

Model Theory

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0 Reviews

0.1 Languages and structures

Definition. (1.1) A language L consists of:

- (i) a set \mathcal{F} of function symbols, and for each $f \in \mathcal{F}$, a positive integer n_f , the arity of f ;
- (ii) a set \mathcal{R} of relation symbols, and for each $R \in \mathcal{R}$, a positive integer n_R , the arity of R ;
- (iii) a set \mathcal{C} of constant symbols.

Note that each of the above three sets can be empty.

Example. $L = \{\{\cdot, -1\}, \{1\}\}$ where \cdot is a binary function, -1 is a unary function, and 1 is a constant. We call this L_{gp} (language of groups); $L_{lo} = \{<\}$, where $<$ is a binary relation (linear order).

Definition. (1.2) Given a language L , say, an L -structure consists of:

- (i) a set M , the *domain*;
- (ii) for each $f \in \mathcal{F}$, a function $f^M : M^{n_f} \rightarrow M$;
- (iii) for each $R \in \mathcal{R}$, a relation $R^M \subseteq M^{n_R}$;
- (iv) for each $c \in \mathcal{C}$, an element $c^M \in M$.

f^M, R^M, c^M are called the *interpretation* of f, R, c respectively.

Notation. (1.3)

We often fail to distinguish between the symbols in the language L and their interpretations in a L -structure, if the context allows.

We may write $\mathcal{M} = \langle M, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C} \rangle$.

Example. (1.4)

(a) $\mathcal{R} = \langle \mathbb{R}^+, \{\cdot, -1\}, 1 \rangle$ is an L_{gp} -structure.

$\mathcal{Z} = \langle \mathbb{Z}, \{+, -\}, 0 \rangle$ is also an L_{gp} -structure (here $+$ is a binary and $-$ is the unary negation function).

$\mathcal{Q} = \langle \mathbb{Q}, < \rangle$ is an L_{lo} structure ($<$ is the interpretation of relation).

Definition. (1.5)

Let L be a language, let \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{N} be L -structures.

An *embedding* of \mathcal{M} into \mathcal{N} is an injection $\alpha : M \rightarrow N$ that preserves the structure:

- (i) For all $f \in \mathcal{F}$, and $a_1, \dots, a_{n_f} \in M$,

$$\alpha(f^M(a_1, \dots, a_{n_f})) = f^N(\alpha(a_1), \dots, \alpha(a_{n_f}))$$

- (ii) For all $R \in \mathcal{R}$, and $a_1, \dots, a_{n_R} \in M$,

$$(a_1, \dots, a_{n_R}) \in R^M \iff (\alpha(a_1), \dots, \alpha(a_{n_R})) \in R^N$$

Note that this is an if and only if. (iii) For all $c \in \mathcal{C}$, we need

$$\alpha(c^M) = c^N$$

As anyone could expect, a surjective embedding $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ is also called an *isomorphism* of \mathcal{M} onto \mathcal{N} .

(1.6) Exercise. Let G_1, G_2 be groups, regarded as L_{gp} -structures. Check that $G_1 \cong G_2$ in the usual algebra sense, if and only if there is an isomorphism $\alpha : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ in the sense of above definition 1.5.

0.2 Terms, formulae, and their interpretations

In addition to the symbols of L , we also have:

- (i) infinitely many variables, $\{x_i\}_{i \in I}$;
- (ii) logical connectives, \wedge, \neg (also express $\vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$);
- (iii) quantifier \exists (also express \forall);
- (iv) punctuations $(,)$.

Definition. (2.1)

L -terms are defined recursively as follows:

- any variable x_i is a term;
- any constant symbol is a term;
- for any $f \in \mathcal{F}$,

$$f(t_1, \dots, t_{n_f})$$

for any terms t_1, \dots, t_{n_f} is a term;

- nothing else is a term.

Notation: we write $t(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ to mean that the variables appearing in t are among x_1, \dots, x_n .

Example. In $\mathcal{R} = \langle \mathbb{R}, \cdot, -1, 1 \rangle$,

- $(\cdot(x_1, x_2), x_3)$ is a term $(x_1 \cdot x_2) \cdot x_3$;
- $(\cdot(1, x_1))^{-1}$ is a term $(1 \cdot x)^{-1}$.

Definition. (2.2)

If \mathcal{M} is an L -structure, to each L -term $t(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ we assign a function

$$t^M : M^k \rightarrow M$$

defined as follows:

- (i) If $t = x_i$, $t^M[a_1, \dots, a_k] = a_i$;
- (ii) If $t = c$ is a constant, $t^M[a_1, \dots, a_k] = c^M$;
- (iii) If $t = f(t_1(x_1, \dots, x_k), \dots, t_{n_f}(x_1, \dots, x_k))$,

$$t^M(a_1, \dots, a_k) = f^M(t_1^M(a_1, \dots, a_k), \dots, t_{n_f}^M(a_1, \dots, a_k))$$