

# Truth values algebras and normalization

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## Models for constructive logic

$\{0, 1\}$ -models: in a given model the continuum hypothesis is either valid or not, excluded middle valid

Replace  $\{0, 1\}$  by an arbitrary boolean algebra, e.g.  $\mathcal{P}(\{\pi, e\})$

Better: the continuum hypothesis may have an intermediate truth value but excluded middle still valid

Replace  $\{0, 1\}$  it by a **Heyting algebra**: Completeness

## What is a Heyting algebra?

Like a boolean algebra: an ordered set

with *lub* (for  $\vee$ ,  $\exists$  and  $\top$ ) and *glb* (for  $\wedge$ ,  $\forall$  and  $\perp$ )

But no complement ( $a \cap \bar{a} = \text{Min}$ ,  $a \cup \bar{a} = \text{Max}$ )

instead a weak complement

$$a \leq \bar{b} \text{ iff } a \cap b = \text{Min}$$

verifies  $a \cap \bar{a} = \text{Min}$  but not always  $a \cup \bar{a} = \text{Max}$

Relative weak complement:  $a \leq \bar{b}^c$  iff  $a \cap b \leq c$

What are the key features of Heyting algebras?

Order? Not really

Soundness:

Definition of  $\tilde{\wedge}$ ,  $\tilde{\Rightarrow}$ , ...

$a \tilde{\wedge} b) \tilde{\Rightarrow} a$  always in  $\{Max\}$

.. (closure by deduction rules)

Thus provable formulae valid (induction over proof structure)

Completeness:

A theory  $\Gamma$ , can build a model that validates exactly  $Thm(\Gamma)$

## Truth values algebras

$\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}^+, \tilde{\wedge}, \tilde{\Rightarrow}, \dots$

$(a \tilde{\wedge} b) \tilde{\Rightarrow} a$  always in  $\mathcal{B}^+, \dots$

Generalizes Heyting algebras

Completeness for free

Soundness: the closure conditions on  $\mathcal{B}^+$  are (the weakest)

sufficient conditions

An alternative presentation (suggested by Thierry Coquand)

From a truth value algebra, we can define a relation

$$a \leq b \text{ iff } a \Rightarrow b \in \mathcal{B}^+$$

Verifies all the properties of Heyting algebras except one:

antisymmetry

A simple remark: antisymmetry is useless in the definition of Heyting algebras, it can be dropped

Only antisymmetry can: otherwise no closure by deduction rule

## A drawback of Heyting algebras

Due to **antisymmetry**, in a Heyting algebra

$$A \Leftrightarrow B \text{ valid}$$

iff

$$\llbracket A \rrbracket = \llbracket B \rrbracket$$

Truth values are denotations not meanings

in deduction modulo and in type theories: no semantic difference

between  $A \Leftrightarrow B$  and  $A \equiv B$

Not in truth values algebras

## Complete truth values algebras

Add an order  $\sqsubseteq$  (need not be  $a \Rightarrow b \in \mathcal{B}^+$ )

$\mathcal{B}^+$  is upward closed,

Connectors and quantifiers are (anti)-monotonous

Every subset of  $\mathcal{B}$  has a least upper bound

Soundness: for free

Completeness: complete Heyting algebras



## Soundness

$\mathcal{B}$ -model  $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{B}, \hat{f}_i, \hat{P}_j \rangle$

if  $\mathcal{T}$  has a  $\mathcal{B}$ -model for some  $\mathcal{B}$  then  $\mathcal{T}$  consistent

Extends to deduction modulo:

$A \longrightarrow B$  valid in  $\mathcal{M}$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket = \llbracket B \rrbracket$

## Super-consistency

if  $\mathcal{R}$  has a  $\mathcal{B}$ -model for some  $\mathcal{B}$  then it is consistent

if  $\mathcal{R}$  has a  $\mathcal{B}$ -model for all  $\mathcal{B}$  then it is called super-consistent

## Examples

Arithmetic, simple type theory, ... are super-consistent

in **arbitrary** truth values algebra  $\mathcal{B}$

$$\mathcal{M}_\iota = \{0\}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_o = \mathcal{B}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{T \rightarrow U} = \mathcal{M}_U^{\mathcal{M}_T}$$

$$\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket(a, b) = a(b) \quad \llbracket \varepsilon \rrbracket(a) = a$$

$$\llbracket S \rrbracket_{T,U,V} = a \mapsto (b \mapsto (c \mapsto a(c)(b(c)))) \quad \llbracket K \rrbracket_{T,U} = a \mapsto (b \mapsto a)$$

$$\llbracket \dot{\top} \rrbracket = \tilde{\top} \quad \llbracket \dot{\perp} \rrbracket = \tilde{\perp} \quad \llbracket \dot{\Rightarrow} \rrbracket = \tilde{\Rightarrow} \quad \llbracket \dot{\wedge} \rrbracket = \tilde{\wedge} \quad \llbracket \dot{\vee} \rrbracket = \tilde{\vee}$$

$$\llbracket \dot{\forall}_T \rrbracket = a \mapsto \tilde{\forall}_T(Range(a)) \quad \llbracket \dot{\exists}_T \rrbracket = a \mapsto \tilde{\exists}_T(Range(a))$$

## The theorem

If  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{R}$  **super**-consistent theory in deduction modulo  
then all proofs in  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{R}$  **strongly normalize**

## The truth values algebra $\mathcal{C}$ of reducibility candidates

Reducibility candidates are sets of proofs (with some conditions)

$a \Rightarrow b$  : set of terminating proof-terms  $\pi$  s.t. if  $\pi$  reduces to  $\lambda\alpha \pi_1$   
then for every  $\pi'$  in  $a$ ,  $(\pi'/\alpha)\pi_1$  in  $b$

$\lambda A$ : set of terminating proof-terms  $\pi$  s.t. if  $\pi$  reduces to  $\lambda x \pi_1$   
then for every term  $t$  and every element  $a$  of  $A$ ,  $(t/x)\pi_1$  in  $a$

..

$\mathcal{C}^+$ : set of candidates containing a closed proof-term

$a \leq b$  if  $a \Rightarrow b$  contains a closed term

$a \sqsubseteq b$  if  $a$  subset of  $b$

Not a Heyting algebra

$a \leq b$  if  $a \Rightarrow b$  contains a closed term

Not antisymmetric

$$\tilde{T} \leq (\tilde{T} \Rightarrow \tilde{T})$$

$\tilde{T} \Rightarrow (\tilde{T} \Rightarrow \tilde{T})$  contains a closed term

$$(\tilde{T} \Rightarrow \tilde{T}) \leq \tilde{T}$$

$(\tilde{T} \Rightarrow \tilde{T}) \Rightarrow \tilde{T}$  contains a closed term

But  $(\tilde{T} \Rightarrow \tilde{T}) \neq \tilde{T}$

Prove normalization  
without knowing what a reducibility candidate is

To prove normalization: prove super-consistency

No need to understand the notion of reducibility candidates

Candidates hidden in the proof that super-consistency implies  
normalization

Explains why the the flavor of candidates does not matter

Candidates can be abstracted away