# Mathematical Logic

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# Proposition 12.0.1 (Tarski-Vaught Test):

Suppose  $\mathcal{M}$  is a substructure of  $\mathcal{N}$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is an elementary substructure if and only if for any formula  $\varphi(v, \vec{w})$  and  $\vec{a} \in \mathcal{M}^n$ , if there is a  $b \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi(b, \vec{a})$ , then there is a  $c \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi(c, \vec{a})$ .

# **Proof:**

If  $\mathcal{M}$  is an elementary substructure of  $\mathcal{N}$ , then since

$$\mathcal{N} \vDash \exists x (\varphi(x, \vec{a}))$$

we have, by definition,

$$\mathcal{M} \vDash \exists x (\varphi(x, \vec{a}))$$

as required.

To show the converse, we must show that for every  $\vec{a} \in \mathcal{M}^n$ ,

$$\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi(\vec{a}) \iff \mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi(\vec{a})$$

we will prove this by formula induction. If  $\varphi$  is quantifier-free, then this is due to  $\mathcal{M}$  being a substructure of  $\mathcal{N}$ . The induction step for boolean combinations is trivial. Now suppose

$$\mathcal{M} \vDash \exists x \varphi(x, \vec{a})$$

then there is a  $b \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi(b, \vec{a})$  and since  $b \in \mathcal{N}$ , and so inductively  $\mathcal{N} \models \varphi(b, \vec{a})$ , which means that  $\mathcal{N} \models \exists x \varphi(x, \vec{a})$ , as required. And if

$$\mathcal{N} \vDash \exists x \varphi(x, \vec{a})$$

then there exists a  $c \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi(c, \vec{a})$  which by our assumption means that  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi(b, \vec{a})$  for  $b \in \mathcal{M}$  and thus  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi(b, \vec{a})$  so  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \exists x \varphi(x, \vec{a})$  as required.

# Definition 12.0.2:

An  $\mathcal{L}$ -theory T has built-on Skolem functions if for every  $\mathcal{L}$ -formula  $\varphi(v, w_1, \ldots, w_n)$  there is a function symbol f such that

$$T \vdash \forall \vec{w} ((\exists v \varphi(v, \vec{w})) \rightarrow \varphi(f(\vec{w}), \vec{w}))$$

Or in other words, if  $\varphi(\cdot, \vec{w})$  can be witnessed, there is a function symbol f so that it can be witnessed by  $f(\vec{w})$ .

#### Lemma 12.0.3:

Let T be an  $\mathcal{L}$ -theory. Then there exists a signature  $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^*$  and an  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -theory  $T \subseteq T^*$  such that  $T^*$  has built-in Skolem functions. Furthermore, if  $\mathcal{M} \models T$  then we can extend  $\mathcal{M}$  to an  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -model  $\mathcal{M}^*$  such that  $\mathcal{M}^* \models T^*$ . Even further,  $\mathcal{L}^*$  can be chosen such that

$$|\mathcal{L}*| = |\mathcal{L}| + \aleph_0$$

#### Proof

Let us construct an ascending sequence of languages  $\{\mathcal{L}_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ , and an ascending sequence of theories  $\{T_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  where  $T_i$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_i$ -theory.

We define  $\mathcal{L}_0 = \mathcal{L}$ , and recursively

$$\mathcal{L}_{i+1} = \mathcal{L}_i \cup \{ f_{\varphi} \mid \varphi(v, w_1, \dots, w_n) \text{ is an } \mathcal{L}_i\text{-formula for } n = 1, 2, \dots \}$$

where  $f_{\varphi}$  is a function symbol. Then for an  $\mathcal{L}_i$ -formula  $\varphi(v, \vec{w})$ , we define

$$\Phi_{\varphi} = \forall \vec{w} \big( (\exists v \varphi(v, \vec{w})) \to \varphi(f_{\varphi}(\vec{w}), \vec{w}) \big)$$

Then we define

$$T_{i+1} = T_i \cup \{\Phi_{\varphi} \mid \varphi \text{ is an } \mathcal{L}_i\text{-formula}\}$$

Now we claim that if  $\mathcal{M} \models T_i$ , it can be extended to an  $\mathcal{L}_{i+1}$ -model of  $T_{i+1}$ . Let  $c \in \mathcal{M}$ , then if  $\varphi(v, w_1, \dots, w_n)$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_i$ -formula, we define a function  $g \colon \mathcal{M}^n \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}$  such that for every  $\vec{a} \in \mathcal{M}^n$  if

$$X_{\vec{a}} = \{ b \in \mathcal{M} \mid \mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi(b, \vec{a}) \}$$

is non-empty  $(\varphi(\cdot, \vec{a}))$  has a witness), then let  $g(\vec{a}) \in X_{\vec{a}}$ . Otherwise  $g(\vec{a}) = c$ . Such a function is guaranteed by the axiom of choice.

Thus if  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \exists v \varphi(v, \vec{a})$  then  $X_{\vec{a}}$  is non-empty and so  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi(g(\vec{a}), \vec{a})$ . So we interpret  $f_{\varphi}$  as g. And thus  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \Phi_{\varphi}$ .

Let us define

$$\mathcal{L}^* = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{L}_i, \qquad T^* = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} T_i$$

And  $\mathcal{M}^*$  is the extension of  $\mathcal{M}$  we have defined above. And if we have  $\Phi \in T^*$ , either  $\Phi \in T$  in which case  $\mathcal{M}^* \models \Phi$  as it extends  $\mathcal{M}$ , and otherwise it is equal to  $\Phi_{\varphi}$  for some  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -formula  $\varphi$ , which must be an  $\mathcal{L}_i$ -formula for some i, and we showed that  $\mathcal{M} \models \Phi_{\varphi}$ . Thus  $\mathcal{M}^* \models T^*$ .

Then if  $\varphi(v, \vec{w})$  is an  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -formula, it is a  $\mathcal{L}_i$ -formula for some i and so  $\Phi_{\varphi} \in T_{i+1} \subseteq T^*$ , and this states exactly the property of  $\varphi$  having a built-in Skolem function. (Note that  $\varphi$  may be  $\Phi_{\psi}$  for some other  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -formula  $\psi$ ).

Furthermore, note that since we've added function symbols to  $\mathcal{L}_{i+1}$  for every formula of  $\mathcal{L}_i$ , we have that  $|\mathcal{L}_{i+1}| = |\mathcal{L}_i| + \aleph_0$  (if  $\mathcal{L}_i$  is uncountable then the number of functions added is  $|\mathcal{L}_i| = |\mathcal{L}_i| + \aleph_0$ , so this still holds). And so every  $\mathcal{L}_i$  has the same cardinality for each i > 0, which is  $|\mathcal{L}| + \aleph_0$ . Thus their union, as a countable union, also has this cardinality.

#### Definition 12.0.4:

The  $T^*$  defined in the proof above is called the skolemization of T.

# Theorem 12.0.5 (Downward Lowenheim-Skolem Theorem):

Suppose  $\mathcal{M}$  is an  $\mathcal{L}$ -structure and  $X \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ . Then there exists an elementary substructure  $\mathcal{N}$  of  $\mathcal{M}$  such that  $X \subseteq \mathcal{N}$  and  $|\mathcal{N}| \leq |X| + |\mathcal{L}| + \aleph_0$ .

## **Proof:**

By the above lemma, we can assume  $Th(\mathcal{M})$  has built-in Skolem functions. Let  $X_0 = X$ , then we recursively define

$$X_{i+1} = X_i \cup \{f^{\mathcal{M}}(\vec{a}) \mid f \text{ is an } n\text{-ary function symbol and } \vec{a} \in X_i^n \text{ for } n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots\}$$

Then let

$$\mathcal{N} = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} X_i$$

Notice that  $|X_{i+1}| \leq |X_i| + |\mathcal{L}| \cdot \varkappa_{X_i}$  where

$$\varkappa_X = \left| \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} X^n \right|$$

We can split this into cases, but it is not hard to show that we get  $|\mathcal{N}| \leq |X| + |\mathcal{L}| + \aleph_0$ .

If f is an n-ary function symbol of  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\vec{a} \in \mathcal{N}^n$ , then there exists some i such that  $\vec{a} \in X_i^n$ , and so  $f^{\mathcal{M}}(\vec{a}) \in X_{i+1} \subseteq \mathcal{N}$ . Thus  $f^{\mathcal{M}}$  can be restricted on  $\mathcal{N}^n$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{N}$  is a substructure of  $\mathcal{M}$ .

If  $\varphi(v, \vec{w})$  is an  $\mathcal{L}$ -structure and  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi(b, \vec{a})$  then since  $\mathcal{M}$  has built-in skolem functions, there exists some function f such that  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi(f(\vec{a}), \vec{a})$ . But since  $f^{\mathcal{M}}(\vec{a}) \in \mathcal{N}$ , thus by **Tarski-Vaught Test**,  $\mathcal{N}$  is an elementary substructure of  $\mathcal{M}$ .

# 12.1 Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé Games

#### Definition 12.1.1:

If  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  are two  $\mathcal{L}$ -interpretations and  $A \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  and  $B \subseteq \mathcal{N}$ , then a function  $f: A \longrightarrow B$  is a partial embedding if we can extend f such that  $f(c^{\mathcal{M}}) = c^{\mathcal{N}}$  for every constant symbol  $c \in \mathcal{L}$  and f is a bijection which preserves relations and functions of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

If  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  are two  $\mathcal{L}$ -interpretations, we define the two-player game  $G_{\omega}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$  like so: during each round, player I either plays an element  $m_i \in \mathcal{M}$  or an element  $n_i \in \mathcal{N}$ . If player I plays an element from  $\mathcal{M}$ , then player II must play an element  $n_i \in \mathcal{N}$ , and if player I played ane element  $m_i \in \mathcal{M}$ . Player II wins if the function  $f(m_i) = n_i$  is a partial embedding, and player I wins otherwise.

For simplicity, we assume that  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  are disjoint.

We define a *strategy* for player II to be a function  $\tau$  which maps finite sequences of elements in  $\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{N}$  to an element of  $\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{N}$ . And player II *uses* the strategy if for each round if player I plays  $c_i$ , then player II plays  $\tau(c_1, \ldots, c_n)$  (meaning in the first round player II plays  $\tau(c_1)$ , then  $\tau(c_1, c_2)$ , and so on).

A strategy  $\tau$  is called a **winning strategy** if for any sequence  $c_1, c_2, \ldots$  of moves by player I, if player II uses the strategy  $\tau$ , player II will win. Strategies and winning strategies for player I are defined similarly.

# Example 12.1.2:

If  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N} \vDash DLO$ , then player II has a winning strategy. Suppose that for the *n*th round, a partial embedding  $g \colon A \longrightarrow B$  has been created. If player I plays  $a \in \mathcal{M}$  then player II plays  $b \in \mathcal{N}$  such that the cut b induces in B (the partition of B into elements greater and less than b) is the image of the cut a induces in A. And if player I plays  $b \in \mathcal{N}$  then player II plays  $a \in \mathcal{M}$  such that the cut a induces in A is the preimage of the cut b induces in B. Such elements exist precisely because  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  are dense linear orders without endpoints.

This is a winning strategy since at every step, g is a partial embedding (as it preserves order between A and B, and order is the only symbol in  $\mathcal{L}$ ).

# Proposition 12.1.3:

If  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  are countable then player II has a winning if and only if  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  are isomorphic.

# **Proof:**

If the interpretations are isomorphic, then player II can simply play according to the isomorphism.

Now suppose player II has a winning strategy. Let us enumerate  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  as  $\{m_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\{n_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  respectively. Then suppose player I plays  $m_0, n_0, m_1, n_1, \ldots$  (if player II plays, say,  $n_0$  after player I plays  $m_0$  then player I skips it so the strategy is well-defined). Then the resulting partial embedding's domain must be  $\mathcal{M}$  and its codomain must be  $\mathcal{N}$ , and so the partial embedding is a function  $\mathcal{M} \to \mathcal{N}$ . Since it is a bijection preserving functions, constants, and relations, it is an isomorphism as required.

Now let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a signature with no function symbols, and let  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  be  $\mathcal{L}$ -interpretations. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we define the game  $G_n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$  as a game with n rounds with the same rules for each round as before, and the condition for winning is the same as well. (Meaning all we've changed is that there is a finite number of rounds.) The game  $G_n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$  is called an *Ehrenfeucht-Fraisse Game*.

#### Lemma 12.1.4:

One of the players has a winning strategy in  $G_n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ .

# **Proof:**

Suppose player II does not have a winning strategy, then this means that there exists a move player I can make on the first round for which player II cannot force a win. So player I starts with this move, and player II responds, and the game continues where for each round player I makes a move where player II cannot force a win. For the last round, there still must be a move player I can make for which player II has no winning move and so player I plays this and player II does not win and therefore player I does.

Let us define some things we should've before:

# Definition 12.1.5:

If  $\mathcal{L}$  is a signature then let us define  $\mathcal{L}^n$  to be the set of all  $\mathcal{L}$ -formulas  $\varphi$  such that free $(\varphi) \subseteq \{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$ .

For example,  $\mathcal{L}^0$  is the set of all closed formulas/sentences.

#### Definition 12.1.6:

Let us define the quantifier-depth of an  $\mathcal{L}$ -formula  $\varphi$ . This is done recursively on the construction of  $\varphi$ .

- (1)  $\operatorname{depth}(\varphi) = 0$  for prime/atomic formulas  $\varphi$  (formulas consisting of only a relational symbol on terms).
- (2)  $\operatorname{depth}(\neg \varphi) = \operatorname{depth}(\varphi)$
- (3)  $\operatorname{depth}(\varphi \wedge \psi) = \max\{\operatorname{depth}(\varphi), \operatorname{depth}(\psi)\}\$
- (4)  $\operatorname{depth}(\forall x\varphi) = \operatorname{depth}(\varphi) + 1$

Notice that  $\operatorname{depth}(\varphi * \psi) = \max\{\operatorname{depth}(\varphi), \operatorname{depth}(\psi)\}\$  for all logical operations \* by (2) and (3). And  $\operatorname{depth}(\exists x\varphi) = \operatorname{depth}(\varphi) + 1$ . Finally notice that  $\operatorname{depth}(\varphi) = 0$  if and only if  $\varphi$  is quantifier-free.

#### Definition 12.1.7:

If  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  are two  $\mathcal{L}$ -interpretations, then we say  $\mathcal{M} \equiv_n \mathcal{N}$  if for every  $\mathcal{L}$ -sentence  $\varphi$  where depth $(\varphi) \leq n$  we have  $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi$  if and only if  $\mathcal{N} \models \varphi$ .

Our goal is to show that player II has a winning strategy in  $G_n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$  if and only if  $\mathcal{M} \equiv_n \mathcal{N}$ .

#### Lemma 12.1.8:

For each n and m, there is a finite list of formulas  $\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_k \in \mathcal{L}^m$  whose depth is at most n, such that for every  $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}^m$  whose depth is at most n is equivalent to some  $\varphi_i$ .

In other words there are only finitely many unique formulas of depth  $\leq n$ .

## **Proof:**

Let us prove this for n=0, ie. quantifier-free formulas. Since  $\mathcal{L}$  contains no function symbols, the only terms in  $\mathcal{L}$  using variables  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$  are these variables as well as the constant symbols in  $\mathcal{L}$ . Since  $\mathcal{L}$  is finite, this means there are only finitely many terms in  $\mathcal{L}$  using only the variables  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ . And so there are only finitely many atomic  $\mathcal{L}^n$ -formulas, which we enumerate as  $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_t$ . Let  $\varphi$  be a quantifier-free formula using only the variables  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$  then it has a disjunctive normal form, ie. there exists a set  $S \subseteq \mathcal{P}(1, \ldots, t)$  such that

$$\vdash \varphi \leftrightarrow \bigvee_{x \in S} \left( \bigwedge_{i \in X} \sigma_i \land \bigwedge_{i \notin X} \neg \sigma_i \right)$$

This gives  $2^{2^t}$  formulas where every quantifier-free formula using only these variables is equivalent to one of them, as required.

Since formulas of depth n+1 are equivalent to boolean combinations of formulas of the form  $\forall x \varphi$ , where depth( $\varphi$ )  $\leq n$ , and quantifier-free formulas, the rest of the proof follows by induction.

### Lemma 12.1.9:

Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a finite signature without function symbols and  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  be  $\mathcal{L}$ -interpretations. Then player II has a winning strategy in  $G_n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$  if and only if  $\mathcal{M} \equiv_n \mathcal{N}$ .

#### Proof

We prove this by induction on n. Suppose  $\mathcal{M} \equiv_n \mathcal{N}$ , and suppose player I plays  $a \in \mathcal{M}$  on the first round. Then we claim there exists a  $b \in \mathcal{N}$  where

$$\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi(a) \iff \mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi(b)$$

for every formula where  $depth(\varphi) < n$ .

Let  $\varphi_1(x), \ldots, \varphi_m(x)$  be the formulas of depth < n, and let

$$X = \{ i \le n \mid \mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi_i(a) \}$$

and let

$$\Phi(x) = \bigwedge_{i \in X} \varphi_i(x) \wedge \bigwedge_{i \not \in X} \neg \varphi_i(x)$$

then depth( $\exists x \Phi$ )  $\leq n$  and  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \Phi(a)$  and so  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \exists x \Phi$ , and since  $\mathcal{M} \equiv_n \mathcal{N}$  this means that  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \exists x \Phi$  and so there exists a  $b \in \mathcal{N}$  where  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \Phi(b)$ . Notice that if  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi_i(a)$  then  $i \in X$  and so  $\varphi_i(b)$  is part of the conjunction of  $\Phi(b)$  and so  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi_i(b)$ . And if  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \neg \varphi_i(a)$ , then  $i \notin X$  and so  $\neg \varphi_i(b)$  is part of the conjunction of  $\Phi(b)$  so  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \neg \varphi_i(b)$ . So  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi_i(a)$  if and only if  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi_i(b)$  for every i. Since  $\varphi$  is equivalent to some  $\varphi_i$ ,  $\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi(a)$  if and only if  $\mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi(b)$ , as required.

So have player II play b in the first round.

If n=1, then  $a\mapsto b$  is a partial embedding (since it preserves all  $\mathcal{L}^1$ -formulas), and so the game has finished and player II has won. Otherwise suppose n>1, then let  $\mathcal{L}^*=\mathcal{L}\cup\{c\}$  where c is a new constant symbol, and extend  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  as  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -interpretations where they interpret c as a and b respectively. Let these extensions be  $\mathcal{M}^*$  and  $\mathcal{N}^*$ . Since

$$\mathcal{M} \vDash \varphi(a) \iff \mathcal{N} \vDash \varphi(b)$$

for depth $(\varphi) < n$ ,  $\mathcal{M}^* \equiv_{n-1} \mathcal{N}^*$ . So by our inductive assumption, player II has a winning strategy in  $G_{n-1}(\mathcal{M}^*, \mathcal{N}^*)$ .

If player I's second play is d, then player II responds as if d was player I's first play in  $G_{n-1}(\mathcal{M}^*, \mathcal{N}^*)$  and continues using this winning strategy. The resulting function  $f^* \colon X \longrightarrow \mathcal{N}$  is a partial  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -embedding, and so it preserves constants and relations of  $\mathcal{L}$ . Let us extend  $f^*$  to  $f \colon X \cup \{a\} \longrightarrow \mathcal{N}$  by f(a) = b, this is the function created in the game  $G_n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ . Since  $f^*$  is a partial  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -embedding, it can be extended to a bijection preserving the relations and constants of  $\mathcal{L}^*$ , and in particular since  $c^{\mathcal{M}^*} = a$  and  $c^{\mathcal{N}^*} = b$ , its extension must map a to b. And thus this extension is also an extension of f, and so f can be extended to a  $\mathcal{L}$ -preserving bijection as required.

Now suppose  $\mathcal{M} \not\equiv_n \mathcal{N}$ . Since formulas of depth  $\leq n$  are boolean combinations of formulas of the form  $\exists x \varphi(x)$  where  $\operatorname{depth}(\varphi) < n$ ,  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  must disagree on a formula of this type. So we can assume  $\mathcal{M} \models \exists x \varphi(x)$  and  $\mathcal{N} \models \neg \exists x \varphi(x) = \forall x \neg \varphi(x)$  where  $\operatorname{depth}(\varphi) < n$ . We claim that player I has a winning strategy.

For the first round, player I plays  $a \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi(a)$ . If player II responds with  $b \in \mathcal{N}$ , let us again extend  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  to  $\mathcal{M}^*$  and  $\mathcal{N}^*$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}^* \not\equiv_{n-1} \mathcal{N}^*$  since  $\mathcal{M}^* \models \varphi(c)$  and  $\mathcal{N}^* \models \neg \varphi(c)$ . So inductively, player I has a winning strategy in  $G_{n-1}(\mathcal{M}^*, \mathcal{N}^*)$ , and the resulting function  $f^*$  is not a partial embedding, and so no extension of it is not a partial embedding, as required.

Since  $\mathcal{M} \equiv \mathcal{N}$  if and only if  $\mathcal{M} \equiv_n \mathcal{N}$  for all n, the following theorem follows trivially from this lemma.

#### Theorem 12.1.10:

If  $\mathcal{M}$  adn  $\mathcal{N}$  are two  $\mathcal{L}$ -interpretations, then  $\mathcal{M} \equiv \mathcal{N}$  if and only if player II has a winning strategy in  $G_n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$  for every n.

Let us look at an example usage of Ehrenfeucht-Fraïsé Games. Let  $\mathcal{L} = \{<\}$  and T be the theory of discrete linear orders without endpoints, ie. the set of axioms for linear orders as well as the axiom

$$\forall x \exists y \exists z (y < x < z \land \forall w (w < y \lor w = x \lor w > z))$$

z is the successor of x in this theory. Suppose  $\mathcal{N} \models T$  then we define the equivalence relation E on  $\mathcal{N}$  where aEb if and only if b the nth successor or predecessor of a for some n. Then each equivalence class of  $\mathcal{N}$  is itself a model of T and is isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z}, <)$  (an isomorphism can be constructed by choosing some a in the equivalence class and mapping it to 0, and mapping its nth successor to n and nth predecessor to -n).

Notice that if aEb and  $\neg(aEc)$ , and if a < c then b < c (since if c < b it would have to be a successor of a as well), and so the equivalence classes are linearly ordered as well. Thus every model of T is isomorphic to  $(L \times \mathbb{Z}, <)$  where L is some linearly ordered set and < is the lexicographic ordering on  $L \times \mathbb{Z}$ . And every structure of this form is a model of T.

#### Proposition 12.1.11:

The theory of discrete linear orders without endpoints is complete.

# **Proof:**

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the model  $(\mathbb{Z}, <)$  and let  $\mathbb{N} = (L \times \mathbb{Z}, <)$  where L is a linear order and < is the lexicographic ordering on  $L \times \mathbb{Z}$ . We claim that  $\mathcal{M} \equiv \mathbb{N}$ , and we will prove this by developing a winning strategy for player II in  $G_n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ .

For  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  let us define

$$dist(a,b) = |a-b|$$

And for  $(i, a), (j, b) \in L \times \mathbb{Z}$ , let us define

$$dist((i,a), (j,b)) = \begin{cases} |a-b| & i=j\\ \infty & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

Our goal is to try and ensure that after m rounds of the game, if  $a_1 < a_2 < \cdots < a_m$  are the elements of  $\mathcal{N}$  which have been played, and  $b_1 < b_2 < \cdots < b_m$  are the elements in  $\mathbb{Z}$  which have been played, then the mapping  $a_i \mapsto b_i$  is the partial embedding corresponding to the play of the game. Furthermore, if  $\operatorname{dist}(a_i, a_{i+1}) > 3^{n-m}$  then  $\operatorname{dist}(b_i, b_{i+1}) > 3^{n-m}$ , and if  $\operatorname{dist}(a_i, a_{i+1}) \le 3^{n-m}$  then  $\operatorname{dist}(b_i, b_{i+1}) = \operatorname{dist}(a_i, a_{i+1})$ , for  $i = 1, \ldots, m-1$ .

Obviously since  $a_i < a_{i+1}$  and  $b_i < b_{i+1}$ , the function will preserve the relations of the theory and thus be a partial embedding.

We claim that player II can always make a move to preserve this condition. In round 1, player II can choose any arbitrary element and the condition will hold. Now suppose we have played m rounds and  $a_1 < \cdots < a_m$  and  $b_1 < \cdots < b_m$  be defined as above. Now suppose player I plays  $b \in L \times \mathbb{Z}$ , then there are several cases

- (1) If  $b < b_1$  then if  $dist(b, b_1) = k < \infty$  then player II plays  $a_1 k$ . If  $dist(b, b_1) = \infty$  then player II plays  $a_1 3^n$ , but in any case the condition holds.
- (2) If  $b_i < b < b_{i+1}$  and  $dist(b_i, b_{i+1}) \le 3^{n-m}$  then  $dist(a_i, a_{i+1}) = dist(b_i, b_{i+1})$ . Play  $a = a_i + dist(b, b_i)$ , then  $dist(a, a_{i+1}) = dist(b, b_{i+1})$  as required.
- (3) If  $b_i < b < b_{i+1}$  and  $dist(b_i, b_{i+1}) > 3^{n-m}$  and  $dist(b, b_i) < 3^{n-m-1}$  then  $dist(a_i, a_{i+1}) > 3^{n-m}$ . Play  $a = a_i + dist(b, b_i)$ , then  $dist(a, a_{i+1})$  and  $dist(a_i, a)$  are greater than  $3^{n-m-1}$  as required.
- (4) If  $b_i < b < b_{i+1}$  and  $\operatorname{dist}(b_i, b_{i+1}) > 3^{n-m}$  and  $\operatorname{dist}(b, b_{i+1}) < 3^{n-m-1}$ , play  $a = a_{i+1} \operatorname{dist}(b, b_{i+1})$ .
- (5) If  $b_i < b < b_{i+1}$  and  $\operatorname{dist}(b_i, b_{i+1}) > 3^{n-m}$ ,  $\operatorname{dist}(b, b_i) > 3^{n-m-1}$ , and  $\operatorname{dist}(b, b_{i+1}) < 3^{n-m-1}$ . Then  $\operatorname{dist}(a_i, a_{i+1}) > 3^{n-m}$  and so choose an a such that  $a_i < a < a_{i+1}$  and the distance of a between them both is greater than  $3^{n-m-1}$ . Playing a satisfies the condition.
- (6) If  $b > b_m$ , this is similar to the first condition.

Thus player II has a winning strategy, and so  $\mathcal{M} \equiv \mathcal{N}$ , meaning all models of T are elementarily equivalent so T is complete.