

Lecture 19

We will examine second order intuitionistic logic more closely.¹ The system we examine is close to the logic called *system F* studied extensively by Girard [1]. Troelstra [4] discusses second order intuitionistic logic and cites Prawitz [2]. The only second order logical operator we need is second order universal quantification, $\forall X:\text{Prop}.F(X)$.²

Prawitz defines the *second-order* existential quantifier as

$$\exists X:\text{Prop}.A(X) == \forall X:\text{Prop}.(\forall Y:\text{Prop}.(A(Y) \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow X).$$

To continue our definition of the first-order logical operators, we look at how to derive the rules for the *first-order* existential quantifier defined as

$$\exists x:D.A(x) == \forall X:\text{Prop}.(\forall x:D.(A(x) \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow X).$$

We expect to be able to derive this introduction rule.

$$\begin{array}{ll} H & \vdash \exists x:D.A(x) \\ H & \vdash D \quad \text{by } d \\ H & \vdash A(d) \quad \text{by } a \end{array}$$

Here is the second order version:

$$\begin{array}{ll} H \vdash \forall X:\text{Prop}.\forall x:D.(A(x) \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow X \\ H, X:\text{Prop}, \text{all: } \forall x:D.(A(x) \Rightarrow X) & \vdash X \quad \text{by ap(all;___)} \\ & \vdash D \quad \text{by } d \quad \text{-----}^{\wedge} \\ d:D, f:A(d) \Rightarrow X & \vdash X \quad \text{by ap(f;___)} \\ & \vdash A(d) \quad \text{by } a \quad \text{-----}^{\wedge} \\ v:X & \vdash X \end{array}$$

We look again more closely at the case of “or”, $A \vee B$. Next week we will show how to express these results uniformly.

¹There is a related theory in Stenlund [3] called the Theory of Species. That theory also includes lambda terms with first and second order variables, e.g. $\lambda(x.b(x))$, $\lambda(X.b(X))$.

²Bertrand Russell knew the definition of False and of, &, in his Principles of Math, 1903.

Intuitionistic Second-Order Logic

We have already shown how to prove the following:

1. $A \Rightarrow (A \vee B)$

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \vdash A \Rightarrow \forall X:\text{Prop}.((A \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow ((B \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow X)) & \lambda(a.\lambda(X.______)) \\
 a:A, X:\text{Prop} \quad \vdash (A \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow ((B \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow X) & \lambda(f.______) \\
 f:A \Rightarrow X \quad \vdash (B \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow X & \lambda(g.______) \\
 g:(B \Rightarrow X) \quad \vdash X & \text{by } \text{ap}(f;a) = v \\
 v:X \quad \vdash X &
 \end{array}$$

The evidence term is $\lambda(a.\lambda(X.\lambda(f.\lambda(g.\text{ap}(f;a))))$

In *i*FOL the evidence is simply $\lambda(x.\text{inl}(x))$.

2. Here is the elimination rule.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 ((A \Rightarrow C) \& (B \Rightarrow C)) \Rightarrow (A \vee B) \Rightarrow C & \\
 ac:(A \Rightarrow C), bc:(B \Rightarrow C) \quad \vdash \forall X:\text{Prop}(______) \Rightarrow C & \lambda(\text{or}.______) \\
 \text{or: } \forall X:\text{Prop}.(A \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow ((B \Rightarrow X) \Rightarrow X) \quad \vdash C & \text{ap}(\text{or};C) \\
 \text{orap} : (A \Rightarrow C) \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow C) \Rightarrow C \quad \vdash C & \text{ap}(\text{orap};______) \\
 \vdash (A \Rightarrow C) & \text{by } ac \\
 v:(B \Rightarrow C) \Rightarrow C \quad \vdash C & \text{ap}(v,bc) = z \\
 \vdash (B \Rightarrow C) & \text{by } bc \\
 z:C \quad \vdash C & \text{by } z
 \end{array}$$

References

- [1] J-Y. Girard, P. Taylor, and Y. Lafont. *Proofs and Types*, volume 7 of *Cambridge Tracts in Computer Science*. Cambridge University Press, 1989.
- [2] D. Prawitz. *Natural Deduction*. Dover Publications, New York, 1965.
- [3] S. Stenlund. *Combinators, λ -Terms, and Proof Theory*. D. Reidel, Dordrecht, 1972.
- [4] Anne Sjerp Troelstra. *Metamathematical Investigation of Intuitionistic Mathematics*, volume 344 of *Lecture Notes in Mathematics*. Springer-Verlag, 1973.