Introduction

The course is split into two parts:

- Logic: syntax and semantics.
- Set theory: what does the universe of sets look like?

Course structure

- (I) Propositional logic (logic)
- (II) Well-orderings & ordinals (set theory)
- (III) Posets & Zorn's lemma (set theory)
- (IV) Predicate logic (logic)
- (V) Set theory (set theory)
- (VI) Cardinals (set theory)

Books:

- 1. Johnstone, Notes on Logic & Set Theory
- 2. Van Dalen, Logic & Structure (Chapter 4 and what 'goes next')
- 3. Hajnal & Hamburger, Set Theory (Chapters 2 and 6)
- 4. Forster, Logic, Induction & Sets

1 Propositional Logic

Let P be a set of *primitive propositions*. Unless otherwise stated, $P = \{p_1, p_2, \ldots\}$. The *language* L or L(P) is defined inductively by

- 1. If $p \in P$, then $p \in L$
- 2. $\perp \in L$ (\perp is read 'false')
- 3. If $p, q \in L$ then $(p \Rightarrow q) \in L$.

e.g
$$((p_1 \Rightarrow p_2) \Rightarrow (p_1 \Rightarrow p_3)), (p_4 \Rightarrow \bot), (\bot \Rightarrow \bot).$$

Notes.

- 1. Each proposition (member of L) is a finite string of symbols from language: $\vdash, \Rightarrow, \perp, p_1, p_2, \ldots$ (for clarity often omit outer brackets, use other types of bracket, etc).
- 2. 'L is defined inductively' means, more precisely, the following

- Put $L_1 = P \cup (\bot)$;
- Having defined L_n , put $L_{n+1} = L_n \cup \{(p \Rightarrow q) : p, q \in L_n\};$
- Set $L = \bigcup_{n>1} L_n$.
- 3. Every $p \in L$ is uniquely built up from steps 1,2 using 3. For example, $((p_1 \Rightarrow p_2) \Rightarrow (p_1 \Rightarrow p_3))$ can from $(p_1 \Rightarrow p_2)$ and $(p_1 \Rightarrow p_3)$.

We can now introduce $\neg p$ ('not p') as an abreviation for $(p \Rightarrow \bot)$; $p \lor q$ ('p or q') as an abreviation for $(\neg p) \Rightarrow q$; $p \land q$ ('p and q') as an abreviation for $\neg (p \Rightarrow (\neg q))$.

1.1 Semantic Implication

Definition. A valuation is a function $v: L \to \{0,1\}$ (thinking of 0 as 'False' and 1 as 'True') such that

- (i) $v(\bot) = 0$
- (ii) $v(p \Rightarrow q) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v(p) = 1, \ v(q) = 0 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$.

Remark. On $\{0,1\}$, could define a constant $\perp = 0$ and an operation \Rightarrow by

$$(a\Rightarrow b)=\begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } a=1,b=0\\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

Then a valuation is precisely a mapping $L \to \{0,1\}$ that preserves $(\perp \text{ and } \Rightarrow)$.

Proposition 1.1.

- (i) If v, v' are valuations with v(p) = v(p') for all $p \in P$, then v = v'.
- (ii) For any function $w: P \to \{0,1\}$, there exists a valuation v with v(p) = w(p) for all $p \in P$.

Proof.

- (i) Have v(p) = v'(p) for all $p \in L_1$. But if v(p) = v'(p) and v(q) = v'(q), then $v(p \Rightarrow q) = v'(p \Rightarrow q)$, so v(p) = v'(p) for all $p \in L_2$. Continuing inductively we obtain v(p) = v'(p) for all $p \in L_n$ for each n.
- (ii) Set v(p) = w(p) for all $p \in P$ and $v(\perp) = 0$ to obtain v on L_1 . Now put

$$v(p \Rightarrow q) = \begin{cases} 0 & v(p) = 1, v(q) = 0\\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

to obtain v on L_2 , then induction.

Example. Let v be the valuation with $v(p_1) = v(p_3) = 1$, $v(p_n) = 0$ for all $n \neq 1, 3$. Then $v((p_1 \Rightarrow p_2) \Rightarrow p_3) = 0$.

Definition. A tautology is an element $t \in L$ such that v(t) = 1 for any valuation v. We write $\models t$.

Examples.

1.
$$p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow p)$$

v(p)	v(q)	$v(p \Rightarrow q)$	$v(p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow p))$
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1

So this is a tautology.

2. $(\neg \neg p) \Rightarrow p$, i.e $((p \Rightarrow \bot) \Rightarrow \bot) \Rightarrow p$ ('law of excluded middle')

v(p)	$v(p \Rightarrow \bot)$	$v((p \Rightarrow \bot) \Rightarrow \bot)$	$v(((p \Rightarrow \bot) \Rightarrow \bot) \Rightarrow p)$
0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1

3. $(p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r)) \Rightarrow ((p \Rightarrow q) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow r))$ ("how implication chains"). Suppose this is not a tautology. Then we have a v with $v(p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r)) = 1$ and $v((p \Rightarrow q) \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r)) = 0$. Then $v(p \Rightarrow q) = 1$ and $v(p \Rightarrow r) = 0$. Hence v(p) = 1 and v(r) = 0, so v(q) = 1. Hence $v(p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r)) = 0$, contradiction.

Definition. For $S \subseteq L$, $t \in L$, we say S entails or semantically implies t, written $S \models t$ if every valuation with v(s) = 1 for all $s \in S$ has v(t) = 1.

Example. $\{p \Rightarrow q, q \Rightarrow r\}$ entails $p \Rightarrow r$. Indeed, suppose we have v with $v(p \Rightarrow q), \ v(q \Rightarrow r) = 1$ but $v(p \Rightarrow r)$. Then $v(p) = 1, \ v(r) = 0$. Hence v(q) = 1, contradicting $v(q \Rightarrow r) = 1$.

Definition. We say v is a *model* of $S \subseteq L$ or S is *true* in v, if v(s) = 1 for all $s \in S$. Thus S entails t means: every model of S is also a model of t.

Remark. $\vDash t \text{ says } \emptyset \vDash t$.

1.2 Syntatic implication

For a notion of proof, we'll need axioms and deduction rules. As axioms, we'll take:

- 1. $p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow p)$ for all $p, q \in L$;
- 2. $[p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r)] \Rightarrow [(p \Rightarrow q) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow r)]$ for all $p, q \in L$;
- 3. $(\neg \neg p) \Rightarrow p$ for all $p \in L$.

Notes.

- 1. Sometimes we call these 'axiom schemes' since each is actually a set of axioms.
- 2. Each of these are tautologies.

For deduction rules, we'll have only modus ponens: from each p and $p \Rightarrow q$ we can deduce q.

Definition. For $S \subseteq L$, and $t \in S$, say S proves or syntactically implies t, written $S \vdash t$ if there exists a sequence t_1, \ldots, t_n in L with $t_n = t$ such that every t_i is either

- (i) An axiom; or
- (ii) A member of S; or
- (iii) Such that there exist j, k < i with $t_k \Rightarrow (t_j \Rightarrow t_n)$ (modus ponens).

Say S consists of the *hypotheses* or *premises*, and t the *conclusion*.

Example. $\{p \Rightarrow q, q \Rightarrow r\} \vdash p \Rightarrow r$:

- 1. $q \Rightarrow r$ (hypothesis)
- 2. $(q \Rightarrow r) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r))$ (axiom 1)
- 3. $p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r)$ (modus ponens' on 2,3)
- 4. $[p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r)] \Rightarrow [(p \Rightarrow q) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow r)]$ (axiom 2)
- 5. $(p \Rightarrow q) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow r)$ (modus ponens' on 3,4)
- 6. $p \Rightarrow q$ (hypothesis)
- 7. $p \Rightarrow r \pmod{5,6}$

Definition. If $\emptyset \vdash t$, say t is a theorem, written $\vdash t$.

Example. $\vdash (p \Rightarrow p)$. We want to try to get to $(p \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow)) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow p)$ using axiom 2.

- 1. $[p \Rightarrow ((p \Rightarrow p) \Rightarrow p)] \Rightarrow [(p \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow p)) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow p)]$ (axiom 2)
- 2. $p \Rightarrow ((p \Rightarrow p) \Rightarrow p)$ (axiom 1)
- 3. $(p \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow p)) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow p)$ (modus ponens on 1,2)
- 4. $p \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow p)$ (axiom 1)
- 5. $p \Rightarrow p \pmod{3,4}$

Often, showing $S \vdash p$ is made easier by:

Proposition 1.2 (Deduction Theorem). Let $S \subseteq L$ and $p, q \in L$. Then $S \vdash (p \Rightarrow q)$ if and only if $S \cup \{p\} \vdash q$. Informally: "provability corresponds to the connective ' \Rightarrow ' in L".

Proof. First we show (\Rightarrow) : given a proof of $p \Rightarrow q$ from S, write down:

- 1. p (hypothesis)
- $2. q \pmod{\text{ponens}}$

Which is a proof of q from $S \cup \{p\}$.

Now we show (\Leftarrow) : we have a proof t_1, \ldots, t_n of q from $S \cup \{p\}$. We'll show that $S \vdash (p \Rightarrow t_i)$ for all i.

If t_i is an axiom, write down

- 1. t_i (axiom)
- 2. $t_i \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow t_i)$ (axiom 1)
- 3. $p \Rightarrow t_i \text{ (modus ponens)}$

So $S \vdash (p \Rightarrow t_i)$.

If $t_i \in S$, do the same thing except step 1 will be " t_i (hypothesis)" instead of " t_i (axiom)".

If $t_i := p$, we have $S \vdash (p \Rightarrow p)$, since $\vdash (p \Rightarrow p)$.

If t_i is obtained by modus ponens, we have t_j and $t_k = (t_j \Rightarrow t_i)$ for some j, k < n. By induction, we can assume $S \vdash (p \Rightarrow t_j)$ and $S \vdash (p \Rightarrow (t_j \Rightarrow t_i))$. So write down

- 1. $[p \Rightarrow (t_i \Rightarrow t_i)] \Rightarrow [(p \Rightarrow t_i) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow t_i)]$ (axiom 2)
- 2. $(p \Rightarrow t_j) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow t_i)$ (modus ponens)

3. $p \Rightarrow t_i \text{ (modus ponens)}$

So
$$S \vdash p \Rightarrow t$$
.

Example. To show $\{p \Rightarrow q, q \Rightarrow r\} \vdash (p \Rightarrow r)$, it is sufficient to show $\{p \Rightarrow q, q \Rightarrow r, p\} \vdash r$, which is just modus ponens twice.

Question: how are \vDash and \vdash related?

Aim: $S \models t \iff S \vdash t$ (Completeness Theorem).

This is made up of:

- $S \vdash t \Rightarrow S \vDash t$ (soundness) i.e "our axioms and deduction rule are not silly";
- $S \vDash t \Rightarrow S \vDash t$ (adequacy) "our axioms are strong enough to deduce from S, every semantic consequence of S".

Proposition 1.3 (Soundness). Let $S \subseteq L$, $t \in L$. Then $S \vdash t \Rightarrow S \vDash t$.

Proof. We have a proof t_1, \ldots, t_n of t from S. So we must show that every model of S is a model of t, i.e if v is a valuation with v(s) = 1 for all $s \in S$, then v(t) = 1. But v(p) = 1 for each axiom p (each axiom is a tautology), and for each $p \in S$ whenever $v(p) = v(p \Rightarrow q) = 1$, we have v(q). So $v(t_i) = 1$ for all i (induction).

One case of adequacy is: if $S \vDash \bot$, then $S \vdash \bot$. We say S is constitutent if $S \not\vdash \bot$. So our statement is: S has no model $\Rightarrow S$ inconsistent, i.e S consistent $\Rightarrow S$ has a model.

In fact, this implies adequacy in general. Indeed, if $S \models t$ then $S \cup \{\neg t\}$ has no model. Hence (by the special case) $S \cup \{\neg t\} \vdash \bot$. So $S \vdash (\neg t \Rightarrow \bot)$, i.e $S \vdash (\neg \neg t)$. But $S \vdash (\neg \neg t) \Rightarrow t$ (axiom 3), so $S \vdash t$.

So our task is: given S consistent, find a model of S. Could try: define

$$v(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & t \in S \\ 0 & t \notin S \end{cases}.$$

But this fails, since S might not be deductively closed, meaning $S \vdash p \Rightarrow p \in S$. So we could first replace S with its deductive closure $\{t \in L : S \vdash t\}$ (which is consistent, because S is). However, this still fails: if S does not 'mention' p_3 , then $S \not\vdash p_3$ and $S \not\vdash \neg p_3$, so $v(p_3) = v(\neg p_3) = 0$ which is impossible.

Theorem 1.4 (Model Existence Theorem). Let $S \subseteq L$ be consistent. Then S has a model.

Idea: extend S to 'swallow up', for each p, one of p and $\neg p$.

Proof. Claim: for any consistent $S \subseteq L$ and $p \in L$, $S \cup \{p\}$ or $S \cup \{\neg p\}$ is consistent.

Proof of claim: if not, then $S \cup \{p\} \vdash \bot$ and $S \cup \{\neg p\} \vdash \bot$. So $S \vdash (p \Rightarrow \bot)$ (deduction theorem), i.e $S \vdash (\neg p)$. Hence from $S \cup \{\neg p\} \vdash \bot$ we obtain $S \vdash \bot$.

Now, L is countable (as each L_n is countable) so we can list L as t_1, t_2, \ldots Let $S_0 = S$. Let $S_1 = S_0 \cup \{t_1\}$ or $S_1 \cup \{\neg t_1\}$ with S_1 consistent. In general, given S_{n-1} let $S_n = S_{n-1} \cup \{t_n\}$ or $S_n = S_{n-1} \cup \{\neg t_n\}$ so that S_n is consistent. Now set $\overline{S} = S_0 \cup S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \ldots$ Thus for all $t \in L$, either $t \in \overline{S}$ or $(\neg t) \in \overline{S}$.

Now \overline{S} is consistent: if $\overline{S} \vdash \bot$ then, since proofs are finite, we'd have $S_n \vdash \bot$ for some n, a contradiction.

Also, \overline{S} is deductively closed: if $\overline{S} \vdash p$, must have $p \in \overline{S}$, since otherwise $(\neg p) \in \overline{S}$, so $\overline{S} \vdash (p \Rightarrow \bot)$ and $\overline{S} \vdash \bot$.

Now define $v: L \to \{0, 1\}$ by

$$t \mapsto \begin{cases} 1 & t \in \overline{S} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

We'll show v is a valuation (then we're done as v = 1 on S).

 $v(\bot)$: have $\bot \not\in \overline{S}$ (since \overline{S} is consistent), so $v(\bot) = 0$.

Remarks.

- 1. We used $P = (p_1, p_2, ...)$, in saying L is countable. In fact, it also holds if P is uncountable (see later in course).
- 2. Sometimes this theorem is called 'The Completeness Theorem'

By the remarks stated before this theorem, we have

Corollary 1.5 (Adequacy). Let $S \subseteq L$, $t \in L$, with $S \vDash t$. Then $S \vdash t$.

Hence we have

Theorem 1.6 (Completeness Theorem). Let $S \subseteq L$, $t \in L$. Then $S \vdash t \iff S \models t$.

Corollary 1.7 (Compactness Theorem). Let $S \subseteq L$, $t \in L$ with $S \models t$. Then some finite $S' \subseteq S$ has $S' \models t$.

Proof. This is trivial if we replace \vDash by \vdash (as all proofs are finite).

For $t = \bot$, the theorem says: if $S \models T$ then some finite $S' \subseteq S$ has $S' \vdash \bot$, i.e if every finite $S' \subseteq S$ has a model then S has a model. In fact, this is equivalent to compactness in general: $S \models t$ says $S \cup \{\neg t\}$ has no model, and $S' \models t$ says $S' \cup \{\neg t\}$ has no model.

Corollary 1.8 (Compactness Theorem equivalent form). Let $S \subseteq L$. Then if every finite subset of S has a model, so does S.

Another application:

Corollary 1.9 (Decidability Theorem). Let $S \subseteq L$ be finite and $t \in L$. Then there is an algorithm to decide, in finite time, whether of not $S \vdash t$.

Remark. This is a very surprising result.

Proof. Trivial if we replace \vdash with \models : to check if $S \models t$ we just draw the truth table.

2 Well-ordering & Ordinals

Definition. A total order or linear order is a pair (X, <) where X is a set and < is a relation on X that is

- (i) irreflexive: for all $x \in X$, not x < x;
- (ii) transitive: for all $x, y, z \in X$, if x < y, y < z then x < z;
- (iii) trichotomous: for all $x, y \in X$, either x = y or x < y or y < x.

We sometimes write x > y if y < x, and $x \le y$ if x < y or x = y.

We can instead define a total order in terms of \leq as follows:

- (i) reflextive: for all $x \in X$, $x \le x$;
- (ii) transitive: for all $x, y, z \in X$, if $x \le y, y \le z$ then $x \le z$;
- (iii) antisymmetric: for all $x, y \in X$, if $x \le y, y \le x$ then x = y;
- (iv) trichotomous: for all $x, y \in X$ either $x \leq y$ or $y \leq x$.

Examples.

- 1. $\mathbb{N}, <$;
- $2. \mathbb{Q}, \leq;$
- $3. \mathbb{R}, \leq;$
- 4. $\mathbb{N}^+ = \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$ under 'divides' is <u>not</u> a total order, e.g 2 and 3 are not related;
- 5. $\mathcal{P}(S)$, \subseteq is <u>not</u> a total order fails trichotomy.

Definition. A total order (X, <) is a well-ordering if every (non-empty) subset has a least element, i.e for all $S \subseteq X$ if $S \neq \emptyset$ then there exists $x \in S$ such that $x \leq y$ for all $y \in S$.

Examples.

- 1. $\mathbb{N}, <$;
- 2. \mathbb{Z} , < is not a well ordering;
- 3. \mathbb{Q} , < is not a well ordering;
- 4. \mathbb{R} , < is not a well ordering;
- 5. $[0,1] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, < is not a well ordering, e.g (0,1] has no least element;
- 6. $\{1/2, 2/3, 3/4, \ldots\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is well ordered;
- 7. $\{1/2, 2/4, 3/4, \ldots\} \cup \{1\}$ is well ordered;

- 8. $\{1/2, 2/4, 3/4, \ldots\} \cup \{2\}$ is well ordered;
- 9. $\{1/2, 2/3, 3/4, \ldots\} \cup \{1 + 1/2, 1 + 2/3, 1 + 3/4, \ldots\}$ is well ordered.

Remark. (X, <) is a well ordering if and only if there is no infinite strictly decreasing sequence.

We say total orders X, Y are isomorphic if there exists a bijection $f: X \to Y$ such that x < y if and only if f(x) < f(y). For example, Examples 1&6, 7&8 above are isomorphic. However examples 1&7 are not isomorphic, since in 7 there exists a greatest element, but not in 1.

Proposition 2.1 (Proof by induction). Let X be well ordered and let $S \subseteq X$ be such that whenever $y \in S$ for all y < x, then $x \in S$. Then S = X. Equivalently, if p(x) is a property such that p(y) for all y < x implies p(x), then p(x) for all $x \in X$.

Proof. Suppose $S \neq X$ and let x be least in $X \setminus S$. Then $y \in S$ for all y < x but $x \notin S$, a contradiction.

Proposition 2.2. Let X, Y be isomorphic well-orderings. Then there exists a unique isomorphism.

Note. Note this is false for general total orders, for example $\mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$ could have $x \mapsto x - t$ for any t, or $\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ could have $x \mapsto x^3$.

Proof. Let $f, g: X \to Y$ be isomorphisms. We'll show f(x) = g(x) for all x by induction on X. Given f(y) = g(y) for all y < x, we want to show f(x) = g(x). We must have f(x) = a where a is the least element of $Y \setminus \{f(y) : y < x\}$ (nonempty since it contains f(x)). Indeed, if not then f(x') = a for some x' > x, contradicting the fact f is order preserving. Similarly have g(x) = a.

Definition. A subset I of a total order X is an *initial segment* if $x \in I$, y < x implies $y \in I$ (i.e I is closed under <). For example $I_x = \{y \in X : y < x\}$ is an initial segment for any $x \in X$, however not every inital segment is of this form, e.g in $\mathbb{Q} \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : x \leq 0 \text{ or } x^2 < 2\}$.

Note. In a well-ordering, every proper initial segment I is of the form I_x , for some $x \in X$. Indeed let x be the least element of $X \setminus I$ (non-empty since I is proper). Then $I = I_x$, since if y < x then $y \in I$ (by choice of x), and conversely if $y \in I$, must have y < x or else $y \ge x$ implying $x \in I$ (as I is an initial segment).

Our aim is to show that every subset of a well-ordering X is isomorphic to an initial segment of X.

Note. This is false in general for total orders, e.g $\{1,2,3\}$ in \mathbb{Z} , or \mathbb{Q} in \mathbb{R} .

Theorem 2.3 (Definition by recursion). Let X be a well-ordering and let Y be any set. Take $G: \mathcal{P}(X \times Y) \to Y$ (i.e a 'rule'). Then there exists a function $f: X \to Y$ such that $f(x) = G(f|_{I_x})$ for all $x \in X$. Moreover, f is unique.

Note. In defining f(x), we make use of f on $I_x = \{y : y < x\}$.

Proof. Say h is 'an attempt' if $h: I \to Y$ for some initial segment I of X, and for all $x \in I$ we have $h(x) = G(h|_{I_x})$. [This is the main idea].

Note that if h, h' are attempts both defined at x, then h(x) = h'(x), by induction on x (if h(y) = h'(y) for all y < x then h(x) = h'(y)).

Also, for every x, there exists an attempt defined at x, also by induction. Indeed, suppose that for all y < x there exists an attempt defined at y. So for all y < x there exists a unique (by above) attempt h_y with domain $\{z : z \le y\}$. Now let $h = \bigcup_{y \le x} h_y$, this is an attempt with domain I_x (single valued by uniqueness). Thus $h \cup \{(x, G(h))\}$ is an attempt defined at x. Now define $f : X \to Y$ by setting f(x) = y if there exists an attempt h defined at x such that h(x) = y.

Uniqueness of f: if f, f' are both such functions, then f(x) = f'(x) for all x by induction (f(y) = f'(y)) for all y < x implies f(x) = f'(x).

Proposition 2.4 (Subset collapse). Let X be a well-ordering and $Y \subseteq X$. Then Y is isomorphic to an initial segment of X. Moreover, I is unique.

Proof. To have $f: Y \to X$ an isomorphism with an initial segment of X, we need precisely that for every $x \in Y$ we have that f(x) is the minimum element of $X \setminus \{f(y): y < x\}$. So we're done by the previous theorem.

Note. We have $X \setminus \{f(y) : y < x\} \neq \emptyset$, since $f(y) \leq y$ for all y (induction), so $x \notin \{f(y) : y < x\}$.

In particular, X itself cannot be isomorphic to a proper intial segment (uniqueness).

How do different well-orderings relate to each other?

Definition. For well-orderings X, Y we write $X \leq Y$ if X is isomorphic to an initial segment of Y.

Example. If $X = \mathbb{N}, Y = (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, ...)$, then $X \leq Y$.

Proposition 2.5. Let X, Y be well-orderings. Then $X \leq Y$ or $Y \leq X$.

Proof. Suppose $Y \not\leq X$, we'll show $X \leq Y$. To obtain $f: X \to Y$ an isomorphism with an initial segment of Y, we need precisely that for every $x \in X$, f(x) is the least element in $Y \setminus \{f(y): y < x\}$ [note this can only be empty if Y is isomorphic to I_x]. So we're done by recursion.

Proposition 2.6. Let X, Y be well-orderings with $X \leq Y$ and $Y \leq X$. Then X and Y are isomorphic.

Note. This proposition and the previous one are "the most we could ever hope for".

Proof. We have isomorphisms f from X to some initial segment of Y, and g from Y to some initial segment of X. Then $g \circ f : X \to X$ is an isomorphism from X to an initial segment of X (as initial segment of an initial segment of X is itself an initial segment). So by uniqueness $g \circ f = \mathrm{id}_X$. Similarly $f \circ g = \mathrm{id}_Y$. Hence f and g are inverses, thus bijections.

New well-ordering from old

For well-orderings X, Y, we say X < Y if $X \le Y$ and X is not isomorphic to Y. Equivalently, X < Y if and only if X is isomorphic to a proper initial segement of Y.

We can 'make a bigger one': given a well-ordering X, pick some $x \notin X$ and well-order $X \cup \{x\}$ by setting y < x for all $y \in X$. This is a well-ordering and is > X. Call this the *successor* of X, written X^+ .

We can 'put some together': given $\{X_i\}_{i\in I}$ well-orderings, seek X with $X \geq X_i$ for all i. For well-orderings $(X, <_X), (Y, <_Y)$ we say Y extends X if $X \subseteq Y$, $<_Y|_X = <_X$, and X is an intitial segment of $(Y, <_Y)$. Say well-orderings $\{X_i\}_{i\in I}$ ar nested if for all i, j, X_i extends X_j or X_j extends X_i .

Proposition 2.7. Let $\{X_i\}_{i\in I}$ be a nested set of well-orderings. Then there exists a well-ordering X such that $X \geq X_i$ for all i.

Proof. Let $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i$, with ordering $<_X = \bigcup_{i \in I} <_i$, i.e x < y in X if there exists i such that $x, y \in X_i$ and $x <_i y$. Given $S \subseteq X$ non-empty, we have $S \cap X_i$ non-empty for some $i \in I$. Let x be the least element of $S \cap X_i$ (under $<_i$). Then x is the least element of S in X since X_i is an initial segment of X, by nestedness. So X is a well-ordering, and $X \ge X_i$ for all i.

Remark. The above proposition also holds if we don't know the X_i are nested.

Ordinals

"Does the collection of all well-orderings itself form a well-ordering?"

Definition. An *ordinal* is a well-ordered set, with two well-ordered sets regarded as the same if they are isomorphic. ¹

Definition. For a well-ordering X, corresponding to an ordinal α , say X has order-type α .

For any $k \in \mathbb{N}$, write k for the order-type of the (unique up to isomorphiam) well-ordering on a set of size k. Write ω for the order-type of \mathbb{N} .

Example. In \mathbb{R} :

- $\{-2, 3, \pi, 5\}$ has order-type 4;
- $\{1/2, 2/3, 3/4, ...\}$ has order-type ω .

¹Just as a rational is an expression m/n with two regarded as the same if mn' = m'n. However, cannot formalise this using equivalence classes in the case of ordinals, see later chapter.

Write $\alpha \leq \beta$ if $X \leq Y$, where X has order-type α and Y has order-type β (note this is well defined since it doesn't depend on the choice of X, Y). Similarly define $\alpha < \beta$, α^+ etc.

Hence for all ordinals $\alpha, \beta, \alpha \leq \beta$ or $\beta \leq \alpha$. Also, if $\alpha \leq \beta$ and $\beta \leq \alpha, \alpha = \beta$.

Proposition 2.8. For any ordinal α , the ordinals $< \alpha$ form a well-ordered set of order-type α .

Proof. Let X have order-type α . Then the well-ordered sets < X are precisely (up to isomorphism) the proper initial segments of X, i.e they are I_x for $x \in X$. These order biject with X itself, via $I_x \leftrightarrow x$.

So for any α , have $I_{\alpha} = \{\beta : \beta < \alpha\}$ a well-ordered set of order-type α .

Proposition 2.9. Every non-empty set S of ordinals has a least element.

Proof. Choose $\alpha \in S$. If α is minimal in S, we're done. Otherwise, $S \cap I_{\alpha}$ is non-empty, so has a least element in I_{α} since I_{α} is well-ordered, and this element is least in all of S.

However:

Theorem 2.10 (Burali-Forti Paradox). The ordinals do not fom a set.

Proof. Suppose X was the set of all ordinals. Then X is a well-ordered set, so has an order type, say α . Thus X is order-isomorphic to I_{α} , so X is order-isomorphic to a proper initial segment of itself, contradiction.

Note. Given a set $S = \{\alpha_i\}_{i \in I}$ of ordinals, there exists an upper bound α for S, by applying proposition 2.7 to the nested family of the $\{I_{\alpha_n}\}_{i \in I}$. Hence by proposition 2.9 it has a least upper bound. We write $\sup S$.

Example. $\sup\{2, 4, 6, ...\} = \omega$.

We'll give some examples of ordinals

Examples.

- $0, 1, \ldots, \omega, \omega + 1, \omega + 2, \omega + 3, \ldots, \omega + \omega$ (really $\omega + 1$ is ω^+ and $\omega + \omega = \omega \cdot 2 = \sup\{\omega, \omega + 1, \ldots\}$).
- Continuing with $\omega \cdot 2$, $\omega \cdot 2 + 1$, $\omega \cdot 2 + 2$, ..., $\omega \cdot 3$, ..., $\omega \cdot 4$, ..., $\omega \cdot \omega^2$ where $\omega^2 = \omega \cdot \omega = \sup\{\omega, \omega \cdot 2, \omega \cdot 3, \ldots\}$.
- Now $\omega^2, \omega^2 + 1, \dots, \omega^2 + \omega$ and $\omega^2 + \omega \cdot 2, \omega^2 + \omega \cdot 3, \dots, \omega^2 + \omega^2 = \omega^2 \cdot 2$.
- $\omega^2 \cdot 2, \omega^2 \cdot 3, \dots, \omega^3$.
- $\omega^3, \ldots, \omega^3 + \omega^2 \cdot 7 + \omega \cdot 4 + 13$.
- $\omega^{\omega} = \sup\{\omega, \omega^2, \omega^3, \ldots\}$
- $\omega^{\omega+1} = \sup\{\omega^{\omega} + 1, \omega^{\omega} + 2, \ldots\}$
- $\omega^{\omega \cdot 2}, \omega^{\omega \cdot 3}, \dots, \omega^{\omega^2}$.
- $\omega^{\omega^{\omega}}$
- ω^{ω^2} , ω^{ω^4}
- $\omega^{\omega^{\omega}} = \varepsilon_0 = \sup\{\omega, \omega^{\omega}, \omega^{\omega^{\omega}}, \ldots\}.$
- $\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0 + 1, \dots, \varepsilon_0 + \omega, \dots, \varepsilon_0 + \varepsilon_0$
- $\varepsilon_0 \cdot \omega, \ldots, \varepsilon_0^2$
- $\varepsilon_0^{\varepsilon_0} = \sup \{ \varepsilon_0^{\omega}, \varepsilon_0 \omega^{\omega}, \varepsilon_0^{\omega^{\omega^{\omega}}} \}$
- $\varepsilon_1 = \sup \{ \varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0^{\varepsilon_0}, \varepsilon_0^{\varepsilon_0^{\varepsilon_0}} \}.$

All of the above are countable (e.g countable union of countable sets). Is there an uncountable ordinal? i.e is there is there an uncountable well-ordering. e.g can well-order $\mathbb N$, can well-order $\mathbb Q$ (biject with $\mathbb N$), can we well-order $\mathbb R$? Amazingly, we can prove we can.

Theorem 2.11. There is an uncountable ordinal.

Proof. Let $A = \{R \in \mathcal{P}(\omega \times \omega) : R \text{ is a well-ordering of a subset of } \omega\}$. Let $B = \{\text{order-type}(R) : R \in A\}$. So $\alpha \in B$ if and only if α is a countable ordinal. Let $\omega_1 = \sup B$. We must have ω_1 uncountable - if it was countable, then it would be the greatest element of B, contradicting $\omega_1 < \omega_1^+$ since ω_1^+ is countable.

Remark. Alternatively having the set B, could say that B isn't all ordinals since the set of ordinals is not a set (Burali-Forti), so there exists an uncountable ordinal.

Note. ω_1 is the <u>least</u> uncountable ordinal by definition of B.

The ordering ω_1 has some remarkable properties, e.g.

- 1. ω_1 is uncountable but $\{\beta : \beta < \alpha\}$ is countable for all $\alpha < \omega_1$.
- 2. Any sequence $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots$ in I_{ω_1} is bounded. Namely, by $\sup{\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots\}}$ which is countable as a countable union of countable sets.

The same argument shows:

Theorem (Harthogs' Lemma). For every set X, there exists an ordinal α that does not inject into X.

We call the least such ordinal as in Harthogs' Lemma $\gamma(X)$, e.g $\gamma(\omega) = \omega_1$.

Definition. Say α is a *successor* if there exists β such that $\alpha = \beta^+$. Otherwise we say α is a *limit*.

Note that α has a greatest element if and only if it is a successor. So α is a limit if and only if α has no greatest element, i.e for all $\beta < \alpha$ there exists $\gamma < \alpha$ with $\beta < \gamma$.

Example. 5 is a successor: 4^+ . $\omega + 2$ is a successor: $(\omega^+)^+$. ω is not a successor: no greatest element. 0 is also a limit.

Ordinal Arithmetic

We define $\alpha + \beta$ by induction on β (α fixed) by:

- $\alpha + 0 = \alpha$:
- $\alpha + (\beta^+) = (\alpha + \beta)^+$;
- $\alpha + \lambda = \sup\{\alpha + \gamma : \gamma < \lambda\}$ for λ a non-zero limit.

Examples.

- $\omega + 1 = \omega + 0^+ = (\omega + 0)^+ = \omega^+;$
- $\omega + 2 = \omega + 1^+ = (\omega + 1)^+ = \omega^{++}$;
- $1 + \omega = \sup\{1 + \gamma : \gamma < \omega\} = \omega$ so + is <u>not</u> commutative.

Remark. Officially (as the ordinals do not form a set), this means: to define $\alpha + \beta$ we actually define $\alpha + \gamma$ on $\{\gamma : \gamma \leq \beta\}$, which is a set; plus uniqueness. Similarly, for proof by induction: if for some α we have $p(\alpha)$ false, then on $\{\gamma : \gamma \leq \alpha\}$, p is not everywhere true.

Proposition 2.12. We have $\alpha + (\beta + \gamma) = (\alpha + \beta) + \gamma$ for all ordinals α, β, γ .

Proof. We proceed by induction on γ (α , β fixed). If $\gamma = 0$: $\alpha + (\beta + 0) = \alpha + \beta = (\alpha + \beta) + 0$.

Successors:

$$\alpha + (\beta + \gamma^{+}) = \alpha + (\beta + \gamma)^{+}$$
$$= (\alpha + (\beta + \gamma))^{+}$$
$$= ((\alpha + \beta) + \gamma)^{+}$$
$$= (\alpha + \beta) + \gamma^{+}$$

 λ a non-zero limit:

$$(\alpha + \beta) + \lambda = \sup\{(\alpha + \beta) + \gamma : \gamma < \lambda\}$$
$$= \sup\{\alpha + (\beta + \gamma) : \gamma < \lambda\}.$$

We claim that $\beta + \lambda$ is a limit. Indeed, have $\beta + \lambda = \sup\{\beta + \gamma : \gamma < \lambda\}$. But for every $\gamma < \lambda$, there exists $\gamma' < \lambda$ with $\gamma < \gamma'$ (λ a limit), so $\beta + \gamma < \beta + \gamma'$. Thus there is no greatest element of $\{\beta + \gamma : \gamma < \lambda\}$, so $\beta + \lambda = \sup\{\beta + \gamma : \gamma < \lambda\}$ is a limit.

Therefore $\alpha + (\beta + \lambda) = \sup\{\alpha + \delta : \delta < \beta + \lambda\}$. So need to show $\sup\{\alpha + (\beta + \gamma) : \gamma < \lambda\} = \sup\{\alpha + \delta : \delta < \beta + \lambda\}$. Indeed, $\gamma < \lambda$ implies $\beta + \gamma < \beta + \lambda$ so $\{\alpha + (\beta + \gamma) : \gamma < \lambda\} \subseteq \{\alpha + \delta : \delta < \beta + \lambda\}$. Conversely, for all $\delta < \beta + \lambda$, we have $\delta \leq \beta + \gamma$ for some $\gamma < \lambda$ (definition of $\beta + \lambda$) so $\alpha + \delta \leq \alpha + (\beta + \gamma)$. So each member of right hand set is at most some member of the left hand set. \square

Notes.

- 1. We used: $\beta \leq \gamma \Rightarrow \alpha + \beta \leq \alpha + \gamma$ (trivial by induction on γ)
- 2. $\beta < \gamma \Rightarrow \alpha + \beta < \alpha + \gamma \text{ since } \beta < \gamma \Rightarrow \beta^+ \leq \gamma \text{ which implies } \alpha + \beta^+ \leq \alpha + \gamma \text{ so } \alpha + \beta < (\alpha + \beta)^+ = \alpha + \beta^+ < \alpha + \beta.$
- 3. However 1 < 2, but $1 + \omega = 2 + \omega = \omega$. So "stuff on the right always works as expected".

The above is the inductive definition of +. There is also a synthetic definition of +: $\alpha + \beta$ is the order type of $\alpha \sqcup \beta$ (disjoint union, e.g $(\alpha \times \{0\}) \cup (\beta \times \{1\})$), with all of α coming before all of β .

Example.

- $\omega + 1$ is the order type of ω ;
- $1 + \omega$ is the order type of $\underline{\omega}$;
- $\alpha + (\beta + \gamma)$ is the order type of α β γ .

Proposition 2.13. The two definitions of + are equivalent.

Proof. We write + for the inductively defined one, and +' for the synthetic one. We'll show $\alpha + \beta = \alpha +' \beta$ for all $\alpha + \beta$ by induction on β (α fixed). Zero: $\alpha + 0 = \alpha +' = 0 = \alpha$.

Successors: $\alpha + (\beta^+) = (\alpha + \beta)^+ = (\alpha + '\beta)^+$ which is the order type of $\alpha \beta \bullet$ which is $\alpha + '\beta^+$.

 λ a non-zero limit: $\alpha + \lambda = \sup\{\alpha + \gamma : \gamma < \lambda\} = \sup\{\alpha + '\gamma : \gamma < \lambda\} = \alpha + '\lambda$ (since sup is a union as sets are nested)

Moral: synthetic definition beats the inductive one, if we do have a synthetic definition.

Definition. Define $\alpha\beta$ (α fixed, recursion on β) by:

- $\alpha 0 = 0$;
- $\alpha(\beta^+) = \alpha\beta + \alpha$;
- $\alpha \lambda = \sup \{ \alpha \gamma : \gamma < \lambda \}$ for λ a non-zero limit.

Examples.

• $\omega 2 = \omega 1 + \omega = (\omega 0 + \omega) + \omega = \omega + \omega$;

- $\omega 3 = \omega + \omega + \omega$;
- $\omega\omega = \sup\{0, \omega, \omega + \omega, \ldots\};$
- $2\omega = \sup\{0, 2, 4, 6, 8, \ldots\} = \omega$, so again this is <u>not</u> commutative.

Can show that $\alpha(\beta\gamma) = (\alpha\beta)\gamma$, etc.

We also have a synthetic definition (which can be shown to be equivalent): $\alpha\beta$ is equal to the order type of

$$\underbrace{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha}\underbrace{\alpha}\underbrace{\alpha}\dots\underbrace{\alpha}_{\beta \text{ times}}}_{\beta \text{ times}},$$

ordered by: (x, y) < (z, w) if y < w or y = w and x < z.

Example. $\omega 2$ is the order type of ω ω which is $\omega + \omega$. Also 2ω is the order type of



which is ω .

We can also do exponentiation, towers etc similarly. For example, define α^{β} by

- $\alpha^0 = 1$;
- $\alpha^{(\beta^+)} = \alpha^{\beta} \alpha$:
- $\alpha^{\lambda} = \sup\{\alpha^{\gamma} : \gamma < \lambda\}$ for λ a non-zero limit.

For example, $\omega^2 = \omega^1 \omega = (\omega^0 \omega) \omega = \omega \omega$; $2^\omega = \sup\{2^0, 2^1, \ldots\} = \omega$.

3 Posets and Zorn's Lemma

Definition. A partially ordered set or poset is a pair (X, \leq) , where X is a set and \leq is a relation on X that is

- (i) Reflexive: $x \leq x$ for all $x \in X$;
- (ii) Transitive: $x \le y, y \le z$ implies $x \le z$ for all $x, y, z \in X$;
- (iii) Antisymmetric: $x \le y, y \le x$ implies x = y for all x, y.

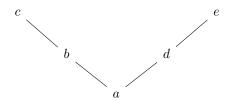
We write x < y if $x \le y$ and $x \ne y$. In terms of <, a poset is:

- (i) Irreflexive: $x \not< x$ for all $x \in X$;
- (ii) Transitive: x < y, y < z implies x < z for al $x, y, z \in X$.

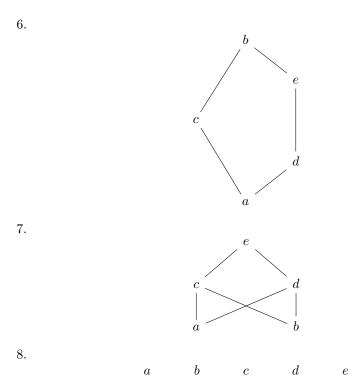
Examples.

- 1. Any total order.
- 2. \mathbb{N}^+ with $x \leq y$ if x|y.
- 3. $(\mathcal{P}(S), \subseteq)$ for any set S.
- 4. $X \subseteq \mathcal{P}(S)$ under \subseteq . For example, V a vector space, X the set of all subspaces.

5.



Consider a tree graph, with all edges pointing upwards. Then we say $x \leq y$ for vertices x, y if the xy is a directed edge pointing upwards, and extend \leq by transitivity. In general the *Hasse diagram* of a poset is a drawing of its posets, with an upwards line from x to y if y covers x (meaning y > x and no z has y > z > x). Hasse diagrams can be useful: e.g (\mathbb{N}, \leq) , or useless: e.g for (\mathbb{Q}, \leq) there are no covers.



A subset S of a poset X is a *chain* if it is totally ordered. E.g in example 2 above, $\{1, 2, 4, 8, 16, \ldots\}$. Or in example 5, $\{a, b, c\}$ or $\{a, c\}$.

A subset S is an antichain if no two elements are related. E.g in 2, $\{n : n \text{ prime}\}$, in 5, $\{c, e\}$, or in 8 take whole poset.

For $S \subseteq X$, an upper bound for S is an $x \in X$ such that $x \ge y$ for all $y \in S$. We say x is a least upper bound for S if x is an upper bound, and if y is an upper bound of S, $x \le y$.

Examples.

- In \mathbb{R} : if $S = \{x : x < \sqrt{2}\}$ then 7 is an upper bound, and $\sqrt{2}$ is the least upper bound. We write $\sqrt{2} = \sup S$, or $\bigvee S$.
- In \mathbb{Q} : $\{x: x^2 < 2\}$ has 7 as an upper bound, but there is no least upper bound.
- In example 5 from before, $\{a, b\}$ has upper bounds b and c, so least upper bound b. $\{b, d\}$ has no upper bound.
- From example 7 from before, $\{a,b\}$ has upper bounds c,d,e, so does not have a least upper bound.

We say X is *complete* if every $S \subseteq X$ has a least upper bound. For example, \mathbb{R} is <u>not</u> complete, e.g \mathbb{Z} has no upper bound. (0,1) is not complete since (0,1) itself has no upper bound.

 $X = \mathcal{P}(S)$ is always complete: sup of $\{A_i : i \in I\}$ is $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$.

Note. Every complete poset X has a greatest element x, namely $\sup X$, and also a least element y, namely $\sup \{\emptyset\}$.

For $f: X \to Y$ where X, Y are posets, we say f is order preserving if $x \le y$ implies $f(x) \le f(y)$.

Examples.

- 1. $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}, x \mapsto x+1$.
- 2. $f:[0,1] \to [0,1], x \mapsto \frac{1+x}{2}$.
- 3. $f: \mathcal{P}(S) \to \mathcal{P}(S), A \mapsto A \cup \{i\}$ for some fixed $i \in S$.

Not every order preserving $f:X\to X$ has a fixed point, e.g example 1 above. However:

Theorem 3.1 (Knaster-Tarski Fixed Point Theorem). Let X be a complete poset. Then any order preserving $f: X \to X$ has a fixed point.

Proof. Let $E = \{x \in X : x \leq f(x)\}$, and let $s = \sup E$. We'll show that f(s) = s.

We'll first show $s \leq f(s)$. It is enough to show f(s) is an upper bound for E, then done since s is a least upper bound for E. Indeed, if $x \in E$, then $x \leq s$ so $f(x) \leq f(s)$. Now since $x \in E$, $x \leq f(x) \leq f(s)$.

Now we show $f(s) \leq s$. It is enough to show $f(s) \in E$, then done since s is an upper bound for E. We have $s \leq f(s)$, so $f(s) \leq f(f(s))$. i.e $f(s) \in E$.

Remark. We need to show $s \leq f(s)$ before $f(s) \leq s$ since $s \leq f(s)$ says $s \in E$.

An application of this is:

Corollary 3.2 (Schröder-Bernstein). Let $f: A \to B$ and $g: B \to A$ be injections. Then there exists a bijection $h: A \to B$.

Proof. We seek partitions $A = P \cup Q$, $P \cap Q = \emptyset$, $B = R \cup S$, $R \cap S = \emptyset$ such that f(P) = R and g(S) = Q (then set h = f on P and $h = g^{-1}$ on R). Thus we seek exactly a fixed point of $\Theta : \mathcal{P}(A) \to \mathcal{P}(A)$ given by $P \mapsto A \setminus g(B \setminus f(P))$. But \mathcal{A} is complete, and Θ is order preserving, so done by Knaster-Tarski. \square

Zorn's Lemma

For a poset $X, x \in X$ is said to be *maximal* if no $y \in X$ has y > x. For example, in [0,1], 1 is maximal. We've seen many posets without any maximal element, for example (\mathbb{R}, \leq) or $(\mathbb{N}^+, |)$. In each case, there exists a chain with no upper bound (e.g in $(\mathbb{N}^+, |)$ take powers of 2).

Theorem 3.3 (Zorn's Lemma). Let X be a (non-empty) poset in which every chain has an upper bound. Then there exists a maximal element of X.

Proof. Suppose not. So for each $x \in X$ have $x' \in X$ with x' > x, and for each chain we C we have an upper bound u(C). Fix some $x \in X$ and define x_{α} for each $\alpha < \gamma(X)$ by recursion: $x_0 = x$, $x_{\alpha+1} = x'_{\alpha}$ and $x_{\lambda} = U(\{x_{\beta} : \beta < \lambda\})$ for λ a non-zero limit [note that the x_{β} , $\beta < \lambda$ do form a chain, by induction]. Then we have injected $\gamma(X)$ into X, a contradiction.

Remark. The proof was easy, given well-orderings; recursion and Harthogs' from Chapter 2.

A typical application: does every vector space have a basis?

Examples.

- \mathbb{R}^3 has a basis $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\} = \{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)\}.$
- Space of all real polynomials has basis $\{1, X, X^2, X^3, \ldots\}$.
- Space S of all real sequences $\{e_i\}_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$ is <u>not</u> a basis span doesn't contain $(1,1,1,1,\ldots)$. In fact S has no countable basis (and can actually show there's no explicit basis).
- \mathbb{R} as a vector space over \mathbb{Q} no explicit basis. A basis in this case is called a *Hamel basis*.

Theorem 3.4. Every vector space V has a basis.

Proof. Let $X = \{A \subseteq V : A \text{ is linearly independent}\}$, ordered by \subseteq . We seek a maximal element of X [then done since if a maximal element doesn't span, could extend by adding something not in span]. Have $X \neq \emptyset$ since $\emptyset \in X$. Given a chain $\{A_i : n \in \mathbb{I}\}$, let $A = \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$. Certainly $A \supseteq A_i$ for every i, so we just need to show $A \in X$, i.e A is linearly independent. Suppose A is not linearly independent. Then we have $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in A$ which are linearly dependent. We have $x_1 \in A_{i_1}, \ldots, x_n \in A_{i_n}$ for some $i_1, \ldots, i_n \in I$, but some A_{i_k} contains all of A_{i_1}, \ldots, A_{i_n} (since the A_i form a chain), so $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in A_{i_k}$, contradicting the fact A_{i_k} is linearly independent.

Hence by Zorn's Lemma, there exists a maximal element of X.

Notes.

1. The only actual linear algebra we did was in the 'then done' part.

2. In the statement of Zorn's Lemma, the hypothesis $X \neq \emptyset$ is not strictly needed since \emptyset is not a chain so has an upper bound.

Another application: completeness theorem for propositional logic with no restriction on P.

Theorem 3.5. Let $S \subseteq L = L(P)$ (for any set P) be a set that is consistent. Then S has a model.

Proof. We'll extend S to \overline{S} (consistent) such that for all $t \in L$, $t \in \overline{S}$ or $(\neg t) \in \overline{S}$ - then done as in Chapter 1 by setting v = 1 on \overline{S} , v = 0 elsewhere.

Let $X = \{T \supseteq S : T \text{ consistent}\}$, ordered by \subseteq . We seek a maximal element of X [then done: let \overline{S} be maximal, then if $t \notin \overline{S}$, we must have $\overline{S} \cup \{t\} \vdash \bot$ (maximality of \overline{S}), so $\overline{S} \vdash (\neg t)$ (deduction theorem), so $(\neg t) \in \overline{S}$ by maximality of \overline{S}].

Now, $X \neq \emptyset$ since $S \in X$. Given a non-empty chain $\{T_i : i \in I\}$, put $T = \bigcup_{i \in I} T_i$. Have $T \supseteq T_i$ for all i, so we just need to show $T \in X$. Indeed $S \subseteq T$ (chain is non-empty). Also, we claim T is consistent. Suppose not, i.e $T \vdash \bot$. Then some $\{t_1, \ldots, t_n\} \vdash \bot$ for some $t_1, \ldots, t_n \in T$ (as proofs are finite). Now, $t_1 \in T_{i_1}, \ldots, t_n \in T_{i_n}$ for some $t_1, \ldots, t_n \in T_{i_n}$ is consistent.

Hence by Zorn's Lemma, X has a maximal element. \Box

Theorem 3.6 (Well-ordering principle). Every set S can be well-ordered.

Note. This is a very surprising result, e.g for $S=\mathbb{R}$ - until one has met Harthogs' lemma.

Proof. Let $X = \{(A, R) : A \subseteq S, R \text{ is a well-ordering of } A\}$, ordered by $(A, R) \le (A', R')$ if the latter extends the former (i.e $R'|_A = R$ and A is an initial segment of R'). We have $X \ne \emptyset$ (e.g $(\emptyset, \emptyset) \in X$). Given a chain $\{(A_i, R_i) : i \in I\}$, have an upper bound $(\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i, \bigcup_{i \in I} R_i)$, since the family is nested.

So by Zorn's Lemma, there exists a maximal element (A, R). Must have A = S, if not we can take $x \in S \setminus A$ and 'take the successor': well-order $A \cup \{x\}$ by making x > y for all $y \in A$ - contradicting maximality of (A, R).

Zorn's Lemma & The Axiom of Choice

In our proof of Zorn's Lemma, we made infinitely many arbitrary choices - when selecting the x'. We also did this in IA, when showing a countable union of countable sets is countable: have A_1, A_2, \ldots , each having a listing, and we fixed, all at once, a listing for each of them.

In terms of 'rules for building sets', we are appealing to the Axiom of Choice which states that, given a family of non-empty sets, one can choose an element fom each one. More precisely: for any family $\{A_i : i \in I\}$ of non-empty sets, there is a choice function $f: I \to \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ such that $f(i) \in A_i$ for all $i \in I$.

This is different in character from the other 'rules for building sets' (e.g 'given A, B can form $A \cup B$ ' or 'given A, can form $\mathcal{P}(A)$ ') in that the object whose existence is asserted is not uniquely specified by its properties. So the use of the Axiom of Choice gives rise to non-constructive proofs. [Many proofs in maths, even without AC, are non-constructive - e.g the proof by countability argument that there exists a transcendental number, or proof that in $\mathbb{Q}[X_1,\ldots,X_n]$ every ideal is finitely generated].

So it is often nice to know: did a proof <u>need</u> AC.

Did our proof of Zorn's Lemma <u>need</u> AC? Answer: yes, we can actually deduce AC from Zorn's (using only the other set-building rules). Indeed, AC follows from well-ordering (the previous theorem): given our family $\{A_i : i \in I\}$, just well-order $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ and now set f(i) to be the least element of A_i for each $i \in I$.

<u>Conclusion</u>: AC \iff ZL \iff WO (in the presence of the other set-building rules).

Remark. AC is trivial if |I| = 1 ($A \neq \emptyset$ means there exists xinA), also easy to prove for all I finite (by induction on |I|). But, in general it turns out that AC cannot be deduced from the other set-building rules.

Notes.

- 1. ZL is hard from first principles because it needed ordinals, recursion and Harthogs' not because it's equivalent to AC.
- 2. No theorem in Chapter 2 used AC. Indeed, AC was used only in two remarks in Chapter 2: the fact that in a non-well-ordering there exists an infinite decreasing sequence; and the fact that ω_1 is not a countable supremum.

4 Predicate Logic

Recall that a group is a set A equipped with functions $M:A^2\to A$ (of arity 2), $i:A^1\to A$ (of arity 1), and a constant $e\in A$, (i.e a function $A^0\to A$, i.e arity 0).

Also recall a poset is a set A equipped with a relation $\leq \subseteq A^2$ (arity 2) such that certain axioms hold.

Page 27

Let Ω ('set of all function symbols') and Π ('set of all relation symbols') be disjoint sets, and $\alpha: \Omega \cup \Pi \to \mathbb{N}$ ('arity'). The language $L = L(\Omega, \Pi, \alpha)$ is the set of all formulae, defined as follows:

 $Variables: x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots$

Terms: defined inductively by

- (i) Each variable is a term;
- (ii) For $f \in \Omega$, $\alpha(f) = n$, and terms t_1, \ldots, t_n , $ft_1 \ldots t_n$ is a term (can insert brackets, commas etc for readability).

Example. Language of groups: $\Omega = \{M, i, e\}$ (arities 2, 1, 0 respectively), $\Pi = \emptyset$. Some terms: $M(x_1, x_2), M(x_1, i(x_2)), e, M(e, e), M(e, x_1)$.

Atomic formulae:

- (i) \perp is an atomic formula;
- (ii) For terms s and t, (s = t) is an atomic formula;
- (iii) For $\phi \in \Pi$, $\alpha(\phi) = n$, and terms t_1, \ldots, t_n , $\phi(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ is an atomic formula.

Example. In language of groups: e = M(e, e), M(x, y) = M(y, x) are atomic formulae.

Example. Language of posets: $\Omega = \emptyset$, $\Pi = \{\leq\}$ (arity 2). Some terms: x = y, $x \leq y$ (officially ' $\leq (xy)$ ').

Formulae: defined inductively by

- (i) Each atomic formula is a formula;
- (ii) If p, q are formulae, then $(p \Rightarrow q)$ is a formula;
- (iii) If p a formula, x a variable then $(\forall x)p$ is a formula.

Example. In the language of groups: $(\forall x)(M(x,x)=e), (M(x,x)=e) \Rightarrow (\exists)(M(y,y)=x).$

Notes.

- 1. A formula is a finite string of symbols;
- 2. Can now define $(\neg p), p \land q, p \lor q$, etc and also $(\exists x)p$ as $\neg(\forall x)(\neg p)$.

A term is closed if it contains no variables. For example, e, M(e, i(e)) - but not M(x, e) or M(x, i(x)).

An occurrence of a variable x in a formula p is *bound* if it is inside the brackets of a ' $(\forall x)$ ' quantifier; otherwise it is *free*.

Example. In $(\forall x)(M(x,x)=e)$, each occurrence of x is bound. In $(M(x,x)=e) \Rightarrow (\exists y)(M(y,y)=x)$, each x is free but each y is bound.

Note. Consider $M(x,x) = e \Rightarrow (\forall x)(\forall y)(M(x,y) = M(y,x))$. The first two occurrences of x are free, while all variables in the right side of ' \Rightarrow ' are bound.

Definition. A sentence is a formula with no free variables.

Example. $(\forall x)(M(x,x)=e), (\forall x)(M(x,x)=e\Rightarrow (\exists y)(M(y,y)=x))$ are sentences. In the language of posets: $(\forall x)(\exists y)(x\leq y \land \neg x=y)$ is a sentence.

Definition. For a formula p, term t and variable x, the substitution p[t/x] is obtained from p by replacing each free occurrence of x with t.

Example. If p is ' $(\exists y)(M(y,y)=x)$ ' then p[e/x] is ' $(\exists y)(M(y,y)=e)$ '.

Semantic Implication

Definition. Let $L = L(\Omega, \Pi, \alpha)$ be a language. An L-structure is a non-empty² set A equipped with, for each $f \in \Omega$, a function $f_A : A^n \to A$ (where $n = \alpha(f)$), and for each $\phi \in \Pi$, a subset $\phi_A \subseteq A^n$ $(n = \alpha(\phi))$.

Example. Language of groups: an L-structure is an A with $M_A: A^2 \to A$, $i_A: A \to A$, $e_A \in A$ (note: may not be a group). Language of posets: an L-structure is an A with $le_A \subseteq A^2$ (may not be a poset).

For an L-structure A and a sentence p, we want to define 'p holds in A'.

Example. ' $(\forall x)(M(x,x)=e)$ ' should hold in A if and only if for each $a \in A$, have $M_A(a,a)=e_A$.

So "insert ' \in A' after each ' $\forall x$ ' and add subscripts 'sub A' and read it aloud".

 $^{^2}$ See later for why.

We now formally define what we mean in the above:

Define the interpretation $p_A \in \{0,1\}$ of a sentence p in an L-structure A as follows.

The interpretation $t_A \in A$ of a closed term in an L-structure A is defined inductively: $(ft_1, \ldots, t_n)_A = f_A((t_1)_A, \ldots, (t_n)_A)$ for $f \in \Omega$, $\alpha(f) = n, t_1, \ldots, t_n$ closed terms. [Note: C_A is already defined for each constant-symbol $c \in \Omega$.]

Example. $M(e, i(e))_A = M_A(l_A, i_A(e_A)).$

The interpretation of an atomic sentence:

(i)
$$\perp_A = 0$$
;

(ii)
$$(s=t)_A = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s_A = t_A \\ 0 & \text{if not} \end{cases}$$

for any closed terms s, t;

(iii)
$$\phi(t_1,\ldots,t_n)_A = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } ((t_1)_A,\ldots,(t_n)_A) \in \phi_A \\ 0 & \text{if not} \end{cases}$$

for any $\phi \in \Pi$, $\alpha(\phi) = n$, closed terms t_1, \ldots, t_n .

Interpretation of sentences - inductively defined by:

(i)
$$(p\Rightarrow q)_A = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p_A=1, q_A=0\\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(ii)
$$((\forall x)p)_A = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p[\bar{a}/x]_A = 1 \text{ for all } a \in A \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where we add a constant symbol \bar{a} to L (for a fixed $a \in A$), to form a language L', and make A into an L'-structure by setting $\bar{a}_a = a$.

Remark. For a formula p with free variables, can define $p_A \subseteq A^{\text{\#free variables}}$. E.g if p is m(x,x) = e then $p_A = \{a \in A : m_A(a,a) = l_A\} \subseteq A'$.

If $p_A = 1$, say p holds in A, or p is true in A, or A is a model of p. For a theory T (set of sentences), A is a model of T if $p_A = 1$ for all $p \in T$.

For a theory T, sentence p, say $T \vDash p$ if every model of T is a model of p. For example, the three group axioms $\vDash M(e,e) = e$.

Examples.

- 1. Groups: let L be the language of groups, $T = \{(\forall x)(\forall y)(\forall z)(M(x,M(y,z)) = M(M(x,y),z)), (\forall x)(M(x,e) = x \land M(e,x) = x), (\forall x)(M(x,i(x)) = e \land M(i(x),x) = e)\}$. Then an L-structure is a model of T if and only if it is a group. Say T axiomatises the theory of groups/the class of groups (often, the elements of T are called the axioms of T).
- 2. Posets: let L be the language of posets, T the usual poset axioms. Then T axiomatises the class of posets.
- 3. Fields: let L be the language of fields: $\Omega = \{0, 1, +, \times, -\}$ arities 0, 0, 2, 2, 1 respectively; $T = \text{usual field axioms including } (\forall x)(\neg(x = 0) \Rightarrow (\exists y)(xy = 1))$. Then T axiomatises the class of fields. For example, $T \models \text{"inverses are unique"} = (\forall x)(\neg(x = 0) \Rightarrow (\forall x)(\forall z)((yx = 1 \land zx = 1) \Rightarrow y = z))$.
- 4. Graphs: let L with $\Omega = \emptyset$, $\Pi = \{a\}$, $\alpha(a) = 2$ (a is "adjacency"). For T take $T = \{(\forall x)(\neg a(x,x)), (\forall x)(\forall y)(a(x,y) \Rightarrow a(yx))\}$. Then T axiomatises the class of graphs.

Syntactic Entailment

We'll need (logical) axioms and deduction rules. Have 7 axioms (3 usual ones, 2 for '=', 2 for ' \forall '):

- 1. $p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow p)$ for all p, q formulae;
- 2. $[p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r)] \Rightarrow [(p \Rightarrow q) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow r)]$ for all p, q, r formulae;
- 3. $(\neg \neg p) \Rightarrow p$ for each formula p:
- 4. $(\forall x)(x=x)$ for any variable x;
- 5. $(\forall x)(\forall y)(y=x\Rightarrow (p\Rightarrow p[y/x]))$ for any variables x,y, formula p with y not occurring bound;
- 6. $[(\forall x)p] \Rightarrow p[t/x]$ for any variable x, formula p and term t with no free variable of t occurring bound in p;
- 7. $(\forall x)(p \Rightarrow q) \Rightarrow (p \Rightarrow (\forall x)q)$ for any variable x and formulae p,q with x not occurring free in p.

Note. Each of these is a *tautology* - i.e is true in every structure.

We have 2 deduction rules:

- 1. Modus ponens: from $p, p \Rightarrow q$ can deduce q;
- 2. Generalisation: from p can deduce $(\forall x)p$, provided x does not occur free in any premise used so to prove p.

For $S \subseteq L$, $t \in L$, say S proves p, written $S \vdash p$ if there exists a proof of p from S, meaning a finite sequence of formulae, ending with p such that each formula is either a logical axiom or a member of S or obtained from earlier lines by a deduction rule.

Note. Suppose we allowed the empty structure A (for a language with no constants). Then \bot is false in A, and $(\forall x)\bot$ is true in A. So $((\forall x)\bot) \Rightarrow \bot$ is false in A. But this has to be true by axiom 6.

Example. $\{x=y, x=z\} \vdash y=z$. Idea: go for axiom 5 to get y=z from x=z.

- 1. $(\forall x)(\forall y)(x=y\Rightarrow (x=z\Rightarrow y=z))$ (axiom 5);
- 2. $[(\forall x)(\forall y)(x=y\Rightarrow (x-z\Rightarrow y=z))]\Rightarrow [(\forall y)(x=y\Rightarrow (x=z\Rightarrow y=z))]$ (axiom 6);
- 3. $(\forall y)(x = y \Rightarrow (x = z \Rightarrow y = z))$ (modus ponens);
- 4. $[(\forall y)(x=y\Rightarrow (x=z\Rightarrow y=z))]\Rightarrow (x=y\Rightarrow (x=z\Rightarrow y=z))$ (axiom 6):
- 5. $x = y \Rightarrow (x = z \Rightarrow y = z)$ (modus ponens);
- 6. x = y (hypothesis);
- 7. $x = z \Rightarrow y = z$ (modus ponens);
- 8. x = z (hypothesis);
- 9. y = z (modus ponens).

Proposition 4.1 (Deduction Theorem). Let $S \subseteq L$ and $p, q \in L$. Then $S \vdash (p \Rightarrow q)$ if and only if $S \cup \{p\} \vdash q$.

Proof. As before (\Rightarrow) is trivial. Indeed, given a proof of $p \Rightarrow q$ from S, just write down p by hypothesis and apply modus ponens to get a proof of $p \Rightarrow q$ from $S \cup \{p\}$.

So we show (\Leftarrow): we proceed as we did with propositional logic. The only new case is deduction by generalisation'. So in the proof of q from $S \cup \{p\}$ suppose we have

$$(\forall x)r$$
 (generalisation)

and have proof of $p \Rightarrow r$ from S (induction). Now, in proof of r from $S \cup \{p\}$, no hypothesis had x free, so same is true in our proof of $p \Rightarrow r$ from S. Thus $S \vdash (\forall x)(p \Rightarrow r)$ by generalisation.

If x is not free in p, get $S \vdash p \Rightarrow (\forall x)r$ by axiom 7 (+modus ponens). If x occurs free in p, proof of r from $S \cup \{p\}$ cannot have used hypothesis p, so in fact $S \vdash r$ so $S \vdash (\forall x)r$ (generalisation). Thus $S \vdash p \Rightarrow (\forall x)r$ by axiom 1 (+modus ponens).

Aim: $S \vdash p$ if and only if $S \vdash p$.

For example, if p is true in all groups, then p must have a proof from the group axioms.

Start of non-examinable section.

Proposition 4.2 (Soundness). Let S be a set of sentences, and p a sentence in a language L. Then $S \vdash p$ implies that $S \models p$.

Proof. Have a proof t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_n of p from S, and want to know that if A is a model of S then A is a model of t_i for every i. This is easy by induction. \square

For adequacy, we want to show that if $S \vDash p$ then $S \vdash p$. i.e $S \cup (\neg p) \vDash \bot$ implies $S \cup (\neg p) \vdash \bot$, i.e if $S \cup (\neg p)$ is consistent, then $S \cup (\neg p)$ has a model.

Theorem 4.3 (Model existence lemma). Let S be a set of sentences in a language L. Then if S is consistent, it has a model.

Ideas:

- 1. Build our structure out of the language itself use the closed terms of L. For example, if L is the language of fields and S is the usual field axioms, take closed terms with $+, \times$ in the obvious way: e.g '(1+1)'+'(1+1)' = '(1+1)+(1+1)'.
- 2. But the closed terms 1+0 and 1 are distinct, yet $S \vdash 1+0=1$ in a field. So we quotient out by the equivalence relation on closed terms given by $s \sim t$ iff $S \vdash (s=t)$. If this set is A, we define $[s] +_A [t] = [s+t]$ (can check this is well-defined).
- 3. Suppose S is the field axioms for fields of characteristic 2 or 3, i.e field axioms with $1+1=0 \lor 1+1+1=0$. Does $S \perp 1+1=0$? No. Does $S \perp 1+1+1=0$? Again no. Thus $[1+1] \neq [0]$ and $[1+1+1] \neq [0]$ so A does not have satisfy char(A) = 2 or 3. Solution: extend S to a maximal consistent set first.
- 4. Suppose S is now the field axioms for fields with a $\sqrt{2}$, i.e the field axioms together with $(\exists x)(xx=1+1)$. But no closed term t has [tt]=[1+1]. S 'lacks witnesses'. Solution: for each ' $(\exists x)p' \in S$, add a new constant c to the language, and add to S the sentence p[c/x] (easy to check this is still consistent).
- 5. But now our new S is not neccessarily maximal consistent (as we have extended L). So must loop back to step 3 then to step 4, etc. Problem: this may not terminate.

Proof of model existence lemma. Have a consistent S in language $L(\Omega, \Pi)$. Extend S to a maximal consistent S_1 in L (Zorn). So for each sentence $p \in L$ have $p \in S_1$ or $(\neg p) \in S_1$. Now add witnesses for S_1 : for rach ' $(\exists x)p$ ' $\in S$ add a new constant c to the language, and add sentence p[c/x]. We obtain a theory T_1 in language $L_1 = L(\Omega \cup C_1, \Pi)$ that has witnesses for S_1 (for each ' $(\exists x)p$ ' $\in S_1$ have $p[t/x] \in T_1$ for some closed term t). It is easy to check that T_1 is consistent.

Now extend T_1 to maximal consistent S_2 in L_1 , then add witnesses to form T_2 in language $L_2 = L(\Omega \cup C_1 \cup C_2, \Pi)$. Continue inductively. Let $\overline{S} = S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \ldots$ in language $\overline{L} = L(\Omega \cup C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \ldots, \Pi)$.

Claim: \overline{S} is consistent, complete and has witnesses (for itself).

Proof of claim: if $\overline{S} \vdash \bot$ then some $S_n \vdash \bot$ (as proofs are finite), a contradiction - so \overline{S} is consistent. Now show completeness: for a sentence $p \in \overline{L}$, have $p \in L_n$ for some n (as p is a finite string). So $S_{n+1} \vdash p$ or $S_{n+1} \vdash (\neg p)$, so $\overline{S} \vdash p$ or $\overline{S} \vdash (\neg p)$. Finally show it has witnesses: if ' $(\exists x)p$ ' $\in \overline{S}$, then it is in S_n for some n. Then $p[t/x] \in T_n$, for some closed term t so $p[t/x] \in \overline{S}$.

On the closed terms of \overline{L} , define $s \sim t$ if $\overline{S} \vdash (s = t)$. Easy to check that this is an equivalence relation. Let A be the set of equivalence classes, made into an \overline{L} -structure by:

$$f_A([t_1], \dots, [t_n]) = [f(t_1, \dots, t_n)] \text{ for } f \in \Omega \cup C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \dots, \alpha(f) = n, t_1, \dots, t_n \text{ closed terms}$$

$$\phi_A = \{([t_1], \dots, [t_n]) \in A^n : \overline{S} \vdash \phi(t_1, \dots, t_n)\} \text{ for } \phi \in \Pi, \alpha(\phi) = n, t_1, \dots, t_n \text{ closed terms}.$$

Claim: for a sentence $p \in \overline{L}$, have $p_A = 1$ if and only if $\overline{S} \vdash p$ [then done as certainly $p_A = 1$ for every $p \in S$, i.e A is a model of S].

Proof of claim: easy induction. Atomic sentences:

- $\perp_A = 0$ and $\overline{S} \not\vdash \perp$;
- For closed terms s, t: $\overline{S} \vdash (s = t) \iff [s] = [t] \iff s_A = t_A \iff$'s = t' holds in A:
- $\phi(t_1, ..., t_n)$: same.

Induction step:

- $\overline{S} \vdash (p \Rightarrow q) \iff \overline{S} \vdash \neg p \text{ or } \overline{S} \vdash q \ ((\Rightarrow): \text{ if } \overline{S} \not\vdash (\neg p) \text{ and } \overline{S} \vdash q \text{ then } \overline{S} \vdash p, \overline{S} \vdash (\neg q) \text{ as } \overline{S} \text{ is complete, contradicting } \overline{S} \text{ consistent). Then this happens} \iff p_A = 0 \text{ or } q_A = 1 \text{ (induction hypothesis)} \iff (p \Rightarrow q) \text{ is true in } A:$
- $\overline{S} \vdash (\exists x)p \iff \overline{S} \vdash p[t/x]$ for some closed term t $((\Rightarrow): \overline{S})$ has witnesses). This happens $\iff p[t/x]_A = 1$ for some closed term $t \iff (\exists x)p$ holds in A $((\Leftarrow): A)$ is the set of (equivalence classes of) closed terms).

Hence we have

Corollary 4.4 (Adequacy). For S a theory, p a sentence in a language L, we have $S \vDash p \Rightarrow S \vdash p$.

End of non-examinable section.

Theorem 4.5 (Completeness theorem/Godel's completeness theorem for first-order logic). For S a theory, p a sentence in a language L, we have $S \vdash p \iff S \vDash p$.

Proof. (\Rightarrow) : soundness.

 (\Leftarrow) : adequacy.

Remarks.

- 1. If L is countable $(\Omega, \Pi \text{ are countable})$ then Zorn's Lemma is not needed;
- 2. 'First-order' means our variables range over elements (not subsets).

Theorem 4.6 (Compactness theorem). Let S be a theory in a language L. Then if every finite subset of S has a model, then S itself has a model.

Proof. Trivial if we replace 'has a model' with 'is consistent' - as proofs are finite. \Box

Note. There is no decidability theorem for first-order logic - how do we check if $S \models p$?

Can we axiomatise the theory of finite groups? (i.e a theory S such that a group is finite if and only if each $p \in S$ holds in the group.)

Corollary 4.7. The class of finite groups is not axiomatisable (in the language of groups).

Note. It is remarkable that we can prove this, as opposed to merely guessing it is true.

Proof. Suppose S axiomatises the theory of finite groups. Consider S together with: $(\exists x_1)(\exists x_2)(x_1 \neq x_2)$ (i.e ' $|G| \geq 2$ '), $(\exists x_1)(\exists x_2)(\exists x_3)(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ distinct) (i.e ' $|G| \geq 3$ ') and so on.

Then any finite subset of our new S' has a model (e.g \mathbb{Z}_n some n large enough). So S' has a model - a finite group which, for each n has $\geq n$ elements.

Page 36