

# Lecture 11 - FO: Truth and models

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## Recap: FOL Syntax

- We have a countable set of variables  $x, y, z \dots \in \mathcal{V}$
- We have a countable set of function symbols  $f, g, h \dots \in \mathcal{F}$ , and a countable set of relation/predicate symbols  $P, Q, R \dots \in \mathcal{P}$
- 0-ary function symbols are constant symbols in  $\mathcal{C}$
- $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P})$  is a signature  $\Sigma$
- Grammar for FOL is as follows

$$\varphi, \psi := t_1 \equiv t_2 \mid P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid \neg \varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \psi \mid \varphi \vee \psi \mid \varphi \supset \psi \mid \exists x. [\varphi] \mid \forall x. [\varphi]$$

where  $P$  is an  $n$ -ary predicate symbol in  $\Sigma$ , and the term syntax is

$$t := x \in \mathcal{V} \mid c \in \mathcal{C} \mid f(t_1, \dots, t_m)$$

where  $f$  is an  $m$ -ary function symbol in  $\Sigma$ .

# Recap: Expressions, sentences, and formulae

- Notation: For a given  $\Sigma$ 
  - the set of all expressions over  $\Sigma$  is denoted by  $\text{FO}_{\Sigma}$
  - the set of all terms over  $\Sigma$  and  $\mathcal{V}$  is denoted by  $\text{T}(\Sigma)$
- Defined notions of bound and free variables
- An **expression** is any wff generated by our FOL grammar
- A **sentence** is an expression with **no free variables**
- A **formula** is an expression with **at least one free variable**
- Rename bound variables to keep bound and free variables distinct!
- Keep variable names distinct within the same set (bound/free) also.
- We will assume this in whatever follows to simplify the presentation.
  - No  $x \in \mathcal{V}$  appears both free and bound.
  - No  $x \in \mathcal{V}$  is bound twice.

# Recap: FOL Semantics

- Given a  $\Sigma = (\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P})$ , we define a  $\Sigma$ -**structure**  $\mathcal{M}$  as a pair  $(M, \iota)$ , where  $M$ , the **domain** or **universe** of discourse, is a non-empty set, and  $\iota$  is a function defined over  $\mathcal{C} \cup \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{P}$  such that
  - for every constant symbol  $c \in \mathcal{C}$ , there is  $c_{\mathcal{M}} \in M$  s.t.  $\iota(c) = c_{\mathcal{M}}$
  - for every  $n$ -ary function symbol  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $\iota(f) = f_{\mathcal{M}}$  s.t.  $f_{\mathcal{M}} : M^n \rightarrow M$
  - for every  $m$ -ary predicate symbol  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $\iota(P) = P_{\mathcal{M}}$  s.t.  $P_{\mathcal{M}} \subseteq M^m$ .
- An **interpretation** for  $\Sigma$  is a pair  $\mathcal{I} = (\mathcal{M}, \sigma)$ , where
  - $\mathcal{M} = (M, \iota)$  is a  $\Sigma$ -structure, and
  - $\sigma : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow M$  is a function which maps variables in  $\mathcal{V}$  to elements of  $M$ .
- Each term  $t$  over  $\Sigma$  maps to a unique element  $t^{\mathcal{I}}$  in  $M$  under  $\mathcal{I}$ .
  - If  $t = x \in \mathcal{V}$ , then  $t^{\mathcal{I}} = \sigma(x)$
  - If  $t = c \in \mathcal{C}$ , then  $t^{\mathcal{I}} = c_{\mathcal{M}}$
  - If  $t = f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  for some  $n$  terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  and an  $n$ -ary  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $t^{\mathcal{I}} = f_{\mathcal{M}}(t_1^{\mathcal{I}}, \dots, t_n^{\mathcal{I}})$

# Recap: Satisfaction relation

- We denote the fact that an interpretation  $\mathcal{I} = (\mathcal{M}, \sigma)$  **satisfies** an expression  $\varphi \in \text{FO}_\Sigma$  by the familiar  $\mathcal{I} \models \varphi$  notation.
- We define this inductively, as usual, as follows.

$$\mathcal{I} \models t_1 \equiv t_2 \text{ if } t_1^{\mathcal{I}} = t_2^{\mathcal{I}}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \text{ if } (t_1^{\mathcal{I}}, \dots, t_n^{\mathcal{I}}) \in P_{\mathcal{M}}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models \exists x. [\varphi] \text{ if there is some } m \in M \text{ such that } \mathcal{I}[x \mapsto m] \models \varphi$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models \forall x. [\varphi] \text{ if, for every } m \in M, \text{ it is the case that } \mathcal{I}[x \mapsto m] \models \varphi$$

where we define  $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto m]$  to be  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma')$

(where  $\mathcal{I} = (\mathcal{M}, \sigma)$ ) such that

$$\sigma'(z) = \begin{cases} m & z = x \\ \sigma(z) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models \neg \varphi \text{ if } \mathcal{I} \not\models \varphi$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models \varphi \wedge \psi \text{ if } \mathcal{I} \models \varphi \text{ and } \mathcal{I} \models \psi$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models \varphi \vee \psi \text{ if } \mathcal{I} \models \varphi \text{ or } \mathcal{I} \models \psi$$

$$\mathcal{I} \models \varphi \supset \psi \text{ if } \mathcal{I} \not\models \varphi \text{ or } \mathcal{I} \models \psi$$

## Recap: Satisfiability and validity

- We say that  $\varphi \in \text{FO}_\Sigma$  is **satisfiable** if there is an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  based on a  $\Sigma$ -structure  $\mathcal{M}$  such that  $\mathcal{I} \models \varphi$ .
- We say that  $\varphi \in \text{FO}_\Sigma$  is **valid** if, for every  $\Sigma$ -structure  $\mathcal{M}$  and every interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  based on  $\mathcal{M}$ , it is the case that  $\mathcal{I} \models \varphi$ .
- A **model** of  $\varphi$  is an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  such that  $\mathcal{I} \models \varphi$ .
- We lift the notion of satisfiability to sets of formulas, and denote it by  $\mathcal{I} \models X$ , where  $X \subseteq \text{FO}_\Sigma$ .
- We say that  $X \models \varphi$  ( **$X$  logically entails  $\varphi$** ) for  $X \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \text{FO}_\Sigma$  if for every interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$ , if  $\mathcal{I} \models X$  then  $\mathcal{I} \models \varphi$ .

# Satisfiability

- As usual, want to check for satisfiability of a given FO expression over a signature  $\Sigma$
- Need a  $\Sigma$ -structure  $\mathcal{M}$ , and a model  $\mathcal{I}$  based on  $\mathcal{M}$
- In general,  $\Sigma$  will allow us to (somewhat) narrow down the expected application (arithmetic, graphs etc)
- But sometimes, unexpected models can come to light!

## Satisfiability: Example

- Consider a signature  $\Sigma = (\emptyset, \emptyset, P/2)$ .
- Is  $\varphi := \forall x. [\forall y. [\forall z. [(Pxy \wedge Pyz) \supset Pxz]]] \in \text{FO}_{\Sigma}$  satisfiable?



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- We define a candidate structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \iota)$ , where
  - $M = \{1, 2, 3\}$
  - $\iota(P) = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3)\}$
- Fix  $\mathcal{J} = (\mathcal{M}, \sigma)$ , where  $\sigma(x) = 1$  for every  $x \in \mathcal{V}$ .
- Does  $\mathcal{J} \models \forall x. [\forall y. [\forall z. [(Pxy \wedge Pyz) \supset Pxz]]]$ ?

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- $\mathcal{M} = (\{1, 2, 3\}, \iota)$ , with  $\iota(P) = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3)\}$
- Fix  $\mathcal{I} = (\mathcal{M}, \sigma)$ , where  $\sigma(x) = 1$  for every  $x \in \mathcal{V}$ . (More on this later)
- Does  $\mathcal{I} \models \forall x. [\forall y. [\forall z. [(Pxy \wedge Pyz) \supset Pxz]]]$ ?
- Need to check all possible instantiations of the universally quantified variables.
- One case:
  - Need to check if  $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto 1] \models \forall y. [\forall z. [(Pxy \wedge Pyz) \supset Pxz]]$
  - Need to check if  $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 1] \models \forall z. [(Pxy \wedge Pyz) \supset Pxz]$
  - Need to check if  $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 1, z \mapsto 1] \models (Pxy \wedge Pyz) \supset Pxz$
- Is this true?

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- Is this true? Yes! The precondition is false, so vacuously true.
- Many other cases are made vacuously true similarly.

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- Interesting case is when  $(m_1, m_2)$  and  $(m_2, m_3)$  are in  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ .
- Could be a problem if  $(m_1, m_3) \notin P_{\mathcal{M}}$
- Does  $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2, z \mapsto 3] \models (Pxy \wedge Pyz) \supset Pxz$ ? Also yes!
- So  $\mathcal{I} \models \varphi$ , and  $\varphi$  is satisfiable.

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- $\mathcal{M} = (\{1, 2, 3\}, \iota)$ , with  $\iota(P) = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3)\}$
- Fix  $\mathcal{F} = (\mathcal{M}, \sigma)$ , where  $\sigma(x) = 1$  for every  $x \in \mathcal{V}$ .
- Interesting case is when  $(m_1, m_2)$  and  $(m_2, m_3)$  are in  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$ .
- Could be a problem if  $(m_1, m_3) \notin P_{\mathcal{M}}$
- Does  $\mathcal{F}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2, z \mapsto 3] \models (Pxy \wedge Pyz) \supset Pxz$ ? Also yes!
- So  $\mathcal{F} \models \varphi$ , and  $\varphi$  is satisfiable. Is  $\varphi$  valid?
- As always, easier to prove **invalidity**.
- $\mathcal{M}' = (\{1, 2, 3\}, \iota')$ , with  $\iota'(P) = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 1)\}$
- **Exercise:** Show that  $(\mathcal{M}', \sigma') \not\models \varphi$  (for any  $\sigma'$ !)
- $\varphi$  is true exactly when the binary relation is transitive.

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- $\mathcal{F} = (\mathcal{M}', \sigma)$  exactly as in the previous example.
- Does  $\mathcal{F} \models \psi$ ? Consider a “first” case.
- Need to check if  $\mathcal{F}[x \mapsto 1] \models \exists y. [Pxy \wedge \forall z. [Pxz \supset y \equiv z]]$
- Need to check if there is some  $m \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  such that  $\mathcal{F}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto m] \models Pxy \wedge \forall z. [Pxz \supset y \equiv z]$
- Need to check if there is some  $m \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  such that  $\mathcal{F}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto m] \models Pxy$  and  $\mathcal{F}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto m] \models \forall z. [Pxz \supset y \equiv z]$
- Which  $m$ ? Not sure yet.



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- Which  $m$ ? Not sure yet. **But same  $m$  for both!**

# Satisfiability: Example

- $\mathcal{M}' = (\{1, 2, 3\}, \iota'), \iota'(P) = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 1)\}$
- Let's try  $m = 1$ .
- Need to check if  $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 1] \models Pxy$  and  $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 1, z \mapsto 1] \models Pxz \supset y \equiv z$

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 $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 1, z \mapsto 1] \models Pxz \supset y \equiv z$
- Vacuously true! Interesting case is when  $x$  and  $z$  are “in the relation”
- Need to check if  $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 1] \models Pxy$  and  
 $\mathcal{I}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 1, z \mapsto 2] \models Pxz \supset y \equiv z$

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- Not true!  $(1, 2) \in \iota'(P)$ , but  $1 \neq 2$
- What if  $m = 3$ ?

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- Need to check if  $\mathcal{F}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 1] \models Pxy$  and  $\mathcal{F}[x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 1, z \mapsto 2] \models Pxz \supset y \equiv z$
- Not true!  $(1, 2) \in \iota'(P)$ , but  $1 \neq 2$
- What if  $m = 3$ ? Also does not work.  $(1, 2) \in \iota'(P)$ , but  $3 \neq 2$

# Satisfiability: Example

- Taking  $m$  to be 2 works. (Work it out!)
- So  $\mathcal{J} \models \psi$ , and  $\psi$  is satisfiable.
- For each value  $u$  assigned to  $x$ , take  $m$  to be  $v$  such that  $(u, v) \in \iota'(P)$
- Value of  $m$  is a function of the value assigned to  $x$  (This will be important later!)
- **Important:** The value of  $m$  changes with the value assigned to  $x$
- Essentially the difference between  $\forall x. [\exists y. [...]]$  and  $\exists y. [\forall x. [...]]$
- **Exercise:** What property of the structure does  $\psi$  code up?
- **Exercise:** Is  $\psi$  valid?

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- We define a candidate structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \imath)$ , where
  - $M = \{1, 2, 3\}$
  - $\imath(P) = \{(2, 1), (2, 3), (3, 3)\}$
- Fix  $\mathcal{F} = (\mathcal{M}, \sigma)$ , where



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- Fix  $\mathcal{F} = (\mathcal{M}, \sigma)$ , where  $\sigma(x) = 2$  and  $\sigma(y) = 1$  for all **other**  $y \in \mathcal{V}$ .
- Does  $\mathcal{F} \models \forall y. [\neg(x \equiv y) \supset (Pxy \wedge \neg Pyx)]$ ?
- “First” case: Need to check if  $\mathcal{F}[y \mapsto 1] \models \neg(x \equiv y) \supset (Pxy \wedge \neg Pyx)$

# Satisfiability: Example

- $\mathcal{M} = (\{1, 2, 3\}, \iota)$  with  $\iota(P) = \{(2, 1), (2, 3), (3, 3)\}$
- $\sigma(x) = 2$  and  $\sigma(y) = 1$  for all **other**  $y \in \mathcal{V}$ .
- “First” case: Need to check if  $\mathcal{F}[y \mapsto 1] \models \neg(x \equiv y) \supset (Pxy \wedge \neg Pyx)$
- Same as checking if  
 $(\mathcal{M}, [x \mapsto 2, y \mapsto 1, \_ \mapsto 1]) \models \neg(x \equiv y) \supset (Pxy \wedge \neg Pyx)$

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$$(\mathcal{M}, [x \mapsto 2, y \mapsto 1, \_ \mapsto 1]) \models \neg(x \equiv y) \supset (Pxy \wedge \neg Pyx)$$
- Other cases also work out! So  $\mathcal{F} \models \chi(x)$ .
- Let  $\sigma'(x) = 2$  and  $\sigma'(y) = 3$  for all other  $y \in \mathcal{V}$ . Does  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma') \models \chi(x)$ ?

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- Other cases also work out! So  $\mathcal{F} \models \chi(x)$ .
- Let  $\sigma'(x) = 2$  and  $\sigma'(y) = 3$  for all other  $y \in \mathcal{V}$ . Does  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma') \models \chi(x)$ ?
- Let  $\sigma''(x) = 3$  and  $\sigma''(y) = 1$  for all other  $y \in \mathcal{V}$ . Does  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma'') \models \chi(x)$ ?
- **Exercise:** Is  $\chi(x)$  valid? What would it mean for  $\chi(x)$  to be valid?

# Satisfiability: Example

- Can talk about satisfiability for a set of sentences (called a **theory**)
- Fix a signature  $\Sigma = (\{\varepsilon\}, \{f/2\}, \emptyset)$
- Consider the following sentences:

$$\forall x. [\forall y. [\forall z. [f(f(x, y), z) \equiv f(x, f(y, z))]]]$$

$$\forall x. [f(x, \varepsilon) \equiv x]$$

$$\forall x. [\exists y. [f(x, y) \equiv \varepsilon]]$$

- Is there an interpretation that is a model for all three?

# Satisfiability of formulae and sentences

- Earlier example with  $\chi(x)$ : Both  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma)$  and  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma')$  were models
- Only required that  $\sigma$  and  $\sigma'$  agreed on  $\text{fv}(\chi(x))$
- Recall: only considered **PL** valuations restricted to atoms of expression
- **Theorem**: Let  $\Sigma$  be an FO signature and  $\varphi \in \text{FO}_\Sigma$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a  $\Sigma$ -structure and  $\sigma, \sigma'$  assignments which agree on  $\text{fv}(\varphi)$ . Then  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma) \models \varphi$  iff  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma') \models \varphi$ .      Proof: **Exercise!**
- Can we now say something about the satisfiability of **sentences**?

# Satisfiability of formulae and sentences

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- Can we now say something about the satisfiability of **sentences**?
- **Corollary**: Let  $\Sigma$  be an FO signature and  $\varphi \in \text{FO}_\Sigma$  **be a sentence**. Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a  $\Sigma$ -structure. Then, for any assignments  $\sigma, \sigma'$ , it is the case that  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma) \models \varphi$  iff  $(\mathcal{M}, \sigma') \models \varphi$ .

# Satisfiability in general

- Recall what we did for satisfiability and validity in **PL**
- Cast **PL** expression into CNF, then did resolution
- If a **PL** expression is in DNF, checking for satisfiability is easy
- Normal forms are useful in general from an automation perspective!
- Easier to handle for algorithms
  - Especially if one can algorithmically obtain the normal form also!
- What does a normal form look like for FO? Are there many such?
- First, some notational shorthand going forward.
- Use  $\forall x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$  as shorthand for  $\forall x_1. [\forall x_2. [\dots \forall x_n. [\dots] \dots]]$
- Omit brackets when clear from context.



## Towards a normal form

- Handling nested quantifiers took some doing, maybe get rid of that?
- Cannot get rid of quantifiers entirely without assignment
- So what is the next best thing we might try?

# Towards a normal form

- Handling nested quantifiers took some doing, maybe get rid of that?
- Cannot get rid of quantifiers entirely without assignment
- So what is the next best thing we might try?
- Push all quantifiers out into one “block” at the head of the expression
- Do all instantiations upfront; then evaluate the resultant expression
- Recall: Can always push negation inside the quantifier
- Can we do this for other connectives also?
- But first, we need to talk about **substitutions**

# Substitutions

- A **substitution**  $\theta$  is a partial map from  $\mathcal{V}$  to  $T(\Sigma)$ , with a finite domain
- We can lift this to terms, inductively as usual (**Exercise!**)
- $\theta(t) = t$  for a term  $t$  in the language, if  $\text{vars}(t) \cap \text{dom}(\theta) = \emptyset$
- Often write  $t\theta$  to mean  $\theta(t)$ ;  $t\theta$  is a “substitution instance” of  $t$
- We often write  $\theta = \{t/x \mid x\theta = t \text{ and } x \in \text{dom}(\theta)\}$
- What effect does  $\theta$  have on the semantics of expressions?
- **Theorem:** Given an interpretation  $\mathcal{J} = ((M, \iota), \sigma)$  for some  $\Sigma$ , a term  $t \in T(\Sigma)$ , and a substitution  $\{u/x\}$  such that  $u^{\mathcal{J}} = m \in M$ , it is the case that  $(t\{u/x\})^{\mathcal{J}} = t^{\mathcal{J}[x \mapsto m]}$ .      Proof: **Exercise!**
- Lift to expressions as usual; ensure distinct bound and free variables.
- A substitution  $\theta$  is **admissible** for an expression  $\varphi$  if  $\text{vars}(\text{rng}(\theta)) \cap \text{vars}(\varphi) = \emptyset$ .

# Back to normal forms

- Want to move quantifiers into one block at the head of the expression
- Theorem:** Let  $z \notin \text{fv}(\varphi) \cup \text{fv}(\psi) \cup \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ , where  $n \geq 0$ . For  $Q_i \in \{\forall, \exists\}$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , the following equivalences hold.

$$Q_1 x_1 \dots Q_n x_n. [\neg Qy. [\varphi]] \Leftrightarrow Q_1 x_1 \dots Q_n x_n. \overline{Q}y. [\neg \varphi]$$

$$Q_1 x_1 \dots Q_n x_n. [\psi \circ Qy. [\varphi]] \Leftrightarrow Q_1 x_1 \dots Q_n x_n. Qz. [\psi \circ \varphi\{z/y\}]$$

$$Q_1 x_1 \dots Q_n x_n. [Qy. [\varphi] * \psi] \Leftrightarrow Q_1 x_1 \dots Q_n x_n. Qz. [\varphi\{z/y\} * \psi]$$

$$Q_1 x_1 \dots Q_n x_n. [Qy. [\varphi] \supset \psi] \Leftrightarrow Q_1 x_1 \dots Q_n x_n. \overline{Q}z. [\varphi\{z/y\} \supset \psi]$$

where  $\circ \in \{\wedge, \vee, \supset\}$ , and  $*$   $\in \{\wedge, \vee\}$ , and  $\overline{Q} = \begin{cases} \exists & \text{if } Q = \forall \\ \forall & \text{if } Q = \exists \end{cases}$