

# Formalisms

## Every Computer Scientist Should Know

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### 1 Preliminaries

An *alphabet* is a recursive set. A *preorder* is a binary relation that is reflexive and transitive. Given a function  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and two elements  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ , we write  $f[a \mapsto b]$  for the function from  $A$  to  $B$  that agrees with  $f$  except that  $a$  is mapped to  $b$ . We write “iff” for “if and only if.” Let  $\mathbb{B} = \{\mathbf{true}, \mathbf{false}\}$ .

### 2 Logic

#### 2.1 Propositional Logic

##### Syntax

Let  $P_0$  be an alphabet of *propositions* not containing the special symbol  $\perp$ . The *propositional sentences*  $\Phi$  are defined inductively:

$$\begin{aligned} P_0 &\subseteq \Phi \\ \perp &\in \Phi \\ \Phi \times \{\Rightarrow\} \times \Phi &\subseteq \Phi \end{aligned}$$

We write  $(\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2)$  for  $(\varphi_1, \Rightarrow, \varphi_2)$  and use the following abbreviations in sentences:

$$\begin{aligned} \neg\varphi &\text{ for } \varphi \Rightarrow \perp \\ \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 &\text{ for } (\neg\varphi_1) \Rightarrow \varphi_2 \\ \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\text{ for } \neg(\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \neg\varphi_2) \\ \varphi_1 \Leftrightarrow \varphi_2 &\text{ for } (\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2) \wedge (\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \varphi_1) \end{aligned}$$

When writing sentences, we omit parentheses whenever this can be done without ambiguity. We write  $\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \varphi_3$  for  $\varphi_1 \Rightarrow (\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \varphi_3)$ .

##### Classical semantics

A *boolean interpretation*  $\nu : P_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$  is a function that maps each proposition to a boolean value. Given a boolean interpretation  $\nu$ , the semantics of propositional sentences is defined inductively:

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket p \rrbracket_\nu &= \nu(p) \text{ for } p \in P_0 \\
\llbracket \perp \rrbracket_\nu &= \mathbf{false} \\
\llbracket \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu &= \text{if } \llbracket \varphi_1 \rrbracket_\nu \text{ then } \llbracket \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu \text{ else } \mathbf{true}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket \neg \varphi \rrbracket_\nu &= \text{if } \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu \text{ then } \mathbf{false} \text{ else } \mathbf{true} \\
\llbracket \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu &= \text{if } \llbracket \varphi_1 \rrbracket_\nu \text{ then } \mathbf{true} \text{ else } \llbracket \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu \\
\llbracket \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu &= \text{if } \llbracket \varphi_1 \rrbracket_\nu \text{ then } \llbracket \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu \text{ else } \mathbf{false} \\
\llbracket \varphi_1 \Leftrightarrow \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu &= \text{if } (\llbracket \varphi_1 \rrbracket_\nu = \llbracket \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu) \text{ then } \mathbf{true} \text{ else } \mathbf{false}
\end{aligned}$$

An interpretation  $\nu$  is a *model* of a sentence  $\varphi$  if  $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu = \mathbf{true}$ . A sentence  $\varphi$  is *valid* if every interpretation is a model of  $\varphi$ , and  $\varphi$  is *satisfiable* if it has a model. A sentence  $\varphi_1$  *implies* a sentence  $\varphi_2$  if every model of  $\varphi_1$  is a model of  $\varphi_2$ , and  $\varphi_1$  is *equivalent* to  $\varphi_2$  if they have the same models. Note that  $\varphi$  is valid iff  $\neg\varphi$  is not satisfiable (a.k.a. “unsatisfiable”); that  $\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2$  is valid iff  $\varphi_1$  implies  $\varphi_2$ ; and that  $\varphi_1 \Leftrightarrow \varphi_2$  is valid iff  $\varphi_1$  is equivalent to  $\varphi_2$ .

### Intuitionistic semantics

A *Kripke interpretation*  $\nu = (W, w_0, \leq, [\cdot])$  consists of a set  $W$  of worlds, an initial world  $w_0 \in W$ , a preorder  $\leq$  on the worlds  $W$ , and a function  $[\cdot]$  that maps each world  $w \in W$  to a boolean interpretation  $[w] : P_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$  such that for all worlds  $w, w' \in W$  and all propositions  $p \in P_0$ , if  $[w](p) = \mathbf{true}$  and  $w \leq w'$ , then  $[w'](p) = \mathbf{true}$ . Given a Kripke interpretation  $\nu$ , the semantics of propositional sentences is defined inductively for each world  $w \in W$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket p \rrbracket_\nu^w &= [w](p) \\
\llbracket \perp \rrbracket_\nu^w &= \mathbf{false} \\
\llbracket \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu^w &= (\text{for all } w' \in W : \text{if } w \leq w' \text{ then if } \llbracket \varphi_1 \rrbracket_\nu^{w'} \text{ then } \llbracket \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu^{w'})
\end{aligned}$$

The truth value of a sentence  $\varphi$  for the Kripke interpretation  $\nu$  is  $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu = \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu^{w_0}$ . Note that the sentence  $p \vee \neg p$  is false for the two-world interpretation

$$(\{w_0, w_1\}, w_0, \{(w_0, w_0), (w_0, w_1), (w_1, w_1)\}, [\cdot])$$

with  $[w_0](p) = \mathbf{false}$  and  $[w_1](p) = \mathbf{true}$ .

### Decision problems

Validity and satisfiability are complementary questions: validity (“Is a given sentence true for all interpretations?”) is universal; satisfiability (“Is a given sentence true for some interpretation?”) is existential. The satisfiability problem for the boolean semantics of propositional sentences is NP-complete; the corresponding validity problem is coNP-complete. The satisfiability and validity problems for the Kripke semantics of propositional sentences are PSPACE-complete (note that PSPACE = coPSPACE).

The brute-force procedure for deciding boolean satisfiability evaluates a given sentence  $\varphi$  for all boolean interpretations. Let  $n = |\varphi|$  be the size of  $\varphi$ .

While the computation of the truth value  $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu$  can be computed in  $O(n)$  time for each boolean interpretation  $\nu$ , there may be  $\Omega(2^n)$  many boolean interpretations to consider. In practice, the resolution procedure is often more efficient. In resolution, we assume that  $\varphi$  is given in *conjunctive normal form* (CNF), as a conjunction of disjunctions of propositions and negated propositions. A propositional sentence  $\varphi$  can be converted into an equivalent CNF sentence in  $O(2^n)$  time. To avoid the duplication and reordering of expressions within a sentence, we write a CNF sentence as a *set* of *clauses*, each representing a disjunctive sentence, and we write a clause as a set of *literals*, each being a proposition or negated proposition.

Algorithm PROPOSITIONAL RESOLUTION  
Input: propositional sentence  $\varphi$  in CNF  
Output: if  $\varphi$  satisfiable then YES else NO  
**while**  $\emptyset \notin \varphi$  and exist  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \varphi$  and  $\alpha \in \gamma_1$  such that  $\neg\alpha \in \gamma_2$  **do**  
     $\varphi := \varphi \cup \{\gamma_1 \cup \gamma_2\} \setminus \{\alpha, \neg\alpha\}$   
**od**  
**return** if  $\emptyset \in \varphi$  then NO else YES

TODO DPLL

### Proof systems

A *proof system*  $\mathcal{P} = (\mathcal{J}, \mathcal{R})$  comprises a recursive set  $\mathcal{J}$  of *judgments* and a recursive set  $\mathcal{R}$  of *rules*; each rule in  $\mathcal{R}$  consists of a finite (possibly zero) number of premises in  $\mathcal{J}$  and a conclusion in  $\mathcal{J}$ . A *proof* in  $\mathcal{P}$  is a finite sequence  $J_0, J_1, \dots, J_k$  of judgments  $J_i \in \mathcal{J}$  such that for all  $0 \leq i \leq k$ , there is a rule  $R_i \in \mathcal{R}$  whose conclusion is  $J_i$  and whose premises occur earlier in the sequence. Note that the first judgment of a proof must be the conclusion of a rule without premises. A judgment  $J$  is a *theorem* of  $\mathcal{P}$  if there is a proof in  $\mathcal{P}$  whose last judgment is  $J$ . Note that the set of theorems of  $\mathcal{P}$  is r.e.

A *correctness* criterion  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{J}$  identifies a set of correct judgments. A proof system  $\mathcal{P}$  is *sound* w.r.t.  $\mathcal{C}$  if every theorem is correct, and  $\mathcal{P}$  is *complete* w.r.t.  $\mathcal{C}$  if every correct judgment is a theorem. Note that the set of correct judgments is r.e. if there is a sound and complete proof system.

We present four proof systems for propositional logic, each with a different set of judgments and correctness criterion.

**Hilbert systems.** A *Hilbert* system has judgments of the form  $\vdash \varphi$  for sentences  $\varphi$ . A judgment  $\vdash \varphi$  is correct if the sentence  $\varphi$  is valid. The Hilbert system HJ with the three rule schemata K, S, and MP (“modus ponens”) is sound and complete for the Kripke semantics of propositional sentences:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\vdash \psi \Rightarrow \varphi \Rightarrow \psi} \text{ K} \\
\frac{}{\vdash (\psi \Rightarrow \varphi \Rightarrow \chi) \Rightarrow ((\psi \Rightarrow \varphi) \Rightarrow \psi \Rightarrow \chi)} \text{ S} \\
\frac{\vdash \varphi \quad \vdash \varphi \Rightarrow \psi}{\vdash \psi} \text{ MP}
\end{array}$$

We write the premises of a rule schema above a line, and the conclusion below; the schemata K and S have no premises, the schema MP has two premises. Each rule schema represents infinitely many rules that are obtained from the schema by substituting sentences for metavariables such as  $\varphi$ ,  $\psi$ , and  $\chi$ . The Hilbert system  $\text{HK} = \text{HJ} + \text{HX}$  has in addition the rule schema HX (“excluded middle”):

$$\frac{}{\vdash ((\varphi \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow \psi \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow \psi \Rightarrow \varphi} \text{HX}$$

The system HK is sound and complete for the boolean semantics of propositional sentences.

**Natural deduction.** A *Natural-Deduction* system has judgments of the form  $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$ , where  $\Gamma$  is a finite set of sentences and  $\varphi$  is a sentence. A judgment  $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$  is correct if the conjunction of the sentences in  $\Gamma$  implies  $\varphi$ . The Natural-Deduction system NJ, with the following rule schemata, is sound and complete for the Kripke semantics of propositional sentences:

$$\begin{array}{l} \frac{}{\Gamma, \varphi \vdash \varphi} \text{axiom} \\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash \perp}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi} \perp \text{elimination} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \perp} \perp \text{introduction} \\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \quad \Gamma \vdash \varphi \Rightarrow \psi}{\Gamma \vdash \psi} \Rightarrow \text{elimination} \quad \frac{\Gamma, \varphi \vdash \psi}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \Rightarrow \psi} \Rightarrow \text{introduction} \\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \wedge \psi}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi} \wedge \text{e} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \quad \Gamma \vdash \psi}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \wedge \psi} \wedge \text{i} \\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \quad \Gamma, \varphi_1 \vdash \psi \quad \Gamma, \varphi_2 \vdash \psi}{\Gamma \vdash \psi} \vee \text{e} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \vee \psi} \vee \text{i} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \psi}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \vee \psi} \vee \text{i} \\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \quad \Gamma \vdash \neg \varphi}{\Gamma \vdash \perp} \neg \text{e} \quad \frac{\Gamma, \varphi \vdash \perp}{\Gamma \vdash \neg \varphi} \neg \text{i} \end{array}$$

The Natural-Deduction system  $\text{NK} = \text{NJ} + \text{NX}$ , with the additional excluded-middle schema NX, is sound and complete for the boolean semantics of propositional sentences:

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \vee \neg \varphi} \text{NX}$$

**Gentzen systems.** A *Gentzen* system has judgments of the form  $\Gamma \vdash \Delta$ , where  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  are finite sets of sentences. The sentences in  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  are called *assertions* and *goals*, respectively; the judgment  $\Gamma \vdash \Delta$ , a *sequent*. A sequent  $\Gamma \vdash \Delta$  is correct if the conjunction of the assertions implies the disjunction of the goals. Note that in natural deduction, all sequents have a single goal; moreover in Hilbert systems, there are no assertions. The Gentzen system LK, with the following rule schemata, is sound and complete for the boolean semantics of propositional sentences:

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \varphi \vdash \varphi, \Delta} \text{axiom}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\overline{\Gamma, \perp \vdash \Delta} \quad \perp e \qquad \overline{\Gamma \vdash \top, \Delta} \quad \top i \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi, \Delta \quad \Gamma, \psi \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, \varphi \Rightarrow \psi \vdash \Delta} \Rightarrow e \qquad \frac{\Gamma, \varphi \vdash \psi, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \Rightarrow \psi, \Delta} \Rightarrow i \\
\frac{\Gamma, \varphi, \psi \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, \varphi \wedge \psi \vdash \Delta} \wedge e \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi, \Delta \quad \Gamma \vdash \psi, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \wedge \psi, \Delta} \wedge i \\
\frac{\Gamma, \varphi \vdash \Delta \quad \Gamma, \psi \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, \varphi \vee \psi \vdash \Delta} \vee e \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi, \psi, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \varphi \vee \psi, \Delta} \vee i \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash \varphi, \Delta}{\Gamma, \neg \varphi \vdash \Delta} \neg e \qquad \frac{\Gamma, \varphi \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \neg \varphi, \Delta} \neg i
\end{array}$$

Note the internal symmetries of LK in all but the  $\Rightarrow$  rules.

## Metatheorems

**Deduction.** TODO

**Compactness.** TODO

**Cut elimination.** TODO

**Craig interpolation.** TODO

## 2.2 First-order Logic

### Syntax

Let  $X$  be an infinite alphabet of *variables*. A *signature*  $\Sigma = (F_i, P_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  comprises, for each natural number  $i$ , two alphabets  $F_i$  and  $P_i$  of *function* and *predicate* symbols of arity  $i$ . The function symbols of arity 0 are disjoint from  $X$  and called *constants*; the predicate symbols of arity 0 are different from  $\perp$  and called *propositions*. The  $\Sigma$ -*terms*  $T$  are defined inductively:

$$\begin{array}{l}
X \subseteq T \\
F_i \times T^i \subseteq T \text{ for all } i \in \mathbb{N}
\end{array}$$

The  $\Sigma$ -*atoms*  $A$  are defined inductively:

$$\begin{array}{l}
\perp \in A \\
P_i \times T^i \subseteq A \text{ for all } i \in \mathbb{N}
\end{array}$$

The  $\Sigma$ -*formulas*  $\Phi$  are defined inductively:

$$\begin{array}{l}
A \subseteq \Phi \\
\Phi \times \{\Rightarrow\} \times \Phi \subseteq \Phi \\
\{\forall\} \times X \times \Phi \subseteq \Phi
\end{array}$$

We write  $(\forall x : \varphi)$  for the universally quantified formula  $(\forall, x, \varphi)$  with the *bound* variable  $x$ . The existentially quantified formula  $(\exists x : \varphi)$  is an abbreviation for  $\neg(\forall x : \neg \varphi)$ . The *free* variables of terms, atoms, and formulas are defined inductively:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{free}(x) = \{x\} \text{ for } x \in X \\
& \text{free}(f_i, t_1, \dots, t_i) = \text{free}(t_1) \cup \dots \cup \text{free}(t_i) \text{ for } f_i \in F_i \\
& \text{free}(\perp) = \emptyset \\
& \text{free}(p_i, t_1, \dots, t_i) = \text{free}(t_1) \cup \dots \cup \text{free}(t_i) \text{ for } p_i \in P_i \\
& \text{free}(\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2) = \text{free}(\varphi_1) \cup \text{free}(\varphi_2) \\
& \text{free}(\forall x : \varphi) = \text{free}(\varphi) \setminus \{x\}
\end{aligned}$$

A  $\Sigma$ -formula  $\varphi$  is a  $\Sigma$ -sentence if  $\text{free}(\varphi) = \emptyset$ . The *universal closure* of  $\varphi$  is the  $\Sigma$ -sentence that results from  $\varphi$  by adding outermost  $\forall$ -quantifiers.

### Semantics

We give only the classical (so-called Tarski) semantics for first-order sentences. A  $\Sigma$ -interpretation  $\nu$  is a function with the domain  $\{\forall\} \cup X \cup \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} (F_i \cup P_i)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
& \nu(\forall) = \mathbf{U} \text{ for a nonempty set } \mathbf{U} \text{ called } \textit{universe} \\
& \nu(x) \in \mathbf{U} \text{ for each variable } x \in X \\
& \nu(f_i) : \mathbf{U}^i \rightarrow \mathbf{U} \text{ for each function symbol } f_i \in F_i \\
& \nu(p_i) \subseteq \mathbf{U}^i \text{ for each predicate symbol } p_i \in P_i
\end{aligned}$$

Given a  $\Sigma$ -interpretation  $\nu$ , the semantics of terms, atoms, and formulas is defined inductively:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \llbracket x \rrbracket_\nu = \nu(x) \text{ for } x \in X \\
& \llbracket f_i, t_1, \dots, t_i \rrbracket_\nu = \nu(f_i)(\llbracket t_1 \rrbracket_\nu, \dots, \llbracket t_i \rrbracket_\nu) \text{ for } f_i \in F_i; \\
& \llbracket \perp \rrbracket_\nu = \mathbf{false} \\
& \llbracket p_i, t_1, \dots, t_i \rrbracket_\nu = \text{if } (\llbracket t_1 \rrbracket_\nu, \dots, \llbracket t_i \rrbracket_\nu) \in \nu(p_i) \text{ then } \mathbf{true} \text{ else } \mathbf{false} \\
& \quad \text{for } p_i \in P_i \\
& \llbracket \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu = \text{if } \llbracket \varphi_1 \rrbracket_\nu \text{ then } \llbracket \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu \text{ else } \mathbf{true} \\
& \llbracket \forall x : \varphi \rrbracket_\nu = (\text{for all } \mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{U} : \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\nu[x \mapsto \mathbf{u}]} = \mathbf{true})
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\llbracket \exists x : \varphi \rrbracket_\nu = (\text{for some } \mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{U} : \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\nu[x \mapsto \mathbf{u}]} = \mathbf{true}).$$

Note that we can rename the bound variables in a formula  $\varphi$  to new (so-called “fresh”) variables without changing the semantics of  $\varphi$ . The definitions of model, validity, satisfiability, implication, and equivalence for  $\Sigma$ -sentences and  $\Sigma$ -interpretations are the same as for propositional sentences and boolean interpretations.

### Proof systems

First-order Hilbert judgments have the form  $\vdash \varphi$  for  $\Sigma$ -formulas  $\varphi$ . A first-order judgment  $\vdash \varphi$  is correct if the universal closure of  $\varphi$  is valid. The Hilbert system HK has three additional rule schemata for first-order quantification:

$$\overline{\vdash (\forall x : \phi) \Rightarrow \varphi[x \mapsto t]}$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash \varphi \Rightarrow (\forall x : \varphi)} \text{ if } x \notin \text{free}(\varphi)$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash (\forall x : \varphi \Rightarrow \psi) \Rightarrow (\forall x : \varphi) \Rightarrow (\forall x : \psi)}$$

The formula  $\varphi[x \mapsto t]$  is obtained as follows: first, all bound variables in  $\varphi$  are renamed to variables not in  $\text{free}(\varphi) \cup \{x\} \cup \text{free}(t)$ ; second, all occurrences of the variable  $x$  in  $\varphi$  are replaced by the term  $t$ . The renaming of the bound variables in  $\varphi$  prevents the accidental “capturing” of free variables in  $t$  by quantifiers in  $\varphi$ . The proof system HK is sound and complete for  $\Sigma$ -formulas; the latter is known as Gödel’s completeness theorem. TODO NK, LK

### Metatheorems

TODO Löwenheim-Skolem, Craig, resolution

### Theories

We extend some definitions to *sets* of sentences and interpretations. An interpretation  $\nu$  is a *model* of a set  $T$  of sentences if  $\nu$  is a model of every sentence in  $T$ . A set  $T$  of sentences *implies* a sentence  $\varphi$ , written  $T \models \varphi$ , if every model of  $T$  is a model of  $\varphi$ . A set  $V$  of interpretations *models* a sentence  $\varphi$ , written  $V \models \varphi$ , if every interpretation in  $V$  is a model of  $\varphi$ .

A set  $T$  of  $\Sigma$ -sentences is a  $\Sigma$ -*theory* if  $T$  is closed under implication, that is, for every  $\Sigma$ -sentence  $\varphi$ , if  $T \models \varphi$  then  $\varphi \in T$ . A theory  $T$  can be specified syntactically or semantically: a syntactically defined  $T$  is  $T_A = \{\varphi : A \models \varphi\}$  for a specified recursive set  $A$  of  $\Sigma$ -sentences called *axioms*; a semantically defined  $T$  is  $T_V = \{\varphi : V \models \varphi\}$  for a specified set  $V$  of  $\Sigma$ -interpretations. Note that both  $T_A$  and  $T_V$  are closed under implication.

Given a theory  $T$ , we can parametrize many definitions *modulo*  $T$ . A sentence  $\varphi$  is  *$T$ -satisfiable* if  $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu = \mathbf{true}$  for some model  $\nu$  of  $T$ . A sentence  $\varphi_1$  is  *$T$ -equivalent* to a  $\Sigma$ -sentence  $\varphi_2$  if  $\llbracket \varphi_1 \rrbracket_\nu = \llbracket \varphi_2 \rrbracket_\nu$  for every model  $\nu$  of  $T$ . Note that  $\varphi \in T$  (“ $\varphi$  is  *$T$ -valid*”) iff  $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu = \mathbf{true}$  for every model  $\nu$  of  $T$ ; that  $\neg\varphi \in T$  iff  $\varphi$  is not  $T$ -satisfiable; and that  $(\varphi_1 \Leftrightarrow \varphi_2) \in T$  iff  $\varphi_1$  is  $T$ -equivalent to  $\varphi_2$ .

A  $\Sigma$ -theory  $T$  is *consistent* if  $T$  has a model, and *complete* if  $T$  contains  $\varphi$  or  $\neg\varphi$  for every  $\Sigma$ -sentence  $\varphi$ . Note that there is only one inconsistent theory, namely, the theory  $T_\perp$  that contains all  $\Sigma$ -sentences. The inconsistent theory  $T_\perp$  can be defined syntactically by the single axiom  $\perp$ , or semantically by the empty set of interpretations. The inconsistent theory is trivially complete. While the inconsistent theory is the largest theory, the smallest theory  $T_\emptyset$  contains only the valid  $\Sigma$ -sentences. The theory  $T_\emptyset$  is first-order logic itself; it can be defined syntactically by the empty set of axioms, or semantically by the set of all  $\Sigma$ -interpretations. Note that  $T_\emptyset$  is incomplete. An important class of theories are the theories that are defined semantically by a single interpretation; these theories are consistent and complete.

## Decision problems

The validity problem for  $\Sigma$ -sentences is r.e. but not recursive; the satisfiability problem is co-r.e. but not recursive. However, there are interesting  $\Sigma$ -theories with decidable validity and satisfiability problems.

**Theories with equality.** A theory with equality contains the binary predicate symbol  $=$  in  $P_2$  and the following *equality axioms*:

$$\begin{aligned} &[\text{reflexivity}] \quad (\forall x : x = x) \\ &[\text{symmetry}] \quad (\forall x, y : x = y \Rightarrow y = x) \\ &[\text{function congruence}] \quad (\forall x_1, y_1, \dots, x_i, y_i : x_1 = y_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_i = y_i \Rightarrow \\ &\quad f_i(x_1, \dots, x_i) = f_i(y_1, \dots, y_i)) \text{ for each } f_i \in F_i \\ &[\text{predicate congruence}] \quad (\forall x_1, y_1, \dots, x_i, y_i : x_1 = y_1 \wedge \dots \wedge x_i = y_i \Rightarrow \\ &\quad p_i(x_1, \dots, x_i) \Rightarrow p_i(y_1, \dots, y_i)) \text{ for each } p_i \in P_i \end{aligned}$$

Note that the transitivity of  $=$  follows from the congruence axiom for the equality predicate. The *theory of uninterpreted function and predicate symbols*  $T_-$  has no other axioms. While the first-order theory  $T_-$  is undecidable, the satisfiability problem is NP-complete for existentially quantified sentences (where all variables are quantified by outermost  $\exists$ ), and the validity problem is coNP-complete for universally quantified sentences (where all variables are quantified by outermost  $\forall$ ). The critical subroutine checks the  $T_-$ -satisfiability of a conjunction of the form

$$\varphi = \left( \bigwedge_{1 \leq j < m} s_j = t_j \wedge \bigwedge_{m \leq j < n} s_j \neq t_j \right).$$

This is done by computing the *congruence closure* on all subterms of the set  $S = \{s_i, t_i : 1 \leq i < n\}$ , which can be done in time  $O(|\varphi| \cdot \log|\varphi|)$  using a union-find data structure.

**Arithmetic theories.** Consider the signature  $\Sigma_{(0, S, +, \times)}$  with the constant 0, the unary function symbol  $S$ , the binary function symbols  $+$  and  $\times$ , and the equality predicate. Let  $\nu_{\mathbb{N}}$  be the  $\Sigma_{(0, S, +, \times)}$ -interpretation with the universe  $\mathbb{N}$  which interprets  $S$  as successor function (i.e.,  $\nu_{\mathbb{N}}(S)(\mathbf{n}) = \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ), and 0,  $+$ ,  $\times$  and  $=$  are interpreted as zero, addition, multiplication, and equality on  $\mathbb{N}$ . *Arithmetic* is the theory  $T_{\mathbb{N}} = \{\varphi : \{\nu_{\mathbb{N}}\} \models \varphi\}$  of  $\Sigma_{(0, S, +, \times)}$ -sentences that are true for the natural numbers. *Peano arithmetic* PA is an attempt to axiomatize arithmetic. The theory PA has, in addition to the equality axioms, the following axioms:

$$\begin{aligned} &[\text{zero}] \quad S0 \neq 0 \\ &[\text{successor}] \quad (\forall x, y : S(x) = S(y) \Rightarrow x = y) \\ &[\text{induction}] \quad \varphi[x \mapsto 0] \Rightarrow (\forall x : \varphi \Rightarrow \varphi[x \mapsto S(x)]) \Rightarrow (\forall x : \varphi) \\ &[\text{zero-addition}] \quad (\forall x : x + 0 = x) \\ &[\text{successor-addition}] \quad (\forall x, y : x + S(y) = S(x + y)) \\ &[\text{zero-multiplication}] \quad (\forall x : x \times 0 = 0) \\ &[\text{successor-multiplication}] \quad (\forall x, y : x \times S(y) = (x \times y) + x) \end{aligned}$$



Gödel's celebrated incompleteness theorem shows that for any set  $A$  of axioms that are true for the natural numbers, such as PA, there exists a  $\Sigma_{(0,S,+, \times)}$ -sentence  $\varphi_A$  such that neither  $\varphi_A$  nor  $\neg\varphi_A$  are implied by  $A$ , that is, the  $\Sigma_{(0,S,+, \times)}$ -theory  $T_A$  is not complete. (Roughly speaking, the Gödel sentence  $\varphi_A$  is self-reflexive and encodes the statement “ $\not\vdash \varphi$ ” that there is no proof of  $\varphi_A$  from the axioms in  $A$ .) It follows that, while  $\nu_{\mathbb{N}}$  is a model of PA, there are also other (so-called “nonstandard”) models of PA. TODO Presburger

**Algebraic theories.** TODO

**Theories of data structures.** Bitvectors, arrays, lists. TODO

**Combination of theories.** TODO