

Wrap-up Advanced Logics

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FOL: syntax

Vocabulary: $Voc = (Pred, Func)$

$t ::= x \mid f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ (terms)

$\varphi ::= \mathbf{true} \mid P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \neg \varphi \mid \forall x. \varphi \mid \underbrace{t_1 = t_2}_{\text{optional}}$ (formulas)

Syntactic sugar:

$$t_1 \neq t_2 = \neg(t_1 = t_2)$$

$$\mathbf{false} = \neg \mathbf{true}$$

$$\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 = \neg(\neg \varphi_1 \wedge \neg \varphi_2)$$

$$\exists x. \varphi = \neg \forall x. \neg \varphi$$

\vdots

FOL: semantics

Interpretation: $\mathcal{I} = (\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V})$

\mathcal{A} ... structure

\mathcal{V} ... valuation

$$x^{\mathcal{I}} = \mathcal{V}(x)$$

$$f(t_1, \dots, t_m)^{\mathcal{I}} = f^{\mathcal{A}}(t_1^{\mathcal{I}}, \dots, t_m^{\mathcal{I}})$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models \mathbf{true}$$

\vdots

$$\mathcal{I} \models \forall x. \varphi \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{I}[x := a] \models \varphi \text{ for all } a \in \mathcal{A}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models (t_1 = t_2) \quad \text{iff} \quad t_1^{\mathcal{I}} = t_2^{\mathcal{I}}$$

FOL: sound and complete Hilbert proof system

Hilbert proof system: decidable set of proof rules (axioms are special instances of proof rules)

A rule:

$$\frac{\Phi_1, \dots, \Phi_n}{\Phi} \quad \begin{array}{l} \longleftarrow \text{premise} \\ \longleftarrow \text{consequence} \end{array}$$

Definition (Derivation)

If \mathfrak{F} is a formula-set then a *derivation* in \mathfrak{D} from \mathfrak{F} denotes a **finite sequence** ψ_1, \dots, ψ_m of formulas such that for each $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ at least one of the following conditions holds:

- ψ_i is an element of \mathfrak{F}
- ψ_i is an instance of an axiom
- there exists an instance $(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n, \phi)$ of some n -ary proof rule in \mathfrak{D} such that $n \geq 1$ and $\psi_i = \phi$ and $\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\} \subseteq \{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_{i-1}\}$.

Complete and sound Hilbert proof systems

A Hilbert proof system is

- *complete*, if for each formula φ and formula set \mathfrak{F} :

$$\mathfrak{F} \Vdash \varphi \implies \mathfrak{F} \vdash_{\mathfrak{D}} \varphi$$

- *weak complete*, if for each formula φ :

$$\Vdash \varphi \implies \vdash_{\mathfrak{D}} \varphi$$

- *sound*, if for each formula φ and formula set \mathfrak{F} :

$$\mathfrak{F} \vdash_{\mathfrak{D}} \varphi \implies \mathfrak{F} \Vdash \varphi$$

Theorem (Gödel's completeness theorem)

There exists a Hilbert proof system that is sound and complete for FOL.

The complete and sound Hilbert proof system for FOL in the script is called \mathfrak{D}_{FOL} (without equality page 21, with equality page 26).

Check soundness of a Hilbert proof system

Lemma (Criterion for soundness)

\mathfrak{D} is sound if and only if all proof rules in \mathfrak{D} are sound in the following sense:

- all instances of the axioms in \mathfrak{D} are valid and
- whenever $(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n, \phi)$ is an instance of a proof rule in \mathfrak{D} then $\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\} \Vdash \phi$.

Semi-decidability of FOL-tautologies

Lemma

The set of all valid FOL-formulas (over some fixed recursively enumerable vocabulary Voc and recursively enumerable variable-set Var) is recursively enumerable.

- Set of all FOL-formulas is recursively enumerable
- Fix a complete and sound Hilbert proof system \mathfrak{D}
- Generate algorithmically every finite sequence $\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_m$
 - If $\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_m$ is a \mathfrak{D} -derivation, output φ_m
 - Otherwise, just continue

Undecidability of FOL-tautologies

Lemma

The set of all valid FOL-formulas is undecidable.

And therefore the satisfiability problem, the equivalence problem and the consequence problem are undecidable.

Proof sketch

by the reduction from Post's correspondence problem (PCP).

Take an instance $K = (u_1, v_1), \dots, (u_n, v_n)$ with $u_i, v_i \in \{0, 1\}^*$.

Assume Voc consists the unary predicate symbol P , two unary function symbols f_0 and f_1 , and a constant c . We define

$$f_{l_1 l_2 \dots l_n}(t) = f_{l_n}(\dots f_2(f_1(t)))$$

Define

$$\varphi_K = \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2 \rightarrow \theta$$

$$\psi_1 = \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} P(f_{u_i}(c), f_{v_i}(c))$$

$$\psi_2 = \forall x \forall y. \left(P(x, y) \rightarrow \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} P(f_{u_i}(x), f_{v_i}(y)) \right)$$

$$\theta = \exists x. P(x, x)$$

Undecidability over finite models

Lemma

FOL-SAT-FIN is recursively enumerable.

Lemma

FOL-SAT-FIN is undecidable.

Theorem (Trakhtenbrot's theorem)

FOL-VALID-FIN is not recursively enumerable.

- purely relational
- only unary predicate symbols

Lemma (Finite model property)

If φ is a satisfiable MFO-formula (without equality) with k predicate symbols then φ has a model where the domain is a subset of $\{0, 1\}^k$.

Schönfinkel-Bernays formulas

Formulas of the form

$$\exists x_1 \dots \exists x_n \forall y_1 \dots \forall y_m. \varphi$$

where $n, m \geq 0$ and φ quantifier-free.

Lemma (Small model property)

Let ψ be a satisfiable Schönfinkel-Bernays sentence with n existential quantifiers and ℓ constant symbols. Then, ψ has a model with at most $n + \ell$ elements.

Proof.

- Let \mathcal{A} be a model of ψ
- a_1, \dots, a_n the values of x_1, \dots, x_n under \mathcal{A}
- Structure with $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\} \cup \{c_1^{\mathcal{A}}, \dots, c_\ell^{\mathcal{A}}\}$ and the same behavior as \mathcal{A} is a model for ψ

FO-theories

Definition (FO-theory)

Let \mathfrak{T} be a set of FOL-formulas. \mathfrak{T} is called *closed under logical consequences* if for all formulas ϕ : $\mathfrak{T} \vdash \phi$ implies $\phi \in \mathfrak{T}$. \mathfrak{T} is called an *FO-theory* if \mathfrak{T} is true in some structure and closed under logical consequences.

Definition (complete FO-theory)

A theory \mathfrak{T} is called *complete* if it is maximal satisfiable over some structure, i.e., for all sentences ϕ : either $\phi \in \mathfrak{T}$ or $\neg\phi \in \mathfrak{T}$.

Definition (FO-theory of a structure)

If \mathcal{A} is a structure for some vocabulary Voc then the first-order theory of \mathcal{A} , denoted $\text{Th}(\mathcal{A})$, defined by

$$\text{Th}(\mathcal{A}) = \{\varphi : \mathcal{A} \models \varphi\}$$

consists of all FOL-formulas ϕ over Voc that hold over \mathcal{A} .

Theorem (Characterization of complete theories)

Let \mathfrak{T} be a FO-theory. Then, the following statements are equivalent:

- (a) \mathfrak{T} is complete (i.e., for each sentence ϕ either $\phi \in \mathfrak{T}$ or $\neg\phi \in \mathfrak{T}$).
- (b) $\mathfrak{T} = \text{Th}(\mathcal{A})$ for some structure \mathcal{A} .
- (c) $\mathfrak{T} = \text{Th}(\mathcal{A})$ for all structures \mathcal{A} such that $\mathcal{A} \models \mathfrak{T}$.

Theorem (Semi-decidability and decidability of complete theories)

Let \mathcal{T} be a complete theory. Then, \mathcal{T} is recursively enumerable if and only if \mathcal{T} is decidable.

Definition (Axiomatizable theories)

A theory \mathfrak{T} is said to be *axiomatizable* if there exists a decidable set \mathfrak{F} of formulas such that \mathfrak{T} agrees with the logical closure of \mathfrak{F} , i.e.,

$$\mathfrak{T} = \{\phi : \mathfrak{F} \Vdash \phi\} = Cl(\mathfrak{F}).$$

In this case, \mathfrak{F} is called an *axiomatization* for \mathfrak{T} .

Theorem (Axiomatizability and sound and complete deductive calculi)

Let \mathcal{T} be a FO-theory. Then, \mathcal{T} is axiomatizable iff \mathcal{T} has a sound and complete deductive calculus.

A proof system \mathcal{D} is sound and complete for \mathcal{T} if $\vdash_{\mathcal{D}} \varphi$ iff $\varphi \in \mathcal{T}$ for all sentences φ

Theorem (Axiomatizability and sound and complete deductive calculi)

Let \mathfrak{T} be a FO-theory. Then, \mathfrak{T} is axiomatizable iff \mathfrak{T} has a sound and complete deductive calculus.

Proof.

- For direction “ \Rightarrow ” take an arbitrary and complete Hilbert proof system \mathfrak{D} and an axiomatization \mathcal{F} for \mathfrak{T} . Then $\mathfrak{D} + \mathcal{F}$ is a sound and complete deductive calculus.

Axiomatizability vs. Calculi

Theorem (Axiomatizability and sound and complete deductive calculi)

Let \mathfrak{T} be a FO-theory. Then, \mathfrak{T} is axiomatizable iff \mathfrak{T} has a sound and complete deductive calculus.

Proof.

- For direction “ \Leftarrow ” enumerate \mathfrak{T} : ψ_0, ψ_1, \dots
- Set $\varphi_n = \psi_n \wedge \underbrace{\text{true} \wedge \dots \wedge \text{true}}_{n \text{ times}}$ and $\mathfrak{F} = \{\varphi_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$
- For a formula φ with $|\varphi| = m$ to be in \mathfrak{F} , $\varphi_n = \varphi$ has to hold for a $n \leq m$.
- Enumerate $\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_m$ and check whether $\varphi = \varphi_i$ for a $i \in \{0, \dots, m\}$

Corollary (Equivalence of axiomatizability and semi-decidability)

Let \mathfrak{T} be a FO-theory. Then, \mathfrak{T} has an axiomatization iff \mathfrak{T} is recursively enumerable.

- $Th(\mathbb{N}, +, *, =)$ is neither decidable, recursively enumerable, axiomatizable, nor have a sound and complete deductive calculi (*First Gödel's incompleteness theorem*)
- $Th(\mathbb{N}, +, =)$ is decidable and axiomatizable (Presburger arithmetic)
- $Th(\mathbb{Q}, +, *, =)$ is not decidable, etc.
- $Th(\mathbb{R}, +, *, =)$ is decidable and axiomatizable (Tarski algebra)

Quantified Boolean formulas

- Syntax: $\varphi ::= \mathbf{true} \mid q \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \neg \varphi \mid \forall p. \varphi$
- Syntactic sugar and semantics as expected

Theorem (Theorem by Stockmeyer and Meyer)

QBF – TRUTH is PSPACE-complete.

QBF – TRUTH denotes the problem to decide whether a QBF-sentence is equivalent to **true**.

Quantified Boolean formulas

- Syntax: $\varphi ::= \mathbf{true} \mid q \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \neg\varphi \mid \forall p.\varphi$
- Syntactic sugar and semantics as expected

Theorem (Theorem by Stockmeyer and Meyer)
QBF – TRUTH is PSPACE-complete.

- Membership by algorithm using a decision tree
- Hardness by reducing a polynomial space-bounded deterministic Turing machine to a QBF formula

Theorem (Compactness Theorem)

Let \mathfrak{F} be a set of FOL-formulas. Then, \mathfrak{F} is satisfiable iff every finite subset of \mathfrak{F} is satisfiable.

Proof. " \Rightarrow " obvious.

Compactness theorem

Theorem (Compactness Theorem)

Let \mathfrak{F} be a set of FOL-formulas. Then, \mathfrak{F} is satisfiable iff every finite subset of \mathfrak{F} is satisfiable.

Proof. “ \Leftarrow ”

- Proof by contradiction. Assume \mathfrak{F} is unsatisfiable, but every finite subset is satisfiable.
- Hence, $\mathfrak{F} \Vdash \text{false}$
- For every sound and complete Hilbert proof system:
 $\mathfrak{F} \vdash_{\mathcal{D}} \varphi$ iff there exists a finite subset \mathfrak{F}_0 of \mathfrak{F} s.t. $\mathfrak{F}_0 \vdash_{\mathcal{D}} \varphi$
- Hence,
 $\mathfrak{F} \Vdash \varphi$ iff there exists a finite subset \mathfrak{F}_0 of \mathfrak{F} s.t. $\mathfrak{F}_0 \Vdash \varphi$
- There exists a finite subset \mathfrak{F}_0 of \mathfrak{F} such that $\mathfrak{F}_0 \Vdash \text{false}$.
Contradiction to \mathfrak{F}_0 being satisfiable

Upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem

Theorem (Upward Löwenheim-Skolem Theorem)

Let \mathfrak{F} be a set of formulas such that for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists a finite model $(\mathcal{A}_n, \mathcal{V}_n)$ for \mathfrak{F} with at least n elements. Then, \mathfrak{F} has an infinite model.

- Take $\psi_n = \exists x_1 \dots \exists x_n. \bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_i \neq x_j)$ requiring at least n elements
- Every finite subset of $\mathfrak{F} \cup \{\psi_n : n \geq 2\}$ is satisfiable
- By compactness, $\mathfrak{F} \cup \{\psi_n : n \geq 2\}$ is satisfiable
- $\mathfrak{F} \cup \{\psi_n : n \geq 2\}$ has an infinite model, thus \mathfrak{F}

Upward Löwenheim-Skolem Theorem for FOL without equality

Theorem (Upward Löwenheim-Skolem Theorem for FOL without equality)

Let \mathfrak{F} be a satisfiable set of FOL-formulas without equality and let C be a set. Then, \mathfrak{F} is satisfiable over some structure where the domain is a superset of C .

Proof.

- Take a model $(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{B}})$
- Take an arbitrary element $b_0 \in \text{Dom}(\mathcal{B})$
- Define surjective homomorphism $h : \text{Dom}(\mathcal{B}) \cup C \rightarrow \text{Dom}(\mathcal{B})$ by taking the identity for elements of \mathcal{B} and b_0 for elements of C
- Define a new model in accordance to h

Upward Löwenheim-Skolem Theorem for FOL with equality

Theorem (Upward Löwenheim-Skolem Theorem for FOL with equality)

Let \mathfrak{F} be a satisfiable set of FOL-formulas that is satisfiable over some infinite structure and let C be a set. Then, \mathfrak{F} is satisfiable over some structure where the domain is a superset of C .

Proof.

- Extend vocabulary by fresh constant c for every $c \in C$
- By compactness theorem $\mathfrak{G} = \mathfrak{F} \cup \{c \neq d : c, d \in C, c \neq d\}$ is satisfiable
- Therefore \mathfrak{G} (and \mathfrak{F}) have a model with a domain being a superset of C

Downward Löwenheim-Skolem Theorem

Theorem (Downward Löwenheim-Skolem Theorem)

Each satisfiable set of FOL-formulas (over some countable vocabulary and countable variable-set) has a countable model.

More precisely:

- *Each satisfiable set of FOL-formulas without equality has an infinite countable model.*
- *Each satisfiable set of FOL-formulas with equality has a (finite or infinite) countable model.*

Downward Löwenheim-Skolem Theorem – Proof idea

- Construct formula set \mathfrak{F}^+ with the following properties:

- (1) $\mathfrak{F} \subseteq \mathfrak{F}^+$ and \mathfrak{F}^+ is satisfiable.
- (2) For each formula ϕ : either $\phi \in \mathfrak{F}^+$ or $\neg\phi \in \mathfrak{F}^+$.
- (3) For each formula ϕ and variable x there is a constant symbol c such that:

$$\neg\forall x.\phi \rightarrow \neg\phi[x/c] \in \mathfrak{F}^+$$

- Construct term model \mathcal{I}
 - for without equality: directly
 - for with equality: quotient-based

Definition (FO-definability of a class of structures)

Given a vocabulary Voc , a class \mathcal{C} of structures for Voc is said to be *FO-definable* if there exists a FOL-sentence ϕ over the vocabulary Voc , such that exactly the structures $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{C}$ are models for ϕ , i.e.,

$$\mathcal{C} = \{\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{A} \text{ is a structure over } Voc \text{ such that } \mathcal{A} \models \phi\}$$

Simple examples:

- groups,
- linear orders, ...

Theorem (The class of finite structures is not FO-definable)
There is no vocabulary Voc and set \mathfrak{F} consisting of FOL-formulas over Voc such that for all structures \mathcal{A} for Voc :

\mathcal{A} is a model for \mathfrak{F} iff \mathcal{A} is finite.

Theorem (The class of finite structures is not FO-definable)

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\mathcal{A} is a model for \mathfrak{F} iff \mathcal{A} is finite.

Proof. By the upward Löwenheim-Skolem-Theorem

Natural numbers and FOL

Theorem (The natural numbers cannot be characterized in FOL)
There is no satisfiable set \mathfrak{F} of FOL-sentences over Voc_{nat} such that $(\mathbb{N}, \text{succ}, 0) \models \mathfrak{F}$ and all countable models for \mathfrak{F} are isomorphic to $(\mathbb{N}, \text{succ}, 0)$.

Natural numbers and FOL

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There is no satisfiable set \mathfrak{F} of FOL-sentences over Voc_{nat} such that $(\mathbb{N}, \text{succ}, 0) \models \mathfrak{F}$ and all countable models for \mathfrak{F} are isomorphic to $(\mathbb{N}, \text{succ}, 0)$.

Proof.

- Assume by contradiction, there exists such an \mathfrak{F}
- Consider the set $\mathfrak{G} = \mathfrak{F} \cup \{x \neq \text{succ}^n(0) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$
- By compactness and the Downward-Löwenheim-Skolem theorem, there is a countable model (\mathcal{B}', n') with $(\mathcal{B}', n') \models \mathfrak{G}$
- By $(\mathcal{B}', n') \models \{x \neq \text{succ}^n(0) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ \mathcal{B}' is non-isomorphic to $(\mathbb{N}, \text{succ}, 0)$, but still $\mathcal{B}' \models \mathfrak{F}$

Complexity of checking FO-definable graph properties

Theorem (FO-definable graph properties are in PTIME)

For each formula ϕ over $\text{Voc}_{\text{graph}}$ the problem ϕ -GRAPH is solvable in time polynomial in the size of the input-graph.

(Formula ϕ is viewed to be fixed and the size of a finite graph is the total number of nodes and edges.)

By recursive analysis.

Theorem (Reachability is not FO-definable)

There is no FOL-formula $\phi(x, y)$ over $\text{Voc}_{\text{graph}}$ such that for all graphs \mathcal{G} and nodes a, b in \mathcal{G} we have:

$$(\mathcal{G}, a, b) \models \phi(x, y) \text{ iff } b \text{ is reachable from } a \text{ in } \mathcal{G}$$

- Find formulas:
 - φ for strongly connectedness,
 - ψ for having outdegree exactly 1
- $\varphi \wedge \psi$ characterizes exactly simple cycles, i.e., cycles where every node is visited exactly once
- By the upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem, $\varphi \wedge \psi$ has an infinite model. But there are no infinite simple cycles.

Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé games

- Two-player game on two structures \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} : Spoiler and duplicator
- In every round spoiler chooses an element from \mathcal{A} or \mathcal{B}
- Duplicator responds with an element from the other structure
- k -round outcome: $\langle (a_1, \dots, a_k), (b_1, \dots, b_k) \rangle$

Partial isomorphism

Definition (Partial isomorphism)

Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be structures for the same finite and relational vocabulary Voc with domains $A = \text{Dom}^{\mathcal{A}}$ and $B = \text{Dom}^{\mathcal{B}}$, and let $\bar{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in A^k$, $\bar{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_k) \in B^k$. The pair $\langle \bar{a}, \bar{b} \rangle$ is said to define a *partial isomorphism* between \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} iff the following conditions hold:

- (1) $a_i = a_j$ iff $b_i = b_j$ for all $1 \leq i < j \leq k$
- (2) for all constant symbols $c \in \text{Const}$ and all $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$:
 $a_i = c^{\mathcal{A}}$ iff $b_i = c^{\mathcal{B}}$
- (3) for each n -ary predicate symbol P and each index-tuple $(i_1, \dots, i_n) \in \{1, \dots, k\}^n$:

$$(a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n}) \in P^{\mathcal{A}} \text{ iff } (b_{i_1}, \dots, b_{i_n}) \in P^{\mathcal{B}}$$


Partial isomorphism

$$\bar{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_i, \dots, a_j, \dots, a_k) \in A^k$$


$$\bar{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_i, \dots, b_j, \dots, b_k) \in B^k$$

Partial isomorphism

$$\bar{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_i, \dots, a_j, \dots, a_k) \in A^k$$


$$(a_i, a_j, a_1) \in P^A$$

$$\Longleftrightarrow$$


$$(b_i, b_j, b_1) \in P^B$$

$$\bar{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_i, \dots, b_j, \dots, b_k) \in B^k$$

Winning outcomes

Definition (Winning outcomes)

Recall that $Const = \{c_1, \dots, c_\ell\}$ is the set of constant symbols in the underlying finite, relational vocabulary. An outcome

$$\langle \bar{a}, \bar{b} \rangle = \langle (a_1, \dots, a_k), (b_1, \dots, b_k) \rangle \in A^k \times B^k$$

of a k -round play is said to be *winning (for the duplicator)* iff the pair

$$\langle (\bar{a}, \bar{c}^{\mathcal{A}}), (\bar{b}, \bar{c}^{\mathcal{B}}) \rangle = \langle (a_1, \dots, a_k, c_1^{\mathcal{A}}, \dots, c_\ell^{\mathcal{A}}), (b_1, \dots, b_k, c_1^{\mathcal{B}}, \dots, c_\ell^{\mathcal{B}}) \rangle$$

defines a partial isomorphism between \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} . Otherwise, i.e., if $\langle (\bar{a}, \bar{c}^{\mathcal{A}}), (\bar{b}, \bar{c}^{\mathcal{B}}) \rangle$ does not define a partial isomorphism, the spoiler wins.

... are functions

$$\mathcal{S} : \bigcup_{0 \leq i < k} (A^{i+1} \times B^i \cup A^i \times B^{i+1}) \rightarrow A \cup B,$$

where $A^0 = B^0 = \{\varepsilon\}$ consists of the empty tuple, such that for all $0 \leq i < k$ and elements $a_1, \dots, a_i, a_{i+1} \in A$ and $b_1, \dots, b_i, b_{i+1} \in B$:

$$\mathcal{S}((a_1, \dots, a_i), (b_1, \dots, b_i, b_{i+1})) \in A$$

$$\mathcal{S}((a_1, \dots, a_i, a_{i+1}), (b_1, \dots, b_i)) \in B$$

k -round game equivalence

Definition (k -round game equivalence \cong_k)

Let $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} structures for Voc . Then,

k -round-game-equivalence of \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} is defined by:

$$\mathcal{A} \cong_k \mathcal{B} \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \begin{cases} \text{the duplicator has a } k\text{-round winning strategy} \\ \text{in the Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé game for } \mathcal{A} \text{ and } \mathcal{B} \end{cases}$$

For the case $k = 0$ this means: $\mathcal{A} \cong_0 \mathcal{B}$ iff $\langle \bar{c}^{\mathcal{A}}, \bar{c}^{\mathcal{B}} \rangle$ defines a partial isomorphism.

Quantifier rank of an FOL-formula φ is its maximal nesting depth.

As before, let Voc be a finite relational vocabulary. If \mathcal{A} is a structure for Voc then

$$\text{FOL}[k](\mathcal{A}) = \{ \phi : \phi \text{ is a FOL}[k]\text{-sentence with } \mathcal{A} \models \phi \}$$

is called the *rank- k -type* over \mathcal{A} . A formula-set \mathfrak{R} is said to be a rank- k type if $\mathfrak{R} = \text{FOL}[k](\mathcal{A})$ for some structure \mathcal{A} for Voc .

Lemma (FOL[k]-definability of the rank- k -types)

Let Voc be a finite relational vocabulary and let $\mathfrak{R}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{R}_s$ be the rank- k -types of Voc . Then, there are FOL[k]-sentences $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_s$ such that for all $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$:

- $\mathfrak{R}_i = \{ \psi : \psi \text{ is a FOL}[k]\text{-sentence with } \theta_i \models \psi \}$
- for each structure \mathcal{A} we have: $\mathcal{A} \models \theta_i$ iff $\text{FOL}[k](\mathcal{A}) = \mathfrak{R}_i$.

Furthermore, each FOL[k]-sentence is equivalent to the disjunction of some of the θ_i 's.

Theorem (Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé-Theorem)

Let Voc be a finite relational vocabulary and \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} two structures for Voc . Then, the following two statements are equivalent:

(a) $\mathcal{A} \cong_k \mathcal{B}$

(b) \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} agree on all $\text{FOL}[k]$ -sentences, i.e., $\mathcal{A} \models \psi$ iff $\mathcal{B} \models \psi$ for all $\text{FOL}[k]$ -sentence ψ

Proof by induction on k

Corollary (FOL-equivalence of structures)

Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} structures over the same finite relational vocabulary Voc . Then, the following statements are equivalent:

- (a) $\mathcal{A} \cong \mathcal{B}$
- (b) \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} fulfill the same FOL-sentences over Voc .
- (c) $\text{Th}(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Th}(\mathcal{B})$

$$\mathcal{A} \cong \mathcal{B} \text{ iff } \mathcal{A} \cong_k \mathcal{B} \text{ for all } k \in \mathbb{N}$$

FOL-equivalence of structures

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Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} structures over the same finite relational vocabulary Voc . Then, the following statements are equivalent:

- (a) $\mathcal{A} \cong \mathcal{B}$
- (b) \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} fulfill the same FOL-sentences over Voc .
- (c) $\text{Th}(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Th}(\mathcal{B})$

$$\mathcal{A} \cong \mathcal{B} \text{ iff } \mathcal{A} \cong_k \mathcal{B} \text{ for all } k \in \mathbb{N}$$

Example: Every two dense linear orders without endpoints satisfy the same FOL-sentences, e.g., $\text{Th}(\mathbb{R}, \leq) = \text{Th}(\mathbb{Q}, \leq)$

Theorem (FO-definability and Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé games)

Let Voc be a finite relational vocabulary and \mathcal{C} a class of structures for Voc . Then, the following statements are equivalent:

- (a) \mathcal{C} is FO-definable.
- (b) There exists $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all structures \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} over Voc :

if $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{C}$ and $\mathcal{A} \cong_k \mathcal{B}$ then $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{C}$.

Theorem (FO-definability and Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé games)

Let Voc be a finite relational vocabulary and \mathcal{C} a class of structures for Voc . Then, the following statements are equivalent:

- (a) *\mathcal{C} is FO-definable.*
- (b) *There exists $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all structures \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} over Voc :*

if $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{C}$ and $\mathcal{A} \cong_k \mathcal{B}$ then $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{C}$.

Example: Connectivity of finite undirected graphs is not FO-definable.

Countable Conjunctions: Syntax and semantics

- allows additionally $\bigwedge_{i \in I} \varphi_i$ for a countable set I ,
- Syntactic sugar: $\bigvee_{i \in I} \varphi_i = \neg \bigwedge_{i \in I} \neg \varphi_i$,
- Semantics: $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}) \models \bigwedge_{i \in I} \varphi_i$ iff $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}) \models \varphi_i$ for all $i \in I$,
- $\bigwedge_{i \in \emptyset} \varphi_i \equiv \mathbf{true}$ and $\bigvee_{i \in \emptyset} \varphi_i \equiv \mathbf{false}$

Countable conjunction and finite structures

ψ_{fin} holds exactly for finite structures:

$$\psi_n = \exists x_1 \dots \exists x_n. \bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_i \neq x_j)$$

$$\psi_{\text{fin}} = \bigvee_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \neg \psi_n$$

Countable conjunction and finite structures

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ψ_{even} holds exactly for finite, even structures:

$$\psi_n = \exists x_1 \dots \exists x_n. \left(\bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_i \neq x_j) \wedge \forall y. \bigvee_{1 \leq i \leq n} y = x_i \right)$$

$$\psi_{\text{fin}} = \bigvee_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \psi_{2n}$$

Countable conjunction and natural numbers

Assume a constant symbol 0 and a unary function $succ$

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall x. succ(x) \neq 0 \\ & \wedge \forall x \forall y. (succ(x) = succ(y) \rightarrow x = y) \\ & \wedge \forall x. \bigvee_{n \geq 0} x = succ^n(0) \end{aligned}$$

characterizes the natural numbers, i.e., every model is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{N}, succ, 0)$.

Other $FOL(\wedge)$ -definable examples

- Reachability in graphs,
- Periodic groups

Theorem (Lack of compactness property for $FOL(\wedge)$)

There exists an unsatisfiable countable set of $FOL(\wedge)$ -sentences that is finitely satisfiable.

$$\mathfrak{F} = \{\psi_{\text{fin}}\} \cup \{\psi_n : n \geq 2\}$$

is finitely satisfiable, but not satisfiable

ψ_n characterizes all structures having at least n elements

Upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem and $FOL(\wedge)$

As consequence of the definability of finite structures, the upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem (“from finite to infinite”) does not hold.

ψ_{fin} has for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ a model of cardinality n , but no infinite model.

Upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem and $FOL(\wedge)$

As consequence of the definability of finite structures, the upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem (“from finite to infinite”) does not hold.

ψ_{fin} has for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ a model of cardinality n , but no infinite model.

Also, as $(\mathbb{N}, \text{succ}, 0)$ can be characterized in $FOL(\wedge)$, the upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem (“from infinite to larger models”) does not hold.

Calculus for $FOL(\wedge)$

Theorem

There is no sound and complete calculus for $FOL(\wedge)$.

- Existence of a sound and complete calculus \mathcal{D} would yield

$$\mathfrak{F} \models \varphi \text{ implies } \mathfrak{G} \models \varphi \text{ for a finite } \mathfrak{G} \subseteq \mathfrak{F}$$

- But then

$$\mathfrak{F} \text{ unsatisfiable iff } \mathfrak{F} \models \mathbf{false}$$

$$\text{iff } \mathfrak{G} \models \mathbf{false} \text{ for a finite } \mathfrak{G} \subseteq \mathfrak{F}$$

$$\text{iff there exists an unsatisfiable, finite } \mathfrak{G} \subseteq \mathfrak{F}$$

- Contradiction to the non-existing compactness property for $FOL(\wedge)$

Downward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem for $FOL(\wedge)$

Theorem

Each satisfiable $FOL(\wedge)$ -sentence has a countable (possibly finite) model.

- Assume an uncountable model \mathcal{B} with domain B
- Define a sequence of countable subsets of B B_0, B_1, \dots s.t.
 - (i) if $\psi = \psi(x_1, \dots, x_n, x) \in \text{subf}^+(\phi)$ and $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B_i$ such that

$$(\mathcal{B}, [x_1 := b_1, \dots, x_n := b_n]) \models \exists x. \psi$$

then there exists some $a \in B_{i+1}$ with

$$(\mathcal{B}, [x_1 := b_1, \dots, x_n := b_n, x := a]) \models \psi.$$

- (ii) for each n -ary function symbol f of Voc and all elements $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B_i$ we have:

$$f^{\mathcal{B}}(b_1, \dots, b_n) \in B_{i+1}$$

- Define $A = \bigcup_{i \geq 0} B_i$ and a model A accordingly

Infinite quantification: Syntax and Semantics

Syntax:

- FOL with $\overset{\infty}{\exists} x.\varphi$
- syntactic sugar: $\overset{\infty}{\forall} x.\varphi = \neg \overset{\infty}{\exists} x.\neg\varphi$

Semantics:

$\overset{\infty}{\exists} x.\varphi$ iff there exists infinitely many $a \in \mathcal{A}$ with $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}[x := a]) \models \varphi$

$\overset{\infty}{\forall} x.\varphi$ iff for almost all $a \in \mathcal{A}$ holds: $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}[x := a]) \models \varphi$

- $\psi_{\text{fin}} = \neg \overset{\infty}{\exists} x.\mathbf{true}$ characterizes finite structures
- Analogously to $FOL(\wedge)$ the following theorems are violated to:
 - compactness theorem,
 - upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem “from finite to infinite models”

$FOL(\exists^\infty)$ and the Natural Numbers

Assume a relational vocabulary with \sqsubseteq as binary predicate.

$\varphi_{\text{nat}} = \psi_{\text{LO}} \wedge \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2$ with

ψ_{LO} describing \sqsubseteq as linear order

$$\psi_1 = \forall x. \bigvee_{i=0}^{\infty} y. x \sqsubset y$$

$$\psi_2 = \forall x. \exists y. x \sqsubset y$$

holds true exactly for those structures isomorphic to (\mathbb{N}, \leq) .

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Consequence: The upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem (“from infinite to larger models”) does not hold.

Embedding of $FOL(\overset{\infty}{\exists})$ into $FOL(\wedge)$

Theorem (Embedding of $FOL(\overset{\infty}{\exists})$ into $FOL(\wedge)$)

For each $FOL(\overset{\infty}{\exists})$ -formula ϕ there exists a $FOL(\wedge)$ -formula $\bar{\phi}$ over the same vocabulary such that ϕ and $\bar{\phi}$ have the same models.

Trick:

$$\overline{\overset{\infty}{\exists} x. \varphi} = \bigwedge_{n \geq 1} \exists x_1 \dots \exists x_n. (\bar{\varphi}[x/x_1] \wedge \dots \wedge \bar{\varphi}[x/x_n] \wedge \bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} x_i \neq x_j)$$

where x_1, x_2, \dots is a sequence of pairwise distinct fresh variables.

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where x_1, x_2, \dots is a sequence of pairwise distinct fresh variables.

Consequence: The downward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem holds for $FOL(\overset{\infty}{\exists})$.

Uncountable quantification: Syntax and Semantics

Syntax:

- FOL with $\overset{2^{\aleph}}{\exists} x.\varphi$
- syntactic sugar: $\overset{2^{\aleph}}{\forall} x.\varphi = \neg \overset{2^{\aleph}}{\exists} x.\neg\varphi$

Semantics:

$\overset{2^{\aleph}}{\exists} x.\varphi$ iff there exists uncountably many $a \in \mathcal{A}$ with
 $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}[x := a]) \models \varphi$

$\overset{2^{\aleph}}{\forall} x.\varphi$ iff for countably many $a \in \mathcal{A}$ holds: $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}[x := a]) \not\models \varphi$

$FOL(2^{\mathbb{N}})$ and set cardinality

$\mathcal{A} \models \exists x.\mathbf{true}$ iff \mathcal{A} is uncountable

$\mathcal{A} \models \forall x.\mathbf{false}$ iff \mathcal{A} is countable

$FOL(2^{\mathbb{N}})$ and set cardinality

$\mathcal{A} \models \exists^{2^{\mathbb{N}}} x.\mathbf{true}$ iff \mathcal{A} is uncountable

$\mathcal{A} \models \forall^{2^{\mathbb{N}}} x.\mathbf{false}$ iff \mathcal{A} is countable

Consequence: Downward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem and Upward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem “from infinite to larger models” are violated.

- With a suitable additional axioms, $FOL(2^{\mathbb{N}})$ has a sound and complete calculus
- Hence, the compactness theorem holds.

Theorem

There is no set \mathfrak{F} of $FOL(\exists^{2^{\mathbb{N}}})$ -sentences over Voc_{nat} such that $(\mathbb{N}, succ, 0) \models \mathfrak{F}$ and all countable models for \mathfrak{F} are isomorphic to $(\mathbb{N}, succ, 0)$.

Vocabulary has three kinds of variables:

- first-order variables $x, y, z, \dots \in Var$ that represent elements of the domain of a structure,
- predicate variables $X, Y, Z, \dots \in PVar$ that stand for relations over the domain,
- function variables $F, G, H, \dots \in FVar$ that stand for functions over the domain.

Second order logic: Syntax

$$t ::= \underbrace{x \mid f(t_1, \dots, t_m) \mid F(t_1, \dots, t_m)}_{\text{as in FOL}}$$

$$\phi ::= \underbrace{\text{true} \mid P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid t_1 = t_2 \mid \phi_1 \wedge \phi_2 \mid \neg \phi \mid \forall x. \phi}_{\text{as in FOL}}$$

$$X(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid \underbrace{\forall X. \phi \mid \forall F. \phi}_{\text{second-order quantification}}$$

Second Order Logic: Semantics

Interpretation $\mathcal{I} = (\mathcal{A}, Val)$.

- valuation Val as in FOL, but additionally:
 - $Val(X) = X^{\mathcal{I}} \subseteq A^n$, for each n -ary predicate variable
 - $Val(F) = F^{\mathcal{I}} : A^m \rightarrow A$ for each n -ary function variable
- interpretation of an SOL formula as in FOL, but additionally:

$$\mathcal{I} \models X(t_1, \dots, t_n) \text{ iff } (t_1^{\mathcal{I}}, \dots, t_n^{\mathcal{I}}) \in X^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models \forall X. \phi \text{ iff } (\mathcal{A}, Val[X := R]) \models \phi \text{ for all relations } R \subseteq A^n$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models \forall F. \phi \text{ iff } (\mathcal{A}, Val[F := f]) \models \phi \text{ for all functions}$$

$$f : A^m \rightarrow A$$

Leibnitz Axiom for Equality

Equality can be represented by SOL directly:

$$t_1 = t_2 \quad \text{iff} \quad \forall X. X(t_1) \leftrightarrow X(t_2)$$

\Rightarrow obvious

\Leftarrow As X is all-quantified, take $X^{\mathcal{I}} = \{t_1^{\mathcal{I}}\}$

Characterization of the natural numbers based on the induction principle:

$$\phi_{\text{ind}} = \forall X. \left((X(0) \wedge \forall y. (X(y) \rightarrow X(\text{succ}(y)))) \rightarrow \forall y. X(y) \right)$$

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Two additional FOL-formulas necessary:

$$\varphi_1 = \forall x. \text{succ}(x) \neq 0$$

$$\varphi_2 = \forall x. \forall y. (\text{succ}(x) = \text{succ}(y) \rightarrow x = y)$$

SOL and Natural Numbers

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Other examples of SOL-definable structures: Well-ordering, periodic groups, ...

Characterization of infinite structures:

$$\psi_{\infty} = \exists F \left(\underbrace{\forall x \forall y. (F(x) = F(y) \rightarrow x = y)}_{\text{injective}} \wedge \underbrace{\exists z \forall x. (F(x) \neq z)}_{\text{not surjective}} \right)$$

The existence of an injective, but not surjective function $F : A \rightarrow A$ guarantees that A is infinite.

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The existence of an injective, but not surjective function $F : A \rightarrow A$ guarantees that A is infinite. Consequence of the definability of finite structures: The compactness property does not hold (same argumentation as for $FOL(\wedge)$)

... and countable sets

Characterization of countable structures (over Voc with a binary predicate variable \sqsubseteq)

$$\phi_{\text{ctbl}} = \exists \sqsubseteq . \left(\phi_{\text{lin_order}}(\sqsubseteq) \wedge \forall x \exists X. \left(\psi_{\text{fin}}(X) \wedge \forall y. (y \sqsubseteq x \leftrightarrow X(y)) \right) \right)$$

... and countable sets

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Idea:

A is countable iff $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{there exists a linear order } \sqsubseteq \text{ on } A \\ \text{such that for each } a \in A \\ \text{the downward closure } A \downarrow a \text{ is finite} \end{array} \right.$

$$A \downarrow a = \{b \in A : b \sqsubseteq a\}$$

SOL and the Löwenheim-Skolem theorems

The existence of ψ_{fin} and ϕ_{ctbl} yields that non of the Löwenheim-Skolem theorems holds for SOL:

- There exists a SOL-sentence that has finite models of arbitrary size $n \geq 1$, but has no infinite model.
- There exists a SOL-sentence that has an infinite, but no uncountable model.
- There exists a satisfiable SOL-sentence that has no countable model.

Gödel's second incompleteness theorem

Theorem

There is no sound and weakly complete deductive calculus for the set of valid SOL-sentences.

This is a consequence of

Theorem (**SOL – VALID** is not recursively enumerable)

The set of valid SOL-sentences over some vocabulary with at least one binary predicate symbol is not recursively enumerable.

For every FOL-sentence ψ holds:

$$\psi \in \text{FOL-VALID-FIN}$$

iff $\mathcal{A} \models \psi$ for all finite structures \mathcal{A}

iff the SOL-sentence $\varphi_{\text{fin}} \rightarrow \psi$ is valid

iff $\varphi_{\text{fin}} \rightarrow \psi \in \text{SOL-VALID}$

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iff the SOL-sentence $\varphi_{\text{fin}} \rightarrow \psi$ is valid

iff $\varphi_{\text{fin}} \rightarrow \psi \in \text{SOL-VALID}$

If SOL-VALID would be recursively enumerable, we could enumerate all valid SOL-formulas φ , and if it has the form $\varphi_{\text{fin}} \rightarrow \psi$, output ψ . Hence, FOL-VALID-FIN would be recursively enumerable. Contradiction to Trakhtenbrot's theorem.

Reachability in directed graphs is SOL-definable:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_{\text{reach}}(x, y) &= \forall Z. (Z(x) \wedge \psi(Z) \rightarrow Z(y)) \\ \psi(Z) &= \forall u \forall v. (Z(u) \wedge E(u, v) \rightarrow Z(v))\end{aligned}$$

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Idea: $\psi(Z)$ states that the unary predicate variable is closed under the edge relation E

Hence:

$$(\mathcal{G}, a, b) \models \phi_{\text{reach}}(x, y) \quad \text{iff} \quad b \text{ is reachable from } a \text{ in } \mathcal{G}$$

.

Definition (Existential SOL-formula)

An *existential SOL-formula*, simply called ESOL-formula, is a SOL-formula over some purely relational vocabulary of the form

$$\exists X_1 \dots \exists X_n. \psi$$

where

- the X_i 's are predicate variables of arbitrary arity,
- ψ a FOL-formula (possibly with equality) when X_1, \dots, X_n are viewed as predicate symbols and does not contain any other second-order variable.

Theorem (ESO-definable graph properties are in NP)

For each ESOL formula ϕ over $\text{Voc}_{\text{graph}}$, the problem ϕ -GRAPH belongs to NP. (Formula ϕ is viewed to be fixed.)

Theorem (ESO-definable graph properties are in NP)

For each ESOL formula ϕ over $\text{Voc}_{\text{graph}}$, the problem ϕ -GRAPH belongs to NP. (Formula ϕ is viewed to be fixed.)

Proof idea: Choose sets for existential quantified set variables non-deterministically. Apply PTIME algorithm for FOL-graph.

- Syntax: the same as in normal SOL except there are no function variable.
- Semantics: quantification about finite relations only.

For

$$\varphi_{\text{fin}} = \exists X. \forall y. X(y)$$

holds:

$$\mathcal{A} \models_{\text{weak}} \varphi_{\text{fin}} \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{A} \text{ is finite}$$

For

$$\varphi_{\text{fin}} = \exists X. \forall y. X(y)$$

holds:

$$\mathcal{A} \models_{\text{weak}} \varphi_{\text{fin}} \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{A} \text{ is finite}$$

Even more, for every infinite structure \mathcal{A} holds: $\mathcal{A} \not\models_{\text{weak}} \varphi_{\text{fin}}$
and $\mathcal{A} \models \varphi_{\text{fin}}$

Weak SOL and the natural numbers

Similar to $FOL(\overset{\infty}{\exists})$ we ask for a linear order, where the downward closure of every element is finite:

$$\phi_{\text{nat}}^w = \phi_{\text{lin_order}} \wedge \underbrace{\forall x \exists y. x < y}_{\text{no maximal element}} \wedge \underbrace{\forall x \exists Y \forall y. (y \leq x \rightarrow Y(y))}_{\text{the downward closure of each element is finite}}$$

We use, that there exists an SOL-formula $\psi_{\text{fin}}(X)$ for every n -ary predicate variable X stating that X is finite.

Embedding Weak SOL into SOL

We use, that there exists an SOL-formula $\psi_{\text{fin}}(X)$ for every n -ary predicate variable X stating that X is finite.

In a weak SOL formula φ replace every occurrence of $\forall X.\psi$ with $\forall X.(\psi_{\text{fin}}(X) \rightarrow \psi')$ where ψ' is the replaced version of ψ .

Embedding Weak SOL into $FOL(\wedge)$

Idea: Replace predicate variables with disjunction of equivalences.

Embedding Weak SOL into $FOL(\bigwedge)$

Idea: Replace predicate variables with disjunction of equivalences. Consequence of the existence of an embedding of weak SOL into $FOL(\bigwedge)$: The Downward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem holds for weak SOL.

Monadic Second Order Logic

- Predicate variables are restricted to be unary
- Syntax and semantics cover full FOL
- We focus on finite words on structures

MSO over finite words

We assume a vocabulary $\text{Voc}_{\Sigma, \text{graph}}$ denoting a graph with labels on the nodes.

$P_a(x)$ with $x \in \text{Var}$, $a \in \Sigma$

$E(x, y)$ with $x, y \in \text{Var}$

$x \in X$ with $x \in \text{Var}$ and X an unary predicate variable

$x = y$ with $x, y \in \text{Var}$

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Examples for definability: Reachability, partitioning, singleton sets,...

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Examples for definability: Reachability, partitioning, singleton sets,...

A finite word w can be seen as graph where the nodes are natural numbers from $\{1, \dots, |w|\}$ and the edges are $E(i, i + 1)$ for every $i \in \{1, \dots, n - 1\}$.

Example formulas

$$\text{first}(x) = \bigvee_{a \in \Sigma} P_a(x) \wedge \neg \exists y. E(y, x)$$

denotes that x is the first position

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$$first(x) = \bigvee_{a \in \Sigma} P_a(x) \wedge \neg \exists y. E(y, x)$$

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$\bigvee_{a \in \Sigma} P_a(x)$ excludes the empty word

A language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ is said to be MSO-definable, if there exists an MSO-sentence φ over $\text{Voc}_{\Sigma, \text{graph}}$ such that

$$L = \{w \in \Sigma^* : \text{Graph}(w) \models \varphi\}$$

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Theorem (MSO, EMSO and regular languages)

Let $L \subseteq \Sigma^$ be a language over finite words. Then, the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) *L is regular.*
- (2) *L is EMSO-definable.*
- (3) *L is MSO-definable.*

Consequences

- Given an MSO formula φ , one can construct an NFA A with $L(\varphi) = L(A)$
- The set of satisfiable MSO formulas (over finite words) is decidable
- The set of valid MSO formula (over finite words) is decidable

FOL cannot express reachability. Therefore we assume a binary predicate \leq with the semantics

$$x \leq y \text{ iff } y \text{ is reachable from } x$$

The standard edge relation can be established in straightforward manner:

$$E(x, y) = x < y \wedge \neg \exists z. (x < z \wedge z < y)$$

... are given by the following grammar:

$$\alpha ::= \emptyset \mid \varepsilon \mid \mathbf{a} \mid \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \mid \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \mid \overline{\alpha}$$

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Every star-free language is induced by a star-free expression and vice versa.

Star-free expression

... are given by the following grammar:

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Every star-free language is induced by a star-free expression and vice versa.

Examples: $L(\overline{\emptyset \mathbf{b} \emptyset}) = L(\mathbf{a}^*)$ is a starfree language.

Lemma (Star-free languages are FO-definable)

Each star-free language is FO-definable.

Proof. by induction, concatenation case is difficult/technical

FO-definable and star-free languages

Lemma (Star-free languages are FO-definable)

Each star-free language is FO-definable.

Proof. by induction, concatenation case is difficult/technical

Lemma (FO-definable languages are star-free)

If $L \subseteq \Sigma^$ is FO-definable then L is star-free.*

Proof. Induction over k for $FOL[k]$ sentences.