

Lecture #14, Nov, 4



0.0.1 Remark. We saw that *a Boolean wff, is also a 1st-order wff.*

We view Boolean formulas as abstractions of 1st-order ones.

How is this Abstraction manifesting itself?

Well, in any given 1st-order wff we just “hide” all 1st-order features. That is, look at any wff like the following three forms as Boolean variables.

1. $t = s$
2. $\phi t_1 t_2 t_3 \dots t_n$
3. $(\forall x)A$

Why so? You see, if you “live” inside Boolean logic, you know these configurations are “*statements*” but you *cannot say what they say*:

You do not understand the symbols.

So an inhabitant of Boolean logic can USE the above if connected with Boolean glue.

Examples.

- You see this “ $x = y \rightarrow x = y \vee x = z$ ” as “ $\boxed{x = y} \rightarrow \boxed{x = y} \vee \boxed{x = z}$ ” where the first a and second box is the same —say variable p — while the last one is different. You recognize a tautology!
- You see this “ $x = x$ ” as “ $\boxed{x = x}$ ”. Just a Boolean variable. Not a tautology.
- The same goes for this “ $(\forall x)x = y \rightarrow x = y$ ” which the Boolean citizen views as “ $\boxed{(\forall x)x = y} \rightarrow \boxed{x = y}$ ”, that is, a Boolean wff $p \rightarrow q$. Not a tautology.

Process of abstraction: We only abstract the expressions 1.–3. above in order to turn a 1st-order wff into a Boolean wff.

The three forms above are known in logic as **Prime Formulas**.

More Boolean abstraction examples:

- If A is

$$p \rightarrow x = y \vee (\forall x)\phi x \wedge q \quad (\text{note that } q \text{ is not in the scope of } (\forall x))$$

then we abstract as

$$p \rightarrow \boxed{x = y} \vee \boxed{(\forall x)\phi x} \wedge q \quad (1)$$

so the Boolean citizen sees

$$p \rightarrow p' \vee p'' \wedge q$$



If we ask “show all the prime formulas in A by boxing them” then we—who understand 1st-order language and can see inside scopes—would have also boxed ϕx above. The Boolean citizen cannot see ϕx in the scope of $(\forall x)$ so the boxing for such a person would be as we gave in (1)



- First box all prime formulas in (2) below.

$$(\forall x)(x = y \rightarrow (\forall z)z = a \vee q)$$

Here it is.

$$\boxed{(\forall x)(\boxed{x = y} \rightarrow (\forall z)\boxed{z = a} \vee q)}$$

Now abstract the above for Boolean inhabitants:

$$\boxed{(\forall x)(x = y \rightarrow (\forall z)z = a \vee q)}$$

They see no glue at all!

The abstraction is

$$p$$

- $x = y \rightarrow x = y$ abstracts as $\boxed{x = y} \rightarrow \boxed{x = y}$. That is, $p \rightarrow p$ —*a tautology*.

Why bother with abstractions? Well, the last example is a tautology so a Boolean citizen can prove it.

However $x = x$ and $(\forall x)x = y \rightarrow x = y$ are not tautologies and we need predicate logic techniques to settle their theoremhood. □ 

We can now define:

0.0.2 Definition. (Tautologies and Tautological Implications) We say that a (1st-order) wff, A , *is a tautology and write* $\models_{\text{taut}} A$, iff its *Boolean abstraction* is.

In 1st-order Logic $\Gamma \models_{\text{taut}} A$ is applied to the Boolean abstraction of A and the wff in Γ .

Goes without saying that ALL the *identical* occurrences of $\boxed{\dots}$ in $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$ will stand for the same Boolean variable.

For example, $x = y \models_{\text{taut}} x = y \vee z = v$ is correct as we see from

$$\overbrace{\boxed{x = y}}^p \models_{\text{taut}} \overbrace{\boxed{x = y}}^p \vee \overbrace{\boxed{z = v}}^q$$

□

Substitutions

A substitution is a *textual substitution*.

In $A[\mathbf{x} := t]$ we will replace all occurrences of a *free* \mathbf{x} in A by the term t : *Find and replace*.

In $A[\mathbf{p} := B]$ we will replace all occurrences of a \mathbf{p} in A by B : *Find and replace*.

0.0.3 Example. (What to avoid) Consider the substitution below

$$\left((\exists x) \neg x = y \right) [y := x]$$

If we go ahead with it *as a brute force “find and replace” asking no questions*, then we are met by a *serious problem*:

The result

$$(\exists x) \neg x = x \tag{1}$$

says *something other than* what the original formula says!

The latter says “for any choice of y -value there is a *fresh* (i.e., other than y) new x -value”.

The above is true in any application of logic *where we have infinitely many objects*. For example, it is true of real numbers and natural numbers.

(1) though is *NEVER* true! It says that there is an object that is *different from itself!* □

0.0.4 Definition. (Substitution) Each of

1. In $A[\mathbf{x} := t]$ replace all occurrences of a free \mathbf{x} in A by the term t : *Find and replace*.
2. In $A[\mathbf{p} := B]$ replace all occurrences of a \mathbf{p} in A by B : *Find and replace*.

dictates that we do a *find and replace*.

However we *abort* the substitution 1 or 2 if it so happens that going ahead with it makes a free variable \mathbf{y} of t or B bound because *t or B ended up in the scope of a $(\forall \mathbf{y})$ or $(\exists \mathbf{y})$* .

We say that the substitution is undefined and that the reason is that *we had a “free variable capture”*.

There is a variant of substitution 2, above:

3. In $A[\mathbf{p} \setminus B]$ replace all occurrences of a \mathbf{p} in A by B : *Find and replace*.

For technically justified reasons to be learnt later, we never abort this one, capture or not.

We call the substitutions 1. and 2. *conditional*, while the substitution 3. unconditional.

There is NO unconditional version of 1.

$[\mathbf{x} := t]$, $[\mathbf{p} := B]$, $[\mathbf{p} \setminus B]$ have higher priority than all connectives $\forall, \exists, \neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \equiv$. They associate from LEFT to RIGHT that is $A[\mathbf{x} := t][\mathbf{p} := B]$ means

$$\left(\left(A[\mathbf{x} := t] \right) [\mathbf{p} := B] \right)$$

□

0.0.5 Example. Several substitutions based on Definition 0.0.4.

$$(1) (y = x)[y := x].$$

The red brackets are META brackets. I need them to show the substitution applies to the whole formula.

The result is $x = x$.

(2) $((\forall x)x = y)[y := x]$. By 0.0.4, this is undefined because if I go ahead then x is captured by $(\forall x)$.

(3) $(\forall x)(x = y)[y := x]$. According to priorities, this means $(\forall x)\{(x = y)[y := x]\}$.

That is, “apply the quantifier $(\forall x)$ to $x = x$ ”, which is all right.

Result is $(\forall x)x = x$.

(4) $((\forall x)(\forall y)\phi(x, y))[y := x]$. This says

- Do $((\forall x)((\forall y)\phi(x, y)))[y := x]$
- This is all right since y is not free in $((\forall y)\phi(x, y))$ —so *not found; no replace!*

Result is the original formula UNCHANGED.

(5) $(z = a \vee (\forall x)x = y)[y := x]$. *Abort:* x is captured when we attempt substitution in the subformula $(\forall x)x = y$.

(6) $((\forall x)p)[p \setminus x = y]$ Unconditional substitution. *Just find and replace, no questions asked!*

Result: $(\forall x)x = y$.

(7) $((\forall x)p)[p := x = y]$ Undefined. *x in $x = y$ will get captured if you go ahead!* \square

0.0.6 Definition. (Partial Generalisation) We say that B is *a partial generalisation* of A if B is formed *by adding as a PREFIX to A zero or more* strings of the form $(\forall \mathbf{x})$ for any choices whatsoever of the variable \mathbf{x} —*repetitions allowed*. \square

0.0.7 Example. Here is a small list of partial generalisations of the formula $x = z$:

$$x = z,$$

$$(\forall w)x = z,$$

$$(\forall x)(\forall x)x = z,$$

$$(\forall x)(\forall z)x = z,$$

$$(\forall z)(\forall x)x = z,$$

$$(\forall z)(\forall z)(\forall z)(\forall x)(\forall z)x = z.$$

\square

0.1. Axioms and Rules for Predicate Logic

0.1.1 Definition. (1st-Order Axioms) These are all the partial generalisations of all the instances of the following schemata.

1. All tautologies
2. $(\forall \mathbf{x})A \rightarrow A[\mathbf{x} := t]$

 Note that *we get an instance of this schema ONLY IF the substitution is not aborted.* 

3. $A \rightarrow (\forall \mathbf{x})A$ — *PROVIDED \mathbf{x} is not free in A .*
4. $(\forall \mathbf{x})(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\forall \mathbf{x})A \rightarrow (\forall \mathbf{x})B$
5. $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}$
6. $t = s \rightarrow (A[\mathbf{x} := t] \equiv A[\mathbf{x} := s])$

The set of all first-order axioms is named “ Λ_1 ” — “1” for 1st-order. □

Our only INITIAL (or *Primary*) rule is **Modus Ponens**:

$$\frac{A, A \rightarrow B}{B} \quad (MP)$$

You may think that including all tautologies as axioms is overkill.
However

1. It is customary to do so in the literature ([[Tou08](#), [Sho67](#), [End72](#), [Tou03](#)])
2. After Post’s Theorem we do know that every tautology is a theorem of Boolean logic. Adopting axiom one makes every tautology also a theorem of Predicate Logic outright!

This is the easiest way to incorporate Boolean logic as a sublogic of 1st-order logic.

Bibliography

- [End72] Herbert B. Enderton, *A mathematical introduction to logic*, Academic Press, New York, 1972.
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- [Tou03] G. Tourlakis, *Lectures in Logic and Set Theory; Volume 1: Mathematical Logic*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2003.
- [Tou08] ———, *Mathematical Logic*, John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, NJ, 2008.