

Semantic Argument for FOL

To decide validity of FOL formulae, we extend the **semantic argument** method from PL using the following proof rules:

■ **universal quantification 1:**
$$\frac{I \models \forall x \varphi}{I \triangleleft \{x \mapsto t\} \models \varphi} \quad \text{for any term } t$$

■ **existential quantification 1:**
$$\frac{I \not\models \exists x \varphi}{I \triangleleft \{x \mapsto t\} \not\models \varphi} \quad \text{for any term } t$$

In practice, we often choose t that was already introduced earlier (in order to obtain a contradiction); t can contain an eigenvariable.

■ **universal quantification 2:**
$$\frac{I \not\models \forall x \varphi}{I \triangleleft \{x \mapsto v\} \not\models \varphi} \quad \text{for a fresh eigenvariable } v$$

■ **existential quantification 2:**
$$\frac{I \models \exists x \varphi}{I \triangleleft \{x \mapsto v\} \models \varphi} \quad \text{for a fresh eigenvariable } v$$

The value v cannot have been used in the proof before.

The *eigenvariables* are not interpreted; they are *symbolic names/metavariables*.

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■ contradiction:

$$\frac{J : I \triangleleft \cdots \models p(s_1, \dots, s_n) \quad K : I \triangleleft \cdots \not\models p(t_1, \dots, t_n)}{I \models \perp} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n : \alpha_J[s_i] = \alpha_K[t_i]$$

■ rules for (=) will be introduced in the next lecture (about theories)