^M = 1 \iff \text{for all } a \in M : [A]^M_{[x \mapsto a]} = 1. \]

**Proof.** We only expand Deﬁnition 7.7 of the abbreviation \( \forall x \) and apply Deﬁnition 8.4.

\[ [\forall x A]^M = 1 \iff [\exists \neg x \neg A]^M = 1 \iff [\exists \neg x \neg A]^M = 0 \]
\[ \iff [\neg A]^M_{[x \mapsto a]} = 1 \text{ for no } a \in M \]
\[ \iff [A]^M_{[x \mapsto a]} = 0 \text{ for no } a \in M \]
\[ \iff [A]^M_{[x \mapsto a]} = 1 \text{ for all } a \in M \]

QED (8.5)

Again, notice that to evaluate \([\forall x A]^M\), it does not matter what \( v(x) \) is — we will have to check all possible modiﬁcations \( v[x \mapsto a] \) anyway.

Point (3) of deﬁnition 8.4 captures the crucial difference between free and bound variables — the truth of a formula depends on the names of the free variables but not of the bound ones. More precisely, a closed formula (sentence) is either true or false in a given structure — its interpretation according to the above deﬁnition will not depend on the assignment \( v \).

An open formula is neither true nor false — since we do not know what objects the free variables refer to. To determine the truth-value of an open formula, the above deﬁnition requires us to provide an assignment to its free variables. The resulting value will often depend on the chosen assignment.

**Example 8.6**
Consider an alphabet with one binary relation \( R \) and a structure \( M \) with three elements \( M = \{ a, b, c \} \) and \([R]^M = \{ (a, b) \} \). Let \( A \) be the formula
\[\exists x R(x, y) \quad \text{we check whether } [A]^M_v = 1, \text{ resp. } [A]^M_w = 1 \text{ for the following assignments } v, w: \]

\[v = \{ x \mapsto a, y \mapsto \bar{a} \} \]

\[\exists x R(x, y)]^M_v = 1 \iff [R(x, y)]^M_{v[x \mapsto a] = 1 \text{ for some } \bar{a} \in M} \]

\[\iff \langle v[x \mapsto \bar{a}], v[x \mapsto \bar{a}(y)] \rangle \in [R]^M \text{ for some } \bar{a} \in M \]

\[\iff \langle v[x \mapsto \bar{a}], v(x) \rangle \in [R]^M \text{ for some } x \in M \]

\[\text{since } v(x) = v(y) = \bar{a} \]

\[\iff \text{at least one of the following holds:} \]

\[\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}
\hline
\langle x, a \rangle \in [R]^M & \langle x, \bar{a} \rangle \in [R]^M & \langle x, \bar{a} \rangle \in [R]^M \\
\hline
\langle x, \bar{a} \rangle \notin [R]^M & \langle x, \bar{a} \rangle \notin [R]^M & \langle x, \bar{a} \rangle \notin [R]^M \\
\hline
\end{array} \]

\[\Rightarrow \exists x R(x, y)]^M_v = 0 \]

\[w = \{ x \mapsto a, y \mapsto \bar{b} \} \]

\[\exists x R(x, y)]^M_w = 1 \iff [R(x, y)]^M_{w[x \mapsto a] = 1 \text{ for some } \bar{a} \in M} \]

\[\iff \langle w[x \mapsto \bar{a}], w(x) \rangle \in [R]^M \text{ for some } x \in M \]

\[\iff \langle w[x \mapsto \bar{a}], w(y) \rangle \in [R]^M \text{ for some } x \in M \]

\[\text{since } w(x) = w(y) = \bar{b} \]

\[\iff \text{at least one of the following holds:} \]

\[\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}
\hline
\langle x, a \rangle \in [R]^M & \langle x, \bar{b} \rangle \in [R]^M & \langle x, \bar{b} \rangle \in [R]^M \\
\hline
\langle x, \bar{a} \rangle \notin [R]^M & \langle x, \bar{a} \rangle \notin [R]^M & \langle x, \bar{a} \rangle \notin [R]^M \\
\hline
\end{array} \]

\[\Rightarrow \exists x R(x, y)]^M_w = 1 \]

Thus, \([A]^M_v = 0 \text{ while } [A]^M_w = 1 \). Notice that the values assigned to the bound variable \(x\) by \(v\) and \(w\) do not matter at all - one has to consider \(v[x \mapsto \bar{a}]\), resp. \(w[x \mapsto \bar{a}]\) for all possible cases of \(\bar{a}\). What made the difference was the fact that \(v(y) = \bar{a}\) - for which no \(\bar{a}\) could be found with \(\langle x, \bar{a} \rangle \in [R]^M\), while \(w(y) = \bar{b}\) - for which we found such an \(\bar{a}\), namely \(\langle x, \bar{b} \rangle \in [R]^M\).

Universal quantifier \(\forall x\) has an entirely analogous effect - with the above two assignments, you may use Fact 8.5 directly to check that
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\[ [\forall x \neg R(x,y)]^M = 1, \text{ while } [\forall x \neg R(x,y)]^M_w = 0. \]

This influence of the names of free variables, but not of the bound ones, on the truth of formulae is expressed in the following lemma.

Lemma 8.7 Let \( M \) be a structure, \( A \) a formula and \( v \) and \( w \) two assignments such that for every \( x \in \mathcal{V}(A) : v(x) = w(x) \). Then \( [A]^M = [A]^M_w \).

Proof. Induction on \( A \). For atomic \( A \), the claim is obvious (for terms in \( A : [t]^M = [t]^M_w \), and induction passes trivially through the connectives. So let \( A \) be a quantified formula \( \exists y B \)

\[ [A]^M = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for some } a \in M : [B]_{[a]}^M = 1 \\ \bot & \text{for some } a \in M : [B]_{[a]}^M = 1 \end{cases} \]

\[ \Rightarrow [A]^M = 1 \]

By III. \( [B]_{[a]}^M = [B]_{[a]}^M_w \), since \( v(x) = w(x) \) for all free variables \( x \in \mathcal{V}(A) \), and the modification \( y \mapsto a \) makes them agree on \( y \) as well, and hence on all the free variables of \( B \).

Remark.
The interpretation of constants, function and relation symbols does not depend on the assignment. Similarly, the interpretation of ground terms and ground formulae is independent of the assignments. For formulae even more is true - by Lemma 8.7, the boolean value of any closed formula \( \phi \) does not depend on the assignment (since \( \mathcal{V} \phi = \emptyset \), for any assignments \( v, w \), we will have that for all \( x \in \emptyset : v(x) = w(x) \).)

For this reason we may drop the subscript "\( \nu \)" in \( [\phi]^M_v \) and write simply \( [\phi]^M \) in case \( \phi \) is closed. Analogously, we may drop the "\( \nu \)" in \( [t]^M \) if \( t \) is a ground term.

Example 8.8
Consider the alphabet \( \Sigma_{\text{Stack}} \) from Example 7.2. We design a \( \Sigma_{\text{Stack}} \)-structure \( M \) as follows:

- the underlying set \( \mathcal{M} = A \cup \mathcal{A}^* \) consists of a non-empty set \( A \) and all finite strings \( \mathcal{A}^* \) of \( A \)-elements; below \( u, v \in \mathcal{M} \) are arbitrary, while \( a \in A ;
- [\text{empty}]^M = \epsilon \in \mathcal{A}^* - \text{ the empty string}
- [\text{pop}]^M(u\epsilon) = u \text{ and } [\text{pop}]^M(\epsilon) = \epsilon
- [\text{pop}]^M(u\alpha) = a \text{ and } [\text{pop}]^M(\epsilon) = \alpha \text{ for some } \alpha \in A
- [\text{push}]^M(u,v) = uv \text{ - concatenation of strings } u \text{ the string } w \text{ with } v \text{ concatenated at the end}
- finally, we let \( [\text{Init}]^M = A \), \( [\text{Stack}]^M = \mathcal{A}^* \) and \( [\text{Id}]^M = \{ (m, m) : m \in \mathcal{M} \} \), i.e., the identity relation.
We have given an interpretation to all the symbols from $\Sigma_{\text{stack}}$, so $M$ is a $\Sigma_{\text{stack}}$-structure. Notice that all functions are total.

We now check the value of all the axioms from Example 7.14 in $M$.

We apply Definition 8.4, Fact 8.5 and Lemma 8.7 (its consequence from the remark before this example, allowing us to drop assignments whenever interpreting ground terms and closed formulae).

1. \[ [\text{St(\text{empty})}]^M = [\text{empty}]^M \in [\Sigma]^M = \epsilon \in A^* = 1. \]
2. \[ [\forall x, s : \text{El}(x) \land \text{St}(s) \rightarrow \text{St}(\text{push}(s, x))]^M = 1 \]
   \[ \iff \text{for all } c, d \in M : [\text{El}(x) \land \text{St}(s)]^M = 0 \]
   \[ \land [\text{St}(\text{push}(s, x))]^M = 1 \]
   \[ \land \forall c, d \in M : [\text{El}(x) \land \text{St}(s)]^M = 0 \]
   \[ \lor [\text{St}(\text{push}(s, x))]^M = 1 \]
   \[ \therefore \text{for all } c, d \in M : c \notin [\Sigma]^M \lor d \notin [\Sigma]^M \]
   \[ \lor \text{true}, \text{since whenever } c \in A \text{ and } d \in A^* \text{ then also } dc \in A^*. \]
3. We drop axioms (3) and (4) and go directly to (5) and (6).

5. \[ [\text{pop(\text{empty})}] \equiv \text{empty}]^M = 1 \]
   \[ \iff [\text{pop(\text{empty})}]^M, [\text{empty}]^M \in [\equiv]^M \]
   \[ \iff [\text{pop}]^M(c, \epsilon) \in [\equiv]^M \iff \epsilon = \epsilon \iff \text{true}. \]

6. \[ [\forall x, s : \text{El}(x) \land \text{St}(s) \rightarrow \text{pop}(\text{push}(s, x)) \equiv \text{empty}]^M = 1 \]
   \[ \iff \text{for all } c, d \in M : [\text{El}(x) \land \text{St}(s)]^M = 0 \]
   \[ \land [\text{pop}(\text{push}(s, x))]^M = 1 \]
   \[ \land \forall c, d \in M : c \notin [\Sigma]^M \lor d \notin [\Sigma]^M \]
   \[ \lor [\text{pop}]^M(\text{push}(d, c)) \in [\equiv]^M \]
   \[ \lor \text{true}, \text{since whenever } c \in A \text{ and } d \in A^* \text{ then also } dc \in A^*. \]

For the last transition it is essential that $c \in A$ - if $c$ is a non-empty string, e.g., $ab$ then $[\text{pop}]^M(ab) = da \neq d$. Axiom (7) can be verified along the same lines.

Typically, infinitely many formulae evaluate to 1 in a structure. In this example, for instance, also the following formula evaluates to 1:

\[ \forall u, x : \text{St}(x) \land \neg(x \equiv \text{empty}) \rightarrow \text{pop}(\text{push}(u, x)) \equiv \text{push}(u, \text{pop}(x)). \]
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It goes counter our intuitive understanding of stacks - we do not push stacks on stacks, only elements. This is an accident caused by the fact that all functions must be total, and more importantly, by the specific definition of our structure $M$. What in programming languages are called "types" is expressed in FOL by additional predicates. We do not have a type stacks or elements (integers, etc.) which would prevent one from applying the function $top$ to the elements of the latter type. We have predicates identifying parts of the domain. The axioms, as in the example above, specify what should hold when the arguments come from the right parts of the domain (have right types). But the requirement of totality on all functions forces them to yield some results also when applied outside such intended definition domains. Thus, the axioms from Example 7.14 do not describe uniquely the particular data type stacks we might have in mind. They only define some properties which such data type should satisfy.

The following result is crucial for proving the soundness of A4 (Exercise 8.4). A useful special case arises if $t_1$ or $t_2$ is $x$ itself. In that case the lemma says that the identity $\sigma(x) = [G]^M$ implies the identity $[A]^M = [A]^M$, provided $t$ is substitutable for $x$ in $A$.

Lemma 8.9 If $t_1, t_2$ are both substitutable for $x$ in $A$ and $[t_1]^M = [t_2]^M$, then $[A]^M = [A]^M$.

Proof. By induction on the complexity of $A$.

Basis :: It is easy to show (by induction on the complexity of term $s$) that $[t_1]^M = [t_2]^M$ implies $[s_1]^M = [s_2]^M$. Hence, it implies also $[R(s_1, \ldots, s_n)]^M = [R(s_1, \ldots, s_n)]^M$.

Ind. :: The induction steps for $\neg$ and $\rightarrow$ are trivial, as is the case for $\exists x$ for the same variable $x$. As an example, for $A = \neg B$, we simply check $[\neg B]^M = 0$ if $[B]^M = 0$ and $[B]^M = 1$. Now let $A$ be $\exists y B$ and $y \neq x$. As $t_1$ and $t_2$ are substitutable for $x$ in $A$, so either (1) $x$ does not occur free in $B$, in which case the proof is trivial, or (2) $y$ does not occur in $t_1, t_2$ and (2b) $t_1, t_2$ are both substitutable for $x$ in $B$. Now $(\exists y B)^M = \exists y (B_y^M)$ and hence $[(\exists y B)^M]^M = 1$ if $[B_y^M]^M = 1$ for some $y$. By (2a) we know that $[t_1]^{(x \mapsto y)} = [t_2]^{(x \mapsto y)}$ for all $y$, so by (2b) and the IH we know that $[B_y^M]^{(x \mapsto y)} = 1$ for some $y$. By the $\exists x$ rule, we have $[B_x^M]^{(x \mapsto y)} = 1$ for some $y$.

\[ \text{QED (8.9)} \]
8.2 SEMANTIC PROPERTIES

Definition 8.10 Let \( A, M \) and \( v \) range over formulae, structures, and variable assignments into \( M \), respectively.

\[
\begin{array}{lll}
A \text{ is true with respect to } M \text{ and } v \text{ iff } & [A]_v^M = 1 & M \models_v A \\
false \text{ with respect to } M \text{ and } v \text{ iff } & [A]_v^M = 0 & M \notmodels_v A \\
\text{satisfied in } M \text{ iff for all } v : & M \models v, A & M \models A \\
\text{not satisfied in } M \text{ iff there is a } v : & M \notmodels v, A & M \notmodels A \\
\text{valid iff for all } M : & M \models A & \models A \\
\text{not valid iff there is an } M : & M \notmodels A & \notmodels A \\
\text{satisfiable iff there is an } M : & M \models A & \\
\text{unsatisfiable iff for all } M : & M \notmodels A & \\
\end{array}
\]

Terminology and notation.

Sometimes, instead of saying "\( A \) is satisfied (not satisfied) in \( M \)," one says that "\( A \) is true (false)," or even that it is "valid (not valid) in \( M \)."

Lemma 8.7 tells us that only a part of \( v \) is relevant in "\( M \models v, A \)," namely, the partial function that identifies the values for \( x \in V(A) \). If \( V(A) \subseteq \{x_1, \ldots, x_n\} \) and \( v(x_i) = v_i \), we may write just "\( M \models v(x_1 = v_1, \ldots, x_n = v_n), A \)." We may even drop the curly braces since they only clutter up the expression.

Example 8.11

In Example 8.8 we have shown that the structure \( M \) models each axiom \( \phi \) of staces, \( M \models \phi \) from Example 7.14.

Recall now Example 7.17 of an alphabet \( \Sigma_{SG} \) for simple graphs containing only one binary relation symbol \( E \). Any set \( \mathcal{U} \) with a binary relation \( R \) on it is an \( \Sigma_{SG} \)-structure, i.e., we let \( [E]^\mathcal{U} = R \subseteq \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{U} \).

We now want to make it to satisfy axiom (1) from 7.17: \( \models \forall x, y : E(x, y) \rightarrow E(y, x) \). By Definition 8.10, this requires

\[
\text{for all assignments } v : \forall x, y : E(x, y) \rightarrow E(y, x) \models [E]^\mathcal{U} = 1. \tag{8.12}
\]

Since the formula is closed, we may ignore assignments \(-\) by Fact 8.5 we must show:

\[
\text{for all } a, b \in \mathcal{U} : [E(x, y) \rightarrow E(y, x)]_{[a, b]}^\mathcal{U} = 1. \tag{8.13}
\]

By Definition 8.4.(2) this means:

\[
\text{for all } a, b \in \mathcal{U} : \langle a, b \rangle \notin [E]^\mathcal{U} \text{ or } \langle b, a \rangle \notin [E]^\mathcal{U} = 1, \tag{8.14}
\]

i.e., by Definition 8.4.(1):

\[
\text{for all } a, b \in \mathcal{U} : \langle a, b \rangle \notin [E]^\mathcal{U} \text{ or } \langle b, a \rangle \notin [E]^\mathcal{U}, \tag{8.15}
\]
and since $[E]^U = R$:

$$\text{for all } a, b \in U : \langle a, b \rangle \notin R \text{ or } \langle b, a \rangle \in R. \quad (8.16)$$

But this says just that for any pair of elements $a, b \in U$, if $R(a, b)$ then also $R(b, a)$. Thus the axiom holds only in the structures where the relation (here $R$) interpreting the symbol $E$ is symmetric and does not hold in those where it is not symmetric. Put a bit differently — and this is the way one uses (non-logical) axioms — the axiom selects only those $\Sigma_se$-structures where the relation interpreting $E$ is symmetric — it narrows the relevant structures to those satisfying the axiom.

Quite an analogous procedure would show that the other axioms from Example 7.17, would narrow the possible interpretations to those where $R$ is transitive, resp. irreflexive. □

### 8.3 Open vs. Closed Formulae

Semantic properties of closed formulae bear some resemblance to the respective properties of formulae of PL. However, this resemblance does not apply with equal strength to open formulae. We start by a rough comparison to PL.

**Remark 8.17** [Comparing with PL]
Comparing the table from Definition 8.10 with Definition 5.11, we see that the last three double rows correspond exactly to the definition for PL. The first double row is new because now, in addition to formulae and structures, we also have valuation of individual variables. As before, *contradictions* are the unsatisfiable formulae, and the structure $M$ is a *model of $A$* if $A$ is satisfied (valid) in $M : M \models A$. (Notice that if $A$ is valid in an $M$, it is not valid in general but only satisfiable.)

An important difference from PL concerns the relation between $M \not\models A$ and $M \models \neg A$. In PL, we had that for any structure $V$ and formula $A$

$$V \not\models A \Rightarrow V \models \neg A \quad (8.18)$$

simply because any $V$ induced unique boolean value for all formulae. The corresponding implication does not, in general, hold in FOL:

$$M \not\models A \not\models M \models \neg A \quad (8.19)$$

In fact, we may have:

$$M \not\models A \text{ and } M \not\models \neg A \quad (8.20)$$
(Of course, we will never get $M \models A$ and $M \models \neg A$.) To see (8.20), consider a formula $A = P(x)$ and a structure $M$ with two elements $\{0, 1\}$ and $[P]^M = \{1\}$. Then $M \not\models A \Leftrightarrow M \not\models \neg A$ for some $v \in [A]^M$ for some $v$, and this is indeed the case for $v(x) = 0$ since $0 \not\in [P]^M$. On the other hand, we also have $M \not\models \neg A$ since $[\neg A]^M = \emptyset$ for $v(x) = 1$.

It is the presence of free variables which causes the implication in (8.19) to fail because then the interpretation of a formula is not uniquely determined unless one specifies an assignment to the free variables. Given an assignment, we do have

$$M \models_v A \Rightarrow M \models_v \neg A$$  \hspace{1cm} (8.21)

Consequently, the implication (8.19) holds for closed formulae. □

Summarizing this remark, we can set up the following table which captures some of the essential difference between free and bound variables in terms of relations between negation of satisfaction of a formula, $M \not\models F$, and satisfaction of its negation, $M \models \neg F$. $M$ is an arbitrary structure:

\[
\begin{array}{c|c|c}
F \text{ closed (or PL)} & F \text{ open} \\
\hline
M \not\models F \Rightarrow M \models \neg F & M \not\models F \Leftrightarrow M \models \neg F \\
\end{array}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (8.22)

For closed formulae, we can say that “negation commutes with satisfaction” (or else “satisfaction of negation is the same as negation of satisfaction”), while this is not the case for open formulae.

The above remark leads to another important difference between FOL and PL, which we mentioned earlier. The respective Deduction Theorems 4.13 and 7.29 differ in that the latter has the additional restriction of closedness. The reason for this is the semantic complication introduced by the free variables. For PL we defined two notions $B \Rightarrow A$ and $B \models A$ which, as a matter of fact, coincide. We had there the following picture:

\[
\forall V : V \models B \Rightarrow A \text{ by } \text{def} \Rightarrow M \models B \Rightarrow A \text{ by } \text{def} \\
\text{if } V \models B \text{ then } V \models A \\
\text{by } \text{def} \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow A \text{ by } \text{def} B \models A
\]

The vertical equivalences follow from the soundness and completeness theorems, while the horizontal one follows from Deduction Theorem 4.13. This chain of equivalences is a roundabout way to verify that for PL: $B \Rightarrow A$ iff $B \Rightarrow A$. This picture isn’t that simple in FOL. We preserve the two Definitions 5.11 and 6.11:

**Definition 8.23** For FOL structures $M$ and formulae $A, B$:
8.3. Open vs. closed formulae

- \( B \models A \) iff for every structure \( M : \text{if } M \models B \text{ then } M \models A \).
- \( A \) is a logical consequence of \( B \), written \( B \Rightarrow A \), iff \( B \models A \).

However, \( M \models B \) means that \( M \models vB \) holds \textit{for all assignments} \( v \). Thus the definitions read:

\[
\begin{array}{c|c}
B \models A & B \Rightarrow A \\
\hline
\text{for all } M : & \text{for all } M : \\
\text{if (for all } v : M \models vB \text{) then (for all } u : M \models u A \text{)} & \text{for all } v : M \models vB \rightarrow A \\
\end{array}
\]

It is not obvious that the two are equivalent – in fact, they are not, if there are free variables involved (Exercise 8.8). If there are no free variables then, by Lemma 8.7, each formula has a fixed boolean value in any structure (and we can remove the quantification over \( v \)'s and \( u \)'s from the above table).

The difference is expressed in the restriction of Deduction Theorem 7.29 requiring the formula \( B \) to be closed. (Assuming soundness and completeness (Chapter 9-30), this restriction leads to the same equivalences as above for PL.) We write \( 'A \Leftrightarrow B' \) for \( 'A \Rightarrow B \text{ and } B \Rightarrow A' \) which, by the above remarks (and Exercise 8.8) is \textit{not} the same as \( 'A \models B \text{ and } B \models A' \). \( A \Leftrightarrow B \) is read as “\( A \) and \( B \) are logically equivalent”.

**Fact 8.24** For any formula \( A : \neg \forall x A \Leftrightarrow \exists x \neg A \).

**Proof.** By Definition 7.7, \( \neg \forall x A = \neg \neg \exists x \neg A \), which is equivalent to the right-hand side (Example 5.12).

**Fact 8.25** \( \forall x A \Rightarrow A \)

**Proof.** We have to show \( \models \forall x A \rightarrow A \), that is, for an arbitrary structure \( M \) and assignment \( v : M \rightarrow \forall x A \rightarrow A \). Let \( M, v \) be arbitrary. If \( \framebox{\[ [\forall x A]_M^v = 1 \]} \) then we are done, so assume \( \framebox{\[ [\forall x A]_M^v = 0 \]} \).

\[
\begin{align*}
&\left[ [\forall x A]_M^v = 1 \right] \\
&\Rightarrow \left[ [\exists x \neg A]_M^v = 1 \right] \quad \text{Def. 7.7} \\
&\Rightarrow \left[ [\exists x \neg A]_M^v = 0 \right] \quad \text{Def. 8.4(1)} \\
&\Rightarrow \text{for no } a \in M : \left[ [\neg A]_{M[a \leftarrow v(a)]}^v = 0 \right] \quad \text{Def. 8.4(2)} \\
&\Rightarrow \text{for all } a \in M : \left[ [\neg A]_{M[a \leftarrow v(a)]}^v = 0 \right] \quad \text{same as above} \\
&\Rightarrow \left[ [\neg A]_{M[a \leftarrow v(x)]}^v = 0 \right] \quad \text{particular case for } a = v(x) \\
&\Rightarrow \left[ [\neg A]_M^v = 0 \right] \quad \text{since } v = v[x \leftrightarrow \neg \neg v(x)] \\
&\Rightarrow \left[ [A]_M^v = 1 \right] \quad \text{Def. 8.4(2)}
\end{align*}
\]

Since \( M \) and \( v \) were arbitrary, the claim follows. \( \therefore \) (8.25)
For a closed formula $A$ we have, obviously, equivalence of $A$ and $\forall x A$, since the latter does not modify the formula. For open formulas, however, the implication opposite to this from Fact 8.25 does not hold.

**Fact 8.26** For open $A$ with a free variable $x : A \not\models \forall x A$.

**Proof.** Let $A$ be $P(x)$, where $P$ is a predicate symbol. To see that $P(x) \not\models \forall x P(x)$ consider a structure $M = \{p, q\}$, $[P]^M = \{p\}$ and an assignment $\alpha(x) = p$. We have that $M \not\models P(x) \rightarrow \forall x P(x)$, since $[P(x)]^M = 1$ while $[\forall x P(x)]^M = [\forall x P(x)]^M = 0 \quad \text{q.e.d. (8.26)}$

In spite of this fact, we have another close relation between satisfaction of $A$ and $\forall x A$. Given a (not necessarily closed) formula $A$, the universal closure of $A$, written $\forall(A)$, is the formula $\forall x_1 \ldots \forall x_n A$, where $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\} = \text{\textit{V}}(A)$. The following fact shows that satisfaction of a possibly open! - formula in a given structure is, in fact, equivalent to the satisfaction of its universal closure.

**Fact 8.27** For any structure $M$ and formula $A$, the following are equivalent:

1. $M \models A$
2. $M \models \forall(A)$

**Proof.** Strictly speaking, we should proceed by induction on the number of free variables in $A$ but this does not change anything essential in the proof. We treat them uniformly and mark as $\forall$.

$M \models \forall A \iff \forall v : M \models \forall v A$

$\iff \forall v : \text{\textit{V}}(M) \models \forall v A$

$\iff M \models \forall \forall A \quad \text{q.e.d. (8.27)}$

### 8.3.1 Deduction Theorem in $\mathcal{G}$ and $\mathcal{N}$

Observe that Gentzen's rules ($\vdash \vee$) and ($\vdash \neg \neg$), Section 7.4, indicate the semantics of sequents. $A_1 \ldots A_n \vdash B_1 \ldots B_m$ corresponds by these rules to $A_1 \neg \ldots \neg \neg A_n \vdash B_1 \vee \ldots \vee B_m$ and by rule ($\vdash \rightarrow$) to $\vdash \neg \neg (A_1 \ldots \neg \neg A_n) \rightarrow (B_1 \vee \ldots \vee B_m)$ which is a simple formula with the expected semantics corresponding to the semantics of the original sequent.

Now $\mathcal{G}$ for $\text{FOL}$, unlike $\mathcal{N}$, is a truly natural deduction system. Rule ($\vdash \rightarrow$) is the unrestricted Deduction Theorem built into $\mathcal{G}$. Recall that it was not so for $\mathcal{N}$—Deduction Theorem 7.29 allowed us to use a restricted version
8.3. Open vs. Closed Formulae

of the rule \( \Gamma, A \vdash B \) only if \( A \) is closed! Without this restriction, the
rule would be unsound, e.g.,

1. \( A \vdash A \)  \( \text{A0} \)
2. \( A \vdash \forall x A \)  \( L7.24(4) \)
3. \( \Gamma, A \rightarrow \forall x A \)  \( DT! \)
4. \( \Gamma, \exists x A \rightarrow \forall x A \)  \( \exists \)

The conclusion of this proof is obviously invalid (verify this) and we could
derive it only using a wrong application of DT in line 3.

In \( \mathcal{G} \), such a proof cannot proceed beyond step 1. Rule \( (\neg \forall) \) requires
replacement of \( x \) from \( \forall x A \) by a fresh \( x' \), i.e., not occurring (freely) in the
sequent. Attempting this proof in \( \mathcal{G} \) would lead to the following:

4. \( A(x') \vdash A(x) \)
3. \( A(x') \vdash \forall x A(x) \)  \( (\neg \forall) \), \( x \) fresh \( (x \neq x') \)
2. \( \exists x A(x) \vdash \forall x A(x) \)  \( (\exists \rightarrow) \), \( x' \) fresh
1. \( \vdash \exists x A(x) \rightarrow \forall x A(x) \)  \( (\rightarrow) \)

But \( A(x) \neq A(x') \) so line 4 is not an axiom. (If \( x \) does not occur in \( A \) (i.e.,
quantification \( \forall x A \) is somehow redundant) then this would be an axiom
and everything would be fine.)

It is this, different than in \( \mathcal{N} \), treatment of variables (built into the
different quantifier rules) which enables \( \mathcal{G} \) to use unrestricted Deduction
Theorem. It is reflected at the semantic level in that the semantics of \( \vdash \) is
different from \( \models \). According to Definition 8.23, \( A \models B \) if \( A \models (A \rightarrow B) \)
and this is reflected in \( \mathcal{N} \), e.g., in the fact that from \( A \models B \) we can deduce
that \( \forall (A \models (A \rightarrow B)) \) from which \( \vdash \models (A \rightarrow B) \) follows now by Deduction
Theorem 7.29.

The semantics of \( A \models B \) is different — such a sequent is interpreted as
\( A \models B \) that \( \models (A \rightarrow B) \). The free variables occurring in both
\( A \) and \( B \) are now interpreted in the same way across the sign. Using
Definition 8.23, one translates easily between sequents and formulae of \( \mathcal{N} \)
(\( M \) is an arbitrary structure). The first equivalence gives the general form
from which the rest follows. The last line expresses perhaps most directly the
difference in the treatment of free variables indicated above.

\[
M \models (A_1, ..., A_n) \models B_1, ..., B_m) \iff M \models \forall((A_1 \land \cdots \land A_n) \rightarrow (B_1 \lor \cdots \lor B_m))
\]

\[
M \models (\emptyset \models B_1, ..., B_m) \iff M \models \forall(B_1 \lor \cdots \lor B_m)
\]

\[
M \models (A_1, ..., A_n) \models \emptyset \iff M \models \forall((A_1 \land \cdots \land A_n))
\]

\[
\{ (\forall(A_1), \cdots, \forall(A_n)) \models B \} \iff \{ A_1 = \cdots = A_n \} \models B
\]
EXERCISES 8.1

EXERCISE 8.1 Write the following sentences in FOL – choose appropriate alphabet of non-logical symbols (a, b, ... etc. are individual constants):

(1) Either a is small or both c and d are large.
(2) d and e are both in back of b and larger than it.
(3) Either e is not large or it is in back of a.
(4) Neither e nor a are to the right of c and to the left of b.

EXERCISE 8.2 Translate each of the following sentences into a FOL language (choose the needed relation symbols yourself):

(1) Everybody loves somebody.
(2) If everybody is loved (by somebody) then somebody loves everybody.
(3) If everybody loves somebody and John does not love anybody then John is nobody.

At least two of the obtained formulae are not valid. Which ones? Is the third one valid?

EXERCISE 8.3 Using the previous exercise, construct a structure where the opposite implication to the one from Exercise 7.2(3), i.e., \( \forall y \exists x A \rightarrow \exists x \forall y A \), does not hold.

EXERCISE 8.4 Verify the following facts (\( \models A \Rightarrow B \) stands for \( \models A \rightarrow B \) and \( \models B \rightarrow A \))

(1) \( \exists x A \Leftrightarrow \exists y A^y_x \), when y does not occur in A.
(2) \( \models \forall x A \Leftrightarrow \forall x A^y_x \), when y does not occur in A.
(3) \( A^t_x \rightarrow \exists x A \), when t is substitutable for x in A.

Show that the assumption about substitutability is necessary, i.e., give an example of a non-valid formula of the form \( A^t_x \rightarrow \exists x A \), when t is not substitutable for x in A.

EXERCISE 8.5 Use Fact 8.27 to show that the following two statements are equivalent for any formulae A, B

(1) \( B \models A \)
(2) \( \forall (B) \models A \)

EXERCISE 8.6 Show that \( M \models \neg A \) implies \( M \not\models A \). Give a counterexample demonstrating that the opposite implication need not hold, i.e., find an M and A over appropriate alphabet such that \( M \not\models A \) and \( M \not\models \neg A \).

(Hint: A must have free variables.)
EXERCISE 8.7 Show that \((\forall x A \lor \forall x B) \implies \forall x (A \lor B)\). Give a counterexample demonstrating that the opposite implication (which you hopefully did not manage to prove in Exercise 7.3) does not hold.

EXERCISE 8.8 Recall Remark 8.17 and discussion after Definition 8.23 (as well as Exercise 7.9).

1. Show that \(\forall (B \rightarrow A) \implies (\forall (B) \rightarrow \forall (A))\).
   - Use this to show that: if \(B \rightarrow A\) then \(B \models A\).

2. Give an argument (an example of \(A, B\) and structure) falsifying the opposite implication, i.e., showing \(\not\models (\forall (B) \rightarrow \forall (A)) \rightarrow \forall (B \rightarrow A)\).
   - Use this to show that: if \(B \models A\) then it need not be the case that \(B \rightarrow A\).

EXERCISE 8.9 In Lemma 7.24,(5) we showed admissibility of the substitution rule in \(N\):

\[\frac{\Gamma \vdash \forall x A}{\Gamma \vdash \forall x A^t}\]

if \(t\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(A\).

Show now that this rule is sound, i.e., for any FOL-structure \(M\) if \(M \models A\) then also \(M \models A^t\) when \(t\) is substitutable for \(x\) in \(A\).

EXERCISE 8.10 Using the semantics of \(H_2\) from Subsection 8.3.1, show that the four quantifier rules of Gentzen's system are sound and invertible.

(Hint: Show first a stronger claim, namely, that for each of these rules \(\frac{\Gamma_i \vdash x A}{\Gamma \vdash \forall x A}\) and for arbitrary structure \(M\), it holds that

\[M \models \land \Gamma \rightarrow \forall \Delta \iff M \models \land \Gamma_i \rightarrow \forall \Delta_i.\]

Explain how this entails the desired conclusion.)
Chapter 9

MORE SEMANTICS

9.1 Prenex Normal Form

We have seen (Corollary 6.6, 6.7) that every PL formula can be equivalently written in DNF and CNF. A normal form which is particularly useful in the study of FOL is Prenex Normal Form.

Definition 9.1 [PNF] A formula $A$ is in Prenex Normal Form iff it has the form $Q_1x_1 \ldots Q_nx_nB$, where $Q_i$ are quantifiers and $B$ contains no quantifiers.

The quantifier part $Q_1x_1 \ldots Q_nx_n$ is called the prefix, and the quantifier free part $B$ the matrix of $A$.

To show that each formula is equivalent to some formula in PNF we need the next lemma.

Lemma 9.2 Let $A$, $B$ be formulae, $F[A]$ be a formula with some occurrence(s) of $A$, and $F[B]$ be the same formula with the occurrence(s) of $A$ replaced by $B$. If $A \iff B$ then $F[A] \iff F[B]$.

Proof. Exercise 5.9 showed the version for PL. The proof is by induction on the complexity of $F[A]$, with a special case considered first:

$F[A]$ is:

$A ::$ This is a special case in which we have trivially $F[A] = A \iff B = F[B]$.

In the rest of the proof, assume that we are not in the special case.

$\text{ATOMIC ::}$ If $F[A]$ is atomic then either we have the special case, or no replacement is made, i.e., $F[A] = F[B]$, since $F$ has no subformula $A$.

$\neg C[A] ::$ By IH $C[A] \iff C[B]$. So $\neg C[A] \iff \neg C[B]$.

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$C[A] \rightarrow D[A]$: Again, IH gives $C[A] \Leftrightarrow C[B]$ and $D[A] \Leftrightarrow D[B]$, from which the conclusion follows (Exercise 5.9).

$\exists x C[A]$: By IH, $C[A] \Leftrightarrow C[B]$. It means, that for all assignments to the variables, including $x$, the two have the same value. Hence $\exists x C[A] \Leftrightarrow \exists x C[B]$, \qedsymbol (9.2)

The following lemma identifies transformations of formulae allowing to construct Prenex normal form by purely syntactic manipulation. It also ensures that the result of such transformations is logically equivalent to the original formula.

**Lemma 9.3** The prenex operations are given by the following equivalences:

1. Quantifier movement along $\rightarrow$:
   
   If $x$ not free in $A$: $A \rightarrow \forall x B \Leftrightarrow \forall x(A \rightarrow B)$
   
   and $A \rightarrow \exists x B \Leftrightarrow \exists x(A \rightarrow B)$

2. Quantifier movement along $\neg$:
   
   $\neg \exists x A \Leftrightarrow \forall x \neg A$
   
   $\neg \forall x A \Leftrightarrow \exists x \neg A$

3. Renaming of bound variables:
   
   When $y$ does not occur in $A$:
   
   $\exists x A \Leftrightarrow \exists y A^y_x$
   
   $\forall x A \Leftrightarrow \forall y A^y_x$

**Proof.** (3) was proved in Exercise 8.4. We show the first and the third equivalence from (1); the rest is left for Exercise 9.4.

Let $M$ be an arbitrary structure and $v$ an arbitrary assignment to the free variables occurring in $A$ and $\forall x B$. We have

$M \models_v A \rightarrow \forall x B$:

1. $\Leftrightarrow [A \rightarrow \forall x B]^M_v = 1$

2. $\Leftrightarrow [A]^M_v = 0$ or $[\forall x B]^M_v = 1$

3. $\Leftrightarrow [A]^M_v = 0$ or for all $a \in M$ : $[B]^M_{v[a \mapsto a]} = 1$

4. $\Leftrightarrow$ for all $a \in M$ : $[A]^M_v = 0$ or $[B]^M_{v[a \mapsto a]} = 1$

5. $\Leftrightarrow$ for all $a \in M$ : $[A]^M_{v[a \mapsto a]} = 0$ or $[B]^M_{v[a \mapsto a]} = 1$

6. $\Leftrightarrow [\forall x(A \rightarrow B)]^M_v = 1$

7. $\Leftrightarrow M \models_v \forall x(A \rightarrow B)$

The equivalence between lines 4 and 5 follows from Lemma 8.7 because
9.1. ∃x∀A → B

Since M and v were arbitrary, we can conclude that, when x is not free in A then (A → ∀xA) ⇒ ∀xA(A → B).

The other equivalence of (1) is established as follows:

1. \( M \models \forall x A \rightarrow \exists x A \rightarrow B \)
2. \( \Leftrightarrow [\forall x A]_v^M = 0 \text{ or } [B]_v^M = 1 \)
3. \( \Leftrightarrow [\exists x \neg A]_v^M = 0 \text{ or } [B]_v^M = 1 \)
4. \( \Leftrightarrow [\exists A \rightarrow B]_v^M = 1 \text{ or } [B]_v^M = 1 \)
5. \( \Leftrightarrow (\text{for some } a \in M [\neg A]_{v[a]}^M = 1) \text{ or } [B]_v^M = 1 \)
6. \( \Leftrightarrow (\text{for some } a \in M [A]_{v[a]}^M = 0) \text{ or } [B]_v^M = 1 \)
7. \( \Leftrightarrow \text{for some } a \in M (\neg [A]_{v[a]}^M = 0) \text{ or } [B]_v^M = 1 \)
8. \( \Leftrightarrow \text{for some } a \in M [A]_{v[a]}^M = 0 \text{ or } [B]_v^M = 1 \)
9. \( \exists x (A \rightarrow B)_v^M = 1 \)
10. \( M \models \exists x (A \rightarrow B) \)

Again, the crucial equivalence of lines 6 and 7 follows from Lemma 8.7 because x is not free in B.

Remark:

Notice the change of quantifier in the last two equivalences in point (1) of Lemma 9.3. The last one, \( \exists x A \rightarrow B \Leftrightarrow \forall x (A \rightarrow B) \), assuming that x \( \not\in \forall(B) \), can be illustrated as follows. Let \( R(x) \) stand for ‘x raises his voice’ and T for ‘there will be trouble’ (which has no free variables). The sentence ‘If somebody raises his voice there will be trouble’ can be represented as

\[ \exists x R(x) \rightarrow T. \]  

(3.4)

The intention here is to say that no matter who raises his voice, the trouble will ensue. Intuitively, it is equivalent to say: ‘If anyone raises his voice, there will be trouble’ and this sentence can be easier seen to correspond to \( \forall x (R(x) \rightarrow T) \).

The third equivalence from point (1) is not so natural. We would like to read \( \forall x R(x) \rightarrow T \) as ‘If all raise their voices, there will be trouble’. But it is equivalent to

\[ \exists x (R(x) \rightarrow T), \]  

(3.5)

which might be saying something like ‘There exists somebody (a specific x) such that if x raises his voice, there will be trouble’. Intuitively, the two say very different things. Often, one tends to ignore the different scope of the quantifier in (3.5) and in (3.4) and read both the same way. This is, again, only a remainder that one has to be careful with formalizing natural language expressions and should always keep in mind the important differences arising from the different scopes of quantifiers.
Theorem 9.6  Every formula $B$ is equivalent to a formula $B_F$ in PNF.

Proof. By induction on the complexity of $B$. The IH gives us a PNF for the subformulae and Lemma 9.2 allows us to replace these subformulae by their PNF. The equivalences from Lemma 9.3 are applied from left to right.

Atomic :: Having no quantifiers, $B$ is obviously in PNF.

$\neg A$ :: By IH, $A$ has a PNF, and by Lemma 9.2, $B \iff \neg A_F$. Using (2) of Lemma 9.3, we can move $\neg$ inside changing all the quantifiers. The result will be $B_F$.

$\exists A$ :: Replacing $A$ with $A_F$ gives a PNF $B_F = \exists A$. 

$A \to C$ :: By IH and Lemma 9.2, this is equivalent to $A_F \to C_F$. First, use (3) of Lemma 9.3 to rename all bound variables in $A_F$ so that they are distinct from all the variables (bound or free) in $C_F$. Then do the same with $C_F$. Use Lemma 9.3(1) to move the quantifiers outside the whole implication. (Because of the renaming, no bound variable will at any stage occur freely in the other formula.) The result is $B_F$.

QED (9.6)

Example 9.7

We obtain PNF using the prenex operations from Lemma 9.3:

$\forall x \exists y A(x,y) \to \neg \exists x B(x) \iff \exists x (\exists y A(x,y) \to \neg \exists x B(x))$ (1)
$
\iff \exists y (\exists y A(x,y) \to \neg \exists x B(x))$ (1)
$
\iff \exists y (\exists y A(x,y) \to \forall x \neg B(x))$ (2)
$
\iff \exists y (\forall y A(x,y) \to \forall x \neg B(x))$ (3)
$
\iff \exists y (\forall y A(x,y) \to \neg B(x))$ (1)

Formulæ with abbreviated connectives may be first rewritten to the form with $\neg$ and $\to$ only, before applying the prenex transformations:

$\exists x A(x,y) \lor \forall y B(y) \iff \neg \exists x A(x,y) \lor \forall y B(y)$
$
\iff \forall x \neg A(x,y) \lor \forall y B(y)$ (2)
$
\iff \exists x (\forall x A(x,y) \lor \forall y B(y))$ (1)
$
\iff \exists x (\exists x A(x,y) \lor \forall y B(y))$ (3)
$
\iff \exists x (\forall y A(x,y) \lor B(y))$ (1)
$
\iff \exists x (A(x,y) \lor B(y))$

Alternatively, we may use prenex operations derivable from Lemma 9.3:

$(Qx A \lor B) \iff Qx (A \lor B)$ provided $x \notin V(B)$
$(Qx A \land B) \iff Qx (A \land B)$ provided $x \notin V(B)$

Notice that PNF is not unique, since the order in which we apply the
9.1. PRENEX NORMAL FORM

prenex operations may be chosen arbitrarily.

Example 9.8
Let $B$ be $(\forall x \ x > 0) \rightarrow (\exists y \ y = 1)$. We can apply the prenex operations to $B$ in two ways:

\[
(\forall x \ x > 0) \rightarrow (\exists y \ y = 1)
\]

\[
\equiv \exists x \ (x > 0 \rightarrow (\exists y \ y = 1))
\equiv \exists y \ ((\forall x \ x > 0) \rightarrow y = 1)
\equiv \exists y \ (\exists x \ x > 0 \rightarrow y = 1)
\]

Obviously, since the order of the quantifiers of the same kind does not matter (Exercise 7.2A(1)), the two resulting formulae are equivalent. However, the quantifiers may also be of different kinds:

\[
(\exists x \ x > 0) \rightarrow (\exists y \ y = 1)
\]

\[
\equiv \forall x \ (x > 0 \rightarrow (\exists y \ y = 1))
\equiv \exists y \ ((\forall x \ x > 0) \rightarrow y = 1)
\equiv \exists y \ (\forall x \ x > 0 \rightarrow y = 1)
\]

Although it is not true in general that $\forall y A \equiv \exists y \forall x A$, so prenex operations -- preserving equivalence, due to renaming of bound variables and avoidance of name clashes with variables in other subformulae -- ensure that the results (like the two formulae above) are equivalent.

\[\square\]

9.1.1 LEVY HIERARCHY

The existence of PNF allows us to “measure the complexity” of formulae. Comparing the prefixes, we would say that $A_1 = \exists y \forall x B$ is “more complex” than $A_2 = \exists x \forall y B$. Roughly, a formula is the more complex, the more changes of quantifiers in its prefix.

Definition 9.9 A formula $A$ is $\Delta_0$ iff it has no quantifiers. It is:

- $\Sigma_1$ iff $A \iff \exists x_1 \ldots \exists x_n B$, where $B$ is $\Delta_0$.
- $\Pi_1$ iff $A \iff \forall x_1 \ldots \forall x_n B$, where $B$ is $\Delta_0$.
- $\Sigma_{i+1}$ iff $A \iff \exists x_1 \ldots \exists x_n B$, where $B$ is $\Pi_i$.
- $\Pi_{i+1}$ iff $A \iff \forall x_1 \ldots \forall x_n B$, where $B$ is $\Sigma_i$.

Since PNF is not unique, a formula can belong to several levels and we have to consider all possible PNFs for a formula in order to determine its complexity. Typically, saying that a formula is $\Sigma_i$, resp. $\Pi_i$, one means that this is the least such $i$. 
Also, a formula may be both $\Pi_i$ and $\Sigma_i$, in which case it is said to be $\Delta_i$. In Example 9.8, the second formula is equivalent to both $\forall x \exists y B$, being thus $\Pi_2$, and to $\exists y \forall x B$, being thus $\Sigma_2$ — it is $\Delta_2$.

9.2 Substructures: an example of model theory

Roughly, model theory studies the properties of model classes. A model class is not just an arbitrary collection $K$ of FOL-structures — it is a collection of models of some set $\Gamma$ of formulae, i.e., such that $K = Mod(\Gamma)$. The syntactic form of the formulae in $\Gamma$ may have a heavy influence on the properties of its model class. On the other hand, knowing some properties of a given class of structures, model theory may sometimes tell what syntactic forms of axioms are necessary/sufficient for axiomatizing this class. In general, there exist non-axiomatizable classes $K$, i.e., such that for no FOL-theory $\Gamma$, one can get $K = Mod(\Gamma)$.

As an elementary example of the property of a class of structures we consider closure under substructures and superstructures.

**Definition 9.10** Let $M, N$ be $\Sigma$-structures for a FOL alphabet $\Sigma$: $N$ is a substructure of $M$ ($M$ is a superstructure/extension of $N$), $N \subseteq M$, iff:

- $N \subseteq M$
- For all $a \in I$: $[a]^N = [a]^M$
- For all $f \in F$, and $\bar{a} \in N$:
  \[ [f]^N(\bar{a}) = [f]^M(\bar{a}) \in N \]
- For all $R \in R$, and $\bar{a} \in N$:
  \[ \langle \bar{a} \rangle \in [R]^N \iff \langle \bar{a} \rangle \in [R]^M \]

For an arbitrary class of structures $K$, we say that $K$ is:

- closed under substructures if whenever $M \in K$ and $N \subseteq M$, then also $N \in K$,
- closed under superstructures if whenever $N \in K$ and $N \subseteq M$, then also $M \in K$.

Thus $N \subseteq M$ iff $N$ has a more restricted interpretation domain than $M$, but all constants, function and relation symbols are interpreted identically within this restricted domain. Obviously, every structure is its own substructure, $M \subseteq M$. If $N \subseteq M$ and $N \neq M$, which means that $N$ is a proper subset of $M$, then we say that $N$ is a proper substructure of $M$. 
Example 9.11
Let $\Sigma$ be given by $I = \{ c \}$ and $J_2 = \{ \circ \}$. The structure $Z$ with $Z = Z$ being the integers, $[c]^Z = 0$ and $[c]^Z(x,y) = x + y$ is a $\Sigma$-structure. The structure $N$ with $N = N$ being only the natural numbers with zero, $[c]^N = 0$ and $[c]^N(x,y) = x + y$ is obviously a substructure $N \subseteq Z$.

Restricting furthermore the domain to the even numbers, i.e. taking $P$ with $P$ being the even numbers greater or equal zero, $[c]^P = 0$ and $[c]^P(x,y) = x + y$ yields again a substructure $P \subseteq N$.

The class $K = \{ Z,N,P \}$ is not closed under substructures. One can easily find other $\Sigma$-substructures not belonging to $K$ (for instance, all negative numbers with zero and addition is a substructure of $Z$).

Notice that, in general, to obtain a substructure it is not enough to select an arbitrary subset of the underlying set. If we restrict $N$ to the set $\{ 0,1,2,3 \}$ it will not yield a substructure of $N$ – because, for instance, $[c]^N(1,3) = 4$ and this element is not in our set. Any structure, and hence a substructure in particular, must be “closed under all operations”, i.e., applying any operation to elements of the (underlying set of the) structure must produce an element in the structure.

On the other hand, a subset of the underlying set may fail to be a substructure if the operations are interpreted in different way. Let $M$ be like $Z$ only that now we let $[c]^M(x,y) = x - y$. Neither $N$ nor $P$ are substructures of $M$ since, in general, for $x,y \in N$ (or $\in P$): $[c(x,y)]^N = x + y \neq x - y = [c(x,y)]^M$. Modifying $N$ so that $[c]^N(x,y) = x - y$ does not yield a substructure of $M$ either, because this does not define $[c]^N$ for $x > y$. No matter how we define this operation for such cases (for instance, to return 0), we won’t obtain a substructure of $M$ – the result will be different than in $M$. □

Remark 9.12
Given a FOL alphabet $\Sigma$, we may consider all $\Sigma$-structures, $\text{Str}(\Sigma)$. Obviously, this class is closed under $\Sigma$-substructures. With the substructure relation, $(\text{Str}(\Sigma), \subseteq)$ forms a weak partial ordering (Definition 1.14), as the following properties of the relation $\subseteq$ follow easily from Definition 9.10:

- $\subseteq$ is obviously reflexive (any structure is its own substructure),
- transitive (substructure of a substructure of $Y$ is a substructure of $Y$) and
- antisymmetric (if $X$ is a substructure of $Y$ and $Y$ of $X$ then $X = Y$). □

A consequence of Theorem 9.6 is that any axiomatizable class $K$ can be axiomatized by formulae in PNF. This fact has a model theoretic flavour, but model theory studies more specific relations between the classes of
structures and the syntactic form of their axiomatizations. The following gives a simple and important example of a model theoretic result. Point (1) says that satisfaction of an existential formula is preserved when passing to the superstructures – the model class of any theory containing only $\Sigma_1$ sentences is closed under superstructures. (This is the easy part of Léger-Tarski theorem, which states also that preservation in all superstructures implies that the formula is $\Sigma_1$.) Dually, (2) implies that model class of any theory containing only universal sentences is closed under substructures.

**Theorem 9.13** Let $A, B$ be closed formulae over some alphabet $\Sigma$, and assume $A$ is $\Sigma_1$ and $B$ is $\Pi_1$. Let $M, N$ be $\Sigma$-structures and $N \subseteq M$. If

1. $N \models A$ then $M \models A$.
2. $M \models B$ then $N \models B$.

**Proof.** (1) $A$ is closed $\Sigma_1$, i.e., it is (equivalent to) $\exists x_1 \ldots \exists x_n A'$ where $A'$ has no quantifiers nor variables other that $x_1, \ldots, x_n$. So, if $N \models A$ then there exist $a_1, \ldots, a_n \in \Delta$ such that $N \models \exists x_1 \ldots \exists x_n A'$. Since $N \subseteq M$, we have $\Delta \subseteq \Delta$ and the interpretation of all symbols is the same in $M$ as in $N$. Hence $M \models \exists x_1 \ldots \exists x_n A'$, i.e., $M \models A$.

(2) This is a dual argument. Since $M \models \forall x_1 \ldots \forall x_n B'$, $B'$ is true for all elements of $\Delta$ and $\Delta \subseteq \Delta$, so $B'$ will be true for all element of this subset as well.

Theorem 9.13 can be applied in at least two different ways which we illustrate in the following two examples. We consider only case (2), i.e., when the formulae of interest are $\Pi_1$ (universal).

**Example 9.14** [Constructing new structures for $\Pi_1$ axioms]

Given a set of $\Pi_1$ axioms and any structure $M$ satisfying them, the theorem implies that every substructure of $M$ will also satisfy the axioms.

Let $\Sigma$ contain only one binary relation symbol $R$. Recall Definition 1.14 – a strict partial ordering is axiomatized by two formulae

1. $\forall x\forall y(xRy \land yRx \rightarrow x=y)$ – transitivity,
2. $\forall x \lnot xRx$ – irreflexivity.

Let $N$ be an arbitrary strict partial ordering, i.e., an arbitrary $\Sigma$-structure satisfying these axioms. For instance, let $N = (\mathbb{N}, <)$ be the natural numbers with less-than relation. Since both axioms are $\Pi_1$, the theorem tells us that any substructure of $N$, i.e., any subset of $\Delta$ with the interpretation
of $R$ restricted as in Definition 9.10, will itself be a strict partial ordering. For instance, the subset of odd natural numbers, with the same less-than relation, is by the theorem a strict partial ordering. □

The following example illustrates another application of the theorem.

**Example 9.15** [Non-axiomatizability by $\Pi_1$ formulae]

Given some class of structures, the theorem may be used to show that it is not $\Pi_1$-axiomatizable.

Let $\Sigma$ be as in the previous example. A (strict partial) ordering is dense if, in addition to the two axioms from the previous example, it also has the following property:

$$(3) \forall x, y \exists z : R(x, y) \rightarrow R(x, z) \land R(z, y).$$

For instance, the closed interval of all real numbers $M = \langle [0,1], < \rangle$ is a dense strict partial ordering. Now, remove all the numbers from the open interval $(0,1)$ - this leaves us with just two elements $\{0, 1\}$ ordered $0 < 1$. This is a $\Sigma$ substructure of $M$ ($\Sigma$ contains no ground terms, so any elements from the underlying set can be removed). But this is not a dense ordering! The class of dense orderings over $\Sigma$ is not closed under substructures and so, by the theorem, is not axiomatizable using only $\Pi_1$ formulae. As shown by (3), $\Pi_2$ formulae suffice. □

9.3 “SYNTACTIC” SEMANTICS

Model theory classifies primarily structures, and formulae are only possible means of doing that. As we have just seen, one can ask if a given class of structures can be axiomatized by, say, $\Pi_1$ formulae or else if it is closed under, say, superstructures. But one can also ask about the existence of finite models for a given theory, about the existence of infinite models, countable models etc. We now present one such special type of semantic structures, which are generated from the mere syntax of the theory. They are of particular importance both in logic (in proofs of completeness or consistency) and in computer science (establishing a direct connection between first order logic and mechanical computability). The rest of this chapter introduces the concept of such syntactically generated models and relates them to the Turing computable functions. The application in proving completeness will be shown in the following chapter.
9.3.1 Reachable and Term Structures

**Definition 9.16** A $\Sigma$-structure $T$ is reachable iff for each $a \in T$ there is a ground term $t \in GT_{\Sigma}$ with $a = [t]^T$. A reachable model of a $\Sigma$-theory $\Gamma$ is a $\Sigma$-reachable structure $M$ such that $M \models \Gamma$.

Intuitively, a reachable structure for a $\Sigma$ contains only elements which can be denoted (reached) by some ground term.

**Example 9.17**
Let $\Sigma$ contain only three constants $a, b, c$. Define a $\Sigma$-structure $M$ by:
- $[a]^M = 0$, and

$M$ contains a lot of "junk" elements (all natural numbers greater than 2) which are not required to be there in order for $M$ to be a $\Sigma$-structure - $M$ is not a reachable $\Sigma$-structure. Define $N$ by
- $N = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$, and
- $[a]^N = 0$, $[b]^N = 1$, $[c]^N = 2$.

Obviously, $N \subseteq M$. Still $N$ contains unreachable elements $3, 4$. Restricting $M$ to $\{0, 1, 2\}$, we obtain a new substructure $T \subseteq N$. $T$ is the only reachable structure of the three. Yet another structure is given by:
- $S = \{0, 1\}$, and
- $[a]^S = 0$, $[b]^S = 1$, $[c]^S = 1$.

$S$ is reachable too, but it is not a substructure of any previous one: although $S \subseteq T$, we have that $[c]^S = 1 \neq 2 = [c]^T$.

**Fact 9.18** A reachable $\Sigma$-structure $T$ has no proper substructure.

**Proof.** The claim is that there is no $\Sigma$-structure $M$ with $M \subseteq T$ and $M \neq T$, i.e., such that $M \subseteq T$. Indeed, since each element $a \in T$ is the (unique) interpretation of some ground term $t \in GT_{\Sigma}$, if we remove $a$ from $T$, $t$ will have no interpretation in the resulting subset, which could coincide with its interpretation $[t]^T$ in $T$.

The proposition also shows a particular property of reachable structures with respect to the partial ordering $(\text{Str}(\Sigma), \sqsubseteq)$ defined in Remark 9.12.

**Corollary 9.19** A $\Sigma$-reachable structure $T$ is a minimal element of $(\text{Str}(\Sigma), \sqsubseteq)$. 
9.3. "SYNTACTIC" SEMANTICS

The opposite, however, need not be the case. If \( \Sigma \) contains no ground terms, the minimal \( \Sigma \)-structures, if they exist, will not be reach-able.

**Example 9.20**

Let \( \Sigma \) contain only one binary function symbol \( \oplus \). A \( \Sigma \)-structure \( M \) with \( M(\bullet,\bullet) = \bullet \) and \( \mathcal{G}M(\bullet,\bullet) = \bullet \) has no proper \( \Sigma \)-substructure. If such a structure \( N \) existed, it would require \( N(\oplus) = \emptyset \), but this is forbidden by the definition of \( \Sigma \)-structure (S.1 requires the underlying set of any structure to be non-empty). However, \( M \) is not \( \Sigma \)-reachable, since \( \mathcal{G}TM = \emptyset \). \( \Box \)

**Fact 9.21** If \( \Sigma \) has at least 1 constant symbol, then any \( \Sigma \)-structure \( M \) has a reachable substructure.

**Proof.** Since \( \mathcal{G}T \Sigma \neq \emptyset \), we can take only the part of \( M \) consisting of the interpretations of ground terms, keeping the interpretation of relation and function symbols for these elements intact. \( \Box \) (9.21)

By Corollary 9.19, such a reachable substructure (of any \( M \)) will be minimal element of the partial ordering \( \langle \text{Str}(\Sigma), \sqsubseteq \rangle \). One could feel tempted to conclude that this shows that this ordering is well-founded but this is not the case as the following example shows.

**Example 9.22**

Let \( \Sigma \) contain one constant symbol \( \odot \) and let \( N \) be a \( \Sigma \)-structure with \( N(\odot) = \{1,2,3,...\} \) and \( \mathcal{G}N(\odot) = \emptyset \). The structure \( N^0 \) with \( N^0(\odot) = \{0\} \) is the reachable (and hence minimal) substructure of \( N \). However, we may also form the following chain of substructures: let \( N^i \) be given by the underlying set \( N^i = N \setminus \{1,2,...,i\} \) for \( i > 0 \) and \( \mathcal{G}N^i(\odot) = \emptyset = \mathcal{G}N^i(\odot) \). We thus have that \( N \sqsupset N_1 \sqsupset N_2 \sqsupset N_3 \sqsupset ... \), i.e., we obtain an infinite descending chain of substructures. Hence the relation \( \sqsubseteq \) is not well-founded (even if we restrict it to the set of substructures of \( N \)). \( \Box \)

It follows from Fact 9.21 that for any \( \Sigma \) with at least one constant symbol there is a \( \Sigma \)-reachable structure. A special type of reachable structure is of particular interest, namely the term structure. In a term structure over \( \Sigma \), the domain of interpretation is the set of ground terms over \( \Sigma \), and moreover every term is interpreted as itself.

**Definition 9.23** Let \( \Sigma \) be an alphabet with at least one constant. A term structure \( T_\Sigma \) over \( \Sigma \) has the following properties:

\begin{itemize}
  \item The domain of interpretation is the set of all ground \( \Sigma \)-terms: \( T_\Sigma = \mathcal{G}T_\Sigma \).
\end{itemize}
For each constant symbol \( a \in \mathcal{I} \), we let \( a \) be its own interpretation:
\[
[[a]]^M = a
\]

For each function symbol \( f \in \mathcal{F} \) of arity \( n \), and terms \( t_1, \ldots, t_n \), we let
\[
[[f]]^M(t_1, \ldots, t_n) = f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)
\]

This may look a bit strange at first but is a perfectly legal specification of (part of) a structure according to Definition 8.1 which requires an arbitrary non-empty interpretation domain. The only special thing here is that, in a sense, we look at terms from two different perspectives. On the one hand, as terms – syntactic objects – to be interpreted, i.e., to be assigned meaning by the operation \([\cdot]^M\). Taking \( M \) to be \( T_{\Sigma} \), we now find the same terms also on the right-hand sides of the equations above, as the elements – semantic objects – interpreting the syntactic terms, i.e., \([[\cdot]]^M = t\).

Such structures are interesting because they provide mechanical means of constructing a semantic interpretation from the mere syntax defined by the alphabet.

**Example 9.24**

Let \( \Sigma \) contain only two constant symbols \( p, q \). The term structure \( T_{\Sigma} \) will be given by: \( T_{\Sigma} = \{ p, q \} \), \([p]_{T_{\Sigma}} = p\), \([q]_{T_{\Sigma}} = q\). (If this still looks confusing, you may think of \( T_{\Sigma} \) with all symbols underlined, i.e., \( T_{\underline{\Sigma}} = \{ p, \underline{q} \} \), \([p]_{T_{\underline{\Sigma}}} = p\), \([\underline{q}]_{T_{\underline{\Sigma}}} = \underline{q}\).)

Now extend \( \Sigma \) with one unary function symbol \( f \). The corresponding term structure \( T_{\Sigma} \) will be now:
\[
T_{\Sigma} = \{ p, f(p), f(f(p)), \ldots, q, f(q), f(f(q)), f(f(f(q))), \ldots \}
\]
\[
[[p]]_{T_{\Sigma}} = p\quad \quad \quad [[q]]_{T_{\Sigma}} = q
\]
\[
[[f]]_{T_{\Sigma}}(x) = f(x) \quad \text{for all } x \in T_{\Sigma}
\]

Thus every term structure is reachable. Note that nothing is said in Definition 9.23 about the interpretation of relation symbols. Thus a term structure for a given \( \Sigma \) is not a full FOL-structure. However, for every \( \Sigma \) with at least one constant there is at least one term structure over \( \Sigma \), for instance, the one where each relation symbol \( R \in \mathcal{R} \) is interpreted as the empty set:
\[
[[R]]^M = \emptyset
\]

Such a structure, most probably, of little interest. Typically, one is interested in obtaining a term model, i.e., in endowing the term structure
9.3. "Syntactic" Semantics

$T_2$ with the interpretation of predicate symbols in such a way that one obtains a model for a given theory.

**Remark 9.25 [Term models, reachable models and other models]**
Let $\Sigma$ be given by $I = \{p, q\}$, $F_1 = \{f\}$ and $R_1 = \{P, Q\}$. The term structure $T_2$ is then the one from Example 9.24.

Now, consider the following theory:

$$\Gamma = \{P(p), Q(q), \forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(f(x))), \forall x(Q(x) \rightarrow P(f(x)))\}.$$  

We can turn $T_2$ into a (reachable) model of $\Gamma$, so called term model $T_1$ with $T_1 = T_2 = \mathcal{G}T_\Sigma$, by letting

- $[P]^{T_1} = \{f^{2n}(p) : n \geq 0\} \cup \{f^{2n+1}(q) : n \geq 0\}$ and
- $[Q]^{T_1} = \{f^{2n+1}(p) : n \geq 0\} \cup \{f^{2n}(q) : n \geq 0\}$.

It is easy to verify that, indeed, $T_1 \models \Gamma$. We show that

$$T_1 \models \forall x(P(x) \lor Q(x)).$$  \hfill (9.26)

We have to show that $[P(x) \lor Q(x)]^{T_1} = 1$ for all assignments $v : \{x\} \rightarrow T_1$. But all such assignments assign a ground term to $x$, i.e., we have to show that $T_1 \models P(t) \lor Q(t)$ for all ground terms $t \in \mathcal{G}T_\Sigma$. We show this by induction on the complexity of ground terms.

$t \in I$ :: Since $T_1 \models \Gamma$ we have $T_1 \models P(y)$ and hence $T_1 \models P(y) \lor Q(y)$.

In the same way, $T_1 \models Q(q)$ gives that $T_1 \models P(q) \lor Q(q)$.

$f(t)$ :: By IH, we have $T_1 \models P(f(t)) \lor Q(f(t))$, i.e., either $T_1 \models P(f(t))$ or $T_1 \models Q(f(t))$. But also $T_1 \models \Gamma$, so, in the first case, we obtain that $T_1 \models Q(f(t))$, while in the second $T_1 \models P(f(t))$. Hence $T_1 \models P(f(t)) \lor Q(f(t))$.

Thus the claim (9.26) is proved. As a matter of fact, we have proved more than that. Inspecting the proof, we can see that the only assumption we have used was that $T_1 \models \Gamma$, while the inductive proof on $\mathcal{G}T_\Sigma$ was sufficient because any assignment $v : \{x\} \rightarrow T_1$ assigned to $x$ an interpretation of some ground term, i.e., $v(x) \in \mathcal{G}T_\Sigma$. In other words, the only assumption was that $T_1$ was a reachable model of $\Gamma$, and what we have proved is:

for any reachable $T : T \models \Gamma \Rightarrow T \models \forall x(P(x) \lor Q(x)).$  \hfill (9.27)

It is typical that proofs by induction on ground terms like the one above, show us such more general statements like (9.27) and not merely (9.26).

The point now is that the qualification "reachable" is essential and cannot be dropped – it is not the case that $\Gamma \models \forall x(P(x) \lor Q(x))$! Consider
a structure $M$ which is exactly like $T$, but has one additional element, i.e.,

$$M = GT; \cup \{ \ast \},$$

such that $\ast \notin [P]^M$ and $\ast \notin [Q]^M$ and $\left[ \emptyset \right]^M(\ast) = \ast$. $M$ is still a model of $\Gamma$ but not a reachable one due to the presence of $\ast$. We also see that $M \not\models \forall \exists (P(x) \vee Q(x))$ since $\left[P(x)\right]^M_{\ast, \ast} = 0$ and $\left[Q(x)\right]^M_{\ast, \ast} = 0$.

In short, the proof that something holds for all ground terms, shows that the statement holds for all reachable models but, typically, not that it holds for arbitrary models.

\[\square\]

Example 9.28

Notice that although a reachable structure always exists (when $GT \neq \emptyset$), there may be no reachable model for some $\Sigma$-theory $\Gamma$. Let $\Sigma$ contain only two constants $a$, $b$, and one predicate $R$. $T_\Sigma$ is given by $\{a, b\}$ and $[R]^T = \emptyset$. Let $\Gamma$ be $\{\neg R(a), \neg R(b), \exists x R(x)\}$. It is impossible to construct a model for $\Gamma$, i.e. interpret $[R]$ so that all formulae in $\Gamma$ are satisfied which is reachable over $\Sigma$.

But let us extend the alphabet to $\Sigma'$ by a new constant $c$. Let $T'$ be $T_\Sigma$ but interpret $R$ as $[R]^T' = \{c\}$. Then, obviously, $T' \models \Gamma$. $T'$ is not a $\Sigma$-structure since it contains the interpretation of $c$ which is not in $\Sigma$. To turn $T'$ into a $\Sigma'$-structure satisfying $\Gamma$ we only have to “forget” the interpretation of $c$. The resulting structure $T$ is identical to $T'$, except that $T$ is a $\Sigma$-structure and the element $c$ of $\Sigma = T'$ has no corresponding term in the alphabet. Thus:

- $T'$ is a reachable $\Sigma'$-structure but it is not a $\Sigma$-structure
- $T'$ is a $\Sigma'$-reachable model of $\Gamma$
- $T$ is a $\Sigma$-structure but not a $\Sigma'$-structure
- $T$ is a $\Sigma$-structure but not a $\Sigma$-reachable structure
- $T$ is a model of $\Gamma$ but it is not a $\Sigma$-reachable model

As an important corollary of Theorem 9.13, we obtain the following sufficient conditions for the existence of reachable models.

Corollary 9.29 Let $\Gamma$ be a collection of $\Pi_1$ formulae, over an alphabet $\Sigma$ with $GT \neq \emptyset$. If $Mod(\Gamma) \neq \emptyset$, then $\Gamma$ has a reachable model.

Simply, the existence of some model of $\Gamma$ allows us, by Fact 9.21, to restrict it to its reachable substructure. By Theorem 9.13, this substructure is also a model of $\Gamma$.

Term structures are used primarily as the basis for constructing the domain of interpretation — namely, the ground terms — for some reachable structure, which can, sometimes, be obtained from $T_\Sigma$ by imposing appropriate interpretation of the relation symbols. Such use is very common in
9.3. "SYNTACTIC" SEMANTICS

Theoretical computer science for constructing canonical models for specifications (theories). This will also be the use we will make of it in the proof of completeness of $\mathcal{N}$ for FOL in the next chapter.

"Syntactic" models have typically an important property of being canonical representatives of the whole model class. When model class comes equipped with the mappings between models (some form of homomorphisms) forming a category, the syntactically constructed models happen typically to be initial ones. We won't describe this concept here and take it simply as a vague synonym for being syntactically generated. This syntactic character makes them useful in mechanizing the proofs and, generally, carrying out mechanical computations. The rest of this section describes a specific computational strategy arising from such models.

9.3.2 HERBRAND'S THEOREM

Herbrand's theorem is intimately related to the so called Herbrand models. These models are, in fact, term models which we will encounter also in the proof of completeness for FOL. Herbrand's theorem allows, under some general conditions, to reduce provability in FOL to provability in PL.

We discuss only a special version of the theorem, making some additional assumptions, which are not necessary in its most general form.

For any set $\Gamma$ of first order formulae over a given alphabet $\Sigma$, let $G(\Gamma)$ be the set of ground instances of formulae in $\Gamma$, i.e., the ground formulae obtained from formulae of $\Gamma$ by substitution of members of $G\Sigma$ for the free variables.

**Theorem 9.30** Suppose $\Sigma$ contains at least one constant, and let $\Gamma$ be a set of quantifier free $\Sigma$-formulae. Then: $\Gamma \vdash_{\text{FOL}} \perp \iff G(\Gamma) \vdash_{\text{PL}} \perp$.

Requirement on the formulae in $\Gamma$ to be quantifier-free amounts to their universal closure and is crucial for the reduction of FOL-inconsistency to PL-inconsistency in the theorem. $G(\Gamma)$ is the set of all ground instances of the formulae in $\Gamma$ which, by the requirement on the alphabet $\Sigma$, is guaranteed to be non-empty. The implication $G(\Gamma) \vdash_{\text{PL}} \perp \Rightarrow \Gamma \vdash_{\text{FOL}} \perp$ holds, of course, always, since $G(\Gamma)$ is a weaker theory than $\mathcal{N}$ - it axiomatizes only ground instances which are also consequences of $\Gamma$. Consider, for instance, a language with one constant $a$ and $G = \{P(x)\}$. Then $G(\Gamma) = \{P(a)\}$. Obviously $G(\Gamma) \vdash_{\text{PL}} \forall x P(x)$ which, however, is trivially a provable consequence of $\Gamma$ itself.

The importance of Herbrand's theorem lies in the identification of $\Gamma$'s
allowing also the opposite implication, namely, \( \Gamma \models_{PL} \perp \Leftrightarrow G\neg \Gamma, \neg \phi \models_{PL} \perp \). It amounts to a kind of reduction of the FOL-theory \( \Gamma \) to its PL-version with all "syntactically generated" instances. Using this reduction, one can attempt to check whether \( \Gamma \models_{PL} \phi \) by reducing \textit{ad absurdum} - in PL- the assumption \( G\neg \Gamma, \neg \phi \). Such a proof strategy is referred to as "refutational proof" or "proof by contradiction" and proceeds as follows: Assume that \( \phi \) is closed and quantifier free (i.e., ground). Then, according to the theorem, \( \Gamma, \neg \phi \models_{PL} \perp \Leftrightarrow G\neg \Gamma, \neg \phi \models_{PL} \perp \). Thus, we have to check if some ground instances of (some formulae from) \( \Gamma \) together with \( \neg \phi \) lead to a contradiction. Having succeeded, i.e., showing \( G\neg \Gamma, \neg \phi \models_{PL} \perp \), we obtain \( \Gamma, \neg \phi \models_{PL} \perp \) which implies \( \Gamma \models_{PL} \neg \phi \rightarrow \perp \) and this, again, \( \Gamma \models_{PL} \phi \).

This is not yet an effective algorithm but we can imagine that such a checking - if some PL formulae yield contradictions - can be, at least in principle and at least in some cases, performed. The procedure is slightly generalized when \( \phi \) contains variables (which are then interpreted also in a specific way). Various computational mechanisms utilizing this principle will thus restrict their theories to quantifier free (i.e., universally quantified, according to Exercise 8.5) formulae and alphabets with non-empty set of ground terms. In the following, we will see a particular - and quite central - example of such restrictions.

9.3.3 Horn clauses

An important issue with the utilization of Herbrand's theorem concerns the actual strategy to determine if \( G\neg \Gamma \models \perp \). Various choices are possible and we show one restriction on the format of the formulae, leading to one such strategy (which does not even follow the proof by contradiction, but derives consequences of a theory directly).

A clause is a formula of the form \( L_1 \lor \ldots \lor L_n \) where each \( L_i \) is a literal - a positive or negated atom (i.e., a formula \( P(t) \) or \( \neg P(t) \)) for a sequence of some (not necessarily ground) terms \( t \). By the general fact that \( M \models A \Leftrightarrow M \models \forall(t) \), one does not write the universal quantifiers which are present implicitly. A Horn clause is a clause having exactly one positive literal, i.e., \( \neg A_1 \lor \ldots \lor \neg A_n \lor A \), which is equivalent to

\[
A_1 \land A_2 \land \ldots \land A_n \rightarrow A, \tag{9.31}
\]

where all \( A_i \)'s are positive atoms. A theory, in which all formulae are Horn clauses, is a Horn theory.

In the context of logic programming, the particular case of a Horn clause
with \( n = 0 \) is called a “fact”, the conjunction of the assumptions (negative literals) the “body” and the conclusion the “head” of the clause.

MP and the chaining rule 7.23,(1) can be generalized to the following rule operating on and yielding only Horn clauses:

\[
\frac{\Gamma \vdash \chi \quad A_1 \land \ldots \land A_k \rightarrow B_k \quad \Gamma \vdash \chi \quad B_1 \land \ldots \land B_l \rightarrow C}{\Gamma \vdash \chi \quad B_1 \land \ldots \land (A_1 \land \ldots \land A_k) \land \ldots \land B_l \rightarrow C}
\]  
(9.32)

(This is a special case of the general resolution rule which “joins” two clauses removing from each a single literal - an atom occurring positively in one clause and negatively in the other.) In particular, when \( B_k \) is a fact, it can be simply removed from the body. When all atoms from the body of a clause get thus removed, its conclusion becomes a new fact.

Suppose, we have the following Horn theory, \( \Gamma \):

1. \( Parent(\text{Ben}, \text{Ada}) \)
2. \( Parent(\text{Cyril}, \text{Ben}) \)
3. \( Parent(\text{Cecilie}, \text{Ben}) \)
4. \( Parent(\text{David}, \text{Cyril}) \)
5. \( Ancestor(\text{Eve}, \text{x}) \)
6. \( Parent(y, x) \rightarrow Ancestor(y, x) \)
7. \( Ancestor(z, y) \land Ancestor(y, x) \rightarrow Ancestor(z, x) \)

The questions on the left below, have then the answers on the right, and you should have no problems with convincing yourself about that. (Questions with free variables, like 5 or 6, ask for true ground instances, i.e., substitution instances which are derivable from \( \Gamma \).

Does \( \Gamma \vdash \chi \)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>? Ancestor(\text{Eve}, \text{Ada})</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>? Parent(\text{David}, \text{Ada})</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>? Ancestor(\text{David}, \text{Ada})</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>? Ancestor(\text{Herod}, \text{Ben})</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>? Ancestor(\text{Cyril}, \text{x})</td>
<td>Ben, Ada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>? Ancestor(\text{z}, \text{Ben})</td>
<td>Cecilie, Cyril, David, Eve</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The language of Horn clauses has some important properties. The first is that it is the most general sublanguage of FOL which guarantees the existence of initial models. These are just Herbrand (term) models obtained by collecting all positive ground facts.
9.3.4 HERBRAND MODELS OF HORN THEORIES

In more detail, every consistent and universal (H1) theory over an alphabet with ground terms, has a reachable model by Corollary 9.20. Herbrand model is a term model, i.e., a reachable model which does not identify any distinct terms but interprets a ground term $t$ as itself. In the above example, a possible model could identify all the persons, making both Parent and Ancestor reflexive (and consequently also transitive and symmetric). This would be a reachable model but not the intended one. Herbrand model will be the one we actually intended writing the program (9.33).

To construct it, we start with the ground instances of all facts and iterate the process of resolving the assumptions of conditional clauses to add more facts, essentially, by applying rule (9.32). Given a Horn clause theory $\Gamma$, over an alphabet $\Sigma$ with $\mathcal{G}\Sigma \neq \emptyset$, we define:

$\mathcal{G}\Sigma$ the Herbrand universe = the set of all ground terms. In the example (abbreviating the names by their first initials): $\{a, b, c_1, c_2, d, e\}$

$\mathcal{H}_1$ the Herbrand base = the set of all ground atoms. The model is a subset of this set, containing all ground atoms which must be true.

$\mathcal{H}_\Gamma$ The construction of the Herbrand model proceeds inductively as follows. View $\Gamma = \mathcal{F} \cup C$ as the disjoint union of facts and clauses:

1. $\mathcal{H}_0 = GI(\mathcal{F})$ = all ground instances of all facts;
2. $\mathcal{H}_{i+1} = \mathcal{H}_i \cup \{\sigma(C) : A_1 \land \ldots \land A_n \rightarrow C \in C \land \sigma(A_1), \ldots, \sigma(A_n) \in \mathcal{H}_i\}$ where $\sigma$ ranges over all ground substitutions (to the variables in $A_1, \ldots, A_n, C$);
3. $\mathcal{H}_\Gamma = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{H}_i$.

For the theory from example (9.33), we would obtain the model:

$\mathcal{G}\Sigma = \{a, b, c_1, c_2, d, e\}$

$\mathcal{H}_\Gamma$: $Parent = \{(b,a), (c_1,b), (c_2,b), (d, c_2)\}$ and $Ancestor = \{(e, z) : z \in \mathcal{G}\Sigma \cup Parent^+\}$

One sees easily that $\mathcal{H}_\Gamma \models \Gamma$. Assignments to $\mathcal{G}\Sigma$ amount to ground substitutions so, for all facts, this holds by (1). For a clause $A_1 \ldots A_n \rightarrow C$ and an assignment $\sigma$, assume that $\mathcal{H}_i \models A_1 \ldots \land A_n$. By construction and point (3) this means that, at some step $i$, we obtained $\sigma(A_k)$ in $\mathcal{H}_i$ for all $1 \leq k \leq n$. But then, by point (2), $\sigma(C)$ is also included in $\mathcal{H}_\Gamma$ at the step $\mathcal{H}_{i+1}$. In fact, we have that

$\mathcal{H}_\Gamma = \{A \in \mathcal{H}\Gamma : \Gamma \models A\}$ (9.35)
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This is the property of minimality—$H_T$ does not satisfy more atoms than those which are satisfied in every model of the theory. (In general, any model of $\Gamma$ over the term structure $GT$ is called Herbrand model—$H_T$ is the minimal Herbrand model.)

9.3.5 COMPUTING WITH HORN CLAUSES

The other crucial property of Horn clauses is the possibility of operational interpretation of $\rightarrow$, according to which $A_1 \land \ldots \land A_n \rightarrow A$ means that, in order to establish $A$, one has to establish $A_1, \ldots, A_n$. This trivial chaining, expressed by rule (9.32), must be coupled with the treatment of variables. For instance, to establish $\text{Ancestor}(e, a)$ one uses the fact $\text{Ancestor}(e, x)$ which, however, requires unification of terms $x$ and $a$, i.e., making them syntactically identical $x \equiv a$. Here, it amounts simply to a substitution of $a$ for $x$ but, in general, may be more involved. For instance, to unify $f(x_5, g(h, z))$ and $f(d(z), y)$ requires finding the substitutions $x \mapsto d(z)$ and $y \mapsto g(h, d(z))$, after which the two terms become equal to $f(d(z), g(h, d(z)))$.

The query $\text{Ancestor}(\text{David}, \text{Ada})$ is processed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>goal</th>
<th>justification</th>
<th>unification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\text{Ancestor}(d, a) \sim \text{Ancestor}(e, x)$</td>
<td>fails: $e \neq d$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{Parent}(d, a)$</td>
<td>no such fact</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{Ancestor}(d, y) \land \text{Ancestor}(y, a)$</td>
<td>?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the search starts for $y$ satisfying both literals in the body</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{Ancestor}(d, y) \sim \text{Ancestor}(e, x)$</td>
<td>fails: $e \neq d$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{Parent}(d, c_1)$</td>
<td>$y \equiv c_1$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{Ancestor}(c_1, a) \sim \text{Ancestor}(e, x)$</td>
<td>fails: $e \neq c_1$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{Parent}(c_1, a)$</td>
<td>no such fact</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\text{Ancestor}(c_1, z) \land \text{Ancestor}(z, a)$</td>
<td>?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$z \equiv b$</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thus, we can actually compute the facts provable in Horn theories by means of the above mechanism based on the resolution rule (9.32) and unification algorithm; Horn theories can be seen as Horn programs. Observe the kind of "backward" process of computing: one starts with the query and performs a "backward chaining" along the available clauses until one manages to resolve all the assumptions by matching them against available facts.
UNIFICATION

In more detail, the following algorithm implements the rule (9.32): Given Horn clauses \( A_1 \land ... \land A_n \rightarrow A \) and \( B_1 \land ... \land B_m \rightarrow B \), when trying to establish \( A \), we will have to resolve all \( A_i \). We attempt to replace them by facts, and if this fails, by \( B_i \)'s (until we arrive at facts):

1. select an atom \( A_i \) and
2. try to unify it with \( B \) (see further down for unification)
3. if unification succeeded, replace \( A_i \) by \( B_1 \land ... \land B_m \)
4. apply to the resulting clause the unifying substitution from (2).

If unification in (2) fails, try the next \( A_{i+1} \). If none can be unified with \( B \), try other clauses.

Unification of atoms \( P(t_1,...,t_n) \) and \( R(s_1,...,s_n) \) requires that \( P \) and \( R \) are the same symbol, \( P \equiv R \), and then amounts to finding a unifier, namely, a substitution \( \sigma \) such that for each \( i : \sigma(t_i) = \sigma(s_i) \), Definition 7.18. If two terms have a unifier they also have a most general unifier, \( M.G.U. \). For instance, 
\[ \alpha = \{ x \mapsto d(a), y \mapsto g(a,d(a)) \} \]

is a unifier of \( t_1 = f(x,g(a,x)) \) and \( t_2 = f(d(z),y) \), yielding \( \alpha(t_1) = \alpha(t_2) = f(d(a),g(a,d(a))) \). However, the unifier \( \sigma = \{ x \mapsto d(z), y \mapsto g(a,d(z)) \} \) is more general — it yields the term \( \sigma(t_1) = \sigma(t_2) = f(d(z),g(a,d(z))) \), from which \( \alpha(t_1) \) can be obtained by further substitution \( \beta = \{ z \mapsto d(a) \} \). The map of terms \( t_i \) is a substitution \( \sigma \) such that for any other unifier \( \alpha \), there is a substitution \( \beta \) such that \( \alpha(t_i) = \beta(\sigma(t_i)) \).

The following algorithm finds the most general unifier solving a set of equations \( \{ t_1 = t_2, ..., t_k = t_l \} \) or reports the nonexistence of any unifier. It chooses repeatedly and nondeterministically one of the equations in the set and, performing the associated action, transforms the set (or halts),

If \( s_i = t_i \) has the form

| 1. \( f(s_1, ..., s_k) = f(t_1, ..., t_k) \) | then replace it by \( k \) equations \( s'_i = t'_i \)
| 2. \( f(s_1, ..., s_k) = f(t_1, ..., t_k) \) and \( f \neq g \) | terminate with failure
| 3. \( x = x \) | delete it
| 4. \( t = x \) and \( t \notin V \) | replace it with \( x = t \)
| 5. \( x = t \) and \( t \notin x \) and \( x \) occurs in the rest of equations | if \( x \in V(t) \) — terminate with failure
| | otherwise, substitute \( x \rightarrow t \) in all other equations

On successful termination, the set has the form \( \{ x_1 = r_1, ..., x_m = r_m \} \), with distinct variables \( x_i \)'s and \( r_i \)'s determining the needed substitution. (Variable \( x \) not occurring in this solution set is substituted by itself.)

Let \( \Gamma \vdash A \) denote that the ground atom \( A \) can be obtained from a set of Horn clauses \( \Gamma \) using the above strategy. The following equivalences express then the soundness and completeness of the strategy with respect to the minimal Herbrand model as well as the whole model class (since the last two are equivalent for ground atoms by (9.35)). For every Horn theory \( \Gamma \) and ground atom \( A \):
9.3. "SYNTACTIC" SEMANTICS

\[ \Gamma \vdash A \iff H_\Gamma \models A \iff \Gamma \models A \]  
(9.36)

Thus, our computational strategy, checking if some ground fact holds in the minimal Herbrand model checks, equivalently, if it is a logical consequence of the theory. Notice, however, that these equivalences hold only for the ground atoms. The implication \((H_\Gamma \models A) \Rightarrow (\Gamma \vdash A)\) says that every ground atom true in \(H_\Gamma\) can be generated by the strategy. Conversely, we have also that \((H_\Gamma \models \neg A) \Rightarrow (\Gamma \not\models A)\). This, however, says only that if an atom is not satisfied, the strategy may not derive it. But there is then no algorithmic way to ensure derivability of \(\neg A\), since such literals are not part of the Horn clause language for which the above results hold.

9.3.6 COMPUTATIONAL COMPLETENESS

The operational interpretation of Horn clauses sketched above, together with the equivalence (9.36), establish Horn theories as a logical counterpart of mechanical computability. Indeed, this mechanism allows to compute everything which can be computed on a Turing machine:

**Theorem 9.37** The mechanism of unification with resolution of Horn clauses is Turing complete.

Probably the simplest proof of this fact shows that register machine programs, RMP's, can be simulated by Horn programs.\(^1\) We have to take here for granted the result stating that the RMP's as described below are computationally equivalent to Turing machines.

A register machine operates with a memory consisting of a finite set of registers which can store natural numbers. An RMP, a program for a register machine over \(m\) registers \(x_1, \ldots, x_m\), is a sequence \(I_1, \ldots, I_n\) of \(n\) numbered instructions, each in one of the two forms—a simple increment (inc), or a conditional decrement and jump (cond):

\[
\text{(inc)} \ x_i := x_i + 1
\]

\[
\text{(cond)} \ \text{if} \ x_i \neq 0 \ \text{then} \ x_i := x_i - 1 \ \text{and goto j.}
\]

If, on reaching the instruction of the second form, \(x_i = 0\), the program simply proceeds to the next instruction. The program terminates on reaching the halt instruction, always implicitly present as the \(I_{n+1}\)-th instruction.

An RMP is said to compute a (partial) function \(f : \mathbb{N}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{N}\) if \(l \leq m\) if \(\forall n_1, \ldots, n_l \in \mathbb{N}\) the execution starting with the register values \(n_1, \ldots, n_l, 0, \ldots, 0\) (the additional registers \(x_{l+1}, \ldots, x_m\) which are not input are initialized to 0),

\(^1\)Thanks to Marc Bezem for this argument using RMP's.
terminates with $x_1 = f(n_1 \ldots n_k)$, whenever $f(n_1 \ldots n_k)$ is defined, and does not terminate otherwise.

An RMP is simulated by a Horn program $P$ as follows. For each instruction $I_k$, $1 \leq k \leq n + 1$, we have a predicate symbol $P_k(x_1 \ldots x_m, y)$ the $x_i$’s corresponding to the registers and $y$ to the result of the computation. Each $I_k$ is either (inc) or (cnd) and these are simulated, respectively, by:

- (inc) $P_{k+1}(x_1 \ldots x_i + 1, x_j \ldots x_m, y) \rightarrow P_k(x_1 \ldots x_i, x_j \ldots x_m, y)$
- (cnd) $P_{k+1}(x_1 \ldots x_i 0 \ldots x_m, y) \rightarrow P_k(x_1 \ldots x_i 0 \ldots x_m, y)$

$(I_k)$

In addition, the halt instruction transfers $x_1$ to the result position:

- (halt) $P_{n+1}(x_1 \ldots x_m, x_1)$ $(I_{n+1})$

The query $P_1(n_1 \ldots n_k 0 \ldots 0_{m}, y)$ will result in the computation simulating step by step the execution of the corresponding RMP.

As a simple corollary of Theorem 9.37, we obtain:

**Theorem 9.38** Validity in first order logic is undecidable.

How does it follow? Having accepted the computational equivalence of Turing machines and RMP’s, we have accepted also the equivalence of their halting problems. But halting of an RMP is equivalent to the existence of a result for the initial query, i.e., to the truth of the formula $\exists y P_1(n_1 \ldots n_k 0 \ldots 0_{m}, y)$ under the assumptions gathering all the clauses of the program $P_1$ in short, to the entailment

$$\forall(I_1), \ldots, \forall(I_n), \exists y P_1(n_1 \ldots n_k 0 \ldots 0_{m}, y). \quad (9.39)$$

Since all formulae in (9.39) are closed, it is equivalent to the validity:

$$\models (\forall(I_1) \land \ldots \land \forall(I_n) \land \forall(I_{n+1})) \rightarrow \exists y P_1(n_1 \ldots n_k 0 \ldots 0_{m}, y).$$

If this validity could be decided, we could decide if our RMP’s halt or not. But such a procedure does not exist by the undecidability of the halting problem for Turing machines and, hence, also for register machines.

**PROLOG.**

Theorem 9.37, and the preceding computation strategy, underlie PROLOG – the programming language where programs are Horn theories. It allows one to ask queries about single facts or possible instances making up facts, like the queries 6 or 5 in (9.34), about all $x$ such that $\text{Ancestor}(Cyril, x)$. There are, of course, various operational details of not quite logical character which, in some cases, yield unexpected results. They have mainly to do with the treatment of negation.

Wondering about the computational power of such a simple mechanism, one should ask the question: where does the undecidability enter the stage here?
3. "SYNTACTIC" SEMANTICS

The answer, suggested earlier, is with the treatment of negation. Any positive atom, entailed by a given set of clauses (and facts), can be computed in a finite time according to (9.36). In the above example of family relations the universe of terms was finite so, at least in principle, one can terminate the search for matching pairs of ancestors with the answer ‘no’ to the query ?Ancestor(Ada, Cyril). But in general, in the presence of function symbols, this universe is potentially infinite. Negation turns this out to be tricky issue there is no general rule for terminating a prolonged and unsuccessful search for matching substitutions – which would guarantee that the answer ‘no’ is always correct.

EXERCISES 9.

EXERCISE 9.1 Give an example contradicting the opposite implication to the one from Lemma 7.24(1), i.e., show that \( \not \models A \rightarrow \forall z A. \)

EXERCISE 9.2 Find PNFs for the following formulae

1. \( \forall x (f(g(x)) = x) \rightarrow \forall x \exists y (f(y) = x) \)
2. \( \exists \forall \exists A(x, z) \rightarrow \forall z \exists A(x, z) \)
3. \( \forall z \exists y (x + y = 0) \land \forall z \forall y (x + y = 0 \rightarrow y + x = 0) \)

Since the matrix of a formula in PNF contains no quantifiers, it is often useful to assume that it is in DNF (or CNF). This can be obtained by the same manipulations as for PL. Transform the matrix of the result of point (3) into DNF.

EXERCISE 9.3 Two PNFs for a given formula are considered different when their prefixes give different placements in Levy hierarchy. List all different PNFs of formula (1) from the previous exercise.

EXERCISE 9.4 Verify that the remaining, unverified equivalences claimed in Lemma 9.3 do hold.

EXERCISE 9.5 Show that all structures of Example 8.3, except (4), are reachable.

EXERCISE 9.6 Let \( \Sigma \) contain one constant \( \odot \) and one unary function \( s \). Let \( T_2 \) denote its term structure. Show that

1. \( T_2 \) is bijective to the set \( \mathbb{N} \) of natural numbers,
2. \( T_2 \) with the ordering of terms induced by their inductive definition is order-isomorphic (Definition 1.17) to \( \mathbb{N} \) with \(<\).

EXERCISE 9.7 Explain why in point (1) of Theorem 9.13, it is necessary to assume that \( A \) is closed. Let, for instance, \( A = \exists x R(x, y) \). Is it a \( \Sigma_1 \) formula? Could the statement be proved for this \( A \)? (Recall Fact 8.27.)
EXERCISE 9.8 A more precise formulation of Lemma 9.2 can be given along the following lines: We may assume that the language of FOL contains propositional variables - these can be viewed as nullary relation symbols. Moreover, it is always possible to substitute a formula for such a propositional variable, and obtain a new formula: $F[A]$ is the formula obtained by substitution of the formula $A$ for the propositional variable $a$ in the formula $F$. Now a reformulation of Lemma 9.2 says that $A \equiv B$ implies $F[A] \equiv F[B]$. Compare this to Lemma 8.9. Would it be possible to formulate also a version saying that $[A]_M = [B]_M$ implies $[F[A]]_M = [F[B]]_M$?

EXERCISE 9.9 [Skolem Normal Form]

This exercise involves some intricacies similar to those from Example 9.28. Let $A$ be the closed formula $\forall x \exists y \forall z B(x, y, z)$, where $B$ has no quantifiers.

(1) Choose a new unary function symbol, $f$, and let $A_S$ be $\forall x \exists y \forall z B(x, f(x), z)$.

(2) Show that $A$ is satisfiable if and only if $A_S$ is satisfiable.

(Hint: Show that a model for any one of the two formulae can be transformed into a model for the other.)

(3) Show that $A$ and $A_S$ are not logically equivalent.

(Hint: Find a structure which does not satisfy one of the implications $A \rightarrow A_S$ or $A_S \rightarrow A$.)

(4) Repeat the steps analogous to (1) and (2) for the closed formula $\forall x \exists y \forall z B(x, f(x), z)$.

(5) By Theorem 9.6, each formula is equivalent to a PNF formula. Use induction on the length of the prefix of PNF $A_P$ to show that for each FOL formula $A$, there is a formula $A_S$ with only universal quantifiers (but usually new function symbols) such that $A$ is satisfiable if and only if $A_S$ is satisfiable. [Such an $A_S$ is $A$'s Skolem normal form.]

EXERCISE 9.10 A ground instance of a formula $A$ is a sentence obtained from $A$ by substitution of ground terms for the free variables. Suppose $M$ is a reachable $\Sigma$-structure and $A$ a $\Sigma$-formula. Show that

$M \models A$ iff ($M \models B$ for all ground instances $B$ of $A$).

(Hint: If $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ are the free variables of $A$, then $B$ is a ground instance of $A$ iff there exist ground terms $t_1, \ldots, t_n$ such that $B$ equals $A_{t_1, \ldots, t_n}$, i.e., the result of a simultaneous substitution of each $t_i$ for the corresponding $x_i$).
Chapter 10

SOUNDNESS AND completeness

10.1 SOUNDNESS OF $\mathcal{N}$

We show the soundness and completeness theorems for the proof system $\mathcal{N}$ for FOL. As in the case of PL, soundness is an easy task.

**Theorem 10.1** For every $\Gamma \subseteq \text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}}, A \in \text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}}: \Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} A \Rightarrow \Gamma \models A$.

**Proof.** Axioms A0-A3 and MP are the same as for PL and their validity follows from the proof of the soundness Theorem 6.14 for PL. Validity of A4 was shown in exercise 8.4.

It suffices to show that $\exists \mathcal{M}$ preserves truth, i.e. that $M \models B \rightarrow C$ implies $M \models \exists x B \rightarrow C$ for arbitrary structure $M$, provided $x$ is not free in $C$. In fact, it is easier to show the contrapositive implication from $M \not\models \exists x B \rightarrow C$ to $M \not\models B \rightarrow C$. So suppose $M \not\models \exists x B \rightarrow C$; i.e., $M \not\models_\mathcal{M} \exists x B \rightarrow C$ for some $\mathcal{M}$. Then $M \not\models_\mathcal{M} \exists x B$ and $M \not\models_\mathcal{M} C$.

Hence $M \not\models_\mathcal{M} \exists x_{3\ldots n} B$ for some $\mathcal{M}$. Since $M \not\models_\mathcal{M} C$ and $x \not\in \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{C})$, it follows from Lemma 8.7 that also $M \not\models_\mathcal{M} \exists x_{3\ldots n} C$, hence $M \not\models_\mathcal{M} \exists x_{3\ldots n} B \rightarrow C$, i.e., $M \not\models B \rightarrow C$.

By the same argument as in Corollary 6.15, every satisfiable FOL theory is consistent or, equivalently, inconsistent FOL theory is unsatisfiable.

**Corollary 10.2** $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \bot \Rightarrow \text{Mod}(\Gamma) = \emptyset$.

**Proof.** If $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{N}} \bot$, then by the theorem, $\Gamma \models \bot$, i.e., for any $M: M \models \Gamma \Rightarrow M \models \bot$. But there is no $M$ such that $M \models \bot$, so $\text{Mod}(\Gamma) = \emptyset$.

qed (10.2)
Remark

Remark 6.16 showed equivalence of the two soundness notions for PL. The equivalence holds also for FOL but now the proof of the opposite implication, namely,

\[ \Gamma \vdash \perp \Rightarrow \text{Mod}(\Gamma) = \emptyset \text{ implies } \Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow \Gamma \models A, \]

involves an additional subtlety concerning possible presence of free variables in \( A \). Assuming \( \Gamma \vdash A \) we first observe that then we also have \( \Gamma \vdash \forall \mathcal{V}(A) \) by Lemma 7.24.(4). Hence, \( \Gamma, \neg \mathcal{V}(A) \vdash \perp \) and, by the assumed implication, it has no models: if \( M \models \Gamma \) then \( M \models \neg \mathcal{V}(A) \). Since \( \mathcal{V}(A) \) is closed, this means that \( M \models \forall \mathcal{V}(A) \) (Remark 8.17). By Fact 8.25, we can now conclude that \( M \models A \) and, since \( M \) was an arbitrary model of \( \Gamma \), that \( \Gamma \models A \).

10.2 Completeness of \( \mathcal{N} \)

As in the case of PL, we prove the opposite of Corollary 10.2, namely, that every consistent FOL-theory is satisfiable. Starting with a consistent theory \( \Gamma \), we have to show that there is a model satisfying \( \Gamma \). The procedure is thus very similar to the one applied for PL (which you might repeat before reading this section). Its main point was expressed in Lemma 6.17, which has the following counterpart:

Lemma 10.3 The following formulations of completeness are equivalent:

1. For any \( \Gamma \subseteq \text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}} \): \( \Gamma \vdash \perp \Rightarrow \text{Mod}(\Gamma) \neq \emptyset \)
2. For any \( \Gamma \subseteq \text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}} \): \( \Gamma \models A \Rightarrow \Gamma \vdash A \).

Proof. (1) \( \Rightarrow \) (2). Assume (1) and \( \Gamma \models A \). Let us first consider special case when \( A \) is closed. Then \( \Gamma, \neg A \) is unsatisfiable and therefore, by (1), inconsistent, i.e., \( \Gamma, \neg A \vdash \perp \). By Deduction Theorem \( \Gamma \vdash \neg A \rightarrow \perp \), so \( \Gamma \vdash A \) by PL.

This result for closed \( A \) yields the general version: If \( \Gamma \models A \) then \( \Gamma \models \forall \mathcal{V}(A) \) by Fact 8.27. By the argument above \( \Gamma \vdash \forall \mathcal{V}(A) \), and so \( \Gamma \vdash A \) by Lemma 7.24.(1) and MP.

(2) \( \Rightarrow \) (1). This is shown by exactly the same argument as for PL in the proof of Lemma 6.17.

q.e.d (10.3)

Although the general procedure, based on the above lemma, is the same, the details are now more involved as both the language and its semantics are more complex. The model we will eventually construct will be a term model for an appropriate extension of \( \Gamma \). The following definition characterizes the extension we will be looking for.
10.2. Completeness of $\mathcal{N}$

Definition 10.4 A theory $\Gamma$ is said to be

- maximal consistent if it is consistent and, for every closed formula $A$,
  $\Gamma \vdash A$ or $\Gamma \vdash \neg A$ (cf. Definition 6.18);
- a Henkin-theory if for each closed formula of the type $\exists x A$ there is an
  individual constant $c$ such that $\Gamma \vdash \exists x A \rightarrow A^c$;
- a complete Henkin-theory if it is both a Henkin-theory and maximal consistent.

In particular, every complete Henkin-theory is consistent.

The constant $c$ in the definition above is called a witness---it witnesses to the
truth of the formula $\exists x A$ by providing a ground term which validates the
existential quantifier. The precise definition of a Henkin-theory may vary somewhat in the literature. The condition in the lemma below looks slightly weaker than the one in the definition, but turns out to be equivalent. The proof is an easy exercise.

Lemma 10.5 Let $\Gamma$ be a theory, and suppose that for every formula $A$ with
exactly one variable $x$ free, there is a constant $c_A$ such that $\Gamma \vdash \exists x A \rightarrow A^c_A$.
Then $\Gamma$ is a Henkin-theory.

The properties of a complete Henkin-theory make it easier to construct a
model for it. We prove first this special case of the completeness theorem:

Lemma 10.6 Every complete Henkin-theory is satisfiable.

Proof. The alphabet of any Henkin-theory will always contain an
individual constant. Now consider the term structure $T_\Gamma$ (we index it
with $\Gamma$ and not merely the alphabet, as in Definition 9.23, since we will
make it into a model of $\Gamma$) where:

- for each relation symbol $R \in \mathcal{R}$ of arity $n$, and ground terms
  $t_1, \ldots, t_n \in T_\Gamma$ :
  $$\langle t_1, \ldots, t_n \rangle \in \mathcal{R}^{T_\Gamma} \iff \Gamma \vdash \forall \langle \rangle R(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$$

We show, by induction on the number of connectives and quantifiers in a
formula, that for any closed formula $A$ we have $T_\Gamma \models A$ iff $\Gamma \vdash A$.
(From this it follows that $T_\Gamma$ is a model of $\Gamma$: if $A \in \Gamma$ then $\Gamma \vdash \forall \langle \rangle A$,
so $T_\Gamma \models \forall \langle \rangle A$, i.e., by Fact 8.27, $T_\Gamma \models A$.)

Atomic :: Follows directly from the construction of $T_\Gamma$.
$$T_\Gamma \models R(t_1, \ldots, t_n) \iff \langle t_1, \ldots, t_n \rangle \in \mathcal{R}^{T_\Gamma} \iff \Gamma \vdash \forall \langle \rangle R(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$$.
\[ \neg B :: \text{We have the following equivalences:} \]
\[ T_1 \models \neg B \iff T_1 \not\models B \quad \text{definition of } \models, \text{ A closed} \]
\[ \iff \Gamma \mid \neg \models B \quad \text{IH} \]
\[ \iff \Gamma \mid \models \neg \neg B \quad \text{maximality of } \Gamma \]

\[ B \rightarrow C :: \text{Since } T_1 \models A \iff T_1 \not\models B \text{ or } T_1 \not\models C, \text{ there are two cases.} \]
\[ \text{Each one follows easily by } \text{IH} \text{ and maximality of } \Gamma \text{ (Exercise 10.1).} \]

\[ \exists x B :: \text{As } A \text{ is closed and } \Gamma \text{ is Henkin, we have } \Gamma \mid \exists x B \rightarrow B^x_c \text{ for some } c. \]
\[ \text{Now if } \Gamma \mid \exists x B \text{ then also } \Gamma \mid B^x_c \text{ and, by } \text{IH}, \]
\[ T_1 \models B^x_c, \text{ hence } T_1 \models \exists x B \text{ by soundness of } A4. \]
\[ \text{For the converse, assume that } T_1 \models \exists x B, \text{ i.e. there is a } t \in T_1 \text{ such that } T_1 \models \exists x \models B. \]
\[ \text{But then } T_1 \models B^x_t \text{ by Lemmata 8.9 and 8.7, so by } \text{IH}, \Gamma \mid \models B^x_t, \text{ and by } A4 \text{ and } MP, \Gamma \mid \exists x \models A. \]
\[ \text{qed (10.6)} \]

The construction in the above proof is only guaranteed to work for complete Henkin-theories. The following examples illustrate why.

**Example 10.7**

Constructing \( T_1 \) as above for an arbitrary theory \( \Gamma \), may give a structure which does not satisfy some formulae from \( \Gamma \) (or \( Th(\Gamma) \)) because:

(1) Some (atomic) formulae are not provable from \( \Gamma \):

Let \( \Sigma \) contain two constant symbols \( a \) and \( b \) and one binary relation \( R \). Let \( \Gamma \) be a theory over \( \Sigma \) with one axiom \( R(a, b) \lor R(b, a) \). Each model of \( \Gamma \) must satisfy at least one disjunct but, since \( \Gamma \not\models R(a, b) \) and \( \Gamma \not\models R(b, a) \), none of these relations will hold in \( T_1 \).

(2) The interpretation domain \( T_1 \) has too few elements:

It may happen that \( \Gamma \models \exists x R(x) \) but \( \Gamma \not\models R(t) \) for any ground term \( t \). Since only ground terms are in \( T_1 \), this would again mean that \( T_1 \not\models \exists x R(x) \). \[ \square \]

A general assumption to be made in the following is that the alphabet \( \Sigma \) under consideration is countable (i.e., has at most countably infinitely many symbols). Although not necessary, it is seldom violated and makes the arguments clearer.

We now strengthen Lemma 10.6 by successively removing the extra assumptions about the theory. First we show that the assumption about maximal consistency is superfluous; every consistent theory can be extended to a maximal consistent one. (\( \Gamma' \) is an extension of \( \Gamma \) if \( \Gamma \subseteq \Gamma' \).)
10.2. Completeness of $N$

Lemma 10.8 Let $\Sigma$ be a countable alphabet. Every consistent theory $\Gamma$ over $\Sigma$ has a maximal consistent extension $\bar{\Gamma}$ over the same $\Sigma$.

Proof. Since $|\Sigma| \leq \aleph_0$, there are at most $\aleph_0$ $\Sigma$-formulae. Choose an enumeration $A_0, A_1, A_2, \ldots$ of all closed $\Sigma$-formulae and construct an increasing sequence of theories as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{BASIS} & : \quad \Gamma_0 = \Gamma \\
\text{IND.} & : \quad \Gamma_{n+1} = \begin{cases} 
\Gamma_n \cup A_n & \text{if it is consistent} \\
\Gamma_n \cup \neg A_n & \text{otherwise}
\end{cases} \\
\text{LDST.} & : \quad \bar{\Gamma} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Gamma_n
\end{align*}
\]

We show by induction on $n$ that for any $n$, $\Gamma_n$ is consistent.

BASIS : $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma$ is consistent by assumption.

IND. : Suppose $\Gamma_n$ is consistent. If $\Gamma_{n+1}$ is inconsistent, then from the definition of $\Gamma_{n+1}$ we know that both $\Gamma_n \cup A_n$ and $\Gamma_n \cup \neg A_n$ are inconsistent, hence by Deduction Theorem both $A_n \rightarrow \bot$ and $\neg A_n \rightarrow \bot$ are provable from $\Gamma_n$. By Exercise 4.1.(4), $\Gamma_n$ proves then both $A_n$ and $\neg A_n$, which contradicts its consistency by Exercise 4.5.

By Theorem 4.20 (holding for FOL by the same argument as in PL), $\bar{\Gamma}$ is consistent iff each of its finite subtheories is. Any finite subtheory of $\bar{\Gamma}$ is included in some $\Gamma_n$, so $\bar{\Gamma}$ is consistent. From the definition of $\bar{\Gamma}$ it now follows that $\bar{\Gamma}$ is also maximal consistent. \quad \text{q.e.d. (10.8)}

Corollary 10.9 Let $\Sigma$ be a countable alphabet. Every consistent Henkin-theory over $\Sigma$ is satisfiable.

Proof. If $\Gamma$ is a consistent Henkin-theory, it has an extension $\bar{\Gamma}$ which is maximal consistent. Now since $\Gamma \subseteq \bar{\Gamma}$ and both are theories over the same alphabet $\Sigma$, it follows that $\bar{\Gamma}$ is a Henkin-theory if $\Gamma$ is. Hence $\bar{\Gamma}$ is a complete Henkin-theory and so has a model, which is also a model of $\Gamma$. \quad \text{q.e.d. (10.9)}

To bridge the gap between this result and completeness Theorem 10.15 we need to show that every consistent theory has a consistent Henkin extension -- we shall make use of the following auxiliary notion.

Definition 10.10 Let $\Sigma$ and $\Sigma'$ be two alphabets, and assume $\Sigma \subseteq \Sigma'$. Moreover, let $\Gamma$ be a $\Sigma$-theory and let $\Gamma'$ be a $\Sigma'$-theory. Then $\Gamma'$ is said to be
a **conservative extension** of \( \Gamma \), written \( \Gamma \preceq \Gamma' \), if \( \Gamma \subseteq \Gamma' \) and for all \( \Sigma \)-formulae \( A \): if \( \Gamma \vdash \Sigma \ A \) then \( \Gamma' \vdash \Sigma \ A \).

A conservative extension \( \Gamma' \) of \( \Gamma \) may prove more formulae over the extended alphabet but any formula over the alphabet of \( \Gamma \) provable from \( \Gamma' \), must be provable already from \( \Gamma \) itself. The next lemma records a few useful facts about conservative extensions. The proof is left as an exercise.

**Lemma 10.11** The conservative extension relation \( \preceq \):

1. preserves consistency: if \( \Gamma_1 \preceq \Gamma_2 \) and \( \Gamma_1 \) is consistent, then so is \( \Gamma_2 \).
2. is transitive: if \( \Gamma_1 \preceq \Gamma_2 \) and \( \Gamma_2 \preceq \Gamma_3 \) then \( \Gamma_1 \preceq \Gamma_3 \).
3. is preserved in limits: if \( \Gamma_1 \preceq \Gamma_2 \preceq \Gamma_3 \preceq \ldots \) is an infinite sequence with each theory being a conservative extension of the previous one, then \( \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Gamma_n \) is a conservative extension of each \( \Gamma_n \).

We shall make use of these facts in a moment, but first we record the following important lemma, stating that adding a single Henkin witness and formula to a theory yields its conservative extension.

**Lemma 10.12** Let \( \Gamma \) be a \( \Sigma \)-theory, \( A \) a \( \Sigma \)-formula with at most \( x \) free, \( c \) an individual constant that does not occur in \( \Sigma \) and let \( \Sigma' = \Sigma \cup \{ c \} \). Then the \( \Sigma' \)-theory \( \Gamma \cup \{ \exists x A \rightarrow A_x^c \} \) is a conservative extension of \( \Gamma \).

**Proof.** Let \( B \) be an arbitrary \( \Sigma \)-formula, which is provable from the extended theory, i.e.,

1: \( \Gamma \vdash \exists x A \rightarrow A_x^c \vdash B \)

2: \( \Gamma \vdash (\exists x A \rightarrow A_x^c) \rightarrow B \) \( \text{DT} + \) at most \( x \) free in \( A \)

This means that \( \Gamma \) with axioms **not involving any occurrences of** \( c \), proves the indicated formula which has such occurrences. Thus we may choose a fresh variable \( y \) (not occurring in this proof) and replace all occurrences of \( c \) in this proof by \( y \). We then obtain

3: \( \Gamma \vdash (\exists x A \rightarrow A_y^c) \rightarrow B \)

4: \( \Gamma \vdash (\exists x A \rightarrow A_y^c) \rightarrow B \) \( \exists y \) not free in \( B \)

5: \( \Gamma \vdash (\exists x A \rightarrow A_y^c) \rightarrow B \) \( \exists y \) not free in \( B \) \( \text{Exc. 7.2(3) + Exc. 7.5} \)

6: \( \Gamma \vdash B \)

**QED (10.12)**

**Lemma 10.13** Let \( \Sigma \) be a countable alphabet, and let \( \Gamma \) be a \( \Sigma \)-theory. Then there exists a countable alphabet \( \Sigma_H \) and a \( \Sigma_H \)-theory \( \Gamma_H \) such that \( \Sigma \subseteq \Sigma_H \), \( \Gamma \preceq \Gamma_H \), and \( \Gamma_H \) is a Henkin-theory over \( \Sigma_H \).

**Proof.** Let \( \Gamma \) be a \( \Sigma \)-theory. Extend the alphabet \( \Sigma \) to \( H(\Sigma) \) by
10.2. Completeness of $N$

adding, for each $\Sigma$-formula $A$ with exactly one variable free, a new constant $c_A$. Let $H(\Gamma)$ be the $H(\Sigma)$-theory obtained by adding to $\Gamma$, for each such $A$, the new, Henkin axiom $\exists x A \rightarrow A^c_A$, where $x$ is the free variable of $A$.

In particular, $H(\Gamma)$ can be obtained by the following inductive construction. Enumerate all formulae $A$ with exactly one variable free, getting $A_0, A_1, A_2, \ldots$ and let, for any $n$, $x_n$ be the free variable of $A_n$.

Define inductively:

**Basis**: $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma$ and $\Sigma_0 = \Sigma$

**Ind.**: $\Gamma_{n+1} = \Gamma_n, \exists x_n A_n \rightarrow (A_n)^{c_n}$, and $\Sigma_{n+1} = \Sigma_n \cup \{c_n\}$

| (10.14) |

By Lemma 10.12, each theory $\Gamma_{n+1}$ is a conservative extension of $\Gamma_n$, and hence by Lemma 10.11, $H(\Gamma)$ is a conservative extension of $\Gamma$. It is also clear that $H(\Sigma)$ is countable, since only countably many new constants are added.

However, $H(\Gamma)$ need not be a Henkin-theory, since we have not ensured the provability of Henkin formulae $\exists x A \rightarrow A^c_A$ for $H(\Sigma)$-formulae $A$ that are not $\Sigma$-formulae. For instance, for $R \in \Sigma$

$H(\Gamma) \vdash_k \exists x \exists y R(x, y) \rightarrow \exists y R(c_2 y, R(x, y))$

but there may be no $c$ such that

$H(\Gamma) \vdash_k \exists y R(c_2 y, R(x, y)) \rightarrow R(c_2 y, R(x, y), c)$.

To obtain a Henkin-theory, the construction (10.14) has to be iterated, i.e., the sequence of theories $\Gamma, H(\Gamma), H^2(\Gamma), \ldots$ is constructed (where $H^{n+1}(\Gamma)$ is obtained by starting (10.14) with $\Gamma_0 = H^0(\Gamma)$), and $\Gamma_H$ is defined as the union of them all $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} H^n(\Gamma)$.

The sequence of alphabets $\Sigma, H(\Sigma), H^2(\Sigma), \ldots$ is collected into the corresponding union $\Sigma_H$. $\Gamma_H$ is a $\Sigma_H$-theory and $\Sigma_H$, being the union of countably many countable sets, is itself countable.

Since each theory $H^{n+1}(\Gamma)$ is a conservative extension of $H^n(\Gamma)$, it follows by Lemma 10.11 that $\Gamma_H$ is a conservative extension of $\Gamma$.

Finally we check that $\Gamma_H$ is a Henkin-theory over $\Sigma_H$: let $A$ be any $\Sigma_H$-formula with exactly $x$ free, $A$ contains only finitely many symbols, so $A$ is also a $H^n(\Sigma)$-formula for some $n$. But then $\exists x A \rightarrow A^c_A$ is contained in $H^{n+1}(\Gamma)$, and hence in $\Gamma_H$. By Lemma 10.5, this proves that $\Gamma_H$ is a Henkin-theory.

\[ \text{qed (10.13)} \]

Gathering all the pieces we thus obtain the main result.
Theorem 10.15 A consistent theory over a countable alphabet is satisfiable.

Proof. Let \( \Sigma \) be a countable alphabet. Suppose \( \Gamma \) is a consistent \( \Sigma \)-theory. Then there exist \( \Gamma_H \) and \( \Sigma_H \) with the properties described in Lemma 10.13. Since \( \Gamma \) is consistent, \( \Gamma_H \) being a conservative extension, must be consistent as well. By Corollary 10.9, \( \Gamma_H \) (and hence \( \Gamma \)) has a \( \Sigma_H \)-model. This can be converted to a \( \Sigma \)-model by "forgetting" the interpretation of symbols in \( \Sigma_H \setminus \Sigma \).

This is the strongest version that we prove here. The assumption about countability is however unnecessary, and the following version is also true.

Theorem 10.16 Every consistent theory is satisfiable.

Lemma 10.3 and soundness yield then the final result:

Corollary 10.17 For any \( \Gamma \subseteq \text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}}, A \in \text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}} \), the following hold:

1. \( \Gamma \models A \) iff \( \Gamma \vdash A \), and
2. \( \text{Mod}(\Gamma) \neq \emptyset \) iff \( \Gamma \not\vdash \bot \), i.e., \( \Gamma \) is satisfiable iff it is consistent.

10.3: Completeness of Gentzen’s System .................[optional]
Recall Exercise 6.10 and the discussion just after the introduction of Gentzen’s system for FOL in Section 7.4. Also, recall from Section 8.3.1 that the semantics of \( \vdash_{\text{FOL}} \) does not correspond to \( \models \) but to \( \vdash \). We thus want to show that whenever \( \Gamma \vdash \Delta \), then \( \Gamma \models \Delta \), where \( \Gamma, \Delta \) are finite sets of formulae.

(A) By Exercise 6.10, the propositional rules of Gentzen’s system are sound and invertible, and so are the quantifier rules by Exercise 8.10. Invertibility plays a crucial role in the argument below.

(B) We proceed as we did in Exercise 6.10, constructing a counter-model for any unprovable sequent. But now we have to handle the additional complications of possibly non-terminating derivations. To do this, we specify the following strategy for an exhaustive bottom-up proof search. (It refines the strategy suggested in the proof of Theorem 4.30 showing decidability of \( \mathcal{G} \) for PL.)

(B.1) First, we have to ensure that even if a branch of a (bottom-up) proof does not terminate, all formulae in the sequent are processed. Let us therefore view a sequent as a pair of (finite) sequences \( \Gamma = G_1, \ldots, G_n \) and \( \Delta = D_1, \ldots, D_m \). Such a sequent is processed by applying bottom-up the appropriate rule first to \( G_1 \), then to \( G_2 \), to \( G_3 \), etc. until \( G_n \), and followed by \( D_1 \) through \( D_m \). If no rule is applicable to a formula, it is skipped and one continues with the next formula. New formulae arising from rule applications are always placed at the start of the appropriate sequence (on the left or on the right of \( \vdash_{\text{FOL}} \)). These restrictions are particularly important for the quantifier rules which introduce new formulae, i.e.:
10.2. Completeness of $N$

\[
\vdash \begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash A_1^\Delta \ldots \exists x A \ldots & \quad A_2^\Delta \text{ legal} \\
\Gamma \vdash \ldots \exists x A \ldots & \quad (\forall \mathbf{t}) \quad A_2^\Delta \text{ legal}
\end{align*}
\]

These two rules might start a non-terminating, repetitive process introducing new substitution instances of $A$ without ever considering the remaining formulas. Processing formulas from left to right, and placing new formulas to the left of the actually processed ones, ensures that all formulas in the sequent will be processed, before starting the processing of the newly introduced formulas.

\((B32)\) We must also ensure that all possible substitution instances of quantified formulas are attempted in search for axioms. To do this, we assume an enumeration of all terms and require that the formula $A_2^\Delta$, introduced in the premise of rule \((\forall \mathbf{t})\) or \((\exists \mathbf{t})\), is the smallest which (uses the smallest term $t$, so that $A_2^\Delta$) does not already occur in the sequence to which it is introduced.

\((C)\) Let now $\Gamma$ $\vdash \Delta$ be an arbitrary sequent for which the above strategy does not yield a proof. There are two cases.

\((C.4)\) If every branch in the obtained proof tree is finite, then all its leaves contain irreducible sequents, some of which are non-axiomatic. Select such a non-axiomatic leaf, say with $\Phi \vdash \Psi$. Irreducibility means that no rule can be applied to this sequent, i.e., all its formulas are atomic. That it is non-axiomatic means that $\Phi \cap \Psi = \emptyset$. Construct a counter-model $M$ by taking all terms occurring in the atoms of $\Phi, \Psi$ as the interpretation domain $\mathcal{M}$. (In particular, if there are open atomic formulas, their variables are treated as elements on line with ground terms.) Interpret the predicates over these elements by making all atoms in $\Phi$ true and all atoms in $\Psi$ false. This is possible since $\Phi \cap \Psi = \emptyset$. (E.g., a leaf $P(x) \vdash P(t)$ gives the structure with $\mathcal{M} = \{x, t\}$ where $t \notin [P]^M = \{x\}$.)

Invertibility of the rules implies now that this is also a counter-model to the initial sequent, i.e., $\vdash \Delta \Gamma \neq \emptyset$.

\((C.2)\) In the other case, the resulting tree has an infinite branch. We then select an arbitrary infinite branch $B$ and construct a counter-model $M$ from all the terms occurring in the atomic formulas on $B$. (Again, variables occurring in such formulas are taken as elements on line with ground terms.) The predicates are defined by

$\mathbf{7} \in [P]^B$ iff there is a node on $B$ with $P(\mathbf{7})$ on the left of $B$ \((*)\)

Hence, atomic statements not occurring on the left of $B$ are made false. This gives a well-defined structure, since atomic formulas remain unchanged (moving bottom-up) once they appear in any branch of the proof — no node is axiomatic on $B$, so no formula occurring there on the left of $B$, occurs also on the right.

The claim is now that $M$ is a counter-model to every sequent on the whole $B$. We show, by induction on the complexity of the formulas, that all those occurring on $B$ on the left of $B$, are true and all those on the right false. (Complexity reflects essentially the number of logical symbols. In particular, quantified formula $Qx.A$ is more complex than any substitution instance $A^\Delta$.) The claim is obvious for the atomic formulas by the definition \((*)\). The claim is easily verified for the propositional connectives by the invertibility of the propositional rules. Consider
now any quantified formula occurring on the left. Due to fairness strategy (B.1), it has been processed. If it is universal, it has been processed by the rule:

\[(\forall x) \frac{G_1 \ldots \forall x G \ldots \forall x \Delta}{G \Delta} \text{ legal.}\]

Then \([G_1]_M^x = 1\) by IH and, moreover, since by (B.2) all such substitution instances are tried on every infinite branch, so \([G_1]_M^x = 1\) for all terms \(t_x\). But this means that \(M \models \forall x G\). If the formula is existential, it is processed by the rule:

\[(\exists x) \frac{\Gamma, G \Delta \vdash \Delta \quad \exists x G \Delta}{\Gamma, \exists x G \Delta \vdash \Delta} \text{ fresh.}\]

Then \(x'\) occurs in the atomic subformula(e) of \(G\) and is an element of \(M\). By IH, \([G_1]_M^x = 1\) and hence also \([\exists x G]_M^x = 1\).

Similarly, by (B.1) every quantified formula on the right of \(\Delta\) has been processed. Universal one was processed by the rule:

\[(\forall x) \frac{\Gamma \vdash D_1 \Delta \quad \forall x D_1 \Delta}{\Gamma, \forall x D_1 \Delta \vdash \Delta} \text{ fresh.}\]

Then \(x' \in M\) and, by IH, \([D_1]_M^x = 0\). Hence also \([\forall x D]_M^x = 0\). An existential formula on the right is processed by the rule:

\[(\exists x) \frac{\Gamma \vdash D_1 \Delta \ldots \exists x D_1 \ldots}{\Gamma, \exists x D_1 \ldots \vdash \Delta} \text{ fresh.}\]

and, by the exhaustive fairness strategy (B.2), all such substitution instances \(D_1^x\) appear on the right of \(\Delta\) in \(B\). By IH, \([D_1^x]_M^x = 0\) for all \(t_x\), which means that \([\exists x D]_M^x = 0\).

(D) Since the sequent \(\Gamma \vdash \Delta\) is itself on the branch \(B_1\) being the root of the whole tree, (C.1) and (C.2) together show that its unprovability, \(\Gamma \vdash \Delta\), implies the existence of a counter-model, \(M \nvdash \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma \Delta\), i.e., \(\nvdash \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma \Delta\). Formulated contrapositively, if a sequent is valid (has no counter-model), \(\nvdash \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma \Delta\), then it is provable, \(\Gamma \vdash \Delta\). .................................................................[and optional]

10.3 SOME APPLICATIONS

We list some typical questions, the answers to which may be significantly simplified by using soundness and completeness theorem. These are the same questions as we listed earlier in Subsection 6.5 after the respective theorems for propositional logic. The scheme of the arguments are also the same as before, because they are based exclusively on the soundness and completeness of the respective axiomatic system. The differences concern, of course, the semantic definitions which are more complicated for FOL, than they were for PL.

1. Is a formula provable?
If it is, it may be worth trying to construct a syntactic proof of it. Gentzen’s
10.3. Some applications

system is easiest to use, so it can be most naturally used for this purpose. However, one should first try to make a "justified guess". To make a guess, we first try to see if we can easily construct a counter-example, i.e., a structure which falsifies the formula. For instance, is it the case that:

\[ \forall x (\exists x P(x) \rightarrow \exists x Q(x)) \rightarrow \forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \]  

(10.18)

Instead of starting to look for a syntactic proof, we better think first. Can we falsify this formula, i.e., find a structure \( M \) such that

(i) \( M \models \exists x P(x) \rightarrow \exists x Q(x) \) and (ii) \( M \not\models \forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \)?

More explicitly, (i) requires that

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{either:} & \quad \text{for all } m_1 \in M : &[P(x)]_{M,m_1}^M = 1 \\
& \quad \text{or: for some } m_2 \in M : &[Q(x)]_{M,m_2}^M = 1
\end{align*}
\]

(10.19)

while (ii) that

\[
\text{for some } m \in M : &[P(x)]_{M,m}^M = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad &[Q(x)]_{M,m}^M = 0.
\]

(10.20)

But this should be easy to do. Let \( \mathcal{M} = \{m_1, m_2\} \) with \( [P]^M = \{m_1\} \) and \( [Q]^M = \{m_2\} \). This makes (10.20) true since \( [Q(x)]_{M,m_1}^M = 1 \). On the other hand (10.21) holds for \( m_1 : [P(x)]_{M,m_1}^M = 1 \) and \( [Q(x)]_{M,m_1}^M = 0 \). Thus, the formula in (10.18) is not valid and, by soundness of \( N \), is not provable.

This is the main way of showing that a formula is not provable in a sound system which is not decidable (and since FOL is undecidable by Theorem 9.38, so sound and complete \( N \) can not be decidable) – to find a structure providing a counter-example to the validity of the formula.

If such an analysis fails, i.e., if we are unable to find a counter-example, it may indicate that we should rather try to construct a proof of the formula in our system. By completeness of this system, such a proof will exist, if the formula is valid.

2. Is a formula valid? For instance, is it the case that

\[ \models \forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \rightarrow (\exists x P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \]  

(10.22)

We may first try to see if we can find a counter-example. In this case, we need a structure \( M \) such that \( M \models \forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \) and \( M \not\models \exists x P(x) \rightarrow Q(x) \) – since both (sub)formulæ are closed we need not consider particular assignments. Thus, \( M \) should be such that

\[
\text{for all } m \in M : &[P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)]_{M,m}^M = 1.
\]

(10.23)
To falsify the other formula we have to find an
\[ m_1 \in M \text{ such that } [P(x)]_{m \rightarrow m_1}^M = 1 \]  
(10.24)
and such that
\[ \text{for all } m_2 \in M : [Q(x)]_{m \rightarrow m_2}^M = 0. \]  
(10.25)
Assume that \( m_1 \) is as required by (10.24). Then (10.23) implies that we also have \([Q(x)]_{m \rightarrow m_1}^M = 1\). But this means that (10.25) cannot be forced, \( m_1 \) being a witness contradicting this statement. Thus, the formula from (10.22) cannot be falsified in any structure, i.e., it is valid. This is sufficient argument – direct, semantic proof of validity of the formula.

However, such semantic arguments involve complicating subtleties which we may try avoiding. Namely, if we have a strong conviction that the formula indeed is valid, we may instead attempt a syntactic proof. Below, we are doing it in Gentzen’s system – as we have seen, it is also sound and complete. (Notice that we first eliminate the quantifier from \( \exists x P(x) \) since this requires a fresh variable \( y \); the subsequent substitutions must be legal but need not introduce fresh variables.)

\[ \frac{P(y) \vdash Q(y), P(y) \rightarrow Q(y)}{P(y) \rightarrow Q(y), P(y) \vdash Q(y)} \quad \text{subst.} \]
\[ \frac{P(y) \rightarrow Q(y), P(y) \vdash \exists x Q(x)}{P(y) \rightarrow Q(y) \vdash \exists x Q(x)} \quad \text{legal subst.} \]
\[ \frac{\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)), P(y) \vdash \exists x Q(x)}{\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)), \exists x P(x) \vdash \exists x Q(x)} \quad y \text{ fresh} \]
\[ \frac{\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash \exists x P(x) \rightarrow \exists x Q(x)}{\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash \exists x P(x) \rightarrow \exists x Q(x)} \quad \text{rule } \vdash \rightarrow \]

Having this proof we conclude, by soundness of \( \Gamma_0 \), that the formula is indeed valid.

**Summarising these two points.**

In most axiomatic systems the relation \( X \vdash Y \) is semi-decidable: to establish that it holds, it is enough to generate all the proofs until we encounter one which proves \( Y \) from \( X \). Therefore, if this actually holds, it may be natural to try to construct a syntactic proof (provided that the axiomatic system is easy to use, like \( \Gamma_0 \) ) – completeness of the system guarantees that there exists a proof of a valid formula. If, however, the relation does not hold, it is always easier to find a semantic counter-example. If it is found, and the system is sound, it allows us to conclude that the relation \( X \vdash Y \) does not hold. That is, in order to know what is easier to do, we have to know what
3. Is a rule admissible?

Suppose that we have an axiomatic system and a rule \( R : \frac{\Gamma \vdash A_1 \ldots \Gamma \vdash A_n}{\Gamma \vdash C} \)

The question whether \( R \) is admissible can be answered by trying to verify by purely proof theoretic means that any given proofs for the premises entitle the existence of a proof for the conclusion \( C \). This, however, is typically a cumbersome task.

If the system is sound and complete, there is a much better way to do that. The schema of the proof is as follows. For the first, we verify if the rule is sound. If it isn’t, we can immediately conclude, by soundness of our system, that it is not admissible. If, on the other hand, the rule is sound, the following schematic argument allows us to conclude that it is admissible:

\[
\begin{align*}
\Gamma \vdash A_1 \ldots \Gamma \vdash A_n & \quad \text{soundness} \\
\Gamma \vdash C & \quad \text{completeness}
\end{align*}
\]

For instance, are the following rules admissible in \( \Gamma \)?

\[
\begin{align*}
i) \quad & \frac{\Gamma \vdash \exists x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))}{\exists x \exists Q(x)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \forall x P(x)}{\exists x \exists Q(x)} \\
ii) \quad & \frac{\Gamma \vdash \exists x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))}{\exists x \exists Q(x)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \exists x P(x)}{\exists x \exists Q(x)}
\end{align*}
\]

The first thing to check is whether the rules are sound. So assume that \( M \) is an arbitrary structure which satisfies the premises. For the rule \( i) \), this means

\[
\begin{align*}
M & \models \exists x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \quad \text{and} \quad M \models \forall x P(x) \\
i.e., & \text{ for some } m \in M : \quad \left[ P(x) \rightarrow Q(x) \right]_{\text{m}}^{M} = 1 \quad \left[ P(x) \right]_{\text{m}}^{M} = 1 \\
\text{for all } n \in M : \quad \left[ P(x) \rightarrow Q(x) \right]_{\text{n}}^{M} = 1 \quad \left[ P(x) \right]_{\text{n}}^{M} = 1
\end{align*}
\]

(10.26)

Will \( M \) satisfy the conclusion? Let \( m \) be a witness making the first assumption true, i.e., one \( \left[ P(x) \right]_{\text{m}}^{M} = 0 \) or \( \left[ Q(x) \right]_{\text{m}}^{M} = 1 \). But from the second premise, we know that for all \( n \), in particular for the chosen \( m : \left[ P(x) \right]_{\text{m}}^{M} = 1 \). Thus, it must be the case that \( \left[ Q(x) \right]_{\text{m}}^{M} = 1 \). But then \( m \) is also a witness to the fact that \( \left[ \exists x Q(x) \right]^{M} = 1 \), i.e., the rule is sound. By the above argument, i.e., by soundness and completeness of \( \Gamma \), the rule \( i) \) is admissible.
For the second rule \(\text{ii)}\), we check first its soundness. Let \(M\) be an arbitrary structure satisfying the premises, i.e.:

\[ M \models \exists x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \quad \text{and} \quad M \models \exists x P(x) \]

i.e. for some \(m \in M\) : \(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)\) \hspace{1cm} \text{and for some } n \in M : \frac{P(x)}{P(x)} \hspace{1cm} 1 \hspace{1cm} \frac{[Q]^M}{[Q]^M} = 1 \]

Here it is possible that \(m \neq n\) and we can utilize this fact to construct an \(M\) which does not satisfy the conclusion. Let \(M = \{m, n\}\) with \([P]^M = \{m\}\) and \([Q]^M = \emptyset\). Both assumptions from (10.27) are now satisfied. However, \([Q]^M = \emptyset\), and so \(M \models \exists \forall Q(x)\). Thus the rule is not sound and, by soundness of \(\text{i)}\), cannot be admissible there.

**Exercises 10.**

**Exercise 10.1** Show the inductive step for the case \(B \rightarrow C\), which was omitted in the proof of Lemma 10.6.

**Exercise 10.2** (1) Give two different PNFs (cf. Exercise 9.3) for the formula \(F : (\exists x \forall y : R(x, y)) \rightarrow (\forall y \exists x : R(x, y))\).

(2) Let \(M\) be the structure with \(M = \{a, b\}\), \(R^M = \{(a, b), (b, b)\}\). Does \(M \models F\)?

(3) Is \(F\) valid? Either give a syntactic proof of \(F\) and a short argument (one sentence!) that provability of \(F\) entails its validity, or else provide a counter-example to \(F\)'s validity.

(4) Consider now the formula \(G : (\exists x \forall y : R(x, y)) \rightarrow (\exists x : R(x, y))\). Repeat the points above for this formula, i.e.,

(a) Give two different PNFs for \(G\).

(b) With the same \(M\) as above in (2), does \(M \models G\)?

(c) Is \(G\) valid? Do not repeat earlier arguments but explain briefly how/why it can be obtained from the answer to (3) above.

**Exercise 10.3** Show that the formula (1) from Lemma 7.24 is provable, i.e., that \(T \vdash \forall x A \rightarrow A\), without constructing the actual syntactic proof.

**Exercise 10.4** Show that the rules (2), (3) and (4) from Lemma 7.24 are admissible in \(\mathcal{N}\) without constructing any syntactic proofs (like in the proof of that lemma).

**Exercise 10.5** Prove the three statements of Lemma 10.11.

(Hint: In the proof of the last point, you will need (a form of) compactness, i.e., if \(T \vdash A\), then there is a finite subtheory \(\Delta \subseteq T\) such that \(\Delta \vdash A\).)
Exercise 10.6: Suppose Definition 10.4 of a maximal consistent theory is strengthened to the requirement that $\Gamma \vdash \phi$ or $\Gamma \vdash \neg \phi$ for all (not only closed) formulas. Then Lemma 10.8 would no longer be true. Explain why.

(Hint: Let $P$ be a unary predicate, $a, b$ two constants and $\Gamma = \{ P(a), \neg P(b) \}$. $\Gamma$ is consistent, but what if you add to it open formula $P(x)$, resp. $\neg P(x)$? Recall discussion from Remark 8.17, in particular, fact (8.20).)

Exercise 10.7: Prove Herbrand's theorem, 9.30, i.e., for any $\Gamma$ consisting of quantifier-free $\Sigma$-formulas over $\Sigma$ with $\Gamma \vdash \bot$, $\Gamma \vdash \phi \Rightarrow \bot$ if $\Gamma(\tau) \vdash \phi \Rightarrow \bot$.

(Hint: The implication towards the left is easiest: use the fact that everything provable in $\mathcal{I}_\Sigma^{\Sigma^G}$ is also provable in $\mathcal{I}_\Sigma^{\Sigma^G}$, and Deduction Theorem to prove that $A \vdash_{\Sigma^G} B$ for every ground instance $B$ of $A$. For the other direction use the completeness theorem for PL to deduce the existence of a valuation model for $\Gamma(\tau)$ whenever $\Gamma(\tau) \vdash \bot$. Use the above to construct a valuation model $\tau$, and show how to convert this into a term structure. Finally apply the result from Exercise 9.10 and soundness theorem for FOL.)

Exercise 10.8: (Downward) L"ownheim-Skolem theorem

Prove that every consistent theory over a countable alphabet has a countable model.

(Hint: You need only find the relevant lemmas. Essentially, you repeat the proof of completeness verifying that each step preserves countability and, finally, that this leads to a countable model (in the proof of Lemma 10.6). Specify only which adjustments are needed at which places.)
WHY IS FIRST ORDER LOGIC
"FIRST ORDER"?

FOL is called "predicate logic", since its atomic formulae consist of applications of predicate/relation symbols to terms. Why is it also called "first order"? Because its variables range only over individual elements from the interpretation domain. In other words, if $A \in \text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}}$ then $\exists x A \in \text{WFF}_{\text{FOL}}$ only when $x$ is an individual variable $x \in \mathcal{V}$.

Consider the formula $\forall x P(x) \rightarrow P(x)$. Obviously, no matter which unary predicate $P \in \mathcal{R}$ we choose, this formula will be valid. Thus, we might be tempted to write $\forall P \forall x P(x) \rightarrow P(x)$, i.e., try to quantify a variable $P$ which ranges over predicates. This is exactly what is impossible in first order language. The formula would not be first order — but second order, since it quantifies not only over individuals but also over sets thereof. The schema continues, so third order language allows also quantification over sets of sets of individuals, etc., but in practice one seldom steps beyond second order. It suffices to do most of mathematics and to axiomatize most structures of interest, which can not be axiomatized in first order logic. The best known example of such a structure are the natural numbers $\mathbb{N}$.

Example. The following definitions and axioms were introduced by Italian mathematician Giuseppe Peano in the years 1891-1908. The language of natural numbers is given by the terms $T^N$ over the alphabet $\Sigma_N = \{0, s, \equiv\}$. We are trying here to define the property "$n$ is a natural number", so we write $N(n)$:

1. $N(0)$
   0 is a natural number.

2. $N(n) \rightarrow N(s(n))$
   $s$ (successor) of a natural number is a natural number.
We want all these terms to denote different numbers, for instance, we should not consider the structures satisfying \( s(0) \equiv 0 \). Thus we have to add the identity axioms (as in Example 7.14) and the axioms

(3) \( s(n) \neq 0 \)
0 is not a successor of any natural number.

(4) \( s(n) \equiv s(m) \rightarrow n \equiv m \)
If two numbers have the same successor then they are equal – the \( s \) function is injective.

This is fine but it does not guarantee that the models we obtain will contain only elements interpreting the ground terms. Assuming that \( \equiv \) is taken as a logical symbol, with the fixed interpretation as identity, any model will have to contain distinct elements interpreting \( \{ 0, s(0), s(s(0)), \ldots \} \). But we also obtain unreachable models with additional elements! We would like to pick only the reachable models, but reachability itself is a semantic notion which is not expressible in the syntax of FOL. In order to ensure that no such “junk” elements appear in any model it is sufficient to require that

(5) For any property \( P \), if
- \( P(0) \), and
- \( \forall n \ (P(n) \rightarrow P(s(n))) \)
then \( \forall n \ N(n) \rightarrow P(n) \).

This last axiom is actually the induction property, as we saw it in (2.29) – if \( 0 \) satisfies \( P \) and whenever an \( n \) satisfies \( P \) then its successor satisfies \( P \), then all natural numbers satisfy \( P \). In other words, what is true about all terms generated by (1) and (2) is true about all natural numbers, because there are no more natural numbers than what can be obtained by applying \( s \) an arbitrary number of times to \( 0 \).

These five axioms actually describe the natural numbers up to isomorphism. (Any model of the five axioms is isomorphic to the \( \{0, s, N\} \)-model with the natural numbers as the interpretation domain, and with \( 0 \) and \( s \) interpreted as zero and the successor function.) Unfortunately, the fifth axiom is not first order. Written as a single formula it reads:

\[ \forall P \ ((P(0) \land \forall n \ (P(n) \rightarrow P(s(n)))) \rightarrow \forall n \ (N(n) \rightarrow P(n))) \]

i.e., we have to introduce the quantification over predicates, thus moving to second order logic.

\[ \square \]

It can also be shown that the fifth axiom is necessary to obtain the natural
numbers. In Exercise 2.9 we have shown by induction that the binary + operation defined in Example 2.26, is commutative. This is certainly something we would expect for the natural numbers. However, if we take only the first four axioms above and define + as in 2.26, we won’t be able to prove commutativity. (The inductive proof in Exercise 2.9 established commutativity only in reachable models. But we can take, for instance, square matrices with matrix multiplication interpreting + as a model of these four axioms, where the diagonal matrix of 1’s interprets 0, and multiplication by the diagonal matrix of, say, 2’s represents the successor operation. In this model, + is not commutative, though it is commutative on the reachable elements.)

One of the most dramatic consequences of moving to second order logic was discovered by Kurt Gödel in 1931, to a big surprise of everybody, and in particular, of the so-called formalists and logical positivists. We only quote a reformulated version of the famous Gödel’s (first) incompleteness theorem:

**Theorem.** There is no decidable axiomatic system which is both sound and complete for second order logic.

A decidable system is one where the set of axioms is recursive, i.e., there exists a Turing machine which, given any formula $A$, eventually halts with a correct verdict YES or NO regarding $A$ being an axiom.

We can thus set up the following comparison between the three levels of logical systems (SOL stands for second order logic) with respect to their provability relations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>sound</th>
<th>complete</th>
<th>decidable</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOL</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOL</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Moving upwards, i.e., increasing the expressive power of the logical language, we lose some desirable properties. Although SOL allows us to axiomatize natural numbers, the price we pay for this is that we no longer can prove all valid formulae. The choice of adequate logical system for a given application involves often the need to strike a balance between the expressive power, on the one hand, and other desirable properties like completeness or decidability, on the other.
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