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REMARKS ON GENERALIZED QUANTIFIERS
AND SECOND ORDER LOGICS

Our first remark makes explicit a simple folklore characterization for the logics which are definable by a set of generalized quantifiers.

We shall restrict ourselves to finitary generalized quantifiers in the sense of Lindström [2]. Our abstract logics and systems of abstract logics are defined as in Barwise [1], and moreover closed under operations of $L_{\omega, \omega}$.

Suppose we have a system of abstract logics $L^{\mathfrak{A}}$ which in some sense is generated by a set of formation rules. Then the logic is usually closed under substitution in the sense that atomic formulae in a given formula can be substituted semantically. Also it is clear that the logic should become finitary in the sense that each formula depends only on a finite nonlogical language (signature). In fact, these two properties are sufficient to give the logic a kind of a set of formation rules, in the semantical sense.

1.

The following two conditions are equivalent for any system of logics $L^{\mathfrak{A}}$:

- (i) There are generalized quantifiers $Q_i, i \in I$, s.t. (for all L)
 $L^{\mathfrak{A}} = L(Q_i)_{i \in I}$,
- (ii) $L^{\mathfrak{A}}$ is finitary and satisfies substitution.

Proof

It suffices to look at the implication from (ii) to (i). Let us take a language L_0 which contains a countably infinite amount of n -ary relation symbols for any arity n (we are omitting function and constant symbols throughout).

Assuming

$$L_0^{\omega} = \{ \varphi_i \mid i \in I \}$$

Let

$$Q_i = \text{Mod}(\varphi_i), \quad i \in I.$$

Each Q_i can be considered as consisting of structures over a fixed finite signature, namely over the signature φ_i , on which it essentially depends. Necessarily each Q_i is closed under isomorphism. The relation $L(Q_i) \quad i \in I \leq L^{\omega}$ is now proved by induction, using the substitution property. For the converse, assume $\varphi \in L^{\omega}$ and φ depends only on a finite $L_1 \subset L$. Suppose f is an arity-preserving injection of L_1 into L_0 and φ_f is the result of replacing R by fR in φ for $R \in L_1$. Then φ_f is some φ_i and hence, assuming $L_1 = \{ R_j \mid j \leq n \}$,

$$\models \varphi \iff Q_i x_0, \dots, x_n; R_0(x_0), \dots, R_n(x_n).$$

In the following L^{II} denotes the usual second order logic with set variables ranging over unary predicates. L^{ω}_{α} differs from L^{II} in having set variables over unary predicates of power $< \aleph_{\alpha}$. An immediate application of 1 is

2.

There are $Q_i, i < \omega$, s.t. (for any L) $L^{II} = L(Q_i) \quad i < \omega$.
 There are $Q_i, i < \omega$, s.t. (for any L) $L^{\omega}_{\alpha} = L(Q_i) \quad i < \omega$.

In the following we answer the question whether the quantifiers Q_i above can be chosen among the monadic ones.

3.

There are no monadic $Q_i \quad i < \omega$, s.t. $L^{\omega}_{\alpha} \leq L(Q_i) \quad i < \omega$.

Proof

Let us assume that $Q_i, i < \omega$ are monadic quantifiers. The proof is restricted to the case; each Q_i is of type $\langle 1 \rangle$, but it readily generalizes to type $\langle 1, \dots, 1 \rangle$ quantifiers.

In the following $L = \{ R \}$, where R is binary, and K is a class of L -structures s.t. K is closed under isomorphism and if $\langle A, E \rangle \in K$ then E is an equivalence relation on A with at least two equivalence classes each being of the power of A . We shall write $\models \varphi$ for $\forall \alpha \in K : \alpha \models \varphi$. For $i < \omega$ let

- $Q_1(n)$ be $\exists x_1, \dots, x_n (\bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} x_i \neq x_j \wedge \dots)$
- $Q_1(\bar{n})$ be $\exists x_1, \dots, x_n (\bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} x_i \neq x_j \wedge Q_1^x \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} x_i \neq \bar{x})$
- $Q_1(I)$ be $\exists y Q_1 x R(x, y)$
- e_n be $\exists x_1, \dots, x_n (\bigwedge_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \neg R(x_i, x_j))$

$B = \{ \phi \in L(Q_1) \mid \bigwedge_{1 \leq \omega \leq K} \phi \leftrightarrow \psi \text{ for some Boolean combination } \psi \text{ of formulae } x=y, R(x,y), Q_1(n), Q_1(\bar{n}), Q_1(I) \text{ and } e_n \}$.

$IF_x = \{ \phi \in B \mid \text{for all } i < \omega : Q_1^x \phi \in B \}$.

We shall aim at showing $IF_x = IB$. At first we easily see that

- 3.1 F_x contains atomic formulae and all formulae without x free.
- 3.2 If $\phi \in F_x$ and x not free in A , then $\phi \vee A \in F_x$.
- 3.3 If ϕ, ψ and $\phi \vee \psi$ are in F_x and x is not free in A , then $(A \wedge \phi) \vee \psi$ is in F_x .
- 3.4 If $\phi_1(x, y), \dots, \phi_n(x, y) \in F_x$ and $\bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} \exists x \phi_i(x, y)$ then $\bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} \phi_i \in F_x$. Here $\bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n}!$ means "there is exactly one $i \leq n$ s.t."

Let U, V and W be sets of variables. We write

$Max(U, V, \phi(x'))$ for $\bigwedge_{u \in U} (x'/u) \wedge \bigwedge_{U \cap W \subset V} \bigwedge_{w \in W} \neg \phi(x'/w)$
 $E_x(U, V, W)$ for $\bigwedge_{v \in V} x \neq v \wedge (\bigwedge_{u \in U} R(x, u) \vee \bigwedge_{w \in W} x = w)$
 $N_x(U, V)$ for $\bigwedge_{u \in U} \neg R(x, u) \wedge \bigwedge_{v \in V} x \neq v$.

A direct calculation shows that

- 3.5. If the finite U, V, W, S and T do not contain x , then $E_x(U, V, W)$, $N_x(U, V)$ and $E_x(U, V, W) \vee N_x(T, S)$ are in F_x .

Furthermore we notice that

- 3.6. $\bigwedge_K x = y \vee E_x(U, V, W) \leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{v_0 \in V} Max(v_0, V, x=y) \wedge E_x(U, V-v_0, W \cup \{y\})$
- 3.7. $\bigwedge_K (R(x, y) \wedge \bigwedge_{v \in V_0} x \neq v) \vee E_x(U, V, W) \leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{V_1 \subset V} \bigwedge_{V_2 \subset V_0} Max(V_1, V, R(x', y)) \wedge Max(V_2, V_0, R(x', y)) \wedge E_x(U \cup \{y\}, (V-V_1) \cup (V_2, W))$.

$$3.8. \quad \models_K \bigwedge_x (N_x(U_1, V_1) \vee N_x(U_2, V_2)) \leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{U \subseteq U_1} \bigwedge_{V \subseteq V_1} \text{Max}(U, U_1, \bigwedge_{u \in U_2} R(x, u)) \& \text{Max}(V, V_1, \bigwedge_{v \in V_2} (x = v)) \& N_x(U, V).$$

Now we are ready to prove.

$$3.9. \quad F_x = B.$$

For, let $\phi \in IB$. Then $\models_K \phi \leftrightarrow \Psi_1 \vee \dots \vee \Psi_n$, where each Ψ_i is a conjunction of the generators of IB. By 3.2 and 3.3 we may assume each conjunct of each Ψ_i contains x free. Using well known properties of identity and equivalence relation we may finally reduce all conjunctions to one of the following forms: $x = y$, $R(x, y) \& \bigwedge_{u \in U} x \neq u$, $\bigwedge_{u \in U} \neg R(x, u) \& x \neq v$. All these are of the form of an $E_x(U, V, W)$ or a $N_x(U, V)$. By 3.6 - 3.8 ϕ can be built from formulae of the form $E_x(U, V, W)$, $N_x(U, V)$ or $E_x(U, V, W) \vee N_x(T, S)$, which all are in F_x , using the restricted Boolean operations under which F_x is closed by 3.2 - 3.4. So finally ϕ is in F_x .

A direct consequence of 3.9 is

$$3.10. \quad L(Q_1)_{1 < \omega} = B.$$

Using 3.10 we can easily prove

$$3.11. \quad \text{For any } \phi \text{ in } L(Q_1)_{1 < \omega} \text{ there is an } n < \omega \text{ s.t. is } \alpha \models \phi_n \& \phi \text{ for some } \alpha \in K, \text{ then } \mathcal{L} \models \phi_n \rightarrow \phi \text{ for any } \mathcal{L} \in K \text{ s.t. } |\mathcal{L}| = |\alpha|.$$

Proof of 3.

Let ϕ be the following L_{α}^{II} - sentence:
 $\forall xR(x, x) \& \forall xy(R(x, y) \rightarrow R(y, x)) \& \forall xyz(R(x, y) \& R(y, z) \rightarrow R(x, z)) \& \exists X \forall x \exists y(X(y) \& R(x, y)).$

Suppose ϕ is equivalent to an $L(Q_1)_{1 < \omega}$ -formula, and 3.11 gives the natural number n to this formula. Let E be an equivalence relation on \mathcal{K}_α with \aleph_α many equivalence classes each of the power \aleph_α , and E' an equivalence relation on \mathcal{K}_α like E but with n classes. Now $\langle \mathcal{K}_\alpha, \mathcal{K}E \rangle \models \phi$. Hence, by 3.11 $\langle \mathcal{K}_\alpha, E' \rangle \models \phi$, a contradiction.

We have studied logics with an infinite number of generalized quantifiers. In the following we shall study the extent to which 2 holds for finite I .

A signature consisting of n -ary relation symbols only is called below n -ary.

Assume $n < \omega$. There is a Q s.t. for any n -ary L $L^{II} \leq LQ$. There is

also a Q s.t. $L_0 \leq L_1$ of course.

Proof

Let R_j^1 be 1-ary, $L_0 = \{R_{j_1}^1 \mid 0 < i < n, j < \omega\}$ and $(L_0)^{II} = \{R_{j_1}^1 \mid k < \omega\}$ for $k < \omega$ let $t_k < \omega$ s.t.

$$\phi_k = \phi_k(R_{j_1}^1, \dots, R_{j_{t_k}}^1).$$

Let $\psi_k(x_1, \dots, x_{t_k})$ be the result of replacing $R_{j_1}^1(u_1, \dots, u_{t_k})$ in ϕ_k by $B(x_1, u_1, \dots, u_{t_k}, u_1, \dots, u_{t_k})$, where B is a new $(n+1)$ -ary predicate. Let Q be the type $\langle 2, n+1 \rangle$ quantifier consisting of those structures $\langle M, A, B \rangle$ which satisfy the following sentence for some $m, k < \omega$ s.t. $t_k = m$:

$$\exists x_1, \dots, x_m (\forall x (\exists y A(x, y) \rightarrow \bigvee_{1 \leq i \leq m} x_i = x) \& \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq m} \exists |^k x A(x_i, x)) \& \psi_k(x_1, \dots, x_m)),$$

where $\exists |^k$ is the quantifier "there exists exactly k x s.t." It remains to prove $L^{II} \leq LQ$. So assume we are given an n-ary language L and $\phi \in L^{II}$. Then there are $m, k < \omega$, $m = t_k$, and R_1, \dots, R_m n-ary s.t. ϕ is equivalent to

$$\exists x_1^1 \dots x_k^1 \dots x_1^m \dots x_k^m (\bigwedge \{x_i^j \neq x_l^j \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq k, 1 \leq l < j\} \& \exists x y, u_1, \dots, u_n \forall \{x = x_i^1 \& y = x_j^1 \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq k\}, (\forall \{t = x_i^1 \& R_1(u_1, \dots, u_n) \mid 1 \leq i \leq k\})),$$

It is obvious that the Q above is not definable in L^{II} . In fact we have

5.

There are Q_1, \dots, Q_n s.t. for all binary L, $L^{II} = LQ_1 \dots Q_n$. The same applies to $L_{(\omega)^+}$ (with finite L) and to any L_{α}^{II} , $\alpha > 0$.

Proof

The claim concerning $L_{(\omega)^+}$ follows from theorem 5 of Lindström [3]. For L^{II} it suffices to notice that the formula

$$\phi(x) \leftrightarrow \text{df } \exists X "x \text{ is an } LQ_1 \dots Q_n \text{-sentence, } X \text{ is a satisfaction relation for } LQ_1 \dots Q_n \text{ and the empty sequence satisfies } x"$$

can be arranged to define the true $LQ_1 \dots Q_n$ -sentences in a suitable expansion of \mathfrak{M} . Now assuming $LQ_1 \dots Q_n \leq L^{III}$, $\phi(x)$ is L^{III} -definable but, by an undefinability of truth argument, not $LQ_1 \dots Q_n$ -definable. Our final remark shows that 5 fails for monadic L . The quantifier Q_α says "there exists at least α many x s.t."

6.

For monadic L , $L^{III}_\alpha = LQ_\alpha$ (and $L^{II} = L_{\omega\omega}$, of course).

Proof.

We call atomic formulae and their negations basic. We have identity, of course. It can be proved that every LQ_α -formula is equivalent to a formula of the following type, which we call reduced formulae,

$$\exists x_1 \dots x_n \bigvee_{i \leq i_0} \bigwedge_{j \leq j_0} \phi_{ij},$$

where each ϕ_{ij} is of the form

$$Q_x(A_1(x) \vee \dots \vee A_n(x))$$

or of the form

$$Q_\alpha x(A_1(x) \& \dots \& A_n(x))$$

with A_1, \dots, A_n basic and Q being \forall or \check{Q}_α , the dual of Q_α . Now we prove that L^{II} -formula is equivalent to a reduced formula. By the above it suffices to show that $\exists X \phi$ has this property whenever ϕ does. So assume ϕ is equivalent to a reduced formula. As $\exists X$ commutes with $\exists x_1$ and disjunction, it suffices to reduce the formulae $\exists X \phi_{ij}$, where ϕ_{ij} is $\bigvee_{i \leq i_0} \bigwedge_{j \leq j_0} \phi_{ij}$ as above. After eliminating some trivial cases, ϕ_{ij} can be written in the form

$$\forall x((X(x) \vee A(x) \& (\neg X(x) \vee B(x))) \& \check{Q}_\alpha x (X(x) \vee C(x)) \& Q_\alpha x (\neg X(x) \& D_1(x)) \& \dots \& Q_\alpha x (\neg X(x) \& D_m(x)),$$

where A, B, C, D_1, \dots, D_m are conjunctions or disjunctions of basic formulae not containing X . A direct calculation shows now that $\exists X \phi_{ij}$ is equivalent to

$$\forall x(A(x) \vee B(x) \& \check{Q}_\alpha x C(x) \& \check{Q}_\alpha x A(x) \& Q_\alpha x(A(x) \& D_1(x)) \& \dots \& Q_\alpha x(A(x) \& D_m(x)).$$

By the above this can be brought to a reduced form.

So we have proved that $L^{III}_\alpha \leq LQ_\alpha$. The converse inclusion is trivial.

References

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