

Philosophy 140A Take-Home Mid-Term

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You are to answer all six (6) exercises on this take-home exam. Your solutions are **due on Tuesday, April 10 at 4pm**. You may work in groups on this exam (with the usual rules and procedures for group work).

1 Formalizing Some of the Metatheory of P in Q

1.1 The Formal System PS' for P

Consider the following formal system for P , which I will call PS' . The system PS' has the same three axiom schemata (PS1)–(PS3) that Hunter's formal system PS has, and it has the following single rule of inference:

(MP') From $\vdash_{PS'} A$ and $\vdash_{PS'} A \supset B$, infer $\vdash_{PS'} B$.

So, the only difference between PS and PS' is that the (MP) rule of PS does *not* require its premises to be theorems of PS , whereas the (MP') rule of PS' *does* require its premises to be theorems of PS' .

Exercise #1. Explain why PS and PS' have exactly the same set of theorems.

Exercise #2. Explain why PS and PS' are (nonetheless) *not* the same formal system.

1.2 Formalizing Some of the Metatheory of PS' in Q

Consider the following four universally quantified WFFs of Q :

$$(1) \ \bigwedge x' \bigwedge x'' F^* f^{**} x' f^{**} x'' x'$$

$$(2) \ \bigwedge x' \bigwedge x'' \bigwedge x''' F^* f^{**} f^{**} x' f^{**} x'' x''' f^{**} f^{**} x' x'' f^{**} x' x''$$

$$(3) \ \bigwedge x' \bigwedge x'' F^* f^{**} f^{**} f^* x' f^* x'' f^{**} x'' x'$$

$$(4) \ \bigwedge x' \bigwedge x'' (F^* x' \supset (F^* f^{**} x' x'' \supset F^* x''))$$

Now, consider the following interpretation I of Q .¹

The domain D of I is the set of WFFs of P .

" F^* " gets interpreted by I as the (metatheoretic) property "is a theorem of PS' " (*i.e.*, $\vdash_{PS'}$).

" f^* " gets interpreted by I as the " \sim " connective in PS' .

" f^{**} " gets interpreted by I as the " \supset " connective in PS' .

Exercise #3. Explain why (1)–(4) are all *true* on I . [**Hint:** you might want to do Exercise #4 first.]

Exercise #4. Describe a procedure for translating schematic metatheoretic statements of the form " $\vdash_{PS'} S$ " (" S is a theorem *schemata* of PS' ") into universally quantified WFFs of Q (assuming the I -interpretations of f^* , f^{**} , and F^*). And, explain why the Q -translation of any *true* metatheoretic statement of this form must be *true* on I . [Example: the Q -translation of " $\vdash_{PS'} A \supset A$ " should come out as " $\bigwedge x' F^* f^{**} x' x''$ "].]

¹Strictly speaking, we should also say what I assigns to (i) the constant symbols of Q , (ii) the propositional symbols of Q , and (iii) the other predicate and function symbols of Q . But, since these aspects of I will not matter for the question at hand, I have not bothered to specify them. You could, for instance, let a_i denote the i th formula in some enumeration of P 's WFFs. And, you could assign any properties/functions you like to all the other predicate/function symbols in Q . Moreover, you can let I assign whatever truth-values you want to Q 's propositional symbols. Be sure not to confuse the propositional symbols of P — which are in the domain of I — with the propositional symbols of Q , which are *not*. Also, do not confuse the connectives of P with the connectives of Q . The connectives of Q are — on I — being used to express connectives in the *metalanguage* of P ! It is very important to stay clear on object-language vs meta-language in this problem!

Now, consider the following, different interpretation I' of Q :

The domain D of I' is the following set of three natural numbers: $\{0, 1, 2\}$.

“ F^* ” gets interpreted by I' as the property “is identical to the number zero”.

“ f^* ” gets interpreted by I' as the 1-place function f_1 with the following matrix:

x	0	1	2
$f_1(x)$	1	1	0
f_2	0	1	2
	0	2	2
	1	2	0
	2	0	0

“ f^{**} ” gets interpreted by I' as the 2-place function f_2 with the following matrix:

Exercise #5. Show that (2)–(4) are all *true* on I' , but (1) is *false* on I' . And, explain how this could be used to show that (PS1) is *independent* of $\{(PS2), (PS3), (MP')\}$. [Hints: Hunter’s discussion on pages 123–124 and my handout on Hiž should both be useful for #5. What you’ll need to do here is show that the Q -translations of all theorem schemata of the system $\{(PS2), (PS3), (MP')\}$ are true on I' , but that the Q -translation of (PS1) is false on I' . Hunter does the hard part of this on pages 123–124 (the easy part is writing down the Q -translations). This will imply the existence of a property (the truth-on- I' of their Q -translation) that all theorem schemata of the system $\{(PS2), (PS3), (MP')\}$ have, but that (PS1) lacks. This is sufficient to show that (PS1) is not a theorem of the system $\{(PS2), (PS3), (MP')\}$.]

2 Completeness of Another Formal System for Propositional Logic

Consider a language P^* that is similar to P but has as its two connectives \sim and $\&$ (negation and conjunction) rather than \sim and \supset . Of course, the axioms and rules of inference of the formal system for P^* (call it PS^*) are going to be different from the ones for our (PS) , since the axioms and rules of (PS) can’t even be expressed in P^* . Assume that the following five (5) *schemas* are rules of inference in the system (PS^*) :

- (PS^*1) $\{A, \sim A\} \vdash_{PS^*} B$ [i.e., from A and $\sim A$, infer B , for any WFFs A and B of P^*]
 (PS^*2) $\{\sim(\sim A \& B), \sim(\sim A \& \sim B)\} \vdash_{PS^*} A$ [i.e., from $\sim(\sim A \& B)$ and $\sim(\sim A \& \sim B)$, infer A]
 (PS^*3) $A \& B \vdash_{PS^*} A$ [i.e., from $A \& B$, infer A]
 (PS^*4) $A \& B \vdash_{PS^*} B$ [i.e., from $A \& B$, infer B]
 (PS^*5) $\{A, B\} \vdash_{PS^*} A \& B$ [i.e., from A and B , infer $A \& B$]

Also, assume that the system (PS^*) has a “deduction theorem” of the following sort:

- (PS^*6) If $\Gamma \cup \{A\} \vdash_{PS^*} B$, then $\Gamma \vdash_{PS^*} \sim(A \& \sim B)$.

Exercise #6. Show that any system (PS^*) with these six properties is *strongly complete* for the standard truth-table semantics for \sim and $\&$. That is, show that every p -consistent [in (PS^*)] set of formulas of P^* has a model, by extending it first to a maximal p -consistent set. In other words, show (Henkin-style) that:

$$\text{If } \Gamma \models_{p^*} A, \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash_{PS^*} A,$$

by proving its contrapositive:

$$\text{If } \Gamma \not\vdash_{PS^*} A, \text{ then } \Gamma \not\models_{p^*} A.$$

This will involve showing that

$$\text{If } \Gamma \cup \{\sim A\} \text{ is } p\text{-consistent [in } (PS^*)\text{], then } \Gamma \cup \{\sim A\} \text{ has a model [in } P^*\text{'s semantics].}$$

And, that will involve proving an appropriate version of Lindenbaum’s Lemma for (PS^*) . You will also need to prove some other metatheoretic lemmas here [like the equivalence of “ $\Gamma \not\vdash_{PS^*} A$ ” and “ $\Gamma \cup \{\sim A\}$ is p -consistent in (PS^*) ”]. But, the two main parts of the proof are (i) the Lindenbaum construction for any p -consistent $\Gamma \cup \{\sim A\}$, and (ii) the Henkin interpretation for P^* , which leads to a *model* of such a $\Gamma \cup \{\sim A\}$.