Logic in Computer Science

For a given language \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P} , a *first-order theory* is a set T of sentences (closed formulae) in this given language. The elements of T are also called *axioms* of T.

A model of T is a model \mathcal{M} of the given language such that $\mathcal{M} \models \psi$ for all sentences ψ in T.

 $T \vdash \varphi$ means that we can find ψ_1, \ldots, ψ_n in T such that $\psi_1, \ldots, \psi_n \vdash \varphi$.

 $T \models \varphi$ means that $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi$ for all models \mathcal{M} of T.

The generalized form of *soundness* is that $T \vdash \varphi$ implies $T \models \varphi$ and *completness* is that $T \models \varphi$ implies $T \vdash \varphi$.

If T is a finite set ψ_1, \ldots, ψ_n this follows from the usual statement of soundness $(\vdash \delta \text{ implies} \models \delta)$ and completness $(\models \delta \text{ implies} \vdash \delta)$. Indeed, in this case, we have $T \vdash \varphi$ iff $\vdash (\psi_1 \land \cdots \land \psi_n) \rightarrow \varphi$ and $T \models \varphi$ iff $\models (\psi_1 \land \cdots \land \psi_n) \rightarrow \varphi$.

Compactness Theorem

Theorem 0.1 A theory has a model iff any of its finite subtheory has a model

Application 1: non-standard model

We recall that the theory of Peano arithmetic PA is a theory for the language $\mathcal{F} = \{\text{zero}, S, +, \cdot\}$ and with no predicate symbol apart from equality. We add the special constant u with the axioms

$$u \neq$$
zero, $u \neq$ S(zero), $u \neq$ S(S(zero)), ...

By the Compactness Theorem, this theory has a model. The domain of this model has to contain an element which is different from the semantics of zero, S(zero), S(S(zero)),... This is a *non standard* model of arithmetic.

Application 2: transitive closure is not first-order definable

In the language with one binary relation symbol R and two constant a, b, we can state

Theorem 0.2 There is no formula φ such that $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi$ iff there is a path from $a^{\mathcal{M}}$ to $b^{\mathcal{M}}$

Indeed, if there was such a formula φ then the theory φ , $\neg \delta_0$, $\neg \delta_1$,... would be consistent, by the Compactness Theorem, where δ_0 is a = b and δ_{n+1} is $\delta_n \vee \exists z_1 \ldots z_n R(a, z_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge R(z_n, b)$. But this is a contraction.

Application 3: to be well-founded is not first-order definable

We recall that a relation S is well-founded iff there is no infinite sequence x_0, x_1, \ldots such that $S(x_0, x_1), S(x_1, x_2), \ldots$. In the language with one binary relation symbol R we can state

Theorem 0.3 There is no formula φ such that $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi$ iff $\mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{M}}$ is well-founded.

We add to the language infinitely many constants a_0, a_1, a_2, \ldots and, if there is such a formula φ , we consider the theory

 $\varphi, R(a_0, a_1), R(a_1, a_2), R(a_2, a_3), \dots$

By the Compactness Theorem, this theory has a model, which is a contradiction.

Three traditions in logic

Before starting the presentation of Linear Temporal Logic, I started to recall the 3 traditions in logic, that are important for propositional logic (and temporal logics)

- 1. model theory
- 2. proof theory
- 3. algebraic logic

We present this in the case of propositional logic, where the syntax is

$$\varphi ::= p \mid \neg \varphi \mid \varphi \rightarrow \varphi$$

where p ranges over atoms. We can then define $\psi_0 \vee \psi_1 = \neg \psi_0 \rightarrow \psi_1$ and $\psi_0 \wedge \psi_1 = \neg (\psi_0 \rightarrow \neg \psi_1)$.

Model Theory

In the model theoretic approach, we start by defining what is a model α which is a function from the atomic formulae to $\{0,1\}$. We then define $\alpha \models \varphi$ by induction on φ .

We write $\models \varphi$ iff $\alpha \models \varphi$ for all models α .

Proof Theory

In the proof theoretic approach, we define when φ is *derivable*, notation $\vdash \varphi$, and more generally, when φ is derivable from hypotheses ψ_1, \ldots, ψ_k , notation $\psi_1, \ldots, \psi_k \vdash \varphi$.

In this course, we presented this following the notion of *natural deduction*.

Another way to present the notion of derivability is via the so-called notion of *Hilbert-style* proof system (which was actually already in Frege). It consists in giving some axioms and to say that φ is derivable iff we can build a derivation tree using as the only derivation rule the *modus-ponens rule*

$$\frac{\psi \qquad \psi \to \delta}{\delta}$$

and the leaves are axioms.

For instance, for proposition a possible axiom system is the given by the 3 axiom schemas

- $\varphi \to \psi \to \varphi$
- $(\varphi \to \psi \to \delta) \to (\varphi \to \psi) \to \varphi \to \delta$
- $(\neg \varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\neg \varphi \rightarrow \neg \psi) \rightarrow \varphi$

With this presentation it is not at all obvious that, e.g. $p \to p$ is derivable!

Both presentations are actually equivalent, and we have $\vdash \varphi$ iff $\models \varphi$.

Algebraic logic

An important remark if that, if we define $\varphi \equiv \psi$ by $\alpha \models \varphi$ iff $\alpha \models \psi$ (or equivalently $\vdash \varphi \rightarrow \psi$ and $\vdash \psi \rightarrow \varphi$), then we have the rules

$$\frac{\varphi \equiv \psi}{\neg \varphi \equiv \neg \psi} \qquad \qquad \frac{\varphi_0 \equiv \psi_0 \qquad \varphi_1 \equiv \psi_1}{\varphi_0 \to \varphi_1 \equiv \psi_0 \to \psi_1}$$

It is then natural to write simply $\varphi = \psi$ instead of $\varphi \equiv \psi$ and to consider that we have two operations (negation and implication). It is also natural to write $\varphi \leq \psi$ instead of $\vdash \varphi \rightarrow \psi$.

We see then the set of formulae as a set equipped with some operations, satisfying some algebraic laws (e.g. $1 = p \rightarrow p$). The relation \leq is a poset relation.

This was the view of logic coming from Boole (1815-1864). One can consider more generally algebras satisfying the same laws as the one of proposition formulae, and these are called Boolean algebras. In term of the operations \neg , \lor , one possible list of equational axiom for Boolean algebra is

$$\begin{aligned} x \lor (y \lor z) &= (x \lor y) \lor z & x \lor y = y \lor x & x \lor 1 = 1 & x \lor 0 = x \\ x \land (y \land z) &= (x \land y) \land z & x \land y = y \land x & x \land 1 = x & x \land 0 = 0 \\ \neg (x \lor y) &= \neg x \land (\neg y) & 1 = \neg 0 & 0 = \neg 1 & \neg (\neg x) = x \\ & x \land (y \lor z) &= (x \land y) \lor (x \land z) & x \land (x \lor y) = x \end{aligned}$$

In the algebraic approach, we can consider more general algebras than the algebras of propositional formulae.

In this approach, a natural question is how to solve equations. For instance, it can be shown (exercise) that the equation in x

$$(x \land b) \lor (\neg x \land (a \lor \neg b)) = 1$$

has exactly the solution $x = b \land (\neg a \lor u)$ where u is arbitrary.

For propositional logic, these three approaches, model theoretic, proof theoretic and algebraic are equivalent, but they provide very different intuitions.