

Automated Reasoning - WS 2013

Lecture 3: First-Order Logic Syntax, Semantics, Normal Forms

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Outline

Syntax

Semantics

Equivalences of Formulas

Normal Forms

(Un)Satisfiability & (In)Validity

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Semantics

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Syntax

The language of FOL consists in **terms** and **formulas**.

Terms are defined recursively as follows:

1. A constant is a term.
2. A variable is a term.
3. If f is an n -place function symbol, and t_1, \dots, t_n are terms then $f[t_1, \dots, t_n]$ is a term.
4. All terms are generated by applying the above rules.

If P is an n -place predicate symbol and t_1, \dots, t_n are terms then $P[t_1, \dots, t_n]$ is an atom.

An **atom** is \mathbb{T} , \mathbb{F} , or an n -ary predicate applied to n terms.

A **literal** is an atom or its negation.

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1. An atom is a formula.
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3. If F is a formula and x is a free variable, then $\forall_x F[x]$ and $\exists_x F[x]$ are formulas.
4. Formulas are generated only by a finite number of applications of the above rules.

A variable is **bound** in formula $F[x]$ if there is an occurrence of x in the scope of a binding quantifier \forall_x or \exists_x .

A variable is **free** in formula $F[x]$ if there is an occurrence of x that is not bound by any quantifier.

Examples: Identify constants, variables (free, bound), quantifiers, functions, predicates, atoms, terms, formulas from the bellow

1. $\forall_x x + 1 \geq x$
2. $\neg \left(\exists_x E[0, f[x]] \right)$
3. $\forall_x \exists_y \left(E[y, f[x]] \wedge \forall_z (E[z, f[x]] \implies E[y, z]) \right)$

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Semantics

An **interpretation** I of a formula F in FOL consists of a nonempty domain D and an assignment of values to each constant, function, symbol and predicate symbol occurring in F as follows:

- ▶ to each constant we assign an element in D
- ▶ to each function symbol we assign a mapping from D^n to D
- ▶ to each predicate symbol we assign a mapping from D^n to $\{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}\}$.

Then the semantics of the formula F is a function $f : \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}\}$, where $I \in \mathcal{I}$ and \mathcal{I} is the set of all interpretations of the formula F .

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Semantics (cont'd)

Example: Find the truth value of the formula $F : \iff \forall_x \exists_y x + y > c$,
where

$$I : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} D = \{0, 1\} \\ c_I = 0 \\ +_I \rightarrow +_{\mathbb{Z}} \\ >_I \rightarrow >_{\mathbb{Z}} \end{array} \right.$$

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Equivalences of Formulas

Two formulas F and G are **equivalent** iff the truth values of F and G are the same under any interpretation.

$$F \iff G \equiv (F \Rightarrow G) \wedge (G \Rightarrow F)$$

$$F \Rightarrow G \equiv \neg F \vee G$$

$$F \vee G \equiv G \vee F$$

$$(F \vee G) \vee H \equiv F \vee (G \vee H)$$

$$F \vee (G \wedge H) \equiv (F \vee G) \wedge (F \vee H)$$

$$F \vee \mathbb{T} \equiv \mathbb{T}$$

$$F \vee \mathbb{F} \equiv F$$

$$F \vee \neg F \equiv \mathbb{T}$$

$$\neg(\neg F) \equiv F$$

$$\neg(F \vee G) \equiv \neg F \wedge \neg G$$

$$(Qx)F[x] \vee G \equiv (Qx)(F[x] \vee G)$$

$$\neg \forall_x F[x] \equiv \exists_x \neg F[x]$$

$$\forall_x F[x] \vee \forall_x G[x] \not\equiv \forall_x (F[x] \vee G[x])$$

$$\exists_x F[x] \vee \exists_x G[x] \equiv \exists_x (F[x] \vee G[x])$$

$$F \wedge G \equiv G \wedge F$$

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$$F \wedge \neg F \equiv \mathbb{F}$$

$$\neg(F \wedge G) \equiv \neg F \vee \neg G$$

$$(Qx)F[x] \wedge G \equiv (Qx)(F[x] \wedge G)$$

$$\neg(\exists_x)F[x] \equiv \forall_x \neg F[x]$$

$$\forall_x F[x] \wedge \forall_x G[x] \equiv \forall_x (F[x] \wedge G[x])$$

$$\exists_x F[x] \wedge \exists_x G[x] \not\equiv \exists_x (F[x] \wedge G[x])$$

Note that

$$\forall_x F[x] \vee \forall_x G[x] \equiv \forall_x F[x] \vee \forall_y G[y] \equiv \forall_{x,y} F[x] \vee G[y]$$

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Equivalences of Formulas

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$$F \vee \mathbb{T} \equiv \mathbb{T}$$

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$$(Qx)F[x] \vee G \equiv (Qx)(F[x] \vee G)$$

$$\neg \forall_x F[x] \equiv \exists_x \neg F[x]$$

$$\forall_x F[x] \vee \forall_x G[x] \not\equiv \forall_x (F[x] \vee G[x])$$

$$\exists_x F[x] \vee \exists_x G[x] \equiv \exists_x (F[x] \vee G[x])$$

$$F \wedge G \equiv G \wedge F$$

$$(F \wedge G) \wedge H \equiv F \wedge (G \wedge H)$$

$$F \wedge (G \vee H) \equiv (F \wedge G) \vee (F \wedge H)$$

$$F \wedge \mathbb{T} \equiv F$$

$$F \wedge \mathbb{F} \equiv \mathbb{F}$$

$$F \wedge \neg F \equiv \mathbb{F}$$

$$\neg(F \wedge G) \equiv \neg F \vee \neg G$$

$$(Qx)F[x] \wedge G \equiv (Qx)(F[x] \wedge G)$$

$$\neg(\exists_x)F[x] \equiv \forall_x \neg F[x]$$

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Note that

$$\forall_x F[x] \vee \forall_x G[x] \equiv \forall_x F[x] \vee \forall_y G[y] \equiv \forall_{x,y} F[x] \vee G[y]$$

$$\exists_x F[x] \wedge \exists_x G[x] \equiv \exists_x F[x] \wedge \exists_y G[y] \equiv \exists_{x,y} F[x] \wedge G[y]$$

Outline

Syntax

Semantics

Equivalences of Formulas

Normal Forms

(Un)Satisfiability & (In)Validity

Normal Forms

Normal forms:

1. CNF
2. DNF
3. negation normal form (NNF)
4. prenex normal form (PNF)
5. Skolem standard form

Negation normal form (NNF) requires that \neg , \wedge , and \vee to be the only logical connectives and that negations appear only in literals.

A formula F in FOL is said to be in **prenex normal form (PNF)** iff the formula is in the form $(Q_1x_1)\dots(Q_nx_n) M$, where $Q_i \in \{\forall, \exists\}$ and M is quantifier-free.

A FOL formula is in **Skolem standard form** if it is of the form $\forall_{x_1, \dots, x_n} M$, where M is a quantifier-free formula in CNF.

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Normal Forms (cont'd)

Examples:

1. Prove the following by bringing the formulas into conjunctive normal form

$$\left(\forall_x P[x]\right) \Rightarrow Q \equiv \exists_x (P[x] \Rightarrow Q).$$

2. Bring the following formulas into Skolem standard form



$$\forall_{x,y,z} ((\neg P[x,y] \wedge Q[x,z]) \vee R[x,y,z])$$



$$\forall_{x,y} \left(\exists_z (P[x,z] \wedge P[y,z]) \right) \Rightarrow \exists_u Q[x,y,u]$$

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A formula F is **satisfiable** iff there exists an interpretation I such that $I \models F$.

A formula F is **valid** iff for all interpretations I , $I \models F$.

Note that validity and satisfiability applies to closed formulas.

Examples: Prove that

▶ $\forall_x P[x] \wedge \exists_y \neg P[y]$ is inconsistent.

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