

A universal quantification revisited

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For any bag B and any boolean function b defined on the elements of B we deem $(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: bX)$ defined as usual. Our first purpose is to define as a predicate

$$(0) \quad (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: fX)$$

where f is a function from the elements of B to predicates on some space. (If the elements of B are predicates on that same space, f is traditionally known as a predicate transformer.)

A traditional way of defining the predicate (0) is by point-wise definition: in each point of state space the fX stand for boolean values for which universal quantification over B is defined. We should like to develop a predicate calculus as far as possible without explicit reference to points of the space; we would like to define it by means of a set of rules for the manipulation of formulae.

We postulate expressions of form (0) to satisfy the following two rules - where a pair of square brackets, if so desired, may be interpreted as universal quantification: over the points of space-

$$(1) \quad (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: [fX]) \equiv [(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: fX)]$$

$$(2) \quad [(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: Q \vee fX)] \equiv Q \vee (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: fX) \quad \text{for}$$

any predicate Q .

Note that in the case of a finite bag B , (1) and (2) are consistent with the interpretation of (0) as the conjunction of fX over the elements of B .

For the sake of brevity, the range " X in B " will be omitted in the sequel.

We observe for any Z

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{true} \\
 &= \{ \text{substitution of } \neg Z \text{ for } Q \text{ in (2)} \} \\
 & \quad [(\underline{A}X :: \neg Z \vee fX) \equiv \neg Z \vee (\underline{A}X :: fX)] \\
 & \Rightarrow \{ \text{Leibniz's Rule} \} \\
 & \quad [(\underline{A}X :: \neg Z \vee fX)] \equiv [\neg Z \vee (\underline{A}X :: fX)] \\
 &= \{ (1) \text{ and the definition of } \Rightarrow \} \\
 (3) \quad & (\underline{A}X :: [Z \Rightarrow fX]) \equiv [Z \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X :: fX)]
 \end{aligned}$$

One of the consequences of (3) is that (0) is the weakest solution of

$$(4) \quad Z : (\underline{A}X :: [Z \Rightarrow fX])$$

because, firstly, any solution of (4) substituted for Z in (3) reduces its left-hand side to true and, hence, implies (0), and, secondly, (0) substituted for Z in (3) reduces its right-hand side to true and, hence, is a solution of (4).

Consider in addition to B a bag of elements Y and let g be a predicate-valued on the Cartesian product of B and C . For any Z

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{true} \\
& = \{ \text{substitution of } gXY \text{ for } fX \text{ in (3)} \} \\
& (\underline{A}Y :: (\underline{A}X :: [Z \Rightarrow gXY])) \equiv [Z \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X :: gXY)] \\
& \Rightarrow \{ \text{predicate calculus} \} \\
& (\underline{A}Y :: (\underline{A}X :: [Z \Rightarrow gXY])) \equiv (\underline{A}Y :: [Z \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X :: gXY)]) \\
& = \{ \text{predicate calculus} \} \\
& (\underline{A}X :: (\underline{A}Y :: [Z \Rightarrow gXY])) \equiv (\underline{A}Y :: [Z \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X :: gXY)]) \\
& = \{ (3) \} \\
& (\underline{A}X :: [Z \Rightarrow (\underline{A}Y :: gXY)]) \equiv (\underline{A}Y :: [Z \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X :: gXY)]) \\
& = \{ (3) \text{ applied to both sides} \} \\
& [Z \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X :: (\underline{A}Y :: gXY))] \equiv [Z \Rightarrow (\underline{A}Y :: (\underline{A}X :: gXY))]
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(5) \quad [(\underline{A}X :: (\underline{A}Y :: gXY)) \equiv (\underline{A}Y :: (\underline{A}X :: gXY))] ,$$

i.e. also when the terms are predicates, the order of universal quantifications is immaterial.

Corollary of (5)

$$[(\underline{A}X :: fX \wedge gX) \equiv (\underline{A}X :: fX) \wedge (\underline{A}X :: gX)]$$

Note that from this corollary the monotonicity of universal quantification over X follows.

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Slightly shifting notational gears we consider (6) with for f the identity function and for B the bag of solutions of the equation

$$(6) \quad X: [gX] ,$$

where g is some predicate transformer, i.e. X and gX are predicates on the same space. For the sake

of reference, the resulting expression is denoted by Q , i.e.

$$(7) \quad [Q \equiv (\underline{A}X: [gX]: X)]$$

Rewriting (3) we observe for any Z

$$(8) \quad (\underline{A}X: [gX]: [Z \Rightarrow X]) \equiv [Z \Rightarrow Q]$$

with the corollary

$$(9) \quad (\underline{A}X: [gX]: [Q \Rightarrow X])$$

We are now ready to prove

Lemma 0. In terms of (6) and (7) the following three assertions are equivalent

- (i) Q is a solution of (6)
- (ii) Q is the strongest solution of (6)
- (iii) a strongest solution of (6) exists.

Proof. Formally expressed the assertions are

- (i) $[gQ]$
- (ii) $[gQ] \wedge (\underline{A}X: [gX]: [Q \Rightarrow X])$
- (iii) $(\underline{E}P: [gP]: (\underline{A}X: [gX]: [P \Rightarrow X]))$

The equivalence (i) \equiv (ii) follows immediately from (9). Further we observe

$$\begin{aligned} & (iii) \\ &= \{ \text{definition of (iii) and (8) with } P \text{ for } Z \} \\ & (\underline{E}P: [gP]: [P \Rightarrow Q]) \\ &= \{ \text{on account of (9)} \} \\ & (\underline{E}P: [gP]: [P \Rightarrow Q] \wedge [Q \Rightarrow P]) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \{ \text{predicate calculus} \} \\
&\quad (\exists P: [gP]: [P \equiv Q]) \\
&= \{ \text{predicate calculus} \} \\
&\quad [gQ] \\
&= \{ \text{definition of (i)} \} \\
&\quad (i)
\end{aligned}$$

(End of Proof.)

Remark 0. Note that Lemma 0 holds without any further assumptions about predicate transformer g .
(End of Remark 0.)

We mention a special consequence of Lemma 0. In order to prove that (6) has a strongest solution, one shows for instance that Q - the conjunction of all solutions of (6) - is a solution of (6). Sometimes one can prove a somewhat stronger property of g , viz. that the conjunction of any bag of solutions of (6) is again a solution of (6). Such is the case in the following two examples.

Example 0. For monotonic h , the equation

$$(10) \quad X: [hX \Rightarrow X]$$

has a strongest solution.

Proof. In view of the above it suffices to show that $(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } \underline{B}: X)$ solves (10) for \underline{B} any bag of solutions of (10).

$$\begin{aligned}
&\text{true} \\
&= \{ \text{definition of } \underline{B} \} \\
&\quad (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } \underline{B}: [hX \Rightarrow X])
\end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow {monotonicity of universal quantification}

$$[(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: h X) \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: X)]$$

\Rightarrow {monotonicity of h , see next page}

$$[h(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: X) \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: X)]$$

(End of Proof.)

(Note that Example 0 states "half" of the Theorem of Knaster-Tarski.)

Example 1. For universally conjunctive h , the equation

$$(11) \quad X: [P \vee h X]$$

has a strongest solution for any predicate P .

Proof. For any bag B of solutions of (11) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{true} \\ &= \{ \text{definition of } B \} \\ & \quad (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: [P \vee h X]) \\ &= \{ \text{predicate calculus} \} \\ & \quad [(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: P \vee h X)] \\ &= \{ \text{on account of (2)} \} \\ & \quad [P \vee (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: h X)] \\ &= \{ \text{universal conjunctivity of } h \} \\ & \quad [P \vee h(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: X)] \end{aligned}$$

(End of Proof.)

The last transition in the proof of Example 0 relies on

$$(11) \text{ For monotonic } h \text{ and any bag } B \\ [h(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: X) \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: hX)]$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{true} \\ &= \{(3) \text{ with } f \text{ the identity and } (\underline{A}Y: Y \text{ in } B: Y) \text{ for } Z\} \\ & \quad (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: [(\underline{A}Y: Y \text{ in } B: Y) \Rightarrow X]) \\ & \Rightarrow \{\text{monotonicity of } h\} \\ & \quad (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: [h(\underline{A}Y: Y \text{ in } B: Y) \Rightarrow hX]) \\ &= \{(3)\} \\ & \quad [h(\underline{A}Y: Y \text{ in } B: Y) \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: hX)] \\ &= \{\text{renaming the dummy}\} \\ & (11) \end{aligned}$$

(End of Proof.)

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The conclusion we drew from the Corollary of (5), viz. the monotonicity of universal quantification, was a bit rash. The statement of the monotonicity — and in this version we used it in the proof of Example 0 — is

$$(12) (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: [fX \Rightarrow gX]) \Rightarrow [(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: fX) \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: gX)].$$

For the formal proof of (12) we need an extension of Leibniz's Rule, viz.

$$(13) (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: [fX \equiv gX]) \Rightarrow [(\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: fX) \equiv (\underline{A}X: X \text{ in } B: gX)].$$

The proof of (12) is then as follows — for the sake of brevity under omission of the range —

Proof

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\underline{A}X :: [fX \Rightarrow gX]) \\
& = \{ \text{predicate calculus} \} \\
& (\underline{A}X :: [fX \equiv fX \wedge gX]) \\
& \Rightarrow \{ (13) \} \\
& [(\underline{A}X :: fX) \equiv (\underline{A}X :: fX \wedge gX)] \\
& = \{ \text{Corollary of (5)} \} \\
& [(\underline{A}X :: fX) \equiv (\underline{A}X :: fX) \wedge (\underline{A}X :: gX)] \\
& = \{ \text{predicate calculus} \} \\
& [(\underline{A}X :: fX) \Rightarrow (\underline{A}X :: gX)]
\end{aligned}$$

(End of Proof.)

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