



## Chapter 3

# HOL:Foundations























## Alternatives to Isabelle/HOL

- We will use and focus on **Isabelle/HOL**.
- Could forgo the use of a meta-logic and employ alternatives, e.g., **HOL system** or **PVS**. Or use constructive alternatives such as **Coq** or **Nuprl**.
- Choice depends on culture and application.





## Basic HOL Syntax (1)

- **Types:**

$$\tau ::= \text{bool} \mid \text{ind} \mid \tau \Rightarrow \tau$$

- *bool* and *ind* are also called *o* and *i* in literature [Chu40, And86]
- Isabelle allows definitions of new type constructors, e.g., *list(bool)*
- Isabelle supports polymorphic type definitions, e.g., *list( $\alpha$ )*

- **Terms:** ( $\mathcal{V}$  set of variables and  $\mathcal{C}$  set of constants)

$$\mathcal{T} ::= \mathcal{V} \mid \mathcal{C} \mid (\mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}) \mid \lambda\mathcal{V}.\mathcal{T}$$

- Terms are simply-typed.
- Terms of type *bool* are called **(well-formed) formulae**.

## Basic HOL Syntax (2)

- **Constants** are always supplied with types and include:

$$True, False : bool$$

$$\_ = \_ : \tau \Rightarrow \tau \Rightarrow bool \quad (\text{for all types } \tau)$$

$$\_ \longrightarrow \_ : bool \Rightarrow bool \Rightarrow bool$$

$$\iota \_ : (\tau \Rightarrow bool) \Rightarrow \tau \quad (\text{for all types } \tau)$$

- Note that the **description operator**  $\iota f$  yields the unique element  $x$  for which  $f x$  is *True*, provided it exists. Otherwise, it yields an arbitrary value.
- Note that in Isabelle, the provisos “for all types  $\tau$ ” can be expressed by using polymorphic type variables  $\alpha$ .

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## Definition 2 (Frame):

A **frame** is a collection  $(\mathcal{D}_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \mathcal{T}}$  with  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha \in \mathcal{U}$ , for  $\alpha \in \mathcal{T}$  and

- $\mathcal{D}_{bool} = \{T, F\}$
- $\mathcal{D}_{ind} = X$  where  $X$  is some infinite set of **individuals**
- $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha \Rightarrow \beta} \subseteq \mathcal{D}_\alpha \Rightarrow \mathcal{D}_\beta$ , i.e., **some** collection of functions from  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha$  to  $\mathcal{D}_\beta$

**Example:**  $\mathcal{D}_{bool \Rightarrow bool}$  is some nonempty subset of functions from  $\{T, F\}$  to  $\{T, F\}$ . Some of these subsets contain, e.g., the identity function, others do not.





## Generalized Models - Facts (1)

- **If**  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a general model and  $\sigma$  a substitution,  
**then**  $\mathcal{V}^{\mathfrak{M}}(\sigma, t)$  is uniquely determined, for every term  $t$ .  
 $\mathcal{V}^{\mathfrak{M}}(\sigma, t)$  is **value** of  $t$  in  $\mathfrak{M}$  w.r.t.  $\sigma$ .
- Gives rise to the standard notion of **satisfiability/validity**:
  - We write  $\mathcal{V}^{\mathfrak{M}}, \sigma \models \phi$  for  $\mathcal{V}^{\mathfrak{M}}(\sigma, \phi) = T$ .
  - $\phi$  is **satisfiable** in  $\mathfrak{M}$  if  $\mathcal{V}^{\mathfrak{M}}, \sigma \models \phi$ , for some substitution  $\sigma$ .
  - $\phi$  is **valid** in  $\mathfrak{M}$  if  $\mathcal{V}^{\mathfrak{M}}, \sigma \models \phi$ , for every substitution  $\sigma$ .
  - $\phi$  is **valid** (in the general sense) if  $\phi$  is valid in every general model  $\mathfrak{M}$ .

## Generalized Models - Facts (2)

- Not all interpretations are general models.
- Closure conditions guarantee every well-formed formula has a value under every assignment, e.g.,

**closure under functions:** identity function from  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha$  to  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha$  must belong to  $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha}$  so that  $\mathcal{V}^{\mathfrak{M}}(\sigma, \lambda x_\alpha. x)$  is defined.

**closure under application:**

- if  $\mathcal{D}_N$  is set of natural numbers and
- $\mathcal{D}_{N \Rightarrow N \Rightarrow N}$  contains addition function  $p$  where  $p x y = x + y$
- then  $\mathcal{D}_{N \Rightarrow N}$  must contain  $k x = 2x + 5$   
since  $k = \mathcal{V}^{\mathfrak{M}}(\sigma, \lambda x. f(f x x) y)$  where  $\sigma(f) = p$  and  $\sigma(y) = 5$ .

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## Isabelle/HOL

The syntax of the core-language is introduced by:

### consts

Not	::	bool $\Rightarrow$ bool	("¬" [40] 40)
True	::	bool	
False	::	bool	
If	::	[bool, 'a, 'a] $\Rightarrow$ 'a	("(if _ then _ else _)")
The	::	('a $\Rightarrow$ bool) $\Rightarrow$ 'a	( <b>binder</b> "THE" 10)
All	::	('a $\Rightarrow$ bool) $\Rightarrow$ bool	( <b>binder</b> "∀" 10)
Ex	::	('a $\Rightarrow$ bool) $\Rightarrow$ bool	( <b>binder</b> "∃" 10)
=	::	['a, 'a] $\Rightarrow$ bool	( <b>infixl</b> 50)
$\wedge$	::	[bool, bool] $\Rightarrow$ bool	( <b>infixr</b> 35)
$\vee$	::	[bool, bool] $\Rightarrow$ bool	( <b>infixr</b> 30)
$\longrightarrow$	::	[bool, bool] $\Rightarrow$ bool	( <b>infixr</b> 25)

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## The Axioms of HOL (1)

### axioms

refl : "t = t"

subst: "[[ s = t; P(s) ] ]  $\implies$  P(t)"

ext: "( $\bigwedge x. f\ x = g\ x$ )  $\implies$  ( $\lambda x. f\ x$ ) = ( $\lambda x. g\ x$ )"

impl: "(P  $\implies$  Q)  $\implies$  P  $\longrightarrow$  Q"

mp: "[[ P  $\longrightarrow$  Q; P ] ]  $\implies$  Q"

iff : "(P  $\longrightarrow$  Q)  $\longrightarrow$  (Q  $\longrightarrow$  P)  $\longrightarrow$  (P=Q)"

True\_or\_False : "(P=True)  $\vee$  (P=False)"

the\_eq\_trivial : "(THE x. x = a) = (a::'a)"

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## The Axioms of HOL (2)

Additionally, there is:

- universal  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\eta$  congruence on terms (implicitly),
- the axiom of infinity, and
- the axiom of choice (Hilbert operator).
- This is the entire basis!

## Core Definitions of HOL

### defs

True_def:	True	$\equiv ((\lambda x::\text{bool}. x) = (\lambda x. x))$
All_def:	All(P)	$\equiv (P = (\lambda x. \text{True}))$
Ex_def:	Ex(P)	$\equiv \forall Q. (\forall x. P\ x \longrightarrow Q) \longrightarrow Q$
False_def:	False	$\equiv (\forall P. P)$
not_def:	$\neg P$	$\equiv P \longrightarrow \text{False}$
and_def:	$P \wedge Q$	$\equiv \forall R. (P \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow R) \longrightarrow R$
or_def:	$P \vee Q$	$\equiv \forall R. (P \longrightarrow R) \longrightarrow (Q \longrightarrow R) \longrightarrow R$
if_def:	If P x y	$\equiv \text{THE } z::'a. (P=\text{True} \longrightarrow z=x) \wedge (P=\text{False} \longrightarrow z=y)$

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## Meta-theoretic Properties of HOL

### Theorem 1 (Soundness of HOL, [And86]):

HOL is sound w.r.t. to general models.

$$\vdash_{HOL} \phi \quad \text{implies} \quad \phi \text{ is valid}$$

### Theorem 2 (Completeness of HOL, [And86]):

- HOL is complete w.r.t. to general models.

$$\phi \text{ is valid} \quad \text{implies} \quad \vdash_{HOL} \phi$$

- HOL is complete w.r.t. to standard models.

### Theorem 3 (HOL with infinity, [And86]):

- HOL+infinity is complete w.r.t. general models.
- HOL+infinity is incomplete w.r.t. standard models.

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# Higher-order Logic: Conservative Extensions

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## Constant Definition

### Definition 10 (constant definition):

A theory extension  $T' = (\chi', \Sigma', A')$  of a theory  $T = (\chi, \Sigma, A)$  is a **constant definition**, iff

- $\chi' = \chi$  and  $\Sigma' = \Sigma \cup \{c :: \tau\}$ , where  $c \notin \text{dom}(\Sigma)$ ;
- $A' = A \cup \{c = E\}$ ;
- $E$  does not contain  $c$  and is closed;
- no subterm of  $E$  has a type containing a type variable that is not contained in the type of  $c$ .

## Constant Definitions are Conservative

### Lemma 2 (constant definitions):

A constant definition is a conservative extension.

Proof Sketch:

- $Th(T) \subseteq Th(T') \upharpoonright_{\Sigma}$  : trivial.
- $Th(T) \supseteq Th(T') \upharpoonright_{\Sigma}$  : let  $\pi'$  be a proof for  $\phi \in Th(T') \upharpoonright_{\Sigma}$ . We unfold any subterm in  $\pi'$  that contains  $c$  via  $c = E$  into  $\pi$ .  $\pi$  is a proof in  $T$ , i.e.,  $\phi \in Th(T)$ .

## Side Conditions

Where are those *side conditions* needed? What goes wrong?

Simple example: Let  $E \equiv \exists x :: \alpha. \exists y :: \alpha. x \neq y$  and suppose  $\sigma$  is a type inhabited by only one term, and  $\tau$  is a type inhabited by at least two terms. Then we would have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & c = c \quad \text{holds by } \textit{refl} \\
 \implies & (\exists x :: \sigma. \exists y :: \sigma. x \neq y) = (\exists x :: \tau. \exists y :: \tau. x \neq y) \\
 \implies & \textit{False} = \textit{True} \\
 \implies & \textit{False}
 \end{aligned}$$

Reconsider the definition of *True*.

## Constant Definition: Examples

Definitions of *True*, *False*,  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\forall$ , and  $\exists$  revisited.

True\_def:     True        $\equiv ((\lambda x::\text{bool}. x) = (\lambda x. x))$

All\_def:     All(P)      $\equiv (P = (\lambda x. \text{True}))$

Ex\_def:     Ex(P)        $\equiv \forall Q. (\forall x. P\ x \longrightarrow Q) \longrightarrow Q$

False\_def:   False        $\equiv (\forall P. P)$

not\_def:      $\neg P$         $\equiv P \longrightarrow \text{False}$

and\_def:      $P \wedge Q$     $\equiv \forall R. (P \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow R) \longrightarrow R$

or\_def:      $P \vee Q$       $\equiv \forall R. (P \longrightarrow R) \longrightarrow (Q \longrightarrow R) \longrightarrow R$

Recall that All(P) is equivalent to  $\forall x. P\ x$  and

Ex(P) is equivalent to  $\exists x. P\ x$ .



## More Constant Definitions in Isabelle

**let** – **in** –, if – then – else, unique existence:

### consts

Let :: [ $'a$ ,  $'a \Rightarrow 'b$ ]  $\Rightarrow 'b$

If :: [ $\text{bool}$ ,  $'a$ ,  $'a$ ]  $\Rightarrow 'a$

Ex1 :: ( $'a \Rightarrow \text{bool}$ )  $\Rightarrow \text{bool}$

### defs

Let\_def: "Let  $s$   $f \equiv f(s)$ "

if\_def: "If  $P$   $x$   $y \equiv \text{THE } z::'a. (P=\text{True} \longrightarrow z=x) \wedge$   
 $(P=\text{False} \longrightarrow z=y)$ "

Ex1\_def: "Ex1( $P$ )  $\equiv \exists x. P(x) \wedge (\forall y. P(y) \longrightarrow y=x)$ "

Note:  $\Rightarrow$  is function type arrow; recall syntax for  $[...] \Rightarrow \dots$



## Type Definition: Definition

### Definition 11 (type definition):

Assume a theory  $T = (\chi, \Sigma, A)$  and a type  $r$  and a term  $S$  of type  $r \Rightarrow \text{bool}$ .

A theory extension  $T' = (\chi', \Sigma', A')$  of  $T$  is a **type definition** for type  $t$  (where  $t$  fresh), iff

$$\begin{aligned} \chi' &= \chi \uplus \{t\}, \\ \Sigma' &= \Sigma \cup \{Abs_t :: r \Rightarrow t, Rep_t :: t \Rightarrow r\} \\ A' &= A \cup \{\forall x. Abs_t(Rep_t x) = x, \\ &\quad \forall x. S x \longrightarrow Rep_t(Abs_t x) = x\} \end{aligned}$$

Proof obligation  $T \vdash \exists x. S x$  (inside HOL)



## HOL is Rich Enough!

This may seem fishy: if a new type is always **isomorphic** to a **subset** of an **existing type**, how is this construction going to lead to a “rich” collection of types for large-scale applications?

But in fact, due to *ind* and  $\Rightarrow$ , the types in HOL are already very rich.

We now give three examples revealing the power of type definitions.









## Example: Pairs

Consider type  $\alpha \Rightarrow \beta \Rightarrow bool$ . We can regard a term  $f :: \alpha \Rightarrow \beta \Rightarrow bool$  as a representation of the pair  $(a, b)$ , where  $a :: \alpha$  and  $b :: \beta$ , iff  $f\ x\ y$  is true exactly for  $x = a$  and  $y = b$ . Observe:

- For given  $a$  and  $b$ , there is **exactly one** such  $f$  (namely,  $\lambda x :: \alpha. \lambda y :: \beta. x = a \wedge y = b$ ).
- Some functions of type  $\alpha \Rightarrow \beta \Rightarrow bool$  represent pairs and others don't (e.g., the function  $\lambda x. \lambda y. True$  does not represent a pair). The ones that do are equal to  $\lambda x :: \alpha. \lambda y :: \beta. x = a \wedge y = b$ , **for some**  $a$  and  $b$ .

## Type Definition for Pairs

This gives rise to a type definition where  $S$  is non-trivial:

$$r \equiv \alpha \Rightarrow \beta \Rightarrow \text{bool}$$

$$S \equiv \lambda f :: \alpha \Rightarrow \beta \Rightarrow \text{bool}.$$

$$\exists a. \exists b. f = \lambda x :: \alpha. \lambda y :: \beta. x = a \wedge y = b$$

$$t \equiv \alpha \times \beta \quad (\times \text{ infix})$$

It is convenient to define a constant `Pair_Rep` (not to be confused with  $\text{Rep}_\times$ ) as follows:

$$\text{Pair\_Rep } a \ b = \lambda x :: 'a. \lambda y :: 'b. x=a \wedge y=b.$$

## Implementation in Isabelle

Isabelle provides a special syntax for type definitions:

### **typedef** (T)

(typevars)  $T' = \{x. A(x)\}$

How is this linked to our *scheme*:

- the new type is called  $T'$ ;
- $r$  is the type of  $x$  (inferred);
- $S$  is  $\lambda x. A x$ ;
- constants  $\text{Abs}_T$  and  $\text{Rep}_T$  are automatically generated.

## Isabelle Syntax for Pair Example

### constdefs

```
Pair_Rep :: ['a, 'b] ⇒ ['a, 'b] ⇒ bool
"Pair_Rep ≡ (λ a b. λ x y. x=a ∧ y=b)"
```

### typedef (Prod)

```
('a, 'b) "*" (infixr 20)
= "{f. ∃ a. ∃ b. f=Pair_Rep(a::'a)(b::'b)}"
```

The keyword `constdefs` introduces a constant definition.

The definition and use of `Pair_Rep` is for convenience. There are “two names” `*` and `Prod`.

See [Product\\_Type.thy](#).

## Example: Sums

An element of  $(\alpha, \beta)$  **sum** is either  $Inl\ a :: 'a$  or  $Inr\ b :: 'b$ .

Consider type  $\alpha \Rightarrow \beta \Rightarrow bool \Rightarrow bool$ . We can regard

$f :: \alpha \Rightarrow \beta \Rightarrow bool \Rightarrow bool$  as a

representation of . . .	iff $f\ x\ y\ i$ is true for . . .
-------------------------	------------------------------------

$Inl\ a$	$x = a, y$ arbitrary, and $i = True$
$Inr\ b$	$x$ arbitrary, $y = b$ , and $i = False$ .

Similar to pairs.

## Isabelle Syntax for Sum Example

### constdefs

Inl\_Rep :: ['a, 'a, 'b, bool]  $\Rightarrow$  bool

"Inl\_Rep  $\equiv$  ( $\lambda a. \lambda x y p. x=a \wedge p$ )"

Inr\_Rep :: ['b, 'a, 'b, bool]  $\Rightarrow$  bool

"Inr\_Rep  $\equiv$  ( $\lambda b. \lambda x y p. y=b \wedge \neg p$ )"

### typedef (Sum)

('a, 'b) "+" (infixr 10)

= "{f. ( $\exists a. f = \text{Inl\_Rep}(a :: 'a)$ )  $\vee$   
 ( $\exists b. f = \text{Inr\_Rep}(b :: 'b)$ )}"

See [Sum\\_Type.thy](#).

Exercise: How would you define a type even based on nat?



# More Detailed Explanations

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## Provable Formulas

The provable formulas are terms of type *bool* derivable using the inference rules of HOL and the empty assumption list. We write  $Th(T)$  for the derivable formulas of a theory  $T$ .

## Closed Terms

A term is **closed** or **ground** if it does not contain any **free** variables.







## Domains of $\Sigma$ , $\Gamma$

The **domain** of  $\Sigma$ , denoted  $dom(\Sigma)$ , is  $\{c \mid (c :: A) \in \Sigma \text{ for some } A\}$ .

Likewise, the **domain** of  $\Gamma$ , denoted  $dom(\Gamma)$ , is

$\{x \mid (x :: A) \in \Gamma \text{ for some } A\}$ .

Note the slight abuse of notation.

## constdefs

In Isabelle theory files, `consts` is the keyword preceding a sequence of constant declarations (i.e., this is where the  $\Sigma$  is defined), and `defs` is the keyword preceding the constant definitions defining these constants (i.e., this is where the  $A$  is defined).

`constdefs` combines the two, i.e. it allows for a sequence of both constant declarations and definitions, and the theorem identifier `c_def` is generated automatically. E.g.

### constdefs

```
id :: "'a ⇒ 'a"
```

```
"id ≡ λ x. x"
```

will bind `id_def` to  $id \equiv \lambda x.x$ .





## Fresh $t$

The type constructor  $t$  must not occur in  $\chi$ .





## What Are $Abs_t$ and $Rep_t$ ?

Of course we are giving a schematic definition here, so any letters we use are meta-notation.

Notice that  $Abs_t$  and  $Rep_t$  stand for new **constants**. For any new type  $t$  to be defined, two such constants must be added to the signature to provide a generic way of obtaining terms of the new type. Since the new type is isomorphic to the “subset”  $S$ , whose members are of type  $r$ , one can say that  $Abs_t$  and  $Rep_t$  provide a type conversion between (the subset  $S$  of)  $r$  and  $t$ .

So we have a new type  $t$ , and we can obtain members of the new type by applying  $Abs_t$  to a term  $u$  of type  $r$  for which  $Su$  holds.

## Isomorphism

The formulas

$$\forall x. Abs_t(Rep_t x) = x$$

$$\forall x. S x \longrightarrow Rep_t(Abs_t x) = x$$

state that the “set”  $S$  and the new type  $t$  are isomorphic. Note that  $Abs_t$  should not be applied to a term not in “set”  $S$ . Therefore we have the premise  $S x$  in the above equation.

Note also that  $S$  could be the “trivial filter”  $\lambda x. True$ . In this case,  $Abs_t$  and  $Rep_t$  would provide an isomorphism between the entire type  $r$  and the new type  $t$ .



## Inhabitation in the *set* Example

We have  $S \equiv \lambda x :: \alpha \Rightarrow bool. True$ , and so in  $(\exists x.Sx)$ , the variable  $x$  has type  $\alpha \Rightarrow bool$ . The proposition  $(\exists x.Sx)$  is true since the type  $\alpha \Rightarrow bool$  is inhabited, e.g. by the term  $\lambda x :: \alpha. True$  or  $\lambda x :: \alpha. False$ .

Beware of a confusion: This does not mean that the new type  $\alpha$  *set*, defined by this construction, is the type of **non-empty** sets. There is a term for the empty set: The empty set is the term  $Abs_{set} (\lambda x. False)$ .

Recall a previous argument for the importance of inhabitation.



## Trivial $S$

We said that in the general formalism for defining a new type, there is a term  $S$  of type  $r \Rightarrow bool$  that defines a “subset” of a type  $r$ . In other words, it filters some terms from type  $r$ . Thus the idea that a predicate can be interpreted as a set is present in the general formalism for defining a new type.

Now we are talking about a particular example, the type  $\alpha set$ . Having the idea “predicates are sets” in mind, one is **tempted to think** that in the particular example,  $S$  will take the role of defining particular sets, i.e., terms of type  $\alpha set$ . This is not the case!

Rather,  $S$  is  $\lambda x. True$  and hence trivial in this example. Moreover, in the example,  $r$  is  $\alpha \Rightarrow bool$ , and any term  $f$  of type  $r$  defines a set whose elements are of type  $\alpha$ ;  $Abs_{set} f$  is that set.

## *Collect*

We have seen *Collect* before in the theory file `exercise_03` (naïve set theory).

*Collect*  $f$  is the set whose characteristic function is  $f$ . The usual concrete syntax is  $\{x \mid f x\}$ . The construct is called **set comprehension**.

Note also that *Collect* is the same as  $Abs_{set}$  here, so there is no need to have them as separate constants, and for this reason Isabelle theory file `Set.thy` only provides *Collect*.

## The $\in$ -Sign

We define

$$x \in A = (\text{Rep}_{\text{set}} A) x$$

Since  $\text{Rep}_{\text{set}}$  has type  $\alpha \text{ set} \Rightarrow (\alpha \Rightarrow \text{bool})$ , this means that  $x$  is of type  $\alpha$  and  $A$  is of type  $(\alpha \Rightarrow \text{bool})$ . Therefore  $\in$  is of type  $\alpha \Rightarrow (\alpha \text{ set}) \Rightarrow \text{bool}$  (but written infix).

In the the Isabelle theory **Set.thy**, you will indeed find that the constant  $\text{op} : (\text{Isabelle syntax for } \in)$  has type  $[\alpha, \alpha \text{ set}] \Rightarrow \text{bool}$ . However, you will not find anything directly corresponding to  $\text{Rep}_{\text{set}}$ .

One can see that this setup is equivalent to the one we have here (which was presented like that for the sake of generality). There are two axioms in **Set.thy**:

### axioms

`mem_Collect_eq [ iff ]:`  $"(a : \{x. P(x)\}) = P(a)"$

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these are the isomorphy axioms for *set*.

## Consistent Set Theory

Typed set theory is a conservative extension of HOL and hence consistent.

Recall the problems with untyped set theory.

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