

First Order Theories - Basic Concepts

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Outline

1 Motivation

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- 2 Main concepts

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- (ii) First-order theories formalize the above structures to enable reasoning.
- (iii) Fragments of theories may be efficiently decidable.

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Two formulae F_1 and F_2 are equivalent in theory T , or T -equivalent, if $T \models F_1 \leftrightarrow F_2$. In other words, for every T -interpretation I , we must have, $I \models F_1$ if and only if $I \models F_2$.

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A theory T is decidable if $T \models F$ is decidable for every Σ -formula F .

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Observation

FOL is the empty theory, i.e., the theory with no axioms.