

Exercises 1, Applied Logic

1. Some review exercises in predicate logic to do (if necessary):

2.1: 1,3

2.2: 3,4

2.3: 2,3,4,7,13

2.4: 2,6,11,12

of the textbook (Huth and Ryan 2004).

2. Solve Post's correspondence problem for the sequence of pairs

$(001,0), (01,011), (01,101), (10,001)$.

(Hint: Not so easy if one gets started in the wrong way. One solution gives a binary string of total length 154. Use a computer program if it gets too tedious ...)

3. (Definability) Let \mathcal{M} be a model for the language L and let $A = |\mathcal{M}|$ be its universe. A subset $S \subseteq A^n$ is (*first-order definable*) in \mathcal{M} if there is an L -formula φ with free variables among x_1, \dots, x_n such that

$$S = \{(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in A^n : \mathcal{M} \models_{\ell} \varphi \text{ and } \ell(x_1) = a_1, \dots, \ell(x_n) = a_n\}$$

A relation $R \subseteq A^n$ is *definable in \mathcal{M}* if the corresponding subset R is definable. A function $f : A^n \rightarrow A$ is *definable in \mathcal{M}* if its graph

$$\text{graph } f = \{(a_1, \dots, a_n, b) \in A^{n+1} : f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = b\}$$

is a definable subset in \mathcal{M} .

Show that the subsets, relations or functions in (a) – (h) below are definable in $\mathcal{N} = \langle \mathbb{N}; +, \cdot, 0, 1 \rangle$ using as simple formulas as seems possible.

For instance the set of even numbers is defined by

$$\{m \in \mathbb{N} : \mathcal{N} \models_{\ell} (\exists x) x + x = y \text{ and } \ell(y) = m\}$$

This also shows that the predicate *x is even* is definable. The function $f(x) = x^2$ is defined by

$$\{(m, n) \in \mathbb{N}^2 : \mathcal{N} \models_{\ell} x \cdot x = y \text{ and } \ell(x) = m, \ell(y) = n\}.$$

- (a) x is odd
- (b) $y = x(x + 1)/2$
- (c) $x \leq y$
- (d) x divides y
- (e) x is the sum of two prime numbers
- (f) $z = \max(x, y)$
- (g) $** y = x!$. [Look up and use Gödel's technique of the β -function and the Chinese remainder theorem.]
- (h) $y = 2^{2^{2^2}}$

▷ Let L be a first-order language with finitely many symbols. A structure \mathcal{M} for L is called *decidable*, if there is an algorithm which for every closed first order formula ϕ in the language L decides whether $\mathcal{M} \models \phi$ holds or not. A well-known example of an *undecidable* structure is the structure of natural numbers $\mathcal{N} = \langle \mathbb{N}, +, \cdot, 0, 1 \rangle$.

4. (Definability and decidability) Recall that in automata theory one studies languages as subsets of strings over a fixed alphabet. Let $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ be an alphabet, and let Σ^* be the set of finite strings. Thus

$$\Sigma^* = \{\varepsilon, a, b, aa, ab, ba, bb, aaa, aab, \dots\}$$

Here ε is the empty string. Let $\&$ denote concatenation of strings, so $baba\&bba = bababba$. We may now regard $\langle \Sigma^*; \& \rangle$ as a first-order structure with concatenation as the only operation. Find elementary propositions (formulas) over $\langle \Sigma^*; \& \rangle$ that defines the following properties (note that $=$ may be used)

- (a) x is a substring of y
- (b) x is an empty string (you may not mention ε)
- (c) x is a string of length 1 (you may not mention 0 or 1) (Hint: use (a) and (b). How many substrings can such a string have?)
- (d) x is a string of length 4.

Consider now an extended structure $\langle \Sigma^*; \&, *, a, b, \varepsilon \rangle$ where a, b, ε are constants (so they may be mentioned in elementary propositions) and moreover there is a “string duplicator” $*$ that satisfies the following

$$\begin{aligned} u * \varepsilon &= \varepsilon && \text{(erase)} \\ u * (a\&v) &= u * v && \text{(take a pause)} \\ u * (b\&v) &= (u * v)\&u && \text{(make a copy)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $ab * bab = abab$ and $ab * aa = \varepsilon$.

- (e) Prove that the structure $\langle \Sigma; \&, *, a, b, \varepsilon \rangle$ is undecidable, by showing that *if* it was decidable, then we could decide $\langle \mathbb{N}, +, \cdot, 0, 1 \rangle$ as well, contradicting a well-known theorem.
- (f)** If we remove the duplication operation from the structure in (e), does it become decidable? I.e. is the structure $\langle \Sigma; \&, a, b, \varepsilon \rangle$ decidable?
-