

Formale Methoden der Informatik

Block 2: Satisfiability Problems

3. Recap: First-order Logic and Theories

Uwe Egly

Knowledge-Based Systems Group
Institute of Information Systems
Vienna University of Technology



Why do we need first-order logic?

Goal of the SAT part

Provide necessary tools and background info to construct a **decision procedure for equality logic with uninterpreted functions** (EUF).

EUF is a restricted variant (or a fragment) of first-order logic. It uses the theory of equality.

Therefore, we need **some definitions and notions from first-order logic extended by theories**.

Disclaimer: The first slides recapitulate known material about first-order logic which you know from “Theoretische Informatik und Logik”. The theory handling is new for (most of) you.

Outline

Syntax of First-order Logic

Semantics of First-order Logic

First-order Theories

Signatures

- **Signature Σ** : countably infinite set of function symbols (FSs) or predicate symbols (PSs) together with their arity
- In propositional logic: Σ is the set of Boolean variables
- Elements from Σ are the building blocks for formulas.

$\Sigma = (Func, Pred)$

- **Func**: set of function symbols (+ arity)
 - With arity 0: **constant symbols** (CSs)
 - With arity > 0 : for building **terms**
- **Pred**: set of predicate symbols (+ arity)
 - For building **atomic formulas**

- Elements of Σ are often called the “**non-logical symbols**”.

Terms

The definition of $Terms(\Sigma, Var)$

- Given a signature $\Sigma = (Func, Pred)$ and a set Var of (object) variables
- Variables are often denoted by x, y, z, x_1, x', \dots

Definition

The set of terms, $Terms(\Sigma, Var)$, for given Σ and Var is defined inductively as follows:

B1: Every $x \in Var$ is a term.

B2: Every constant symbol from $Func$ in Σ is a term.

S1: If t_1, \dots, t_n are terms and f is a FS from $Func$ in Σ with arity $n > 0$, then $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ is a term.

Terms: Some examples

Example

Given $Var = \{x\}$ and $Func = \{c/0, f/1\}$

$$Terms(\Sigma, Var) = \{x, c, f(x), f(c), f(f(x)), f(f(c)), \dots\}$$

➡ The set of terms is **infinite** since there is a FS of arity > 0 in Σ .

Definition

A **ground term** is a term **without** variables.

Example

Given $Var = \{x\}$ and $Func = \{c/0, f/1\}$ as above. The **set of ground terms** from $Terms(\Sigma, Var)$ is

$$\{c, f(c), f(f(c)), f(f(f(c))), \dots\}$$

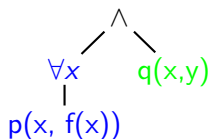
First-order (FO) formulas

- Given a signature $\Sigma = (Func, Pred)$ and Var
- Let p be a PS from Σ with arity $n \geq 0$ and t_1, \dots, t_n terms. Then $p(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ is an **atomic formula** or **atom**.
- **Ground atoms** are atoms **without** variables.
- **Inductive definition of the set of FO formulas** for given Σ, Var
 - B1: Every atom is a formula.
 - B2: \top (**verum**) and \perp (**falsum**) are formulas.
 - S1: For $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow, \oplus$: same as for propositional logic.
 - S2: If $x \in Var$ and φ is a formula, then so are $\forall x \varphi$ and $\exists x \varphi$.
- \forall is the **universal quantifier**, \exists is the **existential quantifier**
- In S2, φ is called the **scope** of the quantifier.

Formulas as trees

- First-order formulas can be depicted as **formula trees**.

- Example: $(\forall x p(x, f(x))) \wedge q(x, y)$



- Var. **occurrences** can be **free** or **bound**.
- Occurrences x are **bound** ($\forall x$ above!).
- Occurrence x is **free** (no $\forall x$, $\exists x$ above).

- Formulas without free vars are called **closed** or **sentences**.

The free variables of a formula

Definition

The set of free variables of a term t , $free(t)$, is defined inductively:

B1: $free(t) = \{x\}$ if t is a variable x

B2: $free(t) = \{\}$ if t is a constant a

S1: $free(t) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n free(t_i)$ if t is a term $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$

Definition

The set of free variables of a formula λ , $free(\lambda)$, is defined inductively:

B1: $free(\lambda) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n free(t_i)$ if λ is an atom $p(t_1, \dots, t_n)$

S1: $free(\lambda) = free(\varphi)$ if λ is $\neg\varphi$

S2: $free(\lambda) = free(\varphi) \cup free(\psi)$ if λ is $\varphi \circ \psi$ and $\circ \in \{\vee, \wedge, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow, \oplus\}$

S3: $free(\lambda) = free(\varphi) \setminus \{x\}$ if λ is $Qx\varphi$ and $Q \in \{\forall, \exists\}$

Outline

Syntax of First-order Logic

Semantics of First-order Logic

First-order Theories

The semantics of first-order logic

- Semantics of first-order logic more difficult than for propositional logic because of
 - the term structure,
 - the quantifiers, and
 - the free variables which can occur in formulas.
- A first-order (**interpretation**) **structure** wrt Σ consists of
 - a **domain** \mathcal{U} , i.e., a **nonempty** set of symbols and
 - the **interpretation function** $I(\cdot)$.
- $I(\cdot)$ has to satisfy the following conditions:
 1. For CS (0-ary FS) $c \in Func$: $I(c) \in \mathcal{U}$
 2. For n -ary FS $f \in Func$ ($n > 0$): $I(f): \mathcal{U}^n \mapsto \mathcal{U}$
 3. For n -ary PS $p \in Pred$: $I(p) \subseteq \mathcal{U}^n$

How to handle free variables?

- Free variables in a formula cause problems.
What is the meaning of a free x ?
- Two solutions possible:
 - Close a formula by \forall (universal closure), or
 - interpret the formula modulo a **variable assignment**

$$\alpha: \text{Var} \mapsto \mathcal{U}$$

- We use **variable assignments** in the following.

The evaluation of a term

Definition (Evaluation of a term under I and α)

The evaluation of a term t under an interpretation structure \mathcal{U} , I and a variable assignment α (modulo the signature Σ), $l_{\mathcal{U},\Sigma,\alpha}(t)$, is defined inductively as follows:

B1: $l_{\alpha}(x) = \alpha(x)$ for $x \in Var$

B2: $l_{\alpha}(c) = I(c)$ for a constant symbol c (recall: $I(c) \in \mathcal{U}$)

S1: $l_{\alpha}(f(t_1, \dots, t_n)) = I(f)(l_{\alpha}(t_1), \dots, l_{\alpha}(t_n))$ for $f/n \in Func$ and t_1, \dots, t_n are terms

- We often write l_{α} instead of $l_{\mathcal{U},\Sigma,\alpha}(t)$ to improve readability!

The evaluation of a formula

Definition (Evaluation of a formula under I and α)

The evaluation of a formula under an interpretation structure \mathcal{U} , I and a variable assignment α (modulo the signature Σ) is defined inductively as follows:

B1: $I_\alpha(p(t_1, \dots, t_n)) = 1$ iff $(I_\alpha(t_1), \dots, I_\alpha(t_n)) \in I(p)$ where $p/n \in \text{Pred}$ and t_1, \dots, t_n are terms

S1: The connectives are handled like in propositional logic

S2: $I_\alpha(\forall x \varphi) = 1$ iff $I_{\alpha \cup \{x \leftarrow c\}}(\varphi) = 1$ for each $c \in \mathcal{U}$

S3: $I_\alpha(\exists x \varphi) = 1$ iff $I_{\alpha \cup \{x \leftarrow c\}}(\varphi) = 1$ for at least one $c \in \mathcal{U}$

- The evaluation of a first-order formula is **undecidable**.
- Notions like tautology, valid, (un)satisfiable, model, etc. remain essentially unchanged.

Example for an evaluation of a closed formula

Let φ be $\forall x (p(x) \rightarrow p(f(f(x))))$.

- Let $\mathcal{U} = \mathbb{N}$.
- Informally, the symbols f , p have the following meaning:
 - $f/1 \in \text{Func}$ with the intended meaning “successor of”
 - $p/1 \in \text{Pred}$ with the intended meaning “is odd number”
- φ ’s intended reading: for every odd no x , $x + 2$ is also odd
- Let $I(f): \mathcal{U} \mapsto \mathcal{U}$ with $f(u) = u + 1$
- Moreover, $I(p) = \{(1), (3), (5), \dots\} \subset \mathcal{U}$
- Since φ is closed, $\alpha = \{\}$ at the beginning

Example for an evaluation of a closed formula (cont'd)

- $I_{\{\}}(\varphi) = 1$ iff, for each $c \in \mathcal{U}$,
 $I_{\{x \leftarrow c\}}(p(x) \rightarrow p(f(f(x)))) = I_{\{\}}(p(c) \rightarrow p(f(f(c)))) = 1$
- Case distinction for c :
 - 1: c is odd (i.e., $(c) \in I(p)$):
 - ▶ $I_{\{\}}(p(c) \rightarrow p(f(f(c)))) = 1$ iff $(c) \notin I(p)$ or $I(f(f(c))) \in I(p)$
 - ▶ Since $I(f(f(c))) = I(c) + 2$, $(c) \in I(p)$ implies $I(f(f(c))) \in I(p)$
 - ▶ Since $(c) \in I(p)$, $I(f(f(c))) \in I(p)$ and the implication is true
 - 2: c is even (i.e., $(c) \notin I(p)$):
 - ▶ Then $p(c) \rightarrow p(f(f(c)))$ is true under I because $(c) \notin I(p)$
- Hence, φ is true under the chosen interpretation

Recall the notations

- $Mod(\psi)$ is the **class of all models** of ψ .
- φ is **satisfiable** if there is **some** \mathcal{U}, I_α that satisfies φ .
- φ is **falsifiable** if there is **some** \mathcal{U}, I_α that does not satisfy φ .
- φ is **valid** if **every** \mathcal{U}, I_α is a model of φ .
 - This means: for **all** \mathcal{U} , for **all** I and for **all** α !
- φ is **unsatisfiable** if φ is not satisfiable.
- Formulas φ and ψ are **equivalent**, denoted by $\varphi \equiv \psi$, iff they have exactly the same models, i.e., $Mod(\varphi) = Mod(\psi)$. In other words, for all \mathcal{U}, I_α , we have $I_\alpha \models \varphi$ iff $I_\alpha \models \psi$
- **Note:** $p(x) \not\equiv p(y)$ why?

Construct a counter-example to $p(x) \equiv p(y)$

(Slide added on students' request)

We know from the definition of \equiv that

$$p(x) \equiv p(y) \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \text{Mod}(p(x)) = \text{Mod}(p(y))$$

We construct \mathcal{U} , I_α such that $I_\alpha \models p(x)$ but $I_\alpha \not\models p(y)$

Let $\mathcal{U} = \{0, 1\}$, let $I(p) = \{(0)\}$ and let α map x to 0 and y to 1.

Then $I_\alpha \models p(x)$ iff $I \models p(0)$ iff $(0) \in I(p)$. Therefore $I_\alpha \models p(x)$.

Then $I_\alpha \models p(y)$ iff $I \models p(1)$ iff $(1) \in I(p)$. Therefore $I_\alpha \not\models p(y)$.

We have constructed \mathcal{U} , I_α which is a model of $p(x)$ but not of $p(y)$. Therefore, $\text{Mod}(p(x)) \neq \text{Mod}(p(y))$. Consequently, **the equivalence does not hold.**

Example

- Let $\Sigma = \{\{a/0, b/0, \circ/2\}, \{\sim /2\}\}$
- Let $\varphi: \exists x (x \circ a \sim b)$ or $\exists x (\sim (\circ(x, a), b))$
- Q: Can φ be satisfied over $\mathcal{U} = \mathbb{N}_0$?

Example

- Let $\Sigma = \{\{a/0, b/0, \circ/2\}, \{\sim /2\}\}$
- Let $\varphi: \exists x (x \circ a \sim b)$ or $\exists x (\sim (\circ(x, a), b))$
- Q: Can φ be satisfied over $\mathcal{U} = \mathbb{N}_0$?
- A: It depends on the **interpretation (function)**!

Example

- Let $\Sigma = \{ \{a/0, b/0, \circ/2\}, \{\sim /2\} \}$
- Let $\varphi: \exists x (x \circ a \sim b)$ or $\exists x (\sim (\circ(x, a), b))$
- Q: Can φ be satisfied over $\mathcal{U} = \mathbb{N}_0$?
- A: It depends on the **interpretation (function)**!
- **Possibility 1:** Let $I(a) = 0, I(b) = 1$
- Interpret \circ as **multiplication** and \sim as **equality**, i.e.,

$$I(\circ) = \{ ((n_1, n_2), n) \mid n_1, n_2, n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \wedge n = n_1 \cdot n_2 \}$$

$$I(\sim) = \{ (n, n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \}$$

☞ φ is false under the above interpretation!

(Why?)

Example

- Let $\Sigma = \{ \{a/0, b/0, \circ/2\}, \{\sim /2\} \}$
- Let $\varphi: \exists x (x \circ a \sim b)$ or $\exists x (\sim (\circ(x, a), b))$
- Q: Can φ be satisfied over $\mathcal{U} = \mathbb{N}_0$?
- A: It depends on the **interpretation (function)**!
- **Possibility 2:** Let $I(a) = 0, I(b) = 1$
- Interpret \circ as **addition** and \sim as **equality**

$$I(\circ) = \{ ((n_1, n_2), n) \mid n_1, n_2, n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \wedge n = n_1 + n_2 \}$$

$$I(\sim) = \{ (n, n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \}$$

☞ φ is true under the above interpretation!

(Why?)

Entailment (or logical implication)

- So far, \models relates an interpretation and a formula.
- We want to allow a **set of formulas** on the **left** side.
- **Important:** a set of formulas coincides with the conjunction of its elements, i.e., $\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$ is $\bigwedge_{i=1}^n \varphi_i$.
- **Important:** an **empty** conjunction is **1** in **all** interpretations i.e., it is equivalent to \top .
- Let W be a set of closed formulas. Then W entails φ ,
 $W \models \varphi$, if and only if $Mod(W) \subseteq Mod(\varphi)$

Entailment is a very important concept, when we consider theories!

Check of an entailment

Show: $\varphi \models \psi$ with $\varphi: \exists x (p(x) \wedge (p(x) \rightarrow q(x)))$ and $\psi: \exists y q(y)$

- We show that **each model of φ is also a model of ψ** .
- Take an arbitrary domain \mathcal{U} and let I be a model of φ .
- Then there is $c \in \mathcal{U}$, s.t. $I_{\{x \leftarrow c\}}(p(x) \wedge (p(x) \rightarrow q(x))) = 1$.
- Moreover, $(c) \in I(p)$ and $(c) \in I(q)$. **why?**
- Evaluate ψ under the model of φ .
- $I(\exists y q(y)) = 1$ iff $I_{\{y \leftarrow d\}}(q(y)) = 1$ for some $d \in \mathcal{U}$
- Let $d = c$ and observe that I is then also a model of ψ .

Construction of a counter-example to an entailment

(Slide added on students' request)

Show: $\varphi \models \psi$ with $\varphi: p(c) \wedge (p(c) \rightarrow q(c))$ and $\psi: \forall y q(y)$

- Let c be a constant. Then φ is closed.
 - We construct a **counter-example**, i.e., we present an interpretation \mathcal{U}, I , such that $I \models \varphi$, but $I \not\models \psi$.
 - Take $\mathcal{U} = \{0, 1\}$ as the domain.
 - Let $I(c) = 0$ and let I make exactly $p(0)$ and $q(0)$ true, i.e., $I(p) = \{(0)\}$ and $I(q) = \{(0)\}$. Consequently, $I \models \varphi$ holds.
 - Evaluate ψ under the model of φ :
 $I(\forall y q(y)) = 1$ iff $I_{\{y \leftarrow d\}}(q(y)) = 1$ for **all** $d \in \mathcal{U}$
 - Since $q(1)$ is false under I , so is ψ .
- ➡ We have found \mathcal{U}, I , such that $I \models \varphi$, but $I \not\models \psi$. Hence, $\text{Mod}(\varphi) \not\subseteq \text{Mod}(\psi)$ and therefore $\varphi \not\models \psi$.

Outline

Syntax of First-order Logic

Semantics of First-order Logic

First-order Theories

Motivation

- Reasoning about application domains like software or hardware requires structures to formalize important properties.
- E.g., programs manipulate numbers, lists, arrays, pointers, etc.
- ➡ First-order theories can be used for the formalization.
- ☹ Reasoning with theories is undecidable in general.
- 😊 Reasoning with “restricted” theories is often decidable!

The definition of a theory

Definition

A **first-order theory**, $\mathcal{T} = (\Sigma, \mathcal{A})$, is defined by its components:

1. its **signature** Σ ,
2. its **axioms** as a set \mathcal{A} of **closed** first-order formulas with function symbols (FSs) and predicate symbols (PSs) from Σ .

A theory is often identified

1. by its axioms (when Σ is clear from the context), or
2. by the set of all Σ -formulas, valid in the theory.

A **Σ -formula** is constructed from FSs and PSs from Σ , as well as variables, connectives and quantifiers. We often use **formula** instead of **Σ -formula** when Σ is clear from the context.

Some definitions

Definition

Given a theory $\mathcal{T} = (\Sigma, \mathcal{A})$.

1. A \mathcal{T} -interpretation I is an interpretation which satisfies \mathcal{T} 's axioms, i.e.,

$$I \models \varphi \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in \mathcal{A}$$

2. A Σ -formula φ is **valid in the theory \mathcal{T}** , or **\mathcal{T} -valid**, if every \mathcal{T} -interpretation satisfies φ . Notation: $\mathcal{T} \models \varphi$
3. A Σ -formula φ is **satisfiable in the theory \mathcal{T}** , or **\mathcal{T} -satisfiable**, if some \mathcal{T} -interpretation satisfies φ .

When \mathcal{T} is clear from the context, we often use **interpretation**, **valid**, **satisfiable** instead of **\mathcal{T} -interpretation**, **\mathcal{T} -valid**, **\mathcal{T} -satisfiable**

What is the connection to entailment, i.e., to $W \models \varphi$?

Properties of theories

Definition

A theory $\mathcal{T} = (\Sigma, \mathcal{A})$ is

1. **complete**, if for every closed Σ -formula φ , $\mathcal{T} \models \varphi$ or $\mathcal{T} \models \neg\varphi$;
2. **consistent**, if there is at least one \mathcal{T} -interpretation;
3. **decidable**, if $\mathcal{T} \models \varphi$ is decidable for every Σ -formula φ .

Formulas φ_1 and φ_2 are **equivalent in \mathcal{T}** or **\mathcal{T} -equivalent** if $\mathcal{T} \models \varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2$, i.e., $I \models \varphi_1$ iff $I \models \varphi_2$ holds for all \mathcal{T} -interpretations I .

Example of a **complete theory**: Presburger arithmetic [\[link\]](#)

Example of an **incomplete theory**: group theory [\[link\]](#)

Incompleteness of group theory

(Slide added on students' request)

Q: Why is group theory incomplete?

A: Because for the formula $\varphi: \forall x \forall y (x \cdot y \doteq y \cdot x)$, it holds that

$$\mathcal{T} \not\models \neg \varphi \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{T} \not\models \varphi.$$

The sentence $\neg \forall x \forall y (x \cdot y = y \cdot x)$ is **not valid for groups**. Take the abelian group $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$, i.e., use $\mathcal{U} = \mathbb{Z}$ and define I appropriately. Since addition in \mathbb{Z} is commutative, $\forall x \forall y (x \cdot y = y \cdot x)$ is true under \mathcal{U}, I and therefore the negation is false. We have identified a model of the theory which is not a model of $\neg \forall x \forall y (x \cdot y = y \cdot x)$.

The sentence $\forall x \forall y (x \cdot y = y \cdot x)$ is not valid for groups. Simply take a non-commutative group (like the symmetric group S_n of degree $n \geq 3$) and proceed similarly.

Fragments of theories

A **fragment** of a theory \mathcal{T} is a **syntactically restricted** subset of formulas of \mathcal{T} . A **fragment of \mathcal{T} is decidable** if $\mathcal{T} \models \varphi$ is decidable for every Σ -formula φ from the fragment.

Example

1. The **quantifier-free fragment** of a theory \mathcal{T} is the set of \mathcal{T} -valid formulas without quantifiers.

NB Technically speaking, the “quantifier-free fragment” consists of valid formulas in which all variables are considered to be universally quantified!

2. The **fragment of prenex conjunctive normal forms** consists of valid formulas which have a quantifier prefix and a matrix in conjunctive normal form (CNF).

Combinations of theories

- The union $\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2$ of two theories \mathcal{T}_1 and \mathcal{T}_2 with signatures Σ_1 and Σ_2 and axioms \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 has
 1. signature $\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2$ and
 2. axioms $\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$.
- We restrict our attention here to combinations for which $\Sigma_1 \cap \Sigma_2 = \{\dot{=}\}$ holds.
- A $(\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2)$ -interpretation is both a \mathcal{T}_1 -interpretation and a \mathcal{T}_2 -interpretation, since it satisfies $\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$.
- ➡ A formula which is \mathcal{T}_1 -valid or \mathcal{T}_2 -valid is $(\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2)$ -valid.
- ➡ A formula which is $(\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2)$ -satisfiable is both \mathcal{T}_1 -satisfiable and \mathcal{T}_2 -satisfiable.

The theory of equality

- Σ_E consists of \doteq together with FSs and other PSs.
- \doteq is an **interpreted symbol**: the meaning is defined by the axioms of \mathcal{T}_E ($\forall x_1, \dots, x_n$ abbreviates $\forall x_1 \cdots \forall x_n$):

1. $\forall x (x \doteq x)$ (reflexivity)
2. $\forall x, y ((x \doteq y) \rightarrow (y \doteq x))$ (symmetry)
3. $\forall x, y, z ((x \doteq y) \wedge (y \doteq z) \rightarrow (x \doteq z))$ (transitivity)
4. Substitution axioms for each function symbol f of arity n :

$$\forall x_1, y_1, \dots, x_n, y_n \left(\bigwedge_{i=1}^n x_i \doteq y_i \rightarrow f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \doteq f(y_1, \dots, y_n) \right)$$

5. Substitution axioms for each predicate symbol p of arity n :

$$\forall x_1, y_1, \dots, x_n, y_n \left(\bigwedge_{i=1}^n x_i \doteq y_i \rightarrow (p(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leftrightarrow p(y_1, \dots, y_n)) \right)$$

The theory of equality cont'd

- The axioms 1. to 3. state that \doteq is an **equivalence relation**.
- The axioms 4. and 5. assert that \doteq is a **congruence relation**.
- Functions (predicates) evaluate always to the same value (truth value) provided the same arguments are given.
- \mathcal{T}_E is **undecidable**, but its **quantifier-free fragment** is **decidable**.

Example

Show: $\varphi: a \doteq b \wedge b \doteq c \rightarrow g(f(a), b) \doteq g(f(c), a)$ is \mathcal{T}_E -valid

The proof is by contradiction. Suppose there exists a \mathcal{T}_E -interpretation I with $I \not\models \varphi$.

- | | | |
|-----|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. | $I \not\models \varphi$ | assumption |
| 2. | $I \models a \doteq b \wedge b \doteq c$ | 1., semantics of \rightarrow |
| 3. | $I \not\models g(f(a), b) \doteq g(f(c), a)$ | 1., semantics of \rightarrow |
| 4. | $I \models a \doteq b$ | 2., semantics of \wedge |
| 5. | $I \models b \doteq c$ | 2., semantics of \wedge |
| 6. | $I \models a \doteq c$ | 4., 5., transitivity of \doteq |
| 7. | $I \models f(a) \doteq f(c)$ | 6., substitution axiom for f |
| 8. | $I \models b \doteq a$ | 4., symmetry of \doteq |
| 9. | $I \models g(f(a), b) \doteq g(f(c), a)$ | 7., 8., substitution axiom for g |
| 10. | $I \models \perp$ | 3., 9., contradiction |

The assumption is false: φ is therefore \mathcal{T}_E -valid!

The theory of LISP-like lists: \mathcal{T}_{cons}

LISP-like lists have signature $\Sigma_{cons} = \{\{cons, car, cdr\}, \{atom, \doteq\}\}$

1. $cons$ is a binary function called the **list constructor**. $cons(a, b)$ represents the list constructed from a and b .
2. car is a unary function called the **left projector**.
 $car(cons(a, b)) \doteq a$
3. cdr is a unary function called the **right projector**.
 $cdr(cons(a, b)) \doteq b$
4. $atom$ is a unary predicate. $atom(x)$ is true iff x is a **single-element list**.
5. \doteq is the binary predicate equality.

Examples of LISP-like lists

In the intended interpretations

- atoms are individual elements,
- while lists are functional structures with binary FS *cons*.

cons(a, cons(b, c))

- represents a list of three elements,
- *a* is its head and *cons(b, c)* is its tail
- Examples:

1. *car(cons(a, cons(b, c)))* $\mapsto a$
2. *cdr(cons(a, cons(b, c)))* $\mapsto cons(b, c)$
3. *cdr(cdr(cons(a, cons(b, c))))* $\mapsto c$

The axioms of \mathcal{T}_{cons}

1. The axioms of reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity
2. Substitution axioms (functional congruence) for *cons*, *car*, *cdr*
3. Substitution axioms (predicate congruence) for *atom*
4. $\forall x, y \text{ car}(\text{cons}(x, y)) \doteq x$ (left projection)
5. $\forall x, y \text{ cdr}(\text{cons}(x, y)) \doteq y$ (right projection)
6. $\forall x \neg \text{atom}(x) \rightarrow \text{cons}(\text{car}(x), \text{cdr}(x)) \doteq x$ (construction)
7. $\forall x, y \neg \text{atom}(\text{cons}(x, y))$ (atom)

The theory \mathcal{T}_{cons} : Some remarks

- There is no *NIL* value representing the empty list.
- The behavior of *car* and *cdr* on atoms is unspecified.
- \mathcal{T}_{cons} is undecidable, but its quantifier-free fragment is decidable.

The theory $\mathcal{T}_{cons}^E = \mathcal{T}_{cons} \cup \mathcal{T}_E$

- Let $\mathcal{T}_{cons} = (\Sigma_{cons}, \mathcal{A}_{cons})$ and $\mathcal{T}_E = (\Sigma_E, \mathcal{A}_E)$.
- The signature of \mathcal{T}_{cons}^E is $\Sigma_{cons} \cup \Sigma_E$.
- The set of axioms of \mathcal{T}_{cons}^E is $\mathcal{A}_{cons} \cup \mathcal{A}_E$.
- \mathcal{T}_{cons}^E has **uninterpreted** CSs, FSs, and PSs from Σ_E .
- \mathcal{T}_{cons}^E is **undecidable**, but its **quantifier-free fragment** is **decidable**.
- Prove the following formula φ
$$\begin{aligned} car(a) \doteq car(b) \wedge cdr(a) \doteq cdr(b) \wedge \neg atom(a) \wedge \neg atom(b) \\ \rightarrow f(a) \doteq f(b) \end{aligned}$$

 \mathcal{T}_{cons}^E -valid.

The theory \mathcal{T}_{cons}^E : The proof of φ

The proof is by contradiction. Suppose there exists a \mathcal{T}_{cons}^E -interpretation I with $I \not\models \varphi$.

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| 1. | $I \not\models \varphi$ | assumption |
| 2. | $I \models car(a) \doteq car(b)$ | 1., semantics of \rightarrow, \wedge |
| 3. | $I \models cdr(a) \doteq cdr(b)$ | 1., semantics of \rightarrow, \wedge |
| 4. | $I \models \neg atom(a)$ | 1., semantics of \rightarrow, \wedge |
| 5. | $I \models \neg atom(b)$ | 1., semantics of \rightarrow, \wedge |
| 6. | $I \not\models f(a) \doteq f(b)$ | 1., semantics of \rightarrow |
| 7. | $I \models cons(car(a), cdr(a)) \doteq cons(car(b), cdr(b))$ | 2., 3., functional congruence |
| 8. | $I \models cons(car(a), cdr(a)) \doteq a$ | 4., construction |
| 9. | $I \models cons(car(b), cdr(b)) \doteq b$ | 5., construction |
| 10. | $I \models a \doteq b$ | 7., 8., 9., symmetry + transitivity |
| 11. | $I \models f(a) \doteq f(b)$ | 10., functional congruence |
| 10. | $I \models \perp$ | 6., 11., contradiction |

The assumption is false: φ is therefore \mathcal{T}_{cons}^E -valid!

Further examples for theories

- Presburger arithmetic ($\Sigma = (\{0/0, 1/0, +/2\}, \{\dot{=}/2\})$)
- Peano arithmetic ($\Sigma = (\{0/0, 1/0, +/2, */2\}, \{\dot{=}/2\})$)
- Theory of integers
- Theory of reals
- Theory of arrays
- Theory of pointers
- Theory of recursive data structures
- and many more

Learning objectives

You should be able to

- explain the syntax and semantics of first-order logic,
- evaluate formulas under a given first-order structure,
- find models/falsifying interpretations for first-order formulas,
- evaluate entailments and provide proofs or counter-examples,
- motivate the use of theories,
- explain \mathcal{T} -validity and \mathcal{T} -satisfiability in detail,
- check them for a formula and a theory
(including providing proofs or counter-examples for the answers),
- discuss the notion of decidability of a theory or one of its fragments.