

- syntax
- semantics
- normal forms
- calculi
- other properties
- variants of FOL
- automated theorem provers

- as in propositional logic, FOL has a two-valued semantics
- however, before assigning meaning to formulas, the meaning of terms have to be defined
- a **pre-interpretation** J for a fol language \mathcal{L} consists of a non-empty set D , called the **domain** of J , and an assignment mapping $f^J : D^n \longrightarrow D$ to each n -ary function symbol in the alphabet of \mathcal{L}
- the meaning of a ground term t under J is then defined as

$$t^J = \begin{cases} t^J & \text{if } t \text{ is a constant} \\ f^J(t_1^J, \dots, t_n^J) & \text{if } t \text{ is of the form } f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \end{cases}$$

- example: consider the term $f(h(c), g(a, b))$
- let J be defined with $D = \mathbb{N}$ with $+$, $-$, $\sqrt{\quad}$ and

$$\begin{array}{lll} a^J = 5 & b^J = 3 & c^J = 16 \\ f^J = + & g^J = - & h^J = \sqrt{\quad} \end{array}$$

then $f(h(c), g(a, b))^J = +(\sqrt{(16)}, -(5, 3)) = 6$

- let J be defined with $D =$ nodes and arcs in a directed graphs, a, b some nodes, c an arc, $-$ the constructor function for directed arcs, $\sqrt{\quad}$ the consulting function for giving an arc returning its starting element, and $+$ the constructor function that given a node and an arc, builds a new arc with the given node and the ending node of the given arc
- these examples show that the same term can have different meanings

- to assign meaning to non-ground terms we introduce the notion of **state**
- a **state** is a mapping that assigns to each variable an element in the domain of a pre-interpretation
- given a pre-interpretation J and a state σ , the meaning of a term t is

$$t^{J,\sigma} = \begin{cases} \sigma(t) & \text{if } t \text{ is a variable} \\ t^J & \text{if } t \text{ is a constant} \\ f^J(t_1^{J,\sigma}, \dots, t_n^{J,\sigma}) & \text{if } t \text{ is of the form } f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \end{cases}$$

- hence, pre-interpretations with a state maps **all** terms onto elements of D

- let σ be a state, X a variable and $e \in D$, then $\sigma X \mapsto e$ is a new state that only varies from σ in that the assignment to X is e
- an **interpretation** I to a fol language \mathcal{L} consists of a pre-interpretation J with domain D , and an assignment $p^I \subseteq D^n$ to each n -ary relation symbol in \mathcal{L}
- p^I is called the **extension** of p under I
- I is said to be based on J , and so f^J is also noted f^I
- D is also called the **domain** of I

- example: suppose in \mathcal{L} there are two binary predicates p and q
- an interpretation I to \mathcal{L} can set $D = \mathbb{N}$ and

$$p^I = \{(n, m) \mid n < m, n, m \in \mathbb{N}\}$$
$$q^I = \{(n, m) \mid n > m, n, m \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

- given an interpretation I , and a state σ for a language \mathcal{L}
- we define for any formula F the relation $I, \sigma \models F$ (I, σ satisfies F) as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 I, \sigma \models p(t_1, \dots, t_n) & \text{iff } (t_1^{I, \sigma}, \dots, t_n^{I, \sigma}) \in p^I \\
 I, \sigma \models \neg F & \text{iff } I, \sigma \not\models F \\
 I, \sigma \models F \wedge G & \text{iff } I, \sigma \models F \text{ and } I, \sigma \models G \\
 I, \sigma \models F \vee G & \text{iff } I, \sigma \models F \text{ or } I, \sigma \models G \\
 I, \sigma \models F \Rightarrow G & \text{iff } I, \sigma \not\models F \text{ or } I, \sigma \models G \\
 I, \sigma \models F \Leftrightarrow G & \text{iff } I, \sigma \models F \Rightarrow G \text{ and } I, \sigma \models G \Rightarrow F \\
 I, \sigma \models (\exists X)F & \text{iff there exists } e \in D \text{ such that } I, \sigma\{X \mapsto e\} \models F \\
 I, \sigma \models (\forall X)F & \text{iff for all } e \in D \text{ it holds that } I, \sigma\{X \mapsto e\} \models F
 \end{array}$$

- an interpretation I is said to be a **model** for F , written $I \models F$, iff for all states σ we have that $I, \sigma \models F$
- then, if F is a sentence $I \models F$ iff $I, \sigma \models F$
- if \mathcal{F} is a set of formulas, an interpretation I is a **model** of \mathcal{F} iff it is a model for each $F \in \mathcal{F}$

- the logical entailment \models relation between sets of formulas and formulas can also be extended
- likewise, the concept of [validity](#), [satisfiability](#), [falsifiability](#) and [unsatisfiability](#)
- theorems 3 and 4 can also be applied to universally closed FOL formulas
- in contrast to propositional logic, the question of whether a FOL formula is a logical consequence of a set of formulas is [undecidable](#)
- this can be formally shown by reducing some known undecidable problem (like the halting problem for Turing machines) to logical entailment in FOL
- however, logical entailment in FOL is [semidecidable](#)

- Herbrand interpretations will help in the process of computing logical entailment
- instead of searching models in all interpretations of a set of formulas, we will show that searching only on Herbrand interpretations is enough
- given an alphabet \mathcal{A} that contains at least one constant, let \mathcal{L} be the language based on it
- the Herbrand universe $U_H^{\mathcal{A}}$ is the set of ground terms from \mathcal{A}
- the Herbrand base $B_H^{\mathcal{A}}$ is the set of ground atoms from \mathcal{A}
- example: let \mathcal{A} contain function symbols a^0 , f^1 , and the relation symbol p^2

$$U_H^{\mathcal{A}} = \{a, f(a), f(f(a)), \dots\}$$
$$B_H^{\mathcal{A}} = \{p(a, a), p(a, f(a)), p(f(a), a), p(f(a), f(a)), \dots\}$$

- the **Herbrand pre-interpretation** for \mathcal{L} consists of the domain $U_H^{\mathcal{A}}$, and the assignment to each f^n the function in $U_H^{\mathcal{A}^n} \longrightarrow U_H^{\mathcal{A}}$ that maps (t_1, \dots, t_n) to $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$
- for each alphabet, there is only a **unique** Herbrand pre-interpretation
- a **Herbrand interpretation** consists of the Herbrand pre-interpretation, and an assignment of a set of n -tuples to each relation symbol in the alphabet
- a **Herbrand model** for a set of formulas \mathcal{F} is a Herbrand interpretation that is a model of \mathcal{F}

- there is a one-to-one correspondence between each Herbrand interpretation I , and a particular subset of the B_H^A defined by

$$\{p(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid p \in \mathcal{A} \text{ is a } n\text{-ary relation symbol and } (t_1, \dots, t_n) \in p^I\}$$

- so we can identify Herbrand interpretation with the set of those ground atoms that are true under it, and viceversa
- example:

$$\mathcal{F} = \{p(a, a), (\forall X, Y)(p(X, Y) \Rightarrow p(X, f(Y)))\}$$

then

$$\{p(a, a), p(a, f(a)), p(a, f(f(a))), \dots\}$$

is a Herbrand model for \mathcal{F}

- we will see the importance of Herbrand interpretation after introducing normal forms for FOL

- the notion of semantic equivalence, and equivalences between formulas can be extended to FOL
- some additional equivalences for FOL

$$F \equiv (\forall X)F$$

$$\neg(\forall X)F \equiv (\exists X)\neg F \quad \text{nq universal law}$$

$$\neg(\exists X)F \equiv (\forall X)\neg F \quad \text{nq existential law}$$

$$(\forall X)F \wedge (\forall X)G \equiv (\forall X)(F \wedge G)$$

$$(\exists X)F \vee (\exists X)G \equiv (\exists X)(F \vee G)$$

$$(\forall X)(\forall Y)F \equiv (\forall Y)(\forall X)F$$

$$(\exists X)(\exists Y)F \equiv (\exists Y)(\exists X)F$$

$$(\forall X)F \wedge G \equiv (\forall X)(F \wedge G) \text{ gq law}$$

$$(\forall X)F \vee G \equiv (\forall X)(F \vee G) \text{ gq law}^*$$

$$(\exists X)F \wedge G \equiv (\exists X)(F \wedge G) \text{ gq law}^*$$

$$(\exists X)F \vee G \equiv (\exists X)(F \vee G) \text{ gq law}^*$$

- where $*$ only applies if X does not occur free in G
- the replacement theorem for proposition logic can be extended to FOL, ie if G and H are semantically equivalent, so are $F[G]$ and $F[G/H]$

- besides semantic equivalences (**model preserving** transformations), there are additional transformations
- these only preserve the validity or the satisfiability of formula (**validity preserving** or **satisfiability preserving** transformations)
- a formula $(\exists X_1, \dots, X_n)(\forall Y)F$ is valid iff

$$(\exists X_1, \dots, X_n)F[Y/f(X_1, \dots, X_n)]$$

is valid, with f is a function symbol not appearing in F

- this transformation is called **Skolemization**, and f a **Skolem function**

- analogously, a formula $(\forall X_1, \dots, X_n)(\exists Y)F$ is satisfiable iff

$$(\forall X_1, \dots, X_n)F[Y/f(X_1, \dots, X_n)]$$

is satisfiable, with f is a function symbol not appearing in F

- we can now extend the algorithm to transform a FOL formula F into a **conjunctive normal form** G such that F is unsatisfiable iff G is unsatisfiable
- after the skolemization step, the formula only contains universal quantifiers, which can be dropped
- as in the propositional case, the clausal form denotes the set of sets notations for the formula in CNF

Problem: transform a fol formula into CNF

Input a fol formula F

Output a fol formula G in CNF such that F unsatisfiable iff G unsatisfiable

- 1: Universally close the formula
- 2: Eliminate all equivalence connectives using the equivalence law
- 3: Eliminate all implication connectives using the implication law
- 4: Eliminate all negation connectives (except those in front of propositions) using the de Morgan laws, the double negation law and the nq laws
- 5: Apply the gq laws to obtain a sequence of quantifiers applied to a quantifier-free formula
- 6: Eliminate existential quantifiers by Skolemization (drop remaining universal quantifiers)
- 7: Distribute all disjunctions over conjunctions using the distributivity, commutativity and associativity laws.

- the formula obtained after step 5 is called in **prenex normal form**, consisting of a sequence of quantifiers applied to a quantifiers-free formula called **matrix**
- **Theorem 17.** *If F' is a CNF formula obtained from a FOL formula F under this algorithm, then F' is unsatisfiable iff F is unsatisfiable*

- example:

$$(\forall V)(q(V, a) \Rightarrow (\exists W)(q(W, a) \wedge (\forall X, Y)(p(h(f(X, Y)), W) \Rightarrow p(h(f(g(X), g(Y))), V)))$$

- interpretation I with domain \mathcal{R}

$$a^I = 0 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$f^I = - : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$h^I = |\cdot| : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$q^I = \{(n, m) : n, m \in \mathbb{R} \wedge n > m\}$$

$$p^I = \{(n, m) : n, m \in \mathbb{R} \wedge n < m\}$$

$$(\forall \epsilon)(\epsilon > 0 \Rightarrow (\exists \delta)(\delta > 0 \wedge (\forall X, Y)(|X - Y| < \delta \Rightarrow |g(X) - g(Y)| < \epsilon)))$$

- as demonstrated by Herbrand in 1930

Theorem 18. *For each interpretation J over some domain D for a formula F in CNF, there exists a Herbrand interpretation I for F such that $J \models F$ iff $I \models F$*

- **Theorem 19.** *A FOL formula F in CNF is unsatisfiable iff F is false under all Herbrand interpretations*

- this last result tell us **how to show logical consequence** in FOL
 1. following theorem 3 **logical consequence** can be mapped to **validity**
 2. following theorem 4 **validity** is equivalent to **unsatisfiability** of the complement
 3. so the complement should be **transformed in CNF** (theorem 19 shows this step is satisfiability preserving)
 4. and then we check for unsatisfiability under **all Herbrand interpretation**
- the last step can be performed by one of the **negative calculi** that will be presented
- but this is **not a decision procedure**, since the calculus may not terminate when the answer is negative