

# Logic of Ternary Contact

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# Outline

- 1 Logics of  $n$ -ary Contact
  - Objective
  - Formal System
  - Completeness of the Formal System
  
- 2 Logics of Ternary Contact
  - Formal System
  - Modal Definability
  - Unification

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# The Logic of $n$ -ary Contact

- In general, *Region-based Theory of Space* studies "*part\_of*" and "*contact*" relations between regions. Usually regions are regular closed sets,  $\mathcal{RC}(\mathcal{T})$ , in given topological space  $\mathcal{T}$ .
- If  $X$  and  $Y$  are regular closed sets, then "*part\_of*" and "*contact*" are interpreted as  $X \subset Y$  and  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ .
- Recall that regular closed sets with the set-theoretical inclusion " $\subset$ " form a *complete Boolean algebra* and the *meet* and *complement* are *not* the set-theoretical intersection and complement.



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# The Logic of $n$ -ary Contact

- We extend the language by adding (the notion of)  $n$ -ary contact for any  $n > 2$ , interpreted as:

$$C_n(X_1, \dots, X_n) \text{ iff } X_1 \cap \dots \cap X_n \neq 0.$$

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# Polytopes

- The *polytopes* are the generated by the finite intersections of half-spaces Boolean subalgebra of the Boolean algebra of the regular closed sets of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .



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# Language of $n$ -ary Contact

- A quantifier free fragment of a first-order language.
- **Nonlogical symbols:** the Boolean constants and operations ( $0$ ,  $-$ ,  $\cup$ ).
- **Predicate symbols:** one  $n$ -ary symbol per every positive integer  $n > 1$  ( $R_2, R_3, \dots, R_n, \dots$ ).



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# Algebraic Semantics

- Boolean algebra  $B$  with  $n$ -ary relations  $R_n$ ,  $n > 1$ , called *Boolean frame*, satisfying the following conditions:
  - If  $R_n(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ , then for every mapping  $\sigma : \{1, \dots, n\} \longrightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$  we have  $R_n(a_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, a_{\sigma(n)})$ .
  - $R_n(a'_1 \cup a''_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  iff  $R_n(a'_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  or  $R_n(a''_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ .
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# Algebraic Semantics

- A Boolean frame satisfying  $R_2(a, -a)$  for all  $a \neq 0, 1$  is called *connected*.
- The intended models
  - Boolean subalgebras of  $\mathcal{RC}(\mathbb{R}^m)$  or the polytopes of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
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# Relational Semantics

- (Kripke) frames with a carrier (or set of worlds)  $W$  and  $n$ -ary relation for every  $n > 1$ .
- The semantics in such a structure is given in the set-theoretical Boolean algebra  $B = \mathcal{P}(W)$ .
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# Axiomatization

## Base Axioms

- **Logical axioms:** sentential, identity and equivalence, congruence.
- **Boolean algebra axioms:** stipulating a non-degenerate Boolean algebra.
- **Proximity axioms:**
  - $R_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \Rightarrow x_1 \neq 0$
  - $R_n(x'_1 \cup x''_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \Leftrightarrow R_n(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \vee R_n(x''_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$



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# Axiomatization

## $n$ -ary Contact Axioms

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(c1)  $(\sigma : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\})$

$$R_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \Rightarrow R_n(x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(n)})$$

(c2)

$$R_{n+1}(x_1, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \Leftrightarrow R_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

(c3)

$$\neg(x = 0) \Rightarrow R_2(x, x)$$

(c4)

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## $n$ -ary Contact Axioms

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#### PRC1

$$R_3(x_1, x_2, x_3) \Rightarrow \neg(x_1 \cap x_2 = 0) \vee \neg(x_2 \cap x_3 = 0) \vee \neg(x_1 \cap x_3 = 0)$$



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# Characterisation of the $n$ -ary Contact

In the *regular closed sets* of the *connected* topological spaces

The following sets (logics) are equal:

- The theorems of the formal system of  $n$ -ary (*connected*) *Contact* with inference rules *uniform substitution* and *modus ponens* and axioms the base axioms and **(c1)** to **(c4)**.
- The formulas valid in the *Boolean frames* of the *polytopes* of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  for  $m \geq 2$ .
- ... in the *Boolean frames* of the *regular closed sets* of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  for  $m \geq 1$ .
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As a consequence:

- The  $n$ -ary contact for  $n > 2$  is not definable by 2-contact.



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# Formal System

## Language

- $L_{R_3}$ : The language of the  $n$ -ary contact restricted to ternary predicate symbols. Recall:
  - A quantifier free fragment of a first-order language.
  - **Function symbols**  
The Boolean constants and operations:  $0, -, \cup$ .
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One binary and one ternary symbols:  $R_2, R_3$ .





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# Formal System

## Semantic Structures

### Definition

*Contact frame*  $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, R_2, R_3 \rangle$

- $W$ : nonempty
- $R_2, R_3$ : binary and ternary relations on  $W$  such that
  - (a) If  $R_n(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ , then for every mapping  $\sigma : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$  we have  $R_n(w_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, w_{\sigma(n)})$
  - (b)  $R_3(w_1, w_1, w_2) \leftrightarrow R_2(w_1, w_2)$
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  - (a) If  $R_n(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ , then for every mapping  $\sigma : \{1, \dots, n\} \longrightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$  we have  $R_n(w_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, w_{\sigma(n)})$
  - (b)  $R_3(w_1, w_1, w_2) \leftrightarrow R_2(w_1, w_2)$
  - (c)  $R_2(w, w)$



# Formal System

## Semantic Structures

### Definition

Contact frame  $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, R_2, R_3 \rangle$

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# Formal System

## Valuation

### Definition

A *valuation on a contact frame*  $\mathfrak{F}$

- A mapping  $\mathcal{V}$  from the set of terms of  $L_{R_3}$  in  $\mathcal{P}(W)$  such that:
  - For a variable  $x$  of  $L_{R_3}$   $\mathcal{V}(x)$  is a subset of  $W$ .
  - The values for terms of  $L_{R_3}$  are defined inductively with respect to the (standard) set-theoretical interpretation of the Boolean connectives.



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# Formal System

## Model

### Definition

*Model* on a contact frame:

a pair  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle$  of a contact frame  $\mathfrak{F}$  and a valuation  $\mathcal{V}$  on  $\mathfrak{F}$ .

# Formal System

## Truth Relation

### Definition

$\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models \varphi$  :  $\varphi$  is *true* in  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle$

- $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models \tau_1 = \tau_2$  iff  $\mathcal{V}(\tau_1) = \mathcal{V}(\tau_2)$
- $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models R_n(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n)$  iff they exist  $w_1, \dots, w_n$ , such that  $w_1 \in \mathcal{V}(\tau_1), \dots, w_n \in \mathcal{V}(\tau_n)$  and  $R_n(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ .
- $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models \neg \varphi$  iff  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \not\models \varphi$ .
- $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$  iff  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models \varphi_1$  or  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models \varphi_2$ .





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# Formal System

## Validity

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- $\mathfrak{F} \models \varphi$  :  $\varphi$  is *valid* in  $\mathfrak{F}$  if for every valuation  $\mathcal{V}$  we have  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models \varphi$
- $\mathcal{K} \models \varphi$  :  $\varphi$  is *valid* in  $\mathcal{K}$  if for every frame  $\mathfrak{F}$  in  $\mathcal{K}$  we have  $\mathfrak{F} \models \varphi$ ,  
where  $\mathcal{K}$  is a class of (contact) frames.



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# Formal System

## Logic of the Ternary Contact Relational Structures

### Definition

- $\mathcal{CF}^3$ : the class of all contact frames.
- $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CF}^3) = \{\varphi \mid \mathcal{CF}^3 \models \varphi\}$ : the *logic of the relational (ternary) contact structures*.



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# Outline

- 1 Logics of  $n$ -ary Contact
  - Objective
  - Formal System
  - Completeness of the Formal System
- 2 Logics of Ternary Contact
  - Formal System
  - **Modal Definability**
  - Unification

# Definability problems

## Definition

Let  $L(R_2, R_3)$  be the restriction of  $L_{R_3}$  by excluding all nonlogical functional symbols.

A contact frame  $\mathfrak{F}$  can be considered as a structure for the first-order language  $L(R_2, R_3)$ .

The class  $\mathcal{CF}^3$  can be considered as a class of structures of the first-order language  $L(R_2, R_3)$ .



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- $\models_m$  (or simply  $\models$ ) : the *truth relation* defined above (from contact language perspective).
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# Definability problems

## Definition

### Modal definability

Let  $A$  be a closed formula from the first-order language  $L(R_2, R_3)$ .

Let  $\varphi$  be a formula from the ternary contact language  $L_{R_3}$ .

- $\varphi$  is a *modal definition* of  $A$  in  $\mathcal{CF}^3$

or (equivalently)

- $A$  is *modally definable* by  $\varphi$  in  $\mathcal{CF}^3$

if for every  $\mathfrak{F}$  in  $\mathcal{CF}^3$  we have

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# Modal Definability Problem

## Result

### Modal Definability Problem Outcome

The *modal definability problem* for the class of contact frames  $\mathcal{CF}^3$  is *undecidable*.



# Modal Definability Problem

## Approach

By "Balbiani, P., Tinchev, T.: *Undecidable problems for modal definability*", 2014, Theorem 1:

- If  $\mathcal{CF}^3$  is *stable*, then the problem of the decidability of  $\mathcal{Th}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$  is reducible to the *modal definability problem* for  $\mathcal{CF}^3$ .



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So it is sufficient to show the following:

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$\mathcal{Th}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$  is undecidable

Let  $L(R_2)$  be the restriction of  $L(R_2, R_3)$  by excluding  $R_3$ .

Let  $\mathcal{C}_{ref,sym}$  be the class of binary reflexive and symmetric structures (in the language of  $L(R_2)$ ).





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# Modal Definability Problem

$\mathcal{TK}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$  is undecidable

- For any  $\langle W, R_2, R_3 \rangle$  in  $\mathcal{CF}^3$  the structure  $\langle W, R_2 \rangle$  is its restriction to  $L(R_2)$ .
- For any  $\langle W, R_2, R_3 \rangle$  in  $\mathcal{CF}^3$  its restriction  $\langle W, R_2 \rangle$  is reflexive and symmetric.
  - Hence, in the class  $\mathcal{C}_{ref,sym}$ .
- Clearly, for every formula  $A$  of  $L(R_2)$ :

$$\langle W, R_2 \rangle \models_{FO} A \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \langle W, R_2, R_3 \rangle \models_{FO} A$$



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$$R_3(x_1, x_2, x_3) \leftrightarrow \begin{aligned} &x_1 = x_2 \wedge R_2(x_2, x_3) \vee \\ &x_2 = x_3 \wedge R_2(x_3, x_1) \vee \\ &x_3 = x_1 \wedge R_2(x_1, x_2). \end{aligned}$$

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# Modal Definability Problem

$\mathcal{Th}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$  is undecidable

By "H. Rogers. *Certain logical reduction and decision problems*. *Annals of Mathematics*", 64, 264-284, 1956:

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# Modal Definability Problem

$\mathcal{CF}^3$  is stable

As per "Balbiani, P., Tinchev, T.: *Undecidable problems for modal definability*", 2014:

## Definition

$\mathfrak{F} \preceq \mathfrak{F}'$  :  $\mathfrak{F}$  is *weaker* than  $\mathfrak{F}'$  if for every formula  $\varphi$

$$\mathfrak{F} \models_m \varphi \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}' \models_m \varphi$$



# Modal Definability Problem

$\mathcal{CF}^3$  is stable

As per "Balbiani, P., Tinchev, T.: *Undecidable problems for modal definability*", 2014:

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# Modal Definability Problem

$\mathcal{CF}^3$  is *stable*

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## Definition

The class of frames  $\mathcal{C}$  is *stable* if they exist first-order formula  $A(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)$  and sentence  $B$  such that:

- (a)  $\mathcal{C}$  is closed with respect to the relativized reducts of its elements with respect to  $A$  (and an arbitrary list of their individuals  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ ).





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# Modal Definability Problem

$\mathcal{CF}^3$  is *stable* (a)

## Observation:

Every relativized reduct of a contact frame is a contact frame.

▷ Directly by definition of a *contact frame*.





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# Modal Definability Problem

$\mathcal{CF}^3$  is *stable* (b)

- $A(x, y) := R_2(x, y) \wedge x \neq y$
- $B := \exists x \exists y (x \neq y)$

Let  $\mathfrak{F}_0 = \langle W_0, R_2^0, R_3^0 \rangle$  be in  $\mathcal{CF}^3$ .

Let  $a$  be an element not in  $W_0$ .



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# Modal Definability Problem

$\mathcal{CF}^3$  is stable (b)

Let  $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, R_2, R_3 \rangle$  be defined as follows:

- $W = W_0 \cup \{a\}$
- $R_2 = R_2^0 \cup (\{a\} \times W_0) \cup (W_0 \times \{a\}) \cup \{\langle a, a \rangle\}$
- $R_3 =$

$$\begin{aligned}
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Let  $\mathfrak{F}' = \langle W', R'_2, R'_3 \rangle$  be the single element frame with

- $W' = \{a\}$ .





# Modal Definability Problem

$\mathcal{CF}^3$  is *stable* (b)

We have:

- $\mathfrak{F}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}'$  are *contact frames*.
- $\mathfrak{F}_0$  is a relativized reduct of  $\mathfrak{F}$  with respect to  $A(x, y)$  and the individual  $a$  of  $\mathfrak{F}$ .
- $\mathfrak{F} \models_{FO} B$  and  $\mathfrak{F}' \not\models_{FO} B$



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$\mathcal{CF}^3$  is *stable* (b)

Then:

- $\mathcal{V}(\tau) = f(\mathcal{V}'(\tau))$ , for any term  $\tau$  of  $L_{R_3}$ .
- For an arbitrary formula  $\varphi$  of  $L_{R_3}$ :

$$\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \vDash_m \varphi \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \langle \mathfrak{F}', \mathcal{V}' \rangle \vDash_m \varphi$$

Therefore:

- $\mathfrak{F} \vDash_m \varphi \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}' \vDash_m \varphi$  i.e.  $\mathfrak{F} \preceq \mathfrak{F}'$





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# Outline

- 1 Logics of  $n$ -ary Contact
  - Objective
  - Formal System
  - Completeness of the Formal System
  
- 2 Logics of Ternary Contact
  - Formal System
  - Modal Definability
  - Unification



# Unification Problems

## Elementary Unification

### Definition

*Elementary unification problem:*

*Input:*  $\varphi[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

*Output:* "There are terms (of  $L_{R_3}$ )  $\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n$  such that  
 $\mathcal{CF}^3 \models \varphi[x_1/\tau_1, \dots, x_n/\tau_n]$ "

or

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# Parametric Unification Problem

## Result

### Parametric Unification Problem Outcome

The *parametric unification problem* for the class of contact frames  $\mathcal{CF}^3$  is *decidable*.

# Parametric Unification Problem

## Approach

Assume that they exist  $\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n$  (of  $L_{R_3}$ ) such that

$$\mathcal{CF}^3 \models \varphi[\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k, x_1/\tau_1, \dots, x_n/\tau_n]$$

Let  $\varphi'$  be  $\varphi[\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k, x_1/\tau_1, \dots, x_n/\tau_n]$  and  $\varphi''$  be  $\varphi'$  with substituted all variables but the parameters  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  with 1.

Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be arbitrary from  $\mathcal{CF}^3$  and  $\mathcal{V}$  an arbitrary valuation on  $\mathfrak{F}$ .



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Let  $\mathcal{V}'$ :

$\mathcal{V}'(x) = \mathcal{V}(1)$  for all  $x$  in  $\varphi'$  other than the parameters

$p_1, \dots, p_k$ .

$\mathcal{V}'(y) = \mathcal{V}(y)$  otherwise.

Then, for any  $\mathfrak{F}$  in  $\mathcal{CF}^3$ :

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$$\langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V}' \rangle \models \varphi' \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \langle \mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models \varphi''$$



# Parametric Unification Problem

## Approach

Therefore, if there are  $\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n$  such that

$$\mathcal{CF}^3 \models \varphi[\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k, x_1/\tau_1, \dots, x_n/\tau_n],$$

then there are terms  $\kappa_1, \dots, \kappa_n$  with variables only among  $\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k$  such that:

$$\mathcal{CF}^3 \models \varphi[\rho_1, \dots, \rho_k, x_1/\kappa_1, \dots, x_n/\kappa_n]$$



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- The problem of parametric unification is reduced to checking if some of  $(2^{2^k})^n$  (the number of distinct vectors of terms  $\kappa_1, \dots, \kappa_n$ ) formulas is in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$ .

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It is the sufficient to show:

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# $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$ is decidable

Formal System  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$ : Nonlogical Axioms

- **Logical axioms:** sentential, identity and equivalence, congruence.
- **Boolean algebra axioms:** stipulating a non-degenerate Boolean algebra.
- **Proximity axioms:**
  - $R_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \Rightarrow x_1 \neq 0$
  - $R_n(x'_1 \cup x''_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \Leftrightarrow R_n(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \vee R_n(x''_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$



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Formal System  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$ : Nonlogical Axioms

$$(c1) \ (\sigma : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\})$$

$$R_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \Rightarrow R_n(x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(n)})$$

(c2)

$$R_{n+1}(x_1, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \Leftrightarrow R_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

(c3)

$$\neg(x = 0) \Rightarrow R_2(x, x)$$

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$$\neg(x = 0) \wedge \neg(\neg x = 0) \Rightarrow R_2(x, \neg x)$$



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# $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$ is decidable

Formal System  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$ : Inference Rules

- **Inference rules:** *uniform substitution, modus ponens.*



# $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$ is decidable

Formal System  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$  Completeness

## Completeness

$\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$  is complete with respect to  $\mathcal{CF}^3$ .

# $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$ is decidable

Formal System  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$  Completeness

*Correctness:* Trivial verification.

*Completeness:*

Let us assume that  $\not\vdash_{\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}} \varphi$ .



# $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$ is decidable

Formal System  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$  Completeness

- Let us consider  $L_{R_3}$  as a first-order language.
- Let  $T$  be the first-order theory in  $L_{R_3}$  with no nonlogical axioms. Let  $\Gamma$  be the set of all nonlogical axioms of the formal system  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$ .
- Let  $\varphi'$  be the *closure* of  $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .
- Let  $T_c$  be obtained from  $T$  by adding to the language  $L_{R_3}$  new constants  $c_1, \dots, c_n$ .



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- $T_c[\Gamma; \neg\varphi[c_1, \dots, c_n]]$  is an extension of  $T_c[\Gamma; \neg\varphi']$ .  $T_c[\Gamma; \neg\varphi']$  is an extension of  $T[\Gamma; \neg\varphi']$ .
- If  $T[\Gamma; \neg\varphi']$  is inconsistent, then such is  $T_c[\Gamma; \neg\varphi[c_1, \dots, c_n]]$ .  
By the *Hilbert-Ackermann* theorem there is a *quasi-tautology*  $\neg\psi'_1 \vee \dots \vee \neg\psi'_n \vee \neg\neg\varphi[c_1, \dots, c_n]$ , where  $\psi'_i$  are instances of formulas from  $\Gamma$ .
- Hence, there is a quasi-tautology  $\neg\psi_1 \vee \dots \vee \neg\psi_n \vee \varphi$ , where  $\psi_i$  are formulas from  $\Gamma$  and thus  
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- A first-order model  $\mathfrak{B}$  of  $T[\Gamma; \neg\varphi']$  is a Boolean frame in which there is a valuation  $\mathcal{V}$  such that  $\langle \mathfrak{B}, \mathcal{V} \rangle \models \neg\varphi$ .
- The set of values of  $\mathcal{V}$  applied on the variables of  $\varphi$  generates a finite Boolean subalgebra of the universe of  $\mathfrak{B}$ , hence, a finite subframe  $\mathfrak{B}_0$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  a model of  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$ .
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- There is a finite frame  $\mathfrak{F}$  such that:

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- Remark that, since  $\mathfrak{F}$  was finite we have also demonstrated the *finite frame property* of  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$ , respectively of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$ .
- Since  $\mathcal{L}_{Cont3}$  is with decidable axiomatization  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CF}^3)$  is *recursively enumerable*.
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# Discussion

Questions?

Thank you for your attention!