

Defining New Notions

Wolfgang Schreiner

Research Institute for Symbolic Computation (RISC-Linz)

Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria

Wolfgang.Schreiner@risc.uni-linz.ac.at

<http://www.risc.uni-linz.ac.at/people/schreine>

Mastering Complexity

Problem: Formulas become very large.

Complex objects and properties.

Solution: Introduce new function- and predicate-constants.

Capture under **single name** an object respectively property whose description with the help of the basic constants is very large.

- **Abstraction**

- Refer to complex notion just by a name.
- Not necessary to repeat its description over and over again.

- **Parameterization**

- Refer to common core of similar notions by a name.
- Use parameters to distinguish between different instances.

Theory

Definition: Theory

- Function- and predicate-constants.
- Formulas using these constants (**axioms**).

Formulas considered true in the domain described by this theory.

Example: Real Numbers

- $0, 1, +, *, \leq$
- $\forall x, y : x + y = y + x$
- ...

Formulas in basic theory become large and difficult to understand.

Extending Theories

Definition: definition

- A statement that introduces into a theory a new constant and additional axioms.
- Restriction: no formula can be derived in new theory that could not be derived from original theory (**consistency**).

Example: Real Numbers

- Unary function constant $| \cdot |$.
- $\forall x : 0 \leq x \Rightarrow |x| = x$
 $\forall x : x \leq 0 \Rightarrow |x| = -x$

Explicit Predicate Definitions

$$p(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) :\Leftrightarrow F$$

- Introduction of new n -ary predicate constant p (**definiendum**).
- p must not occur within formula F (**definiens**).
- Free variables of F must be among x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} .
- New axiom

$$\forall x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} : p(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \Leftrightarrow F$$

New predicate is uniquely characterized.

Natural Language

A predicate definition in natural language is usually expressed as

x is (called) a P , if ,

introducing the unary predicate $P(x)$, or

x and y are P , if . . .

introducing the binary predicate $P(x, y)$, or

x is a P of y , if . . .

which also introduces $P(x, y)$.

Not necessarily formal syntax.

Examples

- The statement

p is **prime**, if its only divisors are 1 and p .

introduces the unary predicate

$$p \text{ is } \underline{\text{prime}} : \Leftrightarrow (\forall x : x \text{ is a divisor of } p \Rightarrow (x = 1 \vee x = p)).$$

- The statement

x is a **divisor** of y , if $x * z = y$, for some z .

introduces the binary predicate

$$x \text{ is } \underline{\text{a divisor of}} y : \Leftrightarrow \exists z : x * z = y.$$

Examples

- The statement

$$x \text{ is prime} :\Leftrightarrow y \nmid x$$

is not a definition, because free y does not occur on left side.

- The statement

$$x \text{ is a divisor of } a * y, \text{ if } x * z = a * y, \text{ for some } z.$$

is **not** a definition, because on the left hand side of the formula

$$x \text{ is a divisor of } a * y \Leftrightarrow \exists z : x * z = a * y.$$

a general term $a * y$ appears where only a variable is allowed.

Beware of bogus definitions!

Constrained Predicate Definitions

Global conditions:

- Let x be such that P . Then x is a Q if F holds.
- A P is a Q if F holds.

Translation:

$$Q(x) :\Leftrightarrow P(x) \wedge F$$

Implicit conditions have to be added to definition.

Example

The definition

Let f be a binary relation. f is a **partial function** if every element of its domain is in relation to at most one element of its range.

as well as the definition

A **partial function** is a binary relation where every element of the domain is in relation to at most one element of the range.

are to be read as the definition of a unary predicate

f is a partial function $:\Leftrightarrow$

f is a binary relation \wedge

$$\forall x, y_0, y_1 : (\langle x, y_0 \rangle \in f \wedge \langle x, y_1 \rangle \in f) \Rightarrow y_0 = y_1.$$

Explicit Function Definitions

$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := T$$

- Introduction of new n -ary function constant f (**definiendum**).
- f must not occur within term T (**definiens**).
- Free variables of T must be among x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} .
- New axiom

$$\forall x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} : f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = T$$

New function is uniquely characterized.

Example

- The statement

$$\text{add}(x, y) := x + y$$

defines a binary function `add`.

- The statement

$$\text{add}(x) := x + y$$

is **not** a definition because of free variable y .

- The statement

$$\text{add}(x * y) := x + y$$

is **not** a definition because $x * y$ is not a variable.

Conditional Function Definitions

Result defined in multiple ways:

$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := T_0, \text{ **if } F** \\ T_1, \text{ **otherwise}**$$

Translation:

$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := \text{**if } F \text{ then } T_0 \text{ else } T_1**$$

Introduction of a new kind of terms.

Conditional Terms and Formulas

Definition: conditional term

(if F then T_0 else T_1)

- Formula F , terms T_0 and T_1
- Result is T_0 , if F holds, and T_1 , otherwise.

Definition: conditional formula

(if F then F_0 else F_1)

- Formulas F , F_0 , F_1 .
- Result is F_0 , if F holds, and F_1 , otherwise.

Example

The definition

$$|x| := \begin{array}{l} -x, \text{ \textbf{if } } x < 0 \\ x, \text{ \textbf{else}} \end{array}$$

is another form of writing

$$|x| := \text{\textbf{if } } x < 0 \text{\textbf{ then } } -x \text{\textbf{ else } } x$$

which introduces the **absolute value** of x .

Constrained Function Definitions

Restrict Arguments (needs set theory):

$$f : A_0 \times \dots \times A_{n-1} \rightarrow B$$
$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := T$$

New axiom:

$$\forall x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} :$$
$$\langle x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \rangle \in A \Rightarrow$$
$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = T.$$

If arguments violate condition, function result is undefined.

Example

We define

$$\begin{aligned} \text{mult} &: \mathbb{R}_{\neq 0} \times \mathbb{R}_{\neq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\neq 0} \\ \text{mult}(x, y) &:= x * y \end{aligned}$$

For all real numbers $x \neq 0, y \neq 0$, we have

$$\text{mult}(x, y)/y = x.$$

However, we do **not** know the value of

$$\text{mult}(0, y)$$

therefore we must **not** conclude $\text{mult}(0, y)/y = 0$.

Implicit Function Definitions

Result defined by a formula F :

Let $f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$ be a y such that F .

Translation:

$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := \mathbf{such} \ y : F$$

Introduction of a new kind of terms.

Such Quantifier

Definition: term (**such** x : F)

- Takes variable x and formula F .
- Constructs term where x is bound.
- Value is some x such that F holds (if such an x exists).

New Axiom:

$$(\exists x : F) \Rightarrow (\forall x : x = (\mathbf{such} \ x : F) \Rightarrow F),$$

If an object with property F exists, then the value of the “such term” satisfies F as well.

Example

$$x/y := \text{such } q : q * y = x.$$

- $12/4 = 3$ because
 - **Existence:** $\exists q : q * 4 = 12$ (because $3 * 4 = 12$);
 - **Unicity:** $\forall q : q * 4 = 12 \Rightarrow q = 3$
- We must **not** assume that $(1/0) * 0 = 1$, because we cannot prove

$$\exists q : q * 0 = 1.$$

Take care when reasoning about implicitly defined functions.

Example

Let $f(x)$ be a y such that $y|x$.

i.e.,

$$f(x) := \mathbf{such} \ y : y|x$$

- We know $\exists x : x|12$ (because $6|12$).
- We know $f(12)|12$.
- We know $f(12) \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12\}$.
- We do **not** know $f(12) = 6$.

Value is not necessarily unique.

Unique Implicit Function Definitions

Result defined by a formula:

Let $f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$ be the y such that F .

Translation:

$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := \mathbf{such} \ y : F$$

Plus **claim** (to be proved):

$$(\forall x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}, y : F \Rightarrow y = f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})).$$

Unicity has to be proved separately!

Example

- It is **wrong** to write

Let $f(x)$ be the y such that $y|x$.

because from $6|12$ we cannot conclude $f(12) = 6$.

- We may define

Let x/y be the q such that $q * y = x$.

because we can prove unicity:

$$(\forall x, y, q : q * y = x \Rightarrow (\forall q' : q' * y = x \Rightarrow q = q'))$$

Since $3 * 4 = 12$, we may thus conclude $12/4 = 3$.

Explicit Definitions

$$p(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) :\Leftrightarrow F$$
$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := T$$

- Definiendum (p, f) must not occur in definiens (F, T) .
- Restriction necessary to avoid contradictions:
 - Invalid: $p(x) :\Leftrightarrow \neg p(x)$.
 - Invalid: $f(x) := 1 + f(x)$.

Restriction may be lifted in certain cases.

Recursive Definitions

$$p(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := \text{if } C \text{ then } F_0 \text{ else } F_1$$

$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := \text{if } C \text{ then } T_0 \text{ else } T_1$$

- p/f may appear in one branch of the conditional.
- Restriction: we can construct a **termination function** t :
 - $\forall x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} : t(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{N}$.
 - For any occurrence of $p(T_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$ respectively $f(T_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$ in the definiens, we have

$$t(T_0, \dots, T_{n-1}) < t(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$$

Special case of a more general rule.

Example

Recursive function definition

$$\begin{aligned}
 * : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} &\rightarrow \mathbb{N} \\
 x * y &:= \\
 &\mathbf{if} \ y = 0 \\
 &\quad \mathbf{then} \ 0 \\
 &\quad \mathbf{else} \ x + x * (y - 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

with termination function $t(x, y) := y$.

Reduction sequence:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \underline{2 * 3} &= 2 + (\underline{2 * 2}) = 2 + (2 + \underline{2 * 1}) = \\
 &2 + (2 + (2 + (\underline{2 * 0}))) = 2 + (2 + (2 + 0)) = 6.
 \end{aligned}$$

Termination after a finite number of unfoldings.

Example

Recursive predicate definition

$$\begin{aligned} \text{iseven} &\subseteq \mathbb{N} \\ \text{iseven}(x) &:\Leftrightarrow \\ &\mathbf{if} \ x = 0 \\ &\quad \mathbf{then} \ T \\ &\quad \mathbf{else} \ \neg \text{iseven}(x - 1) \end{aligned}$$

with termination function $t(x) := x$.

Reduction sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{iseven}(3) &= \neg \text{iseven}(2) = \neg \neg \text{iseven}(1) = \neg \neg \neg \text{iseven}(0) = \\ &\neg \neg \neg T = \neg \neg F = \neg T = F. \end{aligned}$$

Termination after a finite number of unfoldings.

Example

Bogus recursive definition:

$$\begin{aligned} * : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} &\rightarrow \mathbb{N} \\ x * y &:= \\ &\mathbf{if} \ y = 0 \\ &\quad \mathbf{then} \ 0 \\ &\quad \mathbf{else} \ x + x * (y + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Reduction sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{2 * 3} &= 2 + (\underline{2 * 4}) = 2 + (2 + \underline{2 * 5}) = \\ &2 + (2 + (2 + (\underline{2 * 6}))) = \dots \end{aligned}$$

No termination function can be given.

Logic Evaluator

Predicate and function definitions:

```
pred  $p(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \Leftrightarrow F$ ;  
fun  $f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) = T$ ;  
fun  $f(x) = \text{such}(x \text{ in } S: F, x)$ ;  
fun  $f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$  recursive  $R = T$ ;
```

See lecture notes for examples.

Logic Evaluator

```
pred divides(x, y) <=>
  exists(z in nat(1, y): =(*(x, z), y));
> predicate divides/2.
fun divisor(x) =
  such(y in nat(2, x): divides(y, x), y);
> function divisor/1.
term divisor(6);
> 2.
term divisor(49);
> 7.
fun div(x, y) = such(z in nat(1, x): =(*(y, z), x), z);
> function div/2.
term div(70, 14);
> 5.
term div(70, 15);
> ERROR: no such value.
fun divquot(n) = such(x in nat(2, -(n, 1)), y in nat(1, x):
  =(n, *(x, y)), tuple(x, y));
> function divquot/1.
term divquot(85);
> <17, 5>.

term divquot(17);
```

Summary

- Definitions.
 - Theories and their extension.
- Explicit predicate and function definitions.
 - Constrained definitions.
 - Conditional definitions.
- Implicit function definitions.
 - Unicity of definitions.
- Recursive predicate and function definitions.
 - Termination functions.