

## 3.2 Herbrand Structures

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### 3.2 Herbrand-Structures

Now the goal is to check unsatisfiability of a formula in Skolem NF.

$\Rightarrow$  we have to investigate all interpretations  $\mathcal{I} = (\mathcal{A}, \alpha, \beta)$  and check whether they satisfy the formula.

But: for formulas in Skolem NF, we can restrict ourselves to very special interpretations.

$\beta$ : not necessary for closed formulas

$\mathcal{A}$ : choose  $\mathcal{A} := \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$ , i.e., we use the set of all ground terms as domain

$\alpha$ : we fix  $\alpha_f$  to be "the function symbol itself".

Now one only has to search for  $\alpha_p$  for  $p \in \Delta$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Search space is much smaller

Def 3.2.1 (Herbrand Structures)

Let  $(\Sigma, \Delta)$  be a signature. A Herbrand structure has the form  $(\mathcal{T}(\Sigma), \alpha)$  where for all  $f \in \Sigma_n$  we have:

$$\alpha_f(t_1, \dots, t_n) = f(t_1, \dots, t_n).$$

If a Herbrand structure is a model of a formula, we call it a Herbrand model.

Ex. 3.2.2. A Herbrand structure for the signature of Ex. 2.12 is:  $S = (\mathcal{T}(\Sigma), \alpha)$  with

$\alpha_n = n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$\alpha_{\text{monika}} = \text{monika}, \dots$

$\alpha_{\text{date}}(t_1, t_2, t_3) = \text{date}(t_1, t_2, t_3)$  for all  $t_1, t_2, t_3 \in \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$

$\alpha_{\text{female}} = \{\text{monika}, \text{karin}, \dots\}$

$\alpha_{\text{male}} = \{\text{werner}, \dots\}$

$\alpha_{\text{human}} = \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$

$\alpha_{\text{born}} = \{(\text{monika}, \text{date}(17, 4, 2015)), \dots\}$

(much nearer to the intuitive semantics)

Looking at H-structures is enough when checking for unsatisfiability of formulas in Skolem NF.

Thm 323 (Satisfiability Check by Herbrand Structures)

Let  $\Phi \subseteq \mathcal{F}(\Sigma, \Delta, \mathcal{V})$  be a set of formulas in Skolem NF.

Then  $\Phi$  is satisfiable iff it has a Herbrand model.

Proof: " $\Leftarrow$ ": trivial

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Let  $S = (A, \alpha)$  be a model of  $\Phi$ .

We now construct a H-structure  $S' = (\mathcal{T}(\Sigma), \alpha')$  that is also a model of  $\Phi$ .

For every  $f \in \Sigma_n$ , we have  $\alpha'_f(t_1, \dots, t_n) = f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ .

We define  $\alpha'_p$  as follows:

for  $p \in \Delta_n$  with  $n \geq 1$  we define

$(t_1, \dots, t_n) \in \alpha'_p$  iff  $(S(t_1), \dots, S(t_n)) \in \alpha_p$

for  $p \in \Delta_0$  we define

$$\alpha'_p = \alpha_p$$

Clearly,  $S'$  is a  $H$ -structure.

It remains to show that for every formula  $\varphi$  in Skolem NF,  $S \models \varphi$  implies  $S' \models \varphi$ .

Since  $\varphi$  is in Skolem NF, it has the form  $\forall X_1, \dots, X_n \psi$ .

We prove " $S \models \varphi \sim S' \models \varphi$ " by induction on  $n$ .

Ind. Base:  $n=0$

Here,  $\varphi$  is quantifier-free.

In this case, we even have  $S \models \varphi$  iff  $S' \models \varphi$  (easy structural induction on  $\varphi$ ).

Ind. Step:  $n > 0$

$\forall X_1, \dots, X_{n-1} \psi$  might contain the free var.  $X_n$

Let  $S \models X_n/a \models$  denote an interpretation

$(A, \alpha, \beta \models X_n/a \models)$  for some  $\beta$ .

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow$   
 same as for  $S = (A, \alpha)$

Then:

$$S \models \forall X_1, \dots, X_n \psi$$

$$\rightsquigarrow S \models X_n/a \models \forall X_1, \dots, X_{n-1} \psi \quad \text{for all } a \in A$$

$$\rightsquigarrow S \models X_n/S(t) \models \forall X_1, \dots, X_{n-1} \psi \quad \text{for all } t \in \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow S \models \forall X_1, \dots, X_{n-1} \psi [X_n/t] \quad \text{for all } t \in \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$$

by the subst. lemma 2.23.

$\leadsto S' \models \forall X_1, \dots, X_{n-1} \neg [X_n / t]$  for all  $t \in \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$ ,  
by the ind. hypothesis

$\leadsto S' \models X_n / \underbrace{S'(t)}_t \models \forall X_1, \dots, X_{n-1} \neg$  for all  $t \in \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$   
t, because  $S'$  is a H-structure

$\leadsto S' \models \forall X_1, \dots, X_n \neg$  □

Ex. 324 Thm 323 only holds for formulas in Skolem NF.

Consider  $\Phi = \{ p(a), \exists X \neg p(X) \}$ .

$\Phi$  is satisfiable, but it has no Herbrand model over the signature  $(\Sigma, \Delta)$  where  $\Sigma = \Sigma_0 = \{a\}$  and  $\Delta = \Delta_1 = \{p\}$ .

The following structure  $S$  is a model of  $\Phi$ :

$$S = (\{0, 1\}, \alpha) \text{ where } \alpha_a = 0 \\ \alpha_p = \{0\}$$

$$S \models p(a) \quad S \models \exists X \neg p(X)$$

but there is an element in the domain of  $S$  that does not correspond to any ground term:

$$S(t) \neq 1 \text{ for all } t \in \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$$

Since  $\mathcal{T}(\Sigma) = \{a\}$ , any H-structure  $S'$  has the domain  $\{a\}$  and therefore  $S' \models p(a)$  implies  $S' \not\models \exists X \neg p(X)$ .

For formulas in Skolem NF:

$$\forall X_1, \dots, X_n \quad \psi$$

One only has to instantiate  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  by all possible ground terms and check whether all of the resulting formulas are satisfiable.

Def 325 (Herbrand-expansion of a formula)

Let  $\varphi \in \mathcal{F}(\Sigma, \Delta, \mathcal{V})$  be a formula in Skolem NF, i.e.,  $\varphi = \forall X_1, \dots, X_n \psi$  where  $\psi$  is quantifier-free.

The following set of formulas  $E(\varphi)$  is called the Herbrand-expansion of  $\varphi$ :

$$E(\varphi) = \{ \psi[X_1/t_1, \dots, X_n/t_n] \mid t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathcal{T}(\Sigma) \}$$

(i.e., it is the set of all ground instances of  $\psi$ ).

$\varphi[X_1/t_1, \dots, X_n/t_n]$  is  $\varphi$  with a substitution mapping  $X_i$  to  $t_i$

$\mathbb{I} X_1/a_1, \dots, X_n/a_n \mathbb{I}$  is an interpretation with a variable assignment assigning  $a_i$  to  $X_i$

elements  
of the  
domain (semantic)

Ex. 3.26 To prove the query ? - mother Of (X, susanne).

one has to prove unsatisfiability (cf. Ex. 3.1.4.)

$$\varphi = \forall X (\text{motherOf}(\text{renate}, \text{susanne}) \wedge \neg \text{motherOf}(X, \text{susanne}))$$

$$E(\varphi) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{mO}(\text{ren}, \text{sus}) \wedge \neg \text{mO}(\text{Karin}, \text{susanne}), \\ \text{mO}(\text{ren}, \text{sus}) \wedge \neg \text{mO}(\text{ren}, \text{sus}), \\ \text{mO}(\text{ren}, \text{sus}) \wedge \neg \text{mO}(\text{date}(17, 4, 2015), \text{sus}), \\ \vdots \end{array} \right\}$$

We will see that

$\varphi$  is satisfiable iff  $E(\varphi)$  is satisfiable

Since the red subformula is unsat.

$\Rightarrow E(\varphi)$  is unsat

$\Rightarrow \varphi$  is unsat

$\Rightarrow$  query is true.

Thm 327 (Satisfiability of Herbrand-expansion)

Let  $\varphi$  be a formula in Skolem NF.

Then  $\varphi$  is satisfiable iff  $E(\varphi)$  is satisfiable.

Proof:  $\varphi$  has the form  $\forall X_1, \dots, X_n \varphi$  where  $\varphi$  is quantifier-free.

$\varphi$  is satisfiable

$\iff \forall X_1, \dots, X_n \varphi$

iff there is a Herbrand-structure  $S$  with

$S \models \forall X_1, \dots, X_n \varphi$  (Thm 3.2.3)

iff there is a H-str.  $S$  with

$S \models X_1/t_1, \dots, X_n/t_n \models \varphi$  for all  $t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$   
 iff there is a H-str.  $S$  with  
 $S \models \varphi [X_1/t_1, \dots, X_n/t_n]$  for all  $t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$   
 (by the subst. lemma 2.2.3)  
 iff there is a H-str.  $S$  with  
 $S \models E(\varphi)$   
 iff  $E(\varphi)$  is satisfiable □

For a formula  $\varphi$  in Skolem NF:

To check whether  $\varphi$  is unsatisfiable,  
 we can construct  $E(\varphi)$  and check whether  
 some finite subset of  $E(\varphi)$  is unsatisfiable.

(Compactness Theorem: if an infinite set of  
 formulas is unsatisfiable, then there is  
 already a finite subset that is unsatisfiable).

⇒ Algorithm of Gilmore

First semi-decision procedure for entailment/  
 unsatisfiability.

Formulas without variables correspond to  
Propositional logic:

• every occurring atomic sub-formula corresponds

