

**CAS 701**  
**Logic and Discrete Mathematics**  
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# **4 First-Order Logic**

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# What is First-Order Logic?

- First-order logic is the study of statements about individuals constructed using functions, predicates, propositional connectives, and quantifiers.
  - ▶ First-order logic is also called first-order predicate logic and first-order quantificational logic.
- First-order logic is propositional logic plus:
  - ▶ Terms that denote individuals.
  - ▶ Predicates that are applied to terms.
  - ▶ Quantifiers applied to individual variables.
- First-order logic is “first-order” because quantification is over individuals but not over higher-order objects such as functions and predicates.
- There are many versions of first-order logic.
- We will develop first-order logic following Chapter 5 of J. H. Gallier, *Logic for Computer Science*, Dover, 2015.

# Outline

- Syntax.
- Semantics.
- Metatheorems.
- Theories.
- Hilbert-style proof systems.
- Gentzen-style sequent systems.

# Syntax [1/3]

- Let  $\mathbf{V} = \{x_0, x_1, \dots\}$  be a countably infinite set of symbols called **variables**.
- A **first-order language** is a triple  $\mathbf{L} = \{\mathbf{CS}, \mathbf{FS}, \mathbf{PS}\}$  where:
  1.  $\mathbf{CS} = \{c_0, c_1, \dots\}$  is a countable set of symbols called **constants**.
  2.  $\mathbf{FS} = \{f_0, f_1, \dots\}$  is a countable set of symbols called **function symbols** with a rank function  $r$  that assigns each member  $f \in \mathbf{FS}$  a positive integer  $r(f)$ .
  3.  $\mathbf{PS} = \{P_0, P_1, \dots\}$  is a countable set of symbols called **predicate symbols** with a rank function  $r$  that assigns each member  $P \in \mathbf{PS}$  a nonnegative integer  $r(P)$ .
  4.  $\mathbf{V}$ ,  $\mathbf{CS}$ ,  $\mathbf{FS}$ , and  $\mathbf{PS}$  are pairwise disjoint.

## Syntax [2/3]

- Let  $\mathbf{L} = \{\mathbf{CS}, \mathbf{FS}, \mathbf{PS}\}$  be a first-order language.
- The set  $\text{TERM}_{\mathbf{L}}$  of **L-terms** is the set of strings defined inductively by:
  1. Each variable in  $\mathbf{V}$  and constant in  $\mathbf{CS}$  is in  $\text{TERM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .
  2. If  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are in  $\text{TERM}_{\mathbf{L}}$  and  $f$  is a function symbol in  $\mathbf{FS}$  with  $r(f) = n > 0$ , then  $f t_1 \cdots t_n$  is in  $\text{TERM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .
- The set  $\text{ATOM}_{\mathbf{L}}$  of **L-atomic formulas** is the set of strings defined by:
  1.  $\perp$  and  $\top$  are in  $\text{ATOM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .
  2. Each  $P$  in  $\mathbf{PS}$  with  $r(P) = 0$  is in  $\text{ATOM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .
  3. If  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are in  $\text{TERM}_{\mathbf{L}}$  and  $P$  is a predicate symbol in  $\mathbf{PS}$  with  $r(P) = n > 0$ , then  $P t_1 \cdots t_n$  is in  $\text{ATOM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .
  4. If  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are in  $\text{TERM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ , then  $(t_1 \doteq t_2)$  is in  $\text{ATOM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .

## Syntax [3/3]

- The set  $\text{FORM}_{\mathbf{L}}$  of **L-formulas** is the set of strings inductively defined by:
  1. Each  $A$  in  $\text{ATOM}_{\mathbf{L}}$  is in  $\text{FORM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .
  2. If  $A$  and  $B$  are in  $\text{FORM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ , then  $\neg A$ ,  $(A \wedge B)$ ,  $(A \vee B)$ ,  $(A \supset B)$ , and  $(A \equiv B)$  are in  $\text{FORM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .
  3. If  $x$  in  $\mathbf{V}$  and  $A$  is  $\text{FORM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ , then  $\forall x A$  and  $\exists x A$  are in  $\text{FORM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .

# Free and Bound Variables [1/2]

- Given a term  $t$ , the set  $FV(t)$  of **free variables** of  $t$  is inductively defined by:
  - $FV(x) = \{x\}$  for a variable  $x$ .
  - $FV(c) = \emptyset$  for a constant  $c$ .
  - $FV(f\ t_1 \cdots t_n) = FV(t_1) \cup \cdots \cup FV(t_n)$  for a function symbol  $f$  with  $r(f) = n > 0$ .
- Given a formula  $A$ , the set  $FV(A)$  of **free variables** of  $A$  is inductively defined by:
  - $FV(\perp) = FV(\top) = \emptyset$ .
  - $FV(P) = \emptyset$  for a predicate symbol  $P$  with  $r(P) = 0$ .
  - $FV(P\ t_1 \cdots t_n) = FV(t_1) \cup \cdots \cup FV(t_n)$  for a predicate symbol  $P$  with  $r(P) = n > 0$ .
  - $FV(t_1 \doteq t_2) = FV(t_1) \cup FV(t_2)$ .
  - $FV(\neg A) = FV(A)$ .
  - $FV(A \Box B) = FV(A) \cup FV(B)$  where  $\Box \in \{\wedge, \vee, \supset, \equiv\}$ .
  - $FV(\Box x\ A) = FV(A) \setminus \{x\}$  where  $\Box \in \{\forall, \exists\}$ .

# Free and Bound Variables [2/2]

- A term or formula is **open** [**closed**] if its set of free variables is nonempty [empty].
- A **sentence** is a closed formula.
- Given a formula  $A$ , the set  $BV(A)$  of **bound variables** of  $A$  is inductively defined by:
  1.  $BV(\perp) = BV(\top) = \emptyset$ .
  2.  $BV(P) = \emptyset$  for a predicate symbol  $P$  with  $r(P) = 0$ .
  3.  $BV(P\ t_1 \cdots t_n) = \emptyset$  for a predicate symbol  $P$  with  $r(P) = n > 0$ .
  4.  $BV(t_1 \doteq t_2) = \emptyset$ .
  5.  $BV(\neg A) = BV(A)$ .
  6.  $BV(A \square B) = BV(A) \cup BV(B)$  where  $\square \in \{\wedge, \vee, \supset, \equiv\}$ .
  7.  **$BV(\square x\ A) = BV(A) \cup \{x\}$  where  $\square \in \{\forall, \exists\}$ .**



# Substitutions [1/2]

The result of substituting a term  $t$  for the variable  $x$  in a term  $s$ , written  $s[t/x]$ , is recursively defined by:

1.  $x[t/x] = t$  when  $s$  is  $x$ .
2.  $y[t/x] = y$  when  $s$  is a variable  $y \neq x$ .
3.  $c[t/x] = c$  when  $s$  is a constant  $c$ .
4.  $f\ t_1 \cdots t_n[t/x] = f\ t_1[t/x] \cdots t_n[t/x]$  when  $s$  is  $f\ t_1 \cdots t_n$ .

## Substitutions [2/2]

The result of substituting a term  $t$  for the free occurrences of a variable  $x$  in a formula  $A$ , written  $A[t/x]$ , is recursively defined by:

1.  $\perp[t/x] = \perp$  when  $A$  is  $\perp$ .
2.  $\top[t/x] = \top$  when  $A$  is  $\top$ .
3.  $P[t/x] = P$  when  $A$  is  $P$ .
4.  $P\ t_1 \cdots t_n[t/x] = P\ t_1[t/x] \cdots t_n[t/x]$  when  $A$  is  $P\ t_1 \cdots t_n$ .
5.  $(t_1 \doteq t_2)[t/x] = (t_1[t/x] \doteq t_2[t/x])$  when  $A$  is  $(t_1 \doteq t_2)$ .
6.  $(\neg B)[t/x] = \neg B[t/x]$  when  $A$  is  $(\neg B)$ .
7.  $(B \square C)[t/x] = (B[t/x] \square C[t/x])$  when  $A$  is  $(B \square C)$  where  $\square \in \{\wedge, \vee, \supset, \equiv\}$ .
8.  $(\square x B)[t/x] = (\square x B)$  when  $A$  is  $(\square x B)$  where  $\square \in \{\forall, \exists\}$ .
9.  $(\square y B)[t/x] = (\square y B[t/x])$  when  $A$  is  $(\square y B)$  and  $y \neq x$  where  $\square \in \{\forall, \exists\}$ .

# Semantics [1/4]

- An **L-structure** is a pair  $\mathbf{M} = (M, I)$  where  $M$  is a nonempty set of values (called the **domain** of  $\mathbf{M}$ ) and  $I$  is a function on  $\mathbf{CS} \cup \mathbf{FS} \cup \mathbf{PS}$  (called the **interpretation function** of  $\mathbf{M}$ ) such that:
  1. For  $c \in \mathbf{CS}$ ,  $I(c) \in M$ .
  2. For  $f \in \mathbf{FS}$  with  $r(f) = n > 0$ ,  $I(f) : M^n \rightarrow M$  is an  $n$ -ary function.
  3. For  $P \in \mathbf{PS}$  with  $r(P) = 0$ ,  $I(P) \in \text{BOOL}$ .
  4. For  $P \in \mathbf{PS}$  with  $r(P) = n > 0$ ,  $I(P) : M^n \rightarrow \text{BOOL}$  is an  $n$ -ary predicate.
- $I(c), I(f), I(P)$  are denoted by  $c_{\mathbf{M}}, f_{\mathbf{M}}, P_{\mathbf{M}}$ , respectively.
- An **L-structure** is a mathematical structure of the form

$$(M; (c_0)_{\mathbf{M}}, (c_1)_{\mathbf{M}}, \dots; (f_0)_{\mathbf{M}}, (f_1)_{\mathbf{M}}, \dots; (P_0)_{\mathbf{M}}, (P_1)_{\mathbf{M}}, \dots).$$

## Semantics [2/4]

- Let  $\mathbf{M} = (M, I)$  be an  $\mathbf{L}$ -structure.
- An **assignment into  $\mathbf{M}$**  is any function  $s : \mathbf{V} \rightarrow M$ . Let  $[\mathbf{V} \rightarrow M]$  be the set of all assignments into  $\mathbf{M}$ .
- If  $s \in [\mathbf{V} \rightarrow M]$ ,  $x \in \mathbf{V}$ , and  $a \in M$ ,  $s[x := a]$  is the assignment  $s' : \mathbf{V} \rightarrow M$  such that  $s'(x) = a$  and  $s'(y) = s(y)$  for all  $y \neq x$ .
- The **value of a term  $t \in \text{TERM}_{\mathbf{L}}$  in  $\mathbf{M}$  with assignment  $s \in [\mathbf{V} \rightarrow M]$** , written  $t_{\mathbf{M}}[s]$ , is a member of  $M$  recursively defined by:
  1.  $x_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = s(x)$  for  $x \in \mathbf{V}$ .
  2.  $c_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = c_{\mathbf{M}}$  for  $c \in \mathbf{CS}$ .
  3.  $(f t_1 \cdots t_n)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = f_{\mathbf{M}}((t_1)_{\mathbf{M}}[s], \dots, (t_n)_{\mathbf{M}}[s])$   
for  $f t_1 \cdots t_n \in \text{TERM}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .

## Semantics [3/4]

The value of a formula  $A \in \text{FORM}_L$  in  $\mathbf{M}$  with assignment  $s \in [\mathbf{V} \rightarrow M]$ , written  $A_{\mathbf{M}}[s]$ , is a member of  $\text{BOOL}$  recursively defined by:

1.  $\perp_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = \mathbf{F}$ .
2.  $\top_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = \mathbf{T}$ .
3.  $P_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = P_{\mathbf{M}}$  for  $P \in \text{FORM}_L$ .
4.  $(P \ t_1 \ \cdots \ t_n)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = P_{\mathbf{M}}((t_1)_{\mathbf{M}}[s], \dots, (t_n)_{\mathbf{M}}[s])$   
for  $P \ t_1 \ \cdots \ t_n \in \text{FORM}_L$ .
5.  $(t_1 \doteq t_2)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = \mathbf{T}$  if  $(t_1)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = (t_2)_{\mathbf{M}}[s]$  for  
 $(t_1 \doteq t_2) \in \text{FORM}_L$ . Otherwise,  $(t_1 \doteq t_2)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = \mathbf{F}$ .
6.  $(\neg A)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = H_{\neg}(A_{\mathbf{M}}[s])$  for  $\neg A \in \text{FORM}_L$ .
7.  $(A \Box B)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = H_{\Box}(A_{\mathbf{M}}[s], B_{\mathbf{M}}[s])$  for  $(A \Box B) \in \text{FORM}_L$   
where  $\Box \in \{\wedge, \vee, \supset, \equiv\}$ .
8.  $(\forall x A)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = \mathbf{T}$  if  $A_{\mathbf{M}}[s[x := a]] = \mathbf{T}$  for all  $a \in M$  for  
 $\forall x A \in \text{FORM}_L$ . Otherwise,  $(\forall x A)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = \mathbf{F}$ .
9.  $(\exists x A)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = \mathbf{T}$  if  $A_{\mathbf{M}}[s[x := a]] = \mathbf{T}$  for some  $a \in M$  for  
 $\exists x A \in \text{FORM}_L$ . Otherwise,  $(\exists x A)_{\mathbf{M}}[s] = \mathbf{F}$ .