# Frank Richter Negative Polarity Items

# Syntax and Semantics of a Higher Order Logic

**Types** All expressions of our higher-order language,  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{Type}}$ , will be typed. To keep the language simple, we will only use two basic types, e (for the basic entities in the domain) and t (for the truth values 0 and 1).

# Definition 1 Types

Type is the smallest set such that

- *i.*)  $e \in \mathsf{Type}$ ,
- *ii.*)  $t \in \mathsf{Type}$ ,
- *iii.)* for each  $\tau_1 \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $\tau_2 \in \mathsf{Type}$ ,  $\langle \tau_1, \tau_2 \rangle \in \mathsf{Type}$ .

**Syntax** The basic expressions of  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{Type}}$  consist only of variables and constants. In contrast to first order logic there is no distinction between terms and formulae.

#### **Definition 2 Basic Expressions**

- *i.)* For each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ ,  $\mathsf{Var}_{\tau}$  is the smallest set such that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $v_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{Var}_{\tau}$ .
- *ii.)* For each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ ,  $\mathsf{Const}_{\tau}$  is the smallest set such that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $c_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{Const.}$

We write Var for the set of all variables,  $\bigcup_{\tau \in \mathsf{Type}} \mathsf{Var}_{\tau}$ , and Const for the set of all

constants,  $\bigcup_{\tau \in \mathsf{Type}} \mathsf{Const}_{\tau}$ .

The set of *basic expressions* of our language is the union of the set of variables and the set of constants.

## **Definition 3 Meaningful Expressions**

The meaningful expressions of  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{Type}}$  are the smallest familiy  $(\mathsf{ME}_{\tau})_{\tau \in \mathsf{Type}}$  such that

- *i.)* for each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each variable  $v_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{Var}_{\tau}$ ,  $v_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\tau}$ ;
- *ii.)* for each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each constant  $c_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{Const}_{\tau}$ ,  $c_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\tau}$ ;

- *iii.)* for each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $\phi_{\tau} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\tau}$ , for each  $\psi_{\tau} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\tau}$ ,  $(\phi_{\tau} \equiv \psi_{\tau})_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t;$
- iv.) for each  $\phi_{\langle \tau_2, \tau_1 \rangle} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\langle \tau_2, \tau_1 \rangle}$ , for each  $\psi_{\tau_2} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\tau_2}$ ,  $\left(\phi_{\langle \tau_2, \tau_1 \rangle} \left(\psi_{\tau_2}\right)\right)_{\tau_1} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\tau_1};$
- v.) for each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $(\neg \phi_t)_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t;$
- vi.) for each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ , for each  $\psi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $(\phi_t \wedge \psi_t)_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t;$
- *vii.*) for each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ , for each  $\psi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $(\phi_t \lor \psi_t)_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t;$
- *viii.)* for each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ , for each  $\psi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $(\phi_t \to \psi_t)_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t;$
- *ix.*) for each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ , for each  $\psi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $(\phi_t \leftrightarrow \psi_t)_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t;$
- x.) for each  $\tau_1 \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $\tau_2 \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each  $v_{n,\tau_2} \in \mathbb{N}_0$ Var, for each  $\phi_{\tau_1} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\tau_1}$ ,  $(\lambda v_{n,\tau_2}.\phi_{\tau_1})_{\langle \tau_2,\tau_1 \rangle} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\langle \tau_2,\tau_1 \rangle};$
- *xi.*) for each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each  $v_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{Var}$ , for each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{Var}$  $ME_t$ ,

 $(\forall v_{n,\tau} \phi_t)_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t;$ 

*xii.*) for each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each  $v_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{Var}$ , for each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{Var}$  $ME_t$ ,

 $(\exists v_{n,\tau} \phi_t)_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t.$ 

**Semantics**  $D_e$  is a set of entities, and  $D_t = \{0, 1\}$ . For each  $\tau_1 \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $\tau_2 \in \mathsf{Type}, \, \mathsf{D}_{\langle \tau_1, \tau_2 \rangle} = \mathsf{D}_{\tau_2} \overset{\mathsf{D}_{\tau_1}}{\operatorname{the set of all functions from }} \mathsf{D}_{\tau_1} \text{ to } \mathsf{D}_{\tau_2}).$ Let I be a function assigning a denotation to each non-logical constant,  $c_{n,\tau}$ , of  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{Type}}$  from the set  $\mathsf{D}_{\tau}$ .

Let  $M = \langle D_e, I \rangle$ . We will call each M a *model*.

Let g be a function in  $\bigcup_{\tau \in \mathsf{Type}} \begin{pmatrix} \mathsf{Var}_{\tau} \\ \mathsf{D}_{\tau} \end{pmatrix}$  which assigns an object (of the appropriate type) in the domain  $\bigcup_{\tau \in \mathsf{Type}} \mathsf{D}_{\tau}$  to each variable in Var. We call each g an assignment function assignment function.

Assume that v is a variable of type  $\tau$  and d is an element of  $D_{\tau}$ . We will use the notation  $q_v^d$  for the assignment function q' which differs from the assignment function q in the following way:

For each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $v \in \mathsf{Var}_{\tau}$ , for each  $x \in \mathsf{Var}_{\tau}$ , for each  $d \in \mathsf{D}_{\tau}$ ,  $g_v^d(x) = \begin{cases} d & \text{if } x = v, \text{ a} \\ g(x) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ if x = v, and

## **Definition 4 Denotation**

Let M be a model and g an assignment function.

- *i.)* For each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each variable  $v_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{Var}_{\tau}$ ,  $\llbracket v_{n,\tau} \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = g(v_{n,\tau}).$
- ii.) For each  $\tau \in \mathsf{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each constant  $c_{n,\tau} \in \mathsf{Const}_{\tau}$ ,  $[\![c_{n,\tau}]\!]^{\mathsf{M},g} = \mathsf{I}(c_{n,\tau}).$
- *iii.)* For each  $\tau \in \text{Type}$ , for each  $\phi_{\tau} \in \text{ME}_{\tau}$ , for each  $\psi_{\tau} \in \text{ME}_{\tau}$ ,  $\llbracket (\phi_{\tau} \equiv \psi_{\tau})_t \rrbracket^{\text{M},g} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket \phi_{\tau} \rrbracket^{\text{M},g} = \llbracket \psi_{\tau} \rrbracket^{\text{M},g}$ .
- $$\begin{split} iv.) \ \ For \ each \ \phi_{\langle \tau_2, \tau_1 \rangle} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\langle \tau_2, \tau_1 \rangle}, \ for \ each \ \psi_{\tau_2} \in \mathsf{ME}_{\tau_2}, \\ & \\ \mathbb{I}\left(\phi_{\langle \tau_2, \tau_1 \rangle} \left(\psi_{\tau_2}\right)\right)_{\tau_1} \mathbb{I}^{\mathsf{M},g} = \mathbb{I}\phi_{\langle \tau_2, \tau_1 \rangle} \mathbb{I}^{\mathsf{M},g} \left(\mathbb{I}\psi_{\tau_2}\mathbb{I}^{\mathsf{M},g}\right). \end{split}$$
- v.) For each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $\llbracket (\neg \phi_t)_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1 \text{ iff } \llbracket (\phi_t)_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 0$
- vi.) For each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ , for each  $\psi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $\llbracket (\phi_t \wedge \psi_t)_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket \phi_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1$  and  $\llbracket \psi_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1$ .
- vii.) For each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ , for each  $\psi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $\llbracket (\phi_t \lor \psi_t)_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket \phi_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1$  or  $\llbracket \psi_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1$ .
- viii.) For each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ , for each  $\psi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $\llbracket (\phi_t \to \psi_t)_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket \phi_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 0$  or  $\llbracket \psi_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1$ .
- ix.) For each  $\phi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ , for each  $\psi_t \in \mathsf{ME}_t$ ,  $\llbracket (\phi_t \leftrightarrow \psi_t)_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1 \text{ iff } \llbracket \phi_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g} = \llbracket \psi_t \rrbracket^{\mathsf{M},g}.$
- x.) For each  $\tau_1 \in \text{Type}$ , for each  $\tau_2 \in \text{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each  $v_{n,\tau_2} \in \text{Var}$ , for each  $\phi_{\tau_1} \in \text{ME}_{\tau_1}$ ,

 $\left[ \left( \lambda v_{n,\tau_2} . \phi_{\tau_1} \right)_{\langle \tau_2, \tau_1 \rangle} \right]^{\mathsf{M},g} \text{ is that function } h \text{ from } \mathsf{D}_{\tau_2} \text{ to } \mathsf{D}_{\tau_1} \text{ such that for } each \ o \in \mathsf{D}_{\tau_2}, \ h(o) = \left[ \phi_{\tau_1} \right]^{\mathsf{M},g \overset{o}{v}_{n,\tau_2}}.$ 

*xi.)* For each  $\tau \in \text{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each  $v_{n,\tau} \in \text{Var}$ , for each  $\phi_t \in \text{ME}_t$ ,

$$\left[\left(\forall v_{n,\tau} \ \phi_t\right)_t\right]^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1 \text{ iff for each } o \in \mathsf{D}_{\tau}, \ \left[\!\left[\phi_t\right]\!\right]^{\mathsf{M},g} \overset{o^{\circ}_{n,\tau}}{\overset{\circ}{=}} 1$$

*xii.)* For each  $\tau \in \text{Type}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , for each  $v_{n,\tau} \in \text{Var}$ , for each  $\phi_t \in \text{ME}_t$ ,

$$\left[\left(\exists v_{n,\tau} \phi_t\right)_t\right]^{\mathsf{M},g} = 1 \text{ iff for at least one } o \in \mathsf{D}_{\tau}, \left[\!\left[\phi_t\right]\!\right]^{\mathsf{M},g_{v_{n,\tau}}^o} = 1.$$

Standard results tell us that the entire language  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{Type}}$  can be given in terms of the clauses *i.*)-*iv.*) and *x.*) of our syntax and semantics. This means that the logical connectives in *v.*)-*ix.*) and the quantifiers in *xi.*) and *xii.*) can be defined using these five clauses.