

Chapter 3

First Order Logic (FOL)

3.1 Syntax of FOL

Propositional logic is a **coarse language**, which only concerns about propositions and boolean connectives. Practically, this logic is not powerful enough to describe important properties we are interested in.

Example 3.1.1 (Syllogism of Aristotle). *Consider the following assertions:*

1. *All men are mortal.*
2. *Socrates is a man.*
3. *So Socrates would die.*

$$\forall x(Man(x) \rightarrow Mortal(x))$$

Definition 3.1.2. First order logic is an extension of proposition logic:

1. To accept parameters, it generalizes propositions to predicates. $P(x, y)$
 $< x y$
2. To designate elements in the domain, it is equipped with functions and constants. $f(x, y)$
 $+ x y$
 $\cdot x y$
3. It also involves quantifiers to capture infinite conjunction and disjunction. \forall 全称
 \exists 存在

Definition 3.1.3. We are given:

- an arbitrary set of variable symbols $VS = \{x, y, x_1, \dots\}$;
- an arbitrary set (maybe empty) of function symbols $FS = \{f, g, f_1, \dots\}$, where each symbol has an arity;
- an arbitrary set (maybe empty) of predicate symbols $PS = \{P, Q, P_1, \dots\}$, where each symbol has an arity;
- an equality symbol set ES which is either empty or one element set containing $\{\approx\}$.

Let $L = VS \cup \{ (,), \rightarrow, \neg, \forall \} \cup FS \cup PS \cup ES$. Here $VS \cup \{ (,), \rightarrow, \neg, \forall \}$ are referred to as logical symbols, and $FS \cup PS \cup ES$ are referred to as non-logical symbols.

We often make use of the

- set of constant symbols, denoted by $CS = \{a, b, a_1, \dots\} \subseteq FS$, which consist of function symbols with arity 0;
- set of propositional symbols, denoted by $PS = \{p, q, p_1, \dots\} \subseteq FS$, which consist of predicate symbols with arity 0.

Definition 3.1.4 (FOL terms). The terms of the first order logic are constructed according to the following grammar:

$$t ::= x \mid \underset{=}{f}t_1 \dots t_n$$

where $x \in VS$, and $f \in FS$ has arity n .

Accordingly, the set T of terms is the smallest set satisfying the following conditions:

- each variable $x \in VS$ is a term.
- Compound terms: $ft_1 \dots t_n$ is a term (thus in T), provided that f is a n -arity function symbol, and $t_1, \dots, t_n \in T$. Particularly, $a \in CS$ is a term.

We often write $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ for the compound terms.

$$h(g(t_1))(h(t_2, t_3))$$

Definition 3.1.5 (FOL formulas). The well-formed formulas of the first order logic are constructed according to the following grammar:

$$\varphi ::= \underline{Pt_1 \dots t_n} \mid \neg \varphi \mid \varphi \rightarrow \varphi \mid \underline{\forall x \varphi}$$

where t_1, \dots, t_n are terms, $P \in PS$ has arity n , and $x \in VS$.

We often write $P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ for clarity. Accordingly, the set FOF of first order formulas is the smallest set satisfying:

- $P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \in FOF$ is a formula, referred to as the atomic formula.

$$\text{PassDM}(\cdot) \equiv \text{PassExam}(\cdot) \wedge \text{PassE}(\cdot)$$

$$\text{PassExam}(\cdot) \quad 1\text{-arity}$$

$$\text{PassE}(\cdot) \quad \dots$$

$$\text{ShowInClass}(\cdot) \quad \dots$$

$$\forall x (\neg \text{ShowIn}(x) \rightarrow \neg \text{PassDM}(x))$$

$$\text{Copy}(x, y) \quad 2\text{-arity}$$

$$\forall x \exists y (\text{Copy}(x, y) \rightarrow \neg \text{PassDM}(x) \wedge \neg \text{PassDM}(y))$$

$$\text{SolutionEx}(\cdot)$$

$$\text{Copy}(x, y) \leftrightarrow (\text{SolutionEx}(x) \approx \text{SolutionEx}(y))$$

$$0 \quad - \text{0-arity function}$$

$$S(\cdot) \quad - \text{1-arity function}$$

$$Sx \neq 0$$

$$Sx \approx Sy \rightarrow x \approx y$$

$$+ \quad \begin{aligned} x + 0 &\approx x \\ x + Sy &\approx S(x + y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\cdot \quad \begin{aligned} x \cdot 0 &\approx 0 \\ x \cdot Sy &\approx x + x \cdot y \end{aligned}$$

$$\cdot) \quad \varphi(10) \wedge \forall x (\varphi(x) \rightarrow \varphi(x+1)) \\ \rightarrow \forall x \varphi(x)$$

- *Compound formulas:* $(\neg\varphi)$ (negation), $(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$ (implication), and $(\forall x\varphi)$ (universal quantification) are formulas (thus in FOF), provided that $\varphi, \psi \in \text{FOF}$.

We omit parentheses if it is clear from the context.

As syntactic sugar, we can define $\exists x\varphi$ as $\exists x\varphi := \neg\forall x\neg\varphi$. We assume that \forall and \exists have higher precedence than all logical operators.

Definition 3.1.6 (Sub-formulas). For a formula φ , we define the sub-formula function $Sf : \text{FOF} \rightarrow 2^{\text{FOF}}$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} Sf(\underline{P(t_1, \dots, t_n)}) &= \{P(t_1, \dots, t_n)\} \\ \underline{Sf(\neg\varphi)} &= \{\neg\varphi\} \cup Sf(\varphi) \\ Sf(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) &= \{\varphi \rightarrow \psi\} \cup Sf(\varphi) \cup Sf(\psi) \\ Sf(\forall x\varphi) &= \{\forall x\varphi\} \cup Sf(\varphi) \\ Sf(\exists x\varphi) &= \{\exists x\varphi\} \cup Sf(\varphi) \end{aligned}$$

scope

Definition 3.1.7 (Scope). The part of a logical expression to which a quantifier is applied is called the scope of this quantifier. Formally, each subformula of the form $Qx\psi \in Sf(\varphi)$, the scope of the corresponding quantifier Qx is ψ . Here $Q \in \{\forall, \exists\}$.

$\forall x \varphi$

$\forall x (\forall y (x \wedge y)) \wedge (\forall x (x \wedge (x \wedge y)))$

Substitution for Terms

Definition 3.1.8 (Sentence). We say an occurrence of x in φ is free if it is not in scope of any quantifiers $\forall x$ (or $\exists x$). Otherwise, we say that this occurrence is a bound occurrence. If a ~~formula~~ φ has no free variables, it is called a closed formula, or a sentence.

$\forall x (x > 1 + y)$ $\xrightarrow{\text{free}}$ $\forall x (x > 1 + y)$

Definition 3.1.9 (Substitution). The substitution of x with t within φ , denoted as $S_t^x \varphi$, is obtained from φ by

replacing each free occurrence of x with t .

$$\varphi \quad (\forall x. \neg x) \wedge \forall y (y \wedge x)$$

$$S_y^x \varphi$$

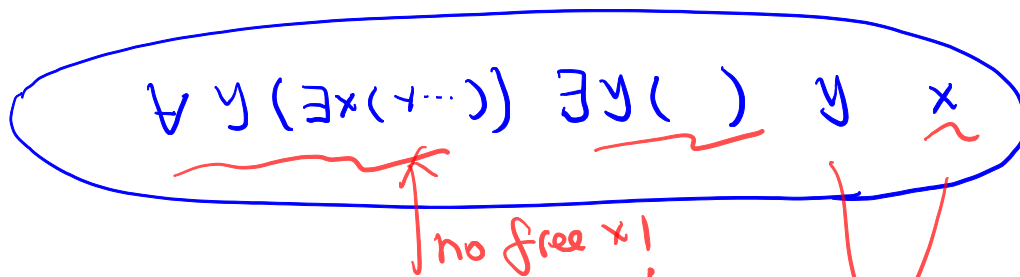
We would extend this notation to $S_{t_1, \dots, t_n}^{x_1, \dots, x_n} \varphi$.

Remark 3.1.10. It is important to remark that $S_{t_1, \dots, t_n}^{x_1, \dots, x_n} \varphi$ is not the same as $S_{t_1}^{x_1} \dots S_{t_n}^{x_n} \varphi$: the former performs a *simultaneous* substitution.

For example, consider the formula $P(x, y)$: the substitution $S_{y,x}^{x,y} P(x, y)$ gives $S_{y,x}^{x,y} P(x, y) = P(y, x)$ while the substitutions $S_y^x S_x^y P(x, y)$ give $S_y^x S_x^y P(x, y) = S_y^x P(x, x) = P(y, y)$.

Remark 3.1.11. Consider $\varphi = \exists y (x < y)$ in the number theory. What is $S_t^x \varphi$ for the special case of $t = y$?

Definition 3.1.12 (Substitutable on Terms). We say that t is *substitutable* for x within φ iff for each variable y



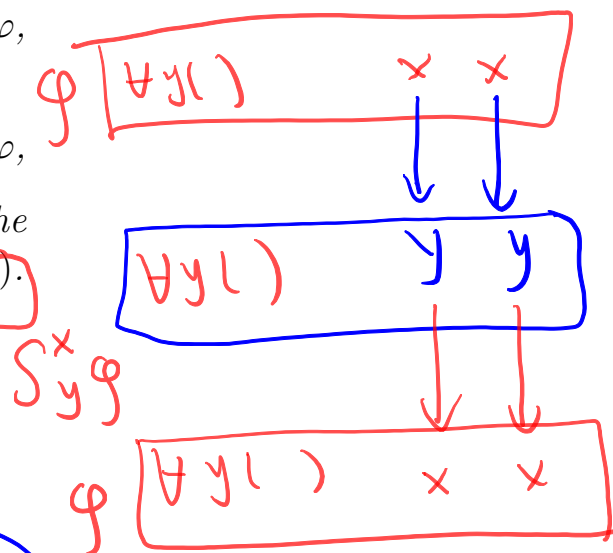
occurring in t , there is no free occurrence of x in scope of $\forall y/\exists y$ in φ .

Definition 3.1.13 (α - β condition).

If the formula φ and the variables x and y fulfill:

1. y has no free occurrence in φ , and
2. y is substitutable for x within φ ,

then we say that φ , x and y meet the α - β condition, denoted as $C(\varphi, x, y)$.



Lemma 3.1.14. If $C(\varphi, x, y)$, then $S_x^y S_y^x \varphi = \varphi$.

3.2 The Axiom System: the Hilbert's System

As for propositional logic, also FOL can be axiomatized.

Definition 3.2.1 (Axioms). 1. $\varphi \rightarrow$

$$(\psi \rightarrow \varphi)$$

$$2. (\varphi \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow \eta)) \rightarrow ((\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\varphi \rightarrow \eta))$$

$$3. (\neg\varphi \rightarrow \neg\psi) \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow \varphi)$$

$$4. \forall x\varphi \rightarrow S_t^x\varphi$$

if t is substitutable for x within φ

$$5. \forall x(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\forall x\varphi \rightarrow \forall x\psi)$$

$$6. \varphi \rightarrow \forall x\varphi$$

if x is not free in φ

$$7. \forall x_1 \dots \forall x_n \varphi \quad Sx = Sy \rightarrow x = y$$

if φ is an instance of (one of) the above axioms

$$\text{MP Rule: } \frac{\varphi \rightarrow \psi \quad \varphi}{\psi}$$

Definition 3.2.2 (Syntactical Equivalence). *We say φ and ψ are syntactically equivalent iff $\varphi \vdash \psi$ and $\psi \vdash \varphi$.*

Theorem 3.2.3. (*Gen*): *If x has no free occurrence in Γ , then $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$ implies $\Gamma \vdash \forall x\varphi$.*

Solution. Suppose that $\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n = \varphi$ is the deductive sequence of φ from Γ .

- If φ_i is an instance of some axiom, then according to (AS7), $\forall x\varphi_i$ is also an axiom.
- If $\varphi_i \in \Gamma$, since x is not free in Γ , we have $\vdash \varphi_i \rightarrow \forall x\varphi_i$ according to (AS6). Therefore, we have $\Gamma \vdash \forall x\varphi_i$ in this case.
- If φ_i is obtained by applying (M-P) to some φ_j and $\varphi_k = \varphi_j \rightarrow \varphi_i$. By induction, we have $\Gamma \vdash \forall x\varphi_j$ and $\Gamma \vdash \forall x(\varphi_j \rightarrow \varphi_i)$. With (AS5) and (MP), we also have $\Gamma \vdash \forall x\varphi_i$ in this case.

Thus, we have $\Gamma \vdash \forall x\varphi_n$, i.e., $\Gamma \vdash \forall x\varphi$.

Exercise 3.2.4. *Prove that*

1. $\forall x\forall y\varphi \vdash \forall y\forall x\varphi$,
2. $\exists x\forall y\varphi \vdash \forall y\exists x\varphi$.

Exercise 3.2.5. *Prove that*

1. $\forall x(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \vdash \forall x(\neg\psi \rightarrow \neg\varphi)$,
2. $\forall x(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \vdash \exists x\varphi \rightarrow \exists x\psi$.

Exercise 3.2.6. *Prove that*

1. *If $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$ and $\Gamma \vdash \neg\psi$, then $\Gamma \vdash \neg(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$,*

$$2. \forall x \neg(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \vdash \neg(\varphi \rightarrow \exists x \psi).$$

Lemma 3.2.7. (*Ren*): If $C(\varphi, x, y)$, then $\forall x \varphi$ and $\forall y S_y^x \varphi$ are syntactical equivalent. That is,

$$1. \forall x \varphi \vdash \forall y S_y^x \varphi.$$

$$2. \forall y S_y^x \varphi \vdash \forall x \varphi.$$

Lemma 3.2.8. (*RS*): Let η_ψ^φ denote the formula obtained by replacing (some or all) φ inside η by ψ .

If $\varphi \vdash \psi$ and $\psi \vdash \varphi$ then $\eta \vdash \eta_\psi^\varphi$ and $\eta_\psi^\varphi \vdash \eta$.

Solution. By induction on the structure of η .

Lemma 3.2.9. *If $C(\varphi, x, y)$ and $\Gamma \vdash \psi$, then $\Gamma \vdash \psi_{\forall y S_y^x \varphi}^{\forall x \varphi}$.*

Solution. An immediate result of (Ren) and (RS).

Theorem 3.2.10. *(GenC) If $\Gamma \vdash S_a^x \varphi$ where a does not occur in $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\}$, then $\Gamma \vdash \forall x \varphi$.*

3.3 Semantics of FOL

To give semantics of terms/formulas of first order logic, we need an appropriate structure in which interpret the functions and predicates of FOL.

Definition 3.3.1. A Tarski structure is a pair $\mathcal{S} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$, where:

- \mathcal{D} is a non-empty set, called the domain.

$$+ \\ +35 = 8$$

- For each n -ary function f , we have $\mathcal{I}(f) \in \mathcal{D}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$.
- For each n -ary predicate P , we have $\mathcal{I}(P) \in \mathcal{D}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$.

Thus, for each constant a , we have $\mathcal{I}(a) \in \mathcal{D}$.

Definition 3.3.2. Given a Tarski structure $\mathcal{J} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$, an *assignment* σ under \mathcal{J} is a mapping $\sigma: VS \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$.

We use $\Sigma_{\mathcal{J}}$ to denote the set consisting of assignments under \mathcal{J} .

600 : the value of x

Definition 3.3.3. Let $\mathcal{J} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$ and $\sigma \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{J}}$.

Each term t is interpreted to an element $\mathcal{J}(t)(\sigma)$ belonging to \mathcal{D} :

- If $t = x$ is a variable, then $\mathcal{J}(t)(\sigma) = \sigma(x)$.

$$f(+, t_2, t_3)$$

+ x y

- If $t = f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ where f is an n -ary function, then $\mathcal{I}(t)(\sigma) = \mathcal{I}(f)(\underbrace{\mathcal{I}(t_1)(\sigma)}, \dots, \underbrace{\mathcal{I}(t_n)(\sigma)})$.

Thus, if $t = a$ is a constant, then $\mathcal{I}(t)(\sigma) = \mathcal{I}(a)$.

Definition 3.3.4. Each formula φ has a truth value $\mathcal{I}(\varphi)(\sigma) \in \{0, 1\}$:

- If $\varphi = \underbrace{P(t_1, \dots, t_n)}$, where P is an n -ary predicate, then $\mathcal{I}(\varphi)(\sigma) = \mathcal{I}(P)(\underbrace{\mathcal{I}(t_1)(\sigma)}, \dots, \underbrace{\mathcal{I}(t_n)(\sigma)})$.
- If $\varphi = \neg\psi$, then $\mathcal{I}(\varphi)(\sigma) = 1 - \mathcal{I}(\psi)(\sigma)$.
- If $\varphi = \psi \rightarrow \eta$, then

$$\mathcal{I}(\varphi)(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \underbrace{\mathcal{I}(\psi)(\sigma) = 0}_{\neg\psi} \text{ or } \underbrace{\mathcal{I}(\eta)(\sigma) = 1}_{\eta}, \\ 0 & \text{if } \mathcal{I}(\psi)(\sigma) = 1 \text{ and } \mathcal{I}(\eta)(\sigma) = 0. \end{cases}$$

- If $\varphi = \forall x\psi$, then

$$\mathcal{I}(\varphi)(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \underbrace{\mathcal{I}(\psi)(\sigma[x/d]) = 1}_{\text{for each } d \in \mathcal{D}}, \\ 0 & \text{if } \mathcal{I}(\psi)(\sigma[x/d]) = 0 \text{ for some } d \in \mathcal{D} \end{cases}$$

$\forall x (\psi \neq 0)$

where $\sigma[x/d]$ is a new assignment defined as

$$\underline{\sigma[x/d](y)} = \begin{cases} \sigma(y) & \text{if } y \neq x, \\ \underline{d} & \text{if } y = x. \end{cases}$$

We write $(\mathcal{I}, \sigma) \models \varphi$ if $\mathcal{I}(\varphi)(\sigma) = 1$.

Theorem 3.3.5 (Theorem of Substitution). *Suppose that t is substitutable for x within φ , then*

$(\mathcal{I}, \sigma) \models S_t^x \varphi$ if and only if $(\mathcal{I}, \sigma[x/\mathcal{I}(t)(\sigma)]) \models \varphi$.

We say that \mathcal{I} is a **model** of φ , denoted as $\mathcal{I} \models \varphi$, if $(\mathcal{I}, \sigma) \models \varphi$ for each $\sigma \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{I}}$.

In particular, we say that $\mathcal{J} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$ is a **frugal model** of φ if $|\mathcal{D}|$ is not more than the cardinality of the language.

Recall that φ is a **sentence**, if there is no free variable occurring in φ .

Theorem 3.3.6. *If φ is a sentence, then*

- $\mathcal{J} \models \varphi$ iff $(\mathcal{J}, \sigma) \models \varphi$ for *some* $\sigma \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{J}}$.

$$\forall y \forall x (x < y)$$

Definition 3.3.7. *Let φ, ψ be FOL formulas and Γ be a set of FOL formulas. Then we define:*

- $(\mathcal{J}, \sigma) \models \Gamma$ if for each $\eta \in \Gamma$, $(\mathcal{J}, \sigma) \models \eta$;
- $\Gamma \models \varphi$ if for each \mathcal{J} and $\sigma \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{J}}$, $(\mathcal{J}, \sigma) \models \Gamma$ implies $(\mathcal{J}, \sigma) \models \varphi$;
- φ and ψ are equivalent if $\{\varphi\} \models \psi$ and $\{\psi\} \models \varphi$;
- φ is valid if $\emptyset \models \varphi$.