

# First-Order Logic

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## Outline of these lectures

- 1 Background
- 2 Syntax of First-Order Logic
- 3 Structural Induction
- 4 Semantics

## Why study FO Logic in Computer Science?

- Some of the most exciting results, arguably greatest intellectual achievements, in Mathematics in the last century were to do with FO Logic (Gödel's Completeness and Incompleteness Theorems).
  - Far-reaching consequences in logic and computation
- Spawned the study of Computability (notions of computability, undecidable problems (**Entscheidungsproblem** or deciding logical consequence), many natural “complete” problems (like SAT) were from logic).
- FO arises naturally in Program Verification and Synthesis (Floyd-Hoare logic, array logics, symbolic techniques for verification and synthesis)
- Normal forms are useful in decision procedures for logical problems.
- Helps to clarify basic notions (“theory of arrays”, “theory of linear integer arithmetic”) in decision procedures for logic.

## Outline of Topics in FO Logic

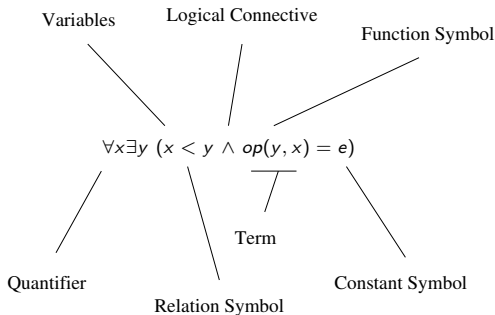
- 1 Syntax and Semantics of FO Logic
- 2 Normal Forms, Substitution lemma etc.
- 3 Sequent Calculus
- 4 Completeness
- 5 Compactness and Lowenheim-Skolem Theorem

## Example FO Logic Formula

$$\forall x \exists y (x < y \wedge op(y, x) = e)$$

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# FO Signature

A **First-Order signature** is a tuple

$$S = (R, F, C)$$

where

- $R$  is a countable set of **relation symbols**
- $F$  is a countable set of **function symbols**
- $C$  is a countable set of **constant symbols**

Each relational/functional symbol comes with an associated “arity”.

## Example FO signatures

- $S_{gr} = (\{\}, \{op^{(2)}\}, \{e\})$  (Groups)
- $S_{ogr} = (\{<^{(2)}\}, \{op^{(2)}\}, \{e\})$  (Ordered Groups)
- $S_{ar} = (\{\}, \{+^{(2)}, \cdot^{(2)}\}, \{0, 1\})$  (Arithmetic)
- $S_{eq} = (\{r^{(2)}\}, \{\}, \{\})$  (Equivalence Relations)

# FO Alphabet

The **FO alphabet** induced by an FO signature  $S = (R, F, C)$  is the set of symbols  $A_S$  which is the union of

- $R \cup F \cup C$  (symbols from the signature)
- $\{\neg, \vee, \wedge, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow, \exists, \forall\}$  (logical connectives)
- $\{ (, ", , ) \}$  (parenthesis and comma)
- $\mathbb{V} = \{v_0, v_1, \dots\}$  (variables)



# FO Terms

The set of **S-terms**  $T^S$  (of an FO signature  $S$ ) is given by

$$t ::= x \mid c \mid f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

where  $x \in \{v_0, v_1, \dots\}$  is a variable,  $c \in C$  is a constant symbol, and  $f \in F$  is a function symbol of arity  $n$ .

## Example terms

- $e, x, op(e, e), op(x, op(e, e))$  ( $S_{gr}$ -terms)
- $0, 1, x, +(0, 1), \cdot(0, +(0, 1))$  ( $S_{ar}$ -terms)

# FO Formulas

The set of **S-formulas**  $L^S$  (of an FO signature  $S$ ) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi ::= & t_1 = t_2 \mid r(t_1, \dots, t_n) \quad (\text{Atomic Formulas}) \\ & \mid \neg \varphi \mid (\varphi \vee \varphi) \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid (\varphi \rightarrow \varphi) \mid (\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi) \\ & \mid \exists x \varphi \mid \forall x \varphi \end{aligned}$$

where  $r$  is a relation symbol of arity  $n$  and  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are  $S$ -terms.

## Example formulas

- $\forall x(x = x)$  ( $S_{gr}$ -formula)
- $\forall x \exists y (<(x, y) \wedge op(y, x) = e)$  ( $S_{gr}$ -formula)
- $\exists y(x = +(y, y))$  ( $S_{ar}$ -formula)

## Countability of Terms and Formulas

### Theorem (Countability)

*For any FO signature  $S$ , the set of  $S$ -terms and  $S$ -formulas are countable.*

Recall that a set  $X$  is **countable** if there is an onto map from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $X$  (or equivalently, an injection from  $X$  to  $\mathbb{N}$ ).

Argue that the set  $A_S^*$  is countable, hence  $L^S$  which is a subset of  $A_S^*$  is also countable.

# Principle of Structural Induction for Formulas

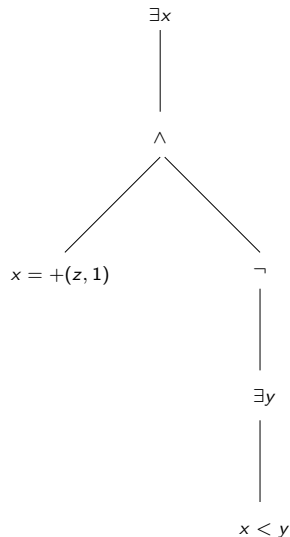
For any FO signature  $S$ , if a property  $P$  of  $S$ -formulas

- holds for all atomic  $S$ -formulas, and
- whenever it holds for  $S$ -formulas  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$ , it also holds for  $\neg\varphi$ ,  $(\varphi \vee \psi)$ ,  $(\varphi \wedge \psi)$ ,  $(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$ ,  $(\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi)$ ,  $\exists x\varphi$ , and  $\forall x\varphi$ ;

then  $P$  holds for **all**  $S$ -formulas.

## Formula structure

$$\exists x(x = +(z, 1) \wedge \neg \exists y(x < y))$$



## Exercise

### Exercise

Show that in any  $S_{gr}$ -formula, the number of opening and closing parenthesis must be equal.

## Giving Semantics to FO Formulas

- In logic in general, formulas are interpreted in **models** or **structures**.

Examples:

- In Propositional Logic models are **valuations**:

$$\langle p_0 \mapsto \text{true}, p_1 \mapsto \text{false}, \dots \rangle \models (p_0 \vee \neg p_1)$$

- In Temporal Logic models are **sequences of valuations**:

$$\langle p \mapsto \text{true}, q \mapsto \text{false} \rangle \langle p \mapsto \text{false}, q \mapsto \text{false} \rangle \dots \models G(p \rightarrow Fq)$$

- What kind of a model do we need to interpret the  $S_{gr}$ -formula

$$\forall x \exists y (op(y, x) = e)?$$

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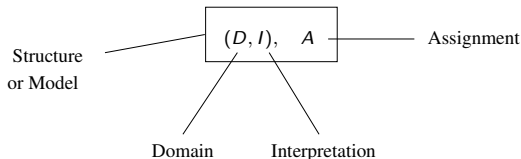
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- What kind of a model do we need to interpret the  $S_{gr}$ -formula

$$\forall x \exists y (op(y, x) = e)?$$

- In FO, a model looks like:





## Example Structures

Example structures for  $S_{gr} = (op, e)$ .

- $(\mathbb{Z}, +, 0)$ :
  - Domain  $D$ :  $\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .
  - Interpretation  $I$ :
    - $op \mapsto +$  (i.e. the binary function  $+: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  given by:  
 $+(i, j) = i + j$ ).
    - $e \mapsto 0$
- $(\mathbb{Z}_3, (+ \bmod 3), 0)$ :
  - Domain  $D$ :  $\mathbb{Z}_3 = \{0, 1, 2\}$ .
  - Interpretation  $I$ :
    - $op \mapsto (+ \bmod 3)$  (i.e. the binary function “ $(+ \bmod 3)$ ”  
 $: \mathbb{Z}_3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_3$  given by:  $(+ \bmod 3)(i, j) = (i + j) \bmod 3$ ).
    - $e \mapsto 0$

## Truth of a formula in a model: intuitively

### Exercise

Consider the  $S_{gr}$ -structure  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, 0)$ . Are the following formulas true in this model?

- $\forall x \exists y (op(x, y) = e)$
- $\exists x (op(x, x) = e)$
- $\forall x (op(x, x) = e)$

## Domain and Interpretation

Let  $S = (R, F, C)$  be an FO signature.

A **Domain**  $D$  is a non-empty set.

An  **$S$ -interpretation**  $I$  is a map that assigns

- to each relation symbol  $r^{(n)} \in R$ , a relation  $I(r) \subseteq (D \times \cdots \times D)$
- to each function symbol  $f^{(n)} \in R$ , a function  $I(f) : (D \times \cdots \times D) \rightarrow D$
- to each constant symbol  $c \in C$ , an element  $I(c) \in D$ .

## Assignments for Variables

- How do we give meaning to the formula

$$\exists y (op(x, y) = e)?$$

(The variable  $x$  is said to be “free” in this formula).

- Even if we were interested in “sentences” (formulas without free variables), still convenient to have assignments.

Let  $D$  be a domain.

- An **assignment** (in  $D$ ) is a map  $A : \mathbb{V} \rightarrow D$ .
- For an assignment  $A$ , variable  $x \in \mathbb{V}$ , and  $d \in D$ , we use  $A[d/x]$  to denote the assignment  $A'$  given by:

$$A'(y) = \begin{cases} A(y) & \text{if } y \neq x \\ d & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## Semantics of FO

Let  $S$  be an FO signature. An **S-structure** (or **S-model**) is a tuple  $M = (D, I, A)$ , where  $D$  is a domain,  $I$  an interpretation for symbols in  $S$ , and  $A$  is an assignment in  $D$ .

For an  $S$ -term  $t$  we define  $M(t)$  to be the interpretation of  $t$  (the domain element that  $t$  maps to). Formally

$$\begin{aligned}M(c) &= I(c) \\M(v) &= A(v) \\M(f(t_1, \dots, t_n)) &= I(f)(M(t_1), \dots, M(t_n))\end{aligned}$$

We define the relation “ $M \models \varphi$ ” ( $\varphi$  is satisfied in model  $M$ ) by:

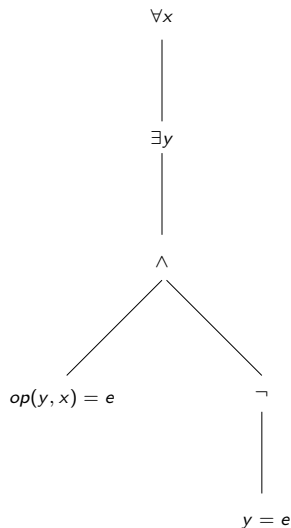
$$\begin{aligned}M \models (t = t') &\text{ iff } M(t) = M(t') \\M \models (r(t_1, \dots, t_n)) &\text{ iff } (M(t_1), \dots, M(t_n)) \in I(r) \\M \models \neg \varphi &\text{ iff } M \not\models \varphi \\M \models (\varphi \vee \psi) &\text{ iff } M \models \varphi \text{ or } M \models \psi \\M \models \exists x \varphi &\text{ iff there is } d \in D \text{ s.t. } (D, I, A[d/x]) \models \varphi \\M \models \forall x \varphi &\text{ iff for each } d \in D \text{ we have } (D, I, A[d/x]) \models \varphi.\end{aligned}$$

## Semantics: Example

Find the truth of the  $S_{gr}$ -formula

$$\forall x \exists y ((op(y, x) = e) \wedge \neg(y = e))$$

in the structure  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, 0)$ .



# Exercise

## Exercise

Consider the FO signature  $S = (r^{(1)}, f^{(2)})$ . Give models that (a) satisfy and (b) don't satisfy the following formulas:

- $\forall y (f(x, y) = x)$
- $\exists x \forall y (f(x, y) = y)$
- $\exists x (r(x) \wedge \forall y \, r(f(x, y)))$ .

## Satisfiability and Validity

- An  $S$ -formula  $\varphi$  is **satisfiable** if there is an  $S$ -model  $M$  such that  $M \models \varphi$ .
- An  $S$ -formula  $\varphi$  is **valid** if for every  $S$ -model  $M$ , we have  $M \models \varphi$ .

### Proposition

$\varphi$  is valid iff  $\neg\varphi$  is not satisfiable.



# Logical Implication and Equivalence

- $\varphi$  **implies**  $\psi$  iff every model of  $\varphi$  is also a model of  $\psi$ .
- $\varphi$  is **logically equivalent to**  $\psi$ , written  $\varphi \equiv \psi$ , iff the set of models of  $\varphi$  coincides with that of  $\psi$ .

## Examples

- $r(x) \rightarrow r(y)$  is logically equivalent to  $\neg r(x) \vee r(y)$ .
- $\forall x \varphi$  is logically equivalent to  $\neg \exists \neg \varphi$

# Logical Consequence

- For a set  $T$  of  $S$ -formulas, we say a model  $M$  satisfies  $T$ , written “ $M \models T$ ”, iff  $M \models \varphi$  for each  $\varphi \in T$ .
- For a set  $T$  of  $S$ -formulas, and an  $S$ -formula  $\varphi$ , we say  $\varphi$  is a **logical consequence** of  $T$ , written

$$T \models \varphi,$$

iff for every  $S$ -model  $M$ , whenever  $M \models T$  we have  $M \models \varphi$ .

## Examples

- $\{\exists y \forall x (op(x, y) = e)\} \models \forall x \exists y (op(x, y) = e)$
- $\{\forall x \exists y (op(x, y) = e)\} \not\models \exists y \forall x (op(x, y) = e)$
- $\{\forall x \exists y (op(x, y) = e), \forall x (x = e)\} \models \exists y \forall x (op(x, y) = e)$

# Theories

The **theory** of a set of  $S$ -formulas  $T$ , written “ $Th(T)$ ”, is the set of  $S$ -formulas that are logical consequences of  $T$ . That is:

$$Th(T) = \{\varphi \mid T \models \varphi\}.$$

## Theory of Groups $Th(\Phi_{gr})$

Let  $\Phi_{gr}$  be the set of formulas (group axioms) (using infix  $\circ$  instead of  $op$ ):

$$\forall x \forall y \forall z ((x \circ y) \circ z = x \circ (y \circ z)) \quad (1)$$

$$\forall x (x \circ e = x) \quad (2)$$

$$\forall x \exists y (x \circ y = e) \quad (3)$$

Then  $Th(\Phi_{gr})$

- Contains  $\forall x \exists y (op(y, x) = e)$ , but
- Does **not** contain  $\forall x \forall y (op(x, y) = op(y, x))$ .

# Theories

The **theory** of an  $S$ -structure  $M$ , written “ $Th(M)$ ”, is the set of  $S$ -formulas that are true in  $M$ :

$$Th(M) = \{\varphi \mid M \models \varphi\}.$$

## Theory of Arithmetic $Th(\mathbb{N}, +, \cdot, 0, 1)$

- Contains  $\forall x(x \cdot 0 = 0)$ , but
- Does not contain  $\exists y \forall x(x < y)$  (here  $< (x, y)$  is shorthand for  $\exists z((z \neq 0) \wedge (x + z = y))$ )