Characterization of theories by hierarchies of logical formulas

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1 Introduction and Preliminaries

At first, we introduce some basic concepts in model theory.

Definition 1. A language L consists of the following:

- constant symbols,
- n-ary function symbols (n > 0),
- n-ary predicate symbols (n > 0).

Example 2. The language L_{ORing} of ordered rings is $\{c_0, c_1, f_+, f_-, f_\times, P_<\}$, where

- c_0 and c_1 are constant symbols;
- f_+ and f_\times are binary function symbols;
- f_{-} is a unary function symbols;
- $P_{<}$ is a binary function symbols.

Let L be a language. We use $x, y, z, x_1, x_2, \ldots, y_1, y_2, \ldots$ as variables.

Definition 3. An L-structure M is a set with interpretations s^M for each $s \in L$, where

- If $c \in L$ is a constant symbol, then $c^M \in M$;
- If $f \in L$ is a *n*-ary function symbol, then $f^M : M^n \to M$;
- If $P \in L$ is an n-ary predicate symbol, then $P^M \subseteq M^n$.

Example 4. $\mathbb{R} = (\mathbb{R}; 0, 1, +, -, \cdot, <)$ is an L_{ORing} -structure.

Definition 5. An *L*-term is defined as follows.

- ullet Every variable is an L-term.
- ullet Every constant symbol of L is an L-term.
- If $f \in L$ is an n-ary function symbol and t_1, \ldots, t_n are L-terms, then $f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ is an L-term.

Example 6. $f_+(f_\times(c_0,x),f_-(c_1))$ is an L_{ORing} -term.

Let M and N be L-structures. For each L-term $t(\bar{x})$ and $\bar{a} \in M$, the interpretation $t^M(\bar{a}) \in M$ is naturally defined.

Example 7. $f_{\times}(f_{+}(x,c_{1}),y)^{\mathbb{R}}(2,3) = f_{\times}^{\mathbb{R}}(f_{+}^{\mathbb{R}}(2,c_{1}^{\mathbb{R}}),3) = (2+1)\times 3 = 9.$

Definition 8. An atomic L-formula is defined as follows.

- If t_1 and t_2 are L-terms, then $t_1 = t_2$ is an atomic L-formula.
- If $P \in L$ is an *n*-ary predicate symbol and t_1, \ldots, t_n are *L*-terms, then $P(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ is an atomic *L*-formula.

Example 9. $f_{\times}(x,y) = c_0$ and $P_{<}(f_{+}(c_1,c_1),f_{-}(x))$ are atomic L_{ORing} -formulas.

Definition 10. An *L*-formula is defined as follows.

- Every atomic L-formula ia an L-formula.
- If φ is an L-formula, then $\neg \varphi$ is an L-formula.
- If φ and ψ are L-formulas, then $\varphi \wedge \psi$, $\varphi \vee \psi$, $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$, $\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi$ are L-formulas.
- If φ is an L-formula and x is a variable, then $\forall x \varphi$ and $\exists x \varphi$ are L-formulas.

Example 11. $\exists y ((\neg(x=0)) \rightarrow P_{<}(f_{\times}(x,y),1))$ is an L_{ORing} -formula.

Definition 12. For each L-formula $\varphi(\bar{x})$ and $\bar{a} \in M$, the satisfication relation $M \models \varphi(\bar{a})$ is defined as follows.

- If $t_1(\bar{x})$ and $t_2(\bar{x})$ are L-terms, then $M \models (t_1 = t_2)(\bar{a}) \Leftrightarrow t_1^M(\bar{a}) = t_2^M(\bar{a})$.
- If $P \in L$ is an n-ary predicate symbol and t_1, \ldots, t_n are L-terms, then $M \models (P(t_1, \ldots, t_n))(\overline{a}) \Leftrightarrow (t_1^M(\overline{a}), \ldots, t_n^M(\overline{a})) \in P^M$.
- If $\psi(\bar{x})$ is an L-formula, then $M \models (\neg \psi)(\bar{a}) \Leftrightarrow M \not\models \psi(\bar{a})$.

If $\psi_1(\bar{x})$ and $\psi_2(\bar{x})$ are L-formulas, then

- $M \models (\psi_1 \land \psi_2)(\bar{a}) \Leftrightarrow M \models \psi_1(\bar{a}) \text{ and } M \models \psi_2(\bar{a});$
- $M \models (\psi_1 \lor \psi_2)(\bar{a}) \Leftrightarrow M \models \psi_1(\bar{a}) \text{ or } M \models \psi_2(\bar{a});$
- $M \models (\psi_1 \rightarrow \psi_2)(\bar{a}) \Leftrightarrow M \models \psi_1(\bar{a}) \text{ implies } M \models \psi_2(\bar{a});$
- $M \models (\psi_1 \leftrightarrow \psi_2)(\bar{a}) \Leftrightarrow M \models \psi_1(\bar{a})$ is equivalent to $M \models \psi_2(\bar{a})$.

If $\psi(\bar{x}, y)$ is an L-formula, then

- $M \models (\forall y \psi)(\bar{a}) \Leftrightarrow M \models \psi(\bar{a}, b) \text{ for all } b \in M;$
- $M \models (\exists y \psi)(\bar{a}) \Leftrightarrow M \models \psi(\bar{a}, b)$ for some $b \in M$.

Example 13. Let $\varphi(x)$ be $\exists y (f_+(x,x) = f_\times(y,y))$. Then $\mathbb{R} \models \varphi(3)$ because $\mathbb{R} \models f_+(3,3) = f_\times(\sqrt{6},\sqrt{6})$.

 \forall and \exists are called quantifiers.

Definition 14. Let φ be an L-formula and x be a variable which appears in φ . Then x is said to be free in φ if x does not appear in the scope of any quantifier in φ . An L-formula φ is said to be an L-sentence if φ do not have any free variable.

Example 15. Let φ be $\exists y \big((\neg(x=0)) \to f_\times(x,y) = 1 \big)$. Then x is free in φ , so φ is not an L_{ORing} -sentence. Let ψ be $\forall x \exists y \big((\neg(x=0)) \to f_\times(x,y) = 1 \big)$. Then ψ is an L_{ORing} -sentence.

A set of L-sentences is called an L-theory. Let T, T_1 and T_2 be L-theories.

Definition 16. M is said to be a model of T $(M \models T)$ if $M \models \varphi$ for all $\varphi \in T$.

Definition 17. T_2 is said to follow from T_1 ($T_1 \models T_2$) if $M \models T_2$ for all $M \models T_1$.

Definition 18. T_1 is said to be equivalent to T_2 if $T_1 \models T_2$ and $T_2 \models T_1$.

We introduce the hierarchy of L-formulas.

Definition 19. L-formulas are classfied as follows.

- A Δ_0 formula is a quantifier-free L-formula.
- A Π_1 formula is an L-formula of the form $\forall x_1 \forall x_2 \dots \forall x_n \psi$ where ψ is a Δ_0 formula and $n \geq 0$.
- A Σ_1 formula is an L-formula of the form $\exists x_1 \exists x_2 \dots \exists x_n \psi$ where ψ is a Δ_0 formula and $n \geq 0$.
- A Π_2 formula is an L-formula of the form $\forall x_1 \forall x_2 \dots \forall x_n \exists y_1 \exists y_2 \dots \exists y_m \psi$ where ψ is a Δ_0 formula and n, m > 0.
- A Σ_2 formula is an *L*-formula of the form $\exists x_1 \exists x_2 \dots \exists x_n \forall y_1 \forall y_2 \dots \forall y_m \psi$ where ψ is a Δ_0 formula and n, m > 0.
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Example 20. $\forall x \exists y ((\neg(x=0)) \rightarrow f_{\times}(x,y)=1)$ is a Π_2 L_{ORing} -sentence.

Definition 21. M is said to be a substructure of N ($M \subseteq N$) if M is a subset of N and the following holds:

- If $c \in L$ is a constant symbol, then $c^M = c^N$;
- If $f \in L$ is an n-ary function symbol, then $f^M = f^N|_{M^n}$;
- If $P \in L$ is an n-ary function symbol, then $P^M = P^N \cap M^n$.

Example 22. \mathbb{Z} is a substructure of \mathbb{R} as L_{ORing} -structures.

Definition 23. M is said to be elementarily equivalent to N ($M \equiv N$) if $M \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow N \models \varphi$ for all L-sentences φ .

We introduce one of the most important theorems in model theory.

Fact 24 (Compactness theorem). T has a model if and only if every finite subset of T has a model.

The following facts follow from the compactness theorem.

Fact 25. Suppose that $T_1 \not\models \varphi$ or $T_2 \not\models \neg \varphi$ for all Σ_n (Π_n) sentences φ . Then there exist $M_1 \models T_1$ and $M_2 \models T_2$ such that $M_1 \not\models \varphi$ or $M_2 \not\models \neg \varphi$ for all Σ_n (Π_n) sentences φ .

Fact 26. Suppose that $M \models \varphi \Rightarrow N \models \varphi$ for all Σ_n sentences φ . Then there exists an L-structure N' such that $M \subseteq N' \equiv N$ and $M \models \varphi(\overline{a}) \Rightarrow N' \models \varphi(\overline{a})$ for all Σ_n formulas $\varphi(\overline{x})$ and $\overline{a} \in M$.

2 Hereditary theories and Π_1 theories

Remark 27. Let M be a substructure of N. Then $M \models \varphi(\bar{a}) \Leftrightarrow N \models \varphi(\bar{a})$ for all Δ_0 formulas $\varphi(\bar{x})$ and $\bar{a} \in M$. Thus $N \models \varphi \Rightarrow M \models \varphi$ for all Π_1 sentences φ .

We introduce hereditary theories and Π_1 theories.

Definition 28. T is said to be hereditary if the following holds: If M is a substructure of N and $N \models T$, then $M \models T$.

Definition 29. T is said to be a Π_1 theory if T is equivalent to an L-theory consisting of Π_1 sentences.

Remark 30. By Remark 27, T is hereditary if T is a Π_1 theory.

Example 31. Let $L_1 = \{\cdot\}$, where \cdot is a binary function symbol. Let T_1 be a set of the following L_1 -sentences:

- $\forall x \forall y \forall z ((x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)),$
- $\exists y \forall x (x \cdot y = y \cdot x = x),$
- $\forall x \exists y (x \cdot y = y \cdot x = e).$

Then T_1 is not hereditary, so T_1 is not a Π_1 theory. To make T_1 hereditary, we have to add some constant symbols and function symbols to L_1 . Let $L_2 = L_1 \cup \{e, ^{-1}\}$, where e is a constant symbol and $^{-1}$ is a unary function symbol. Let T_2 be a set of the following L_2 -sentences:

- $\forall x \forall y \forall z ((x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)),$
- $\forall x (x \cdot e = e \cdot x = x),$
- $\forall x (x \cdot x^{-1} = x^{-1} \cdot x = e).$

Then T_2 is a Π_1 theory, so T_2 is hereditary.

The converse of Remark 30 also holds.

Theorem 32. Suppose that T is hereditary. Then T is a Π_1 theory.

Proof. Let $T^* = \{ \psi : \Pi_1 \text{ sentence } | T \models \psi \}$. We prove $T^* \models T$. Let $\varphi \in T$. It is sufficient to show that there exists a Π_1 sentence ψ such that $T \models \psi$ and $\neg \varphi \models \neg \psi$.

Suppose that $T \not\models \psi$ or $\neg \varphi \not\models \neg \psi$ for all Π_1 sentences ψ . By Fact 25, there exist $M_1 \models T$ and $M_2 \models \neg \varphi$ such that $M_1 \not\models \psi$ or $M_2 \not\models \neg \psi$ for all Π_1 sentences ψ . Thus $M_2 \models \psi \Rightarrow M_1 \models \psi$ for all Σ_1 sentences ψ because the negation of Σ_1 formulas are equivalent to Π_1 formulas. By Fact 26, there exists M'_1 such that $M_2 \subseteq M'_1 \equiv M_1$. Then $M'_1 \models T$. Since T is hereditary, we have $M_2 \models T$. Especially we obtain $M_2 \models \varphi$, which is a contradiction.

Therefore, T is hereditary $\Leftrightarrow T$ is a Π_1 theory.

3 Inductive theories and Π_2 theories

Let $\omega = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}.$

Remark 33. Let $(M_i)_{i\in\omega}$ be a chain of L-structures and $N:=\bigcup_{i\in\omega}M_i$, that is,

$$M_0 \subseteq M_1 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq M_i \subseteq M_{i+1} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq N \ (\forall i \in \omega).$$

Let φ be a Π_2 sentence. Suppose that $M_i \models \varphi$ for all $i \in \omega$. Then $N \models \varphi$.

We introduce inductive theories and Π_2 theories.

Definition 34. T is said to be inductive if the union of any chain of models of T is a model of T.

Definition 35. T is said to be a Π_2 theory if T is equivalent to an L-theory consisting of Π_2 sentences.

Remark 36. By Remark 33, T is inductive if T is a Π_2 theory.

Example 37. The theories of groups, rings, fields and dense linear orders without endpoints are Π_2 theories, so these are inductive.

Example 38. Let $L = \{<\}$, where < is a binary predicate symbol. Then $T := \{\varphi : L\text{-sentence} \mid \mathbb{Z} \models \varphi\}$ is not inductive, so T is a Π_2 theory.

: Consider the following chain: $\mathbb{Z} \subset \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z} \subset \frac{1}{4}\mathbb{Z} \subset \cdots$.

The union of this chain is dense. However, \mathbb{Z} is not dense, that is, $\mathbb{Z} \models \exists x \exists y \forall z (x < y \land \neg (x < z < y)).$

Definition 39. Let M be a substructure of N. Then M is an elementary substructure of N ($M \leq N$) if $M \models \varphi(\overline{a}) \Leftrightarrow N \models \varphi(\overline{a})$ for all L-formulas $\varphi(\overline{x})$ and $\overline{a} \in M$.

Fact 40. Let $(N_i)_{i\in\omega}$ be a chain of *L*-structures and $N:=\bigcup_{i\in\omega}N_i$. Suppose that $N_i\preceq N_{i+1}$ for all $i\in\omega$. Then $N_i\preceq N$ for all $i\in\omega$.

The converse of Remark 36 also holds.

Theorem 41. Suppose that T is inductive. Then T is a Π_2 theory.

Proof. Let $T^* = \{\psi : \Pi_2 \text{ sentence } | T \models \psi\}$. We prove $T^* \models T$. Let $\varphi \in T$. It is sufficient to show that there exists a Π_2 sentence ψ such that $T \models \psi$ and $\neg \varphi \models \neg \psi$. Suppose that $T \not\models \psi$ or $\neg \varphi \not\models \neg \psi$ for all Π_2 sentences ψ . By Fact 25, there exist $M \models T$ and $N_0 \models \neg \varphi$ such that $M \not\models \psi$ or $N_0 \not\models \neg \psi$ for all Π_2 sentences ψ . Hence $N_0 \models \psi \Rightarrow M \models \psi$ for all Σ_2 sentences ψ . By Fact 26, there exists an L-structure M_0 such that $N_0 \subseteq M_0 \equiv M$ and $N_0 \models \psi(\bar{a}) \Rightarrow M_0 \models \psi(\bar{a})$ for all Σ_2 formulas $\psi(\bar{x})$ and $\bar{a} \in N_0$. Thus $M_0 \models \psi(\bar{a}) \Rightarrow N_0 \models \psi(\bar{a})$ for all Σ_1 formulas $\psi(\bar{x})$ and $\bar{a} \in N_0$. Consider in the language $L(N_0) := L \cup N_0$, where each $a \in N_0$ is a constant symbol. Then $M_0 \models \psi \Rightarrow N_0 \models \psi$ for all Σ_1 $L(N_0)$ -sentences ψ . By Fact 26, there exists an $L(N_0)$ -structure N_1 such that $M_0 \subseteq N_1 \equiv N_0$. Since $N_0 \equiv N_1$ as $L(N_0)$ -structures, $N_0 \preceq N_1$ as L-structures.

By repeating the above discussion, we obtain the following chain:

$$N_0 \subseteq M_0 \subseteq N_1 \subseteq M_1 \subseteq N_2 \subseteq \cdots$$

where $M_i \equiv M$ and $N_i \preceq N_{i+1}$ for all $i \in \omega$. Let $N = \bigcup_{i \in \omega} N_i = \bigcup_{i \in \omega} M_i$. By Fact 40, we have $N_i \preceq N$ for all $i \in \omega$. Hence $N \models \neg \varphi$. Since $M_i \models T$ for all $i \in \omega$ and T is inductive, we have $N \models T$. Especially we have $N \models \varphi$, which is a contradiction.

Therefore, T is inductive $\Leftrightarrow T$ is a Π_2 theory.

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