Model Theories of Set Theories and Type Theory

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Received October 7th, 2013; revised November 7th, 2013; accepted November 17th, 2013

This paper is divided into three parts. In the first part, we review the historical background of a system of logic devised by Henry S. Leonard to allow for reasoning using existence as a predicate. In the second part, we consider various directions in which his logic could be further developed, syntactically, semantically, and as an adjunct to quantifier elimination and set theory. In the third and final part, we develop proofs of some underlying results of his logic, using modern notation but retaining his axioms and rules of inference.

Keywords: Models; Set Theory; Quantified Modal Logic; Existence Predicate

Introduction

Mathematicians frequently use names without knowing whether a corresponding ostensible object exists. In (Jones, 2013: pp. 3-4) we discussed the example of the term Monster Group. In this paper, we extend historical work of Henry S. Leonard (Leonard, 1969), and its results, with methodologies that were unavailable when those results were first written. In (Jones, 2013: pp. 3-4) we outlined, in summary form, several lines of development that now are open to investigation using currently available advances in logic. We confine ourselves here to those further developments that can be described within first-order model theory.

Historical Background

Leonard (Leonard, 1969) proposed an influential definition of singular existence as a predicate:

\[ \exists x \mathcal{E}(x) = (\exists f)(f \cdot \neg \neg f) \]

His definition was embedded in a system of logic that provided for deductive reasoning using existence as a predicate. His definition and his system of logic were proposed to use methods of logic, such as quantified modal logic, that were underdeveloped at the time he wrote. At that time, the leading conjecture in quantified modal logic was the Barcan Formula:

\[ (\forall x)\mathcal{F}(x) \Rightarrow (\exists x)\mathcal{F}(x) \]

This formula had been proposed by Ruth C. Barcan in her papers Barc1, (Barcan, 1946b), and (Barcan, 1947). Almost no further contributions to the development of quantified modal logic were then available, either as commentary, speculation, or conjecture. Leonard was thus remarkably aggressive in using quantified modal logic in his definition of singular existence as a predicate. He presumed the availability of a tool of logic that only later was given an adequate semantics and syntax.

Although little of the methodology that Leonard presupposed was available then, his publication led to our (Jones, 1964) and to the beginning of Free Logic in (Lambert, 1967). After his publication of his system of logic for singular existence as a predicate in Leonard (Leonard, 1969), there was an explosion of results concerning quantified modal logic. The author's review (Jones, 2013) of the recent book by Goldblatt (Goldblatt, 2011) mentions Leonard’s work and the bibliography of the book offers a set of 119 references to modern work that is pertinent, directly or indirectly, to quantified modal logic.

Goals of This Contribution

We describe a first-order model theory for a logic of existence. Why, one might ask, should one choose first-order logic as an environment in which to develop a model theory for Leonard’s existence logic? Indeed, his definition of existence as a predicate in Section 1.1 seems to directly demand, with its quantified predicate variable, a second-order theory. A first-order model theory of Leonard’s existence logic is not only possible, but confers significant mathematical advantages. We adopt the notation: \( \mathcal{L}_e \) for our proposed logic. In contrast, results in second-order arithmetic, like (Buchi, 1962), require extraordinary reasoning methods such as those discussed in (Baldwin, 1985) and (Gurevich, 1985).

Syntax of First-Order Logic for an Existence Predicate

We introduce the predicate constant \( \mathcal{E} \). The assertion \( \mathcal{E}(\alpha) \) is to be interpreted as: a exists. Leonard’s syntactical specification of first-order logic requires the following change to one of the standard axioms of quantification.

\[ (\forall x)\mathcal{F}(x) \cdot \mathcal{E}(\alpha) \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\alpha) \quad (1) \]

This axiom is sometimes called \( \forall \)-elimination, (Kleene, 1950: 23).
Where \( t \) is free for \( x \) in \( \mathcal{F}(x) \). We follow notational conveniences for the predicate calculus from Kleene (Kleene, 1950: Chapter VII).

We assume in this paper that the logic \( \mathcal{L}_k \) is augmented with a theory of the form \( \mathcal{L}_{ex} \). We hope later to extend these results to theories of the form \( \mathcal{L}_{e} \). We wish also to accommodate Quine’s view (Quine, 1948) that everything exists. To this end, we incorporate additional axioms for the existence predicate:

\[
(\exists x)\mathcal{F}(x) \leftrightarrow (\exists x)\left[ \mathcal{E}(x) \cdot \mathcal{F}(x) \right] \quad (2)
\]

\[
(\forall x)\mathcal{F}(x) \leftrightarrow (\forall x)\left[ \mathcal{E}(x) \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}(x) \right] \quad (3)
\]

\[
(\forall x)\mathcal{E}(x) \quad (4)
\]

We do not attempt to formulate a minimal set of independent axioms. One of the above principles of Quine would suffice. We mention all three for the sake of clarity and completeness of exposition.

**Semantics of First-Order Model Theory for an Existence Predicate**

We describe model theory for first-order predicate logic with equality and an existence predicate.

We adopt Lindström’s definition of first-order logic from (Lindstrom, 1969) and follow the discussion of it in Chang and Keisler (Chang, 1990: Section 2.5). Lindström showed that first-order logic can be characterized as the strongest predicate logic that is compact and in which model theory for first-order logic with an existence predicate is complete. Each constant of the language is assigned an element of the domain of discourse. We indicate how these definitions may be amended to accommodate an existence predicate. The definition of truth in a model begins with a definition of truth for atomic assertions, and proceeds by truth tables to the definition of truth for compound assertions.

The assignment function assigns elements of the domain of discourse of the model to argument constants of the language. The assignment function also assigns subsets of the domain of discourse of the model to unary predicate constants of the language. If \( \mathcal{F} \) is a unary predicate constant and \( a \) is an argument constant, then

\[
\mathcal{F}(a)
\]

asserts that the element \( a \) of the universe of discourse of the model satisfies the predicate \( \mathcal{F} \). This assertion is true if the assignment function assigns to \( a \) an element of the subset of the universe of discourse of the model that it assigns to \( \mathcal{F} \). This assertion is false if it is not true.

In conventional model theory, this assignment function is complete. Each constant of the language is assigned an element of the domain of discourse. Perhaps the most fundamental way in which model theory for first-order logic with an existence predicate differs from conventional model theory is that this assignment function is partial for argument constants.

Because the assignment function is a partial function for argument constants, it is possible that the assignment function does not assign an element of the domain of discourse of the model to \( a \) in the above example. In the latter case the truth condition for that assertion is not met, and the assertion is accordingly false. The following assertion is then, by the truth table for the negation truth-function, true:

\[
\neg\mathcal{F}(a)
\]

and indeed the assertion that the ostensible element of the universe of discourse of the model does not exist is also true:

\[
\neg\mathcal{E}(a)
\]

The possibility of a true assertion of the falsity of the asserted existence of an ostensible element of the model is an objective of first-order model theory with an existence predicate. Such an assertion, it should be noted, is compatible with Quine’s three conditions for the universality of the existence predicate listed in Section 2.

**Elimination of Quantifiers**

The proofs of results concerning compactness and the Down-

Presburger Arithmetic

We wish to discuss one of these authors in detail as an example of the adaptation of their proofs, using quantifier elimination, in a way compatible with our first-order logic of existence. We have chosen Presburger (Presburger, 1929) for this example. Presburger Arithmetic is well suited to such an examination, for several reasons. Presburger’s paper was a classical discovery in metamathematics that is complementary to Gödel’s First Theorem (Gödel, 1931). Gödel’s and Presburger’s arithmetics differ simply in that the former includes multiplication by a variable, while the latter allows only multiplication by a constant. Yet, they are drastically different. Gödel’s arithmetic is incomplete, while Presburger’s arithmetic is complete and has a decision procedure.

For the sake of accuracy of reference, we prefer to use the page numbers of the German language original text of Presburger’s conference publication and of the addendum to it that appeared on a later page in the same volume of conference proceedings.

Pages 92-94

Here Presburger decides upon his choice of sentential connectives, using the system of Łukasiewicz. This approach would allow all formulas to be written without parentheses, but he allows parentheses as well. He introduces here the two constants 0 and 1. This first-order logic of existence would require no change to the sentential connectives because the sentential part of conventional logic is retained unchanged. The constants 0 and 1 would, however, require the additional axioms:

\[ E(0) \]

and

\[ E(1). \]

He also introduces here the existential quantifier. He explains how multiplication by a constant, but not by a variable, is possible in his arithmetic. This is so because multiplication by a constant is equivalent to a finite series of additions.

Pages 95-97

Here Presburger defines the forms of ground statements, discusses disjunctive normal form for compound statements, and the method of elimination of quantifiers, with a footnote attributing this method to Skolem and Langford. On page 97 he formulates his main lemma, which claims that assertions of his language can be brought into disjunctive normal form with elimination of quantifiers.

Page 98

Here, Presburger defines six classes of assertions which he will subsequently use to prove his main lemma. His proof is by cases in which each of the six classes of assertions is separately treated.

Pages 99-101

He examines the proof by cases with quantifier elimination and concludes the proof of the main lemma.

Addendum, Page 395

In this section we consider the system of arithmetic that Presburger defines in an addendum in the same volume of the conference proceedings in which his paper appeared. It is a system that is also complete, but is more difficult to prove complete than the famous system, with integers and \((\mathbb{Z}, +, 0, 1)\), which he considers in the main body of the article. It includes the natural numbers and \((\mathbb{N}, +, 0, 1, <)\).

A modern treatment of the latter arithmetic, with a proof of completeness, is in (Monk, 1976, page 237). Monk calls this system of arithmetic \(\Gamma^*_2\).

In Section 4.3, Presburger chooses sentential connectives that are notationally different from those we adopt, but which require no change to his proof. He also specifies constants that must be chosen to refer to elements of the model. In section 4.4 Presburger introduces disjunctive normal form for ground statements. This step in his proof is the source of the notoriously severe computational intractability of his decision procedure, having a doubly exponential time bound, for arithmetic with \((\mathbb{Z}, +, 0, 1)\). Fischer and Rabin (Fischer, 1974) showed that Presburger’s decision procedure is at least doubly exponential. This result precludes the practical usefulness of this decision procedure, but it has no effect upon the matter we consider, the validity of his proof of completeness.

Requirements of the Logic of the Proof

In this Section we examine the adaptations of Presburger’s proof that are required by the logic of the existence predicate, due to Leonard, that we are here proposing. We now can make use of the modifications to Presburger’s paper noted above to adapt his proof to our logic, \(\mathcal{L}_E\).

Proof

In this central step of the proof, Section 4.5, Presburger defines six cases for each of which he intends to perform quantifier elimination. There is a common thread that runs through the cases of quantifier elimination in the pages of this Section, 4.6. It is the use of constants to replace existential quantifiers. These constants must, in the present system \(\mathcal{L}_E\), be chosen from among those constants that refer to elements in the domain of the model. It may also be necessary to adopt, for each such constant \(c\), an axiom that asserts the existence of the corresponding element in the domain of the model: \(E_c\). As a last step to using the constant, the latter axiom may be used with the modified axiom of \(\forall\)-elimination of Section 2. These steps complete quantifier elimination and complete Presburger’s proof in \(\mathcal{L}_E\).

The proofs of Theorem 1 and Theorem 2 called for quite modest changes to the original proofs; the latter do not impinge upon those aspects of \(\mathcal{L}_E\) that we have modified from traditional predicate logic. Presburger’s proof requires somewhat more extensive modification to adapt it to \(\mathcal{L}_E\). We summarized the needed changes above in Section 4.8. We do not discuss Presburger’s conjecture in the addendum, 4.7. Although it is true, it does not include a proof and therefore we desist from analyzing it.
Set Theory in the Model Theory of Predicate Logic

In the previous sections, we have established that this model theory with its modified predicate logic has the standard characteristics that one would expect of a predicate logic for axiom systems of mathematics. In this section 5, we apply this system of predicate logic to a weak version of ZF set theory. We refer to the axioms for ZF given in Jech (Jech, 2006).

Conclusion

We are quite far from having fully exploited the potential of Leonard’s definition of an existence predicate. The present paper gives a limited account of that potential within first-order logic. The system that we have presented here does not suffice for the derivations that we made in our (Jones, 1964). There we assumed the full type theory of Principia Mathematica (Whitehead, 1910). Many, if not most, of the results proved there could have been obtained with a simple version of type theory. We hope to explore this possibility in a future publication. We mentioned several directions which a further development of the consequences of Leonard’s definition of an existence predicate might take in (Jones, 2013: pp. 3–4).

Acknowledgements

We are indebted to Henry S. Leonard for his paper (Leonard, 1969). We also are indebted to him for his formulation, in conversation, of Axiom (3) of Section 2. He suggested it as a formal account of Quine’s view that the singular existence predicate is universal. We are indebted to former students of Henry S. Leonard, including Joanne Eicher (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities) and Rolf George (University of Waterloo, Ontario), for their recollections of their study under him and for their help in reconstructing his ideas and intentions.

REFERENCES


Appendices

A. Full Proofs

We here provide details of some proofs that we sketched previously. Some readers have requested further elaboration and explicitness in the proofs. Leonard’s definition of singular existence is quoted in Section 1.1. It appears there in a notation that is close to that which he used to write it. In the proofs that follow we modernize his notation, used in Leonard (Leonard, 1969) and in our (Jones, 1964). Leonard’s definition of singular existence as a predicate, written in modern notation, is D1 in Appendix B.

Inference 1 (P1).
1. \(\neg E(c) \cdot \diamond E(c)\)
2. \(E'(c) \cdot \neg E'(c)\)
3. \(E(E') \Rightarrow \left( E(E') \cdot E'(c) \cdot \neg E'(c) \right)\)
4. \(E(E') \Rightarrow E(c)\)
5. \(\neg E(E') \Box\) 

(Line 1 is a premise of the proof. It is Nc of Appendix B. Line 2 follows from line 1, using Ob1 outside of, and Ob2 within, a modal context. The remaining lines follow from previous lines by propositional logic.)

Inference 2 (P2).
1. \(E(E) \equiv \neg E(E')\)
2. \(E(E) \Box\) 

(Line 1 follows by substitution from L5 of Appendix B. Line 2 follows from line 1 and P1 above.)

Inference 3 (P3).
1. \((\exists x)(E(x)) \cdot \neg(\exists x)E(x)\)
2. \(E(A') \Rightarrow \left( E(A') \cdot (\exists x)\neg(E'(x)) \cdot \neg(\exists x)\neg E'(x) \right)\)
3. \(E(A') \Rightarrow \left( E(A') \cdot A'(E') \cdot \neg A'(E') \right)\)
4. \(E(A') \cdot A'(E') \cdot \neg A'(E') \Rightarrow (\exists x)(E'(x) \cdot \neg E'(x) \cdot \neg E'(x))\)
5. \(E(E') = (\exists x)(E'(x) \cdot \neg E'(x))\)
6. \(E(A') \Rightarrow E(E')\)
7. \(E(A') \Rightarrow \left( E(E') \cdot \neg E(E') \right)\)
8. \(\neg E(A')\)
9. \(E(A) = \neg E(A')\)
10. \(E(A) \Box\)

(Line 1 follows from Leonard’s L9 and CnX. Line 7 follows from P1 and Line 6. Line 9 follows from Leonard’s formula L5. Other lines follow by propositional logic from previous lines.)

B. Formula References

In order to make this paper self-contained, we list here formulas from other sources that are referenced in the annotations of proofs.

Formulas from (Leonard, 1969).
L5. \(E(F) = \neg E(F')\)
L6. \((F(y) \cdot E(y)) \Rightarrow (\exists x)F(x)\)
L9. \((\exists x)(E(x))\)
D1. \(E(x) = (\exists f)(f(x) \cdot \neg f(x))\)

Leonard claimed in (Leonard, 1969, page 58) that it was fifteen years before he accidentally hit upon L5 as a requisite for his logic.

Formulas for forms of Obversion.
Obversion in Leonard’s logic was discussed in (Jones, 1962). Here, as in Section 2 above, we do not attempt to formulate a minimal set of independent formulas. These formulas are chosen for convenience.
Ob1. \(\neg F(x) = F'(x)\)
Ob2. \(F(x) = \neg F'(x)\)

Formulas from (Jones, 1964).
Def2. \(A(F) = (\forall x)F(x)\)
CnX. \(\neg(\exists x)E(x)\)
Nc. \(\neg E(c) \cdot \diamond E(c)\)

The lower-case letter c is used as a non-designating constant term for illustrative purposes.