

12. A formal system for Predicate Calculus

12.1 Definition

Associate to each first-order language $\mathcal{L}$ the formal system $K(\mathcal{L})$ with the following axioms and rules (for any $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \text{Form}(\mathcal{L})$, $t \in \text{Term}(\mathcal{L})$):

Axioms

A1 $(\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \alpha))$

A2 $((\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \gamma)) \rightarrow ((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \gamma)))$

A3 $((\neg\beta \rightarrow \neg\alpha) \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \beta))$

A4 $(\forall x_i \alpha \rightarrow \alpha[t/x_i])$, where t is free for x_i in α

A5 $(\forall x_i (\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \forall x_i \beta))$, provided that $x_i \notin \text{Free}(\alpha)$

A6 $\forall x_i x_i \doteq x_i$

A7 $(x_i \doteq x_j \rightarrow (\phi \rightarrow \phi'))$, where ϕ is *atomic* and ϕ' is obtained from ϕ by replacing some (not necessarily all) occurrences of x_i in ϕ by x_j

Rules

MP (Modus Ponens) From α and $(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$ infer β

$\forall$ (Generalisation) From α infer $\forall x_i \alpha$

Thinning Rule see 12.6

ϕ is a **theorem of $K(\mathcal{L})$** (write ' $\vdash \phi$ ') if there is a sequence (a **derivation**, or a **proof**) $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n$ of $\mathcal{L}$ -formulas with $\phi_n = \phi$ such that each ϕ_i either is an axiom or is obtained from earlier ϕ_j 's by MP or $\forall$.

For $\Gamma \subseteq \text{Form}(\mathcal{L})$, $\phi \in \text{Form}(\mathcal{L})$ define similarly that ϕ is **derivable in $K(\mathcal{L})$ from the hypotheses Γ** (write ' $\Gamma \vdash \phi$ '), except that the ϕ_i 's may now also be formulas from Γ , *but we make the restriction that $\forall$ may only be used for variables x_i not occurring free in any formula in Γ .*

12.2 Soundness Theorem for Pred. Calc.

If $\Gamma \vdash \phi$ then $\Gamma \models \phi$.

Proof: Induction on length of derivation

Clear that **A1**, **A2**, and **A3** are logically valid.
So are **A4** and **A5** by Cor. 11.5 resp. Cor. 10.4.

Also **A6** is logically valid: easy exercise.

A7: Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an $\mathcal{L}$ -structure and let v be any assignment in $\mathcal{A}$. Suppose that

$$\mathcal{A} \models x_i \doteq x_j[v] \text{ and } \mathcal{A} \models \phi[v].$$

We want to show that $\mathcal{A} \models \phi'[v]$ (with ϕ atomic).

Now $v(x_i) = v(x_j)$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{v}(t') = \tilde{v}(t)$ for any term t' obtained from t
by replacing some of the x_i by x_j
(easy induction on terms)

If ϕ is $P(t_1, \dots, t_k)$ then ϕ' is $P(t'_1, \dots, t'_k)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A} \models \phi[v] & \text{ iff } P_{\mathcal{A}}(\tilde{v}(t_1), \dots, \tilde{v}(t_k)) \\ & \text{ iff } P_{\mathcal{A}}(\tilde{v}(t'_1), \dots, \tilde{v}(t'_k)) \\ & \text{ iff } \mathcal{A} \models P(t'_1, \dots, t'_k)[v] \\ & \text{ iff } \mathcal{A} \models \phi'[v] \text{ as required} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, if ϕ is $t_1 \doteq t_2$.

So now all axioms are logically valid.

MP is sound: for any $\mathcal{A}, v$

$$\mathcal{A} \models \alpha[v] \text{ and } \mathcal{A} \models (\alpha \rightarrow \beta)[v] \text{ imply } \mathcal{A} \models \beta[v]$$

Generalisation: IH for any $\mathcal{A}, v$

$$\text{if } \mathcal{A} \models \psi[v] \text{ for all } \psi \in \Gamma \text{ then } \mathcal{A} \models \alpha[v] \quad (\star)$$

to show: $\mathcal{A} \models \forall x_i \alpha[v]$ for such $\mathcal{A}, v$.

So let v^* agree with v except possibly at x_i .

$x_i \notin \text{Free}(\psi)$ for any $\psi \in \Gamma$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A} \models \psi[v^*]$ for all $\psi \in \Gamma$ (by Lemma 10.3)

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A} \models \alpha[v^*]$ (by $(\star)$)

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A} \models \forall x_i \alpha[v]$ as required. □

12.3 Deduction Theorem for Pred. Calc.

If $\Gamma \cup \{\psi\} \vdash \phi$ then $\Gamma \vdash (\psi \rightarrow \phi)$.

Proof: same as for prop. calc. (Theorem 6.6) with one more step in the induction (on the length of the derivation).

IH: $\Gamma \vdash (\psi \rightarrow \phi_j)$

to show: $\Gamma \vdash (\psi \rightarrow \forall x_i \phi_j)$,

where generalisation ($\forall$) has been used to infer $\forall x_i \phi_j$ under the hypotheses $\Gamma \cup \{\psi\}$

$\Rightarrow x_i \notin \text{Free}(\gamma)$ for any $\gamma \in \Gamma$ and $x_i \notin \text{Free}(\psi)$

$\Rightarrow$ by IH and $\forall$: $\Gamma \vdash \forall x_i (\psi \rightarrow \phi_j)$

A5 $\vdash (\forall x_i (\psi \rightarrow \phi_j) \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow \forall x_i \phi_j))$, since $x_i \notin \text{Free}(\psi)$

$\Rightarrow$ by **MP**, $\Gamma \vdash (\psi \rightarrow \forall x_i \phi_j)$ as required.

□

12.4 Tautologies

If A is a tautology of the *Propositional Calculus* with propositional variables among $p_0, \dots, p_n$, and if $\psi_0, \dots, \psi_n \in \text{Form}(\mathcal{L})$ are formulas of *Predicate Calculus*, then the formula A' obtained from A by replacing each p_i by ψ_i is a **tautology of $\mathcal{L}$** :

Since **A1**, **A2**, **A3** and **MP** are in $K(\mathcal{L})$, one also has $\vdash A'$ in $K(\mathcal{L})$.

May use the tautologies in derivations in $K(\mathcal{L})$.

12.5 Example Swapping variables

Suppose x_j does not occur in ϕ .

Then $\{\forall x_i \phi\} \vdash \forall x_j \phi[x_j/x_i]$

- | | | |
|---|--|----------------|
| 1 | $\forall x_i \phi$ | $[\in \Gamma]$ |
| 2 | $(\forall x_i \phi \rightarrow \phi[x_j/x_i])$ | $[A4]$ |
| 3 | $\phi[x_j/x_i]$ | $[MP\ 1,2]$ |
| 4 | $\forall x_j \phi[x_j/x_i]$ | $[\forall]$ |

where $\forall$ may be applied in line 4, since x_j does not occur in ϕ .

This proof would not work if

$\Gamma = \{\forall x_i \phi, x_j \doteq x_j\}$ (say). Hence need (besides **MP** and $(\forall)$)

12.6 Thinning Rule

If $\Gamma \vdash \phi$ and $\Gamma' \supseteq \Gamma$ then $\Gamma' \vdash \phi$.

12.7 Example

$$(\exists x_i \phi \rightarrow \psi) \vdash \forall x_i (\phi \rightarrow \psi),$$

where $x_i \notin \text{Free}(\psi)$.

Proof: Let $\Gamma = \{(\exists x_i \phi \rightarrow \psi), \neg\psi\}$

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------|
| 1 | $(\neg\forall x_i \neg\phi \rightarrow \psi)$ | [$\in \Gamma$] |
| 2 | $((\neg\forall x_i \neg\phi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\neg\psi \rightarrow \forall x_i \neg\phi))$ | [taut.] |
| 3 | $(\neg\psi \rightarrow \forall x_i \neg\phi)$ | [MP 1,2] |
| 4 | $\neg\psi$ | [$\in \Gamma$] |
| 5 | $\forall x_i \neg\phi$ | [MP 3,4] |
| 6 | $(\forall x_i \neg\phi \rightarrow \neg\phi)$ | [A4] |
| 7 | $\neg\phi$ | [MP 5,6] |

Note that in line 6, x_i is free for x_i in ϕ .

Hence $\Gamma \vdash \neg\phi$. So

$$\begin{aligned} (\exists x_i \phi \rightarrow \psi) &\vdash (\neg\psi \rightarrow \neg\phi) && [\text{DT}] \\ (\exists x_i \phi \rightarrow \psi) &\vdash (\phi \rightarrow \psi) && [\text{A3, MP}] \\ (\exists x_i \phi \rightarrow \psi) &\vdash \forall x_i (\phi \rightarrow \psi) && [\forall] \end{aligned}$$

□