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#### Session 3

# **Natural Deduction**

#### Agenda

- Non-Compactness and Incompleteness of Herbrand Logic
- Natural Deduction
- The Fitch System

#### Non-Compactness

**Theorem**: Herbrand Logic is not compact

Proof:

- Consider the following infinite set of sentences: P(a), P(f(a)), P(f(f(a))), ...
- Assume the vocabulary is {P, a, f}. Hence, the ground terms are a, f(a), f(f(a)), ....
- This set of sentences entails  $\forall x P(x)$ .
- Add in the sentence  $\exists x \neg P(x)$ .
- Clearly, this infinite set is unsatisfiable.
- However, every finite subset is satisfiable.
- Thus, compactness does not hold.

## Infinite Proofs

**Corollary:** In Herbrand Logic, some entailed sentences have only infinite proofs.

Proof.

- The above proof demonstrates a set of sentences that entail  $\forall x.p(x)$ .
- The set of premises in any finite proof will be missing one of the above sentences.
- Thus, those premises do not entail  $\forall x.p(x)$ .
- Therefore, no finite proof can exist for  $\forall x.p(x)$ .

#### Natural Deduction

- A kind of proof calculus in which logical reasoning is expressed by inference rules closely related to the "natural" way of reasoning.
- This contrasts with Hilbert-style systems, which instead use axioms as much as possible to express the logical laws of deductive reasoning.
- In natural deduction, a proposition is deduced from a collection of premises by repeatedly applying inference rules.
- Gerhard Gentzen and Dag Prawitz laid its foundations
- Fitch notation is a popular notational system for constructing formal proofs in natural deduction

#### Rule of Inference

- A *schema* is an expression satisfying the grammatical rules of our language except for the occurrence of metavariables (written here as Greek letters) in place of various subparts of the expression.
- Example:

$$\phi \Rightarrow \psi$$

• A rule of inference:

Premises

Conclusions

#### Linear and Structured Proofs

- A linear proof of a conclusion from a set of premises is a sequence of sentences terminating in the conclusion in which each item is either
  - 1) a premise
  - 2) an instance of an axiom schema, or
  - 3) the result of applying a rule of inference to earlier items in sequence
- Structured proofs differ from linear proofs in that sentences can be grouped into subproofs nested within outer superproofs
  - we can make assumptions within subproofs
  - we can prove conclusions from those assumptions
  - from those derivations, we derive implications in superproofs

## Fitch

- Fitch is a proof system that is particularly popular in the Logic community.
- It is as powerful as many other proof systems and is far simpler to use.
- Fitch achieves this simplicity through its support for structured proofs and its use of structured rules of inference in addition to ordinary rules of inference.
- Fitch has fifteen rules of inference in all.
  - Nine of these are ordinary rules of inference.
  - One rule (Implication Introduction) is a structured rule of inference.
  - Five more rules deal with quantifiers

#### And Introduction and Elimination

And Introduction

And Elimination



 $\phi_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge \phi_n$  $\phi_i$ 

#### Or Introduction and Elimination

Or Introduction

#### Or Elimination

$$\begin{array}{c}
\phi_1 \lor \ldots \lor \phi_n \\
\phi_1 \Rightarrow \psi \\
\vdots \\
\phi_n \Rightarrow \psi \\
\hline
\psi
\end{array}$$

$$\frac{\phi_i}{\phi_1 \vee \ldots \vee \phi_n}$$

#### Negation Introduction and Elimination

**Negation Introduction** 

**Negation Elimination** 

$$\begin{array}{c} \phi \Rightarrow \psi \\ \phi \Rightarrow \neg \psi \\ \hline \neg \phi \end{array}$$

$$\frac{\neg \neg \phi}{\phi}$$

#### Implication Introduction and Elimination

Implication Introduction

Implication Elimination

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \phi \vdash \psi & - \\ \hline \phi \Rightarrow \psi \end{array} \text{ subproof}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \phi \Rightarrow \psi \\ \phi \\ \hline \psi \end{array}$$

#### **Biconditional Introduction and Elimination**

**Biconditional Introduction** 

**Biconditional Elimination** 

$$\begin{array}{c} \phi \Rightarrow \psi \\ \psi \Rightarrow \phi \\ \hline \phi \Leftrightarrow \psi \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \phi \Leftrightarrow \psi \\ \hline \phi \Rightarrow \psi \\ \psi \Rightarrow \phi \end{array}$$

#### **Rules for Universal Quantifier**

**Universal Introduction** 

**Universal Elimination** 



 $rac{orall 
u.\phi[
u]}{\phi[ au]}$ 

Where v does not occur free in both  $\phi$  and an active assumption

#### **Rules for Existential Quantifier**

**Existential Introduction** 

$$\frac{\phi[\tau]}{\exists \nu. \phi[\nu]}$$

**Existential Elimination** 

$$\frac{\exists \nu.\phi[\nu_1,\ldots,\nu_n,\nu]}{\phi[sk(\nu_1,\ldots,\nu_n)]}$$

(special case)

$$\frac{\exists \nu. \phi[\nu]}{\phi[\tau']}$$

#### Domain Closure

For languages with finite Herbrand base





For languages with infinite Herbrand base, we need induction!

#### Constructing Proofs with the Fitch System

- Constructing proofs using the Fitch system can often be hard and unintuitive, especially for those who encounter it for the first time
- Here are a few guidelines/strategies one can follow
- Based on the properties
  - of the Goal (what is to be proved, the thesis)
  - of the Premises (the assumptions, the hypothesis)

#### Guidelines Based on the Goal

- Goal is of the form  $\phi \Rightarrow \psi$ 
  - Assume  $\phi$
  - Prove ψ
  - Apply Implication Introduction to prove  $\phi \Rightarrow \psi$
- Goal is of the form  $\neg \phi$ 
  - Assume φ (*per absurdum*)
  - − Find a sentence  $\psi$  s.t. you can prove  $\phi \Rightarrow \psi$  and  $\phi \Rightarrow \neg \psi$
  - Apply Negation Introduction to prove  $\neg \phi$
- Goal is of the form  $\varphi$  (with no negation on the outside)
  - Assume  $\neg\phi$  and proceed in a similar manner to prove  $\neg\neg\phi$
  - Apply Negation Elimination on the result  $\neg \neg \phi$  to prove  $\phi$

#### Guidelines Based on the Goal

- Goal is of the form  $\phi_1 \vee \phi_2 \dots \vee \phi_n$ 
  - Prove any  $\phi_i (1 \le i \le n)$
  - Apply OR Introduction to prove  $\phi_1 \vee \phi_2 \dots \vee \phi_n$
- Goal is of the form  $\phi_1 \land \phi_2 \ldots \land \phi_n$ 
  - Prove  $\phi_i$  for every i,  $1 \le i \le n$
  - Apply AND Introduction to prove  $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2 \dots \wedge \phi_n$

#### **Guidelines Based on the Premises**

- There exists a Premise of the form  $\phi \Rightarrow \psi$  and the Goal is  $\psi$ 
  - Prove φ
  - Apply Implication Elimination on  $\phi$  and  $\phi \Rightarrow \psi$  to prove  $\psi$
- There exists a Premise of the form  $\phi_1 ~ v ~ \phi_2 ~ ... ~ v ~ \phi_n$  and the Goal is  $\psi$ 
  - − Prove  $φ_i \Rightarrow ψ$  for every i,  $1 \le i \le n$
  - − Apply OR Elimination to prove  $φ_1 \lor φ_2 \ldots \lor φ_n \Rightarrow ψ$
  - Apply Implication Elimination on the above result and the premise to prove  $\boldsymbol{\psi}$

#### Thank you for your attention

