

# Formal approach to stratification in NF/NFU

Tin Adlešić

joint work with Vedran Čačić

# Syntax

**Alphabet** is a collection of:

- (individual) variables  $v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots$
- logical symbols (connectives and a quantifier)  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \exists$
- non-logical (relation) symbols  $\in, =$ ; *set*
- auxiliary symbols (parentheses)  $(, )$

# Syntax

**Alphabet** is a collection of:

- (individual) variables  $v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots$
- logical symbols (connectives and a quantifier)  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \exists$
- non-logical (relation) symbols  $\in, =$ ; *set*
- auxiliary symbols (parentheses)  $(, )$

**Formulas:**

$\varphi ::= x \in y \mid x = y \mid \text{set}(x) \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \mid (\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \mid \exists x\varphi$

$x$  and  $y$  are metavariables.

# Syntax

**Alphabet** is a collection of:

- (individual) variables  $v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots$
- logical symbols (connectives and a quantifier)  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \exists$
- non-logical (relation) symbols  $\in, =$ ; *set*
- auxiliary symbols (parentheses)  $(, )$

**Formulas:**

$\varphi ::= x \in y \mid x = y \mid \text{set}(x) \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \mid (\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \mid \exists x\varphi$

$x$  and  $y$  are metavariables.

A formula  $\varphi$  is **stratified** if there exists a mapping  $\text{type}_\varphi$  from the variables of  $\varphi$  to the integers such that: if  $x = y$  is subformula of  $\varphi$ , then  $\text{type}_\varphi(x) = \text{type}_\varphi(y)$ , and if  $x \in y$  is subformula of  $\varphi$ , then  $\text{type}_\varphi(y) = \text{type}_\varphi(x) + 1$ .

# Type mappings

An ordering on type mappings for a stratified formula  $\varphi$  can be defined as:

$$type_{\varphi} \leq type'_{\varphi} :\Leftrightarrow (\forall x \in \text{Var } \varphi) (type_{\varphi}(x) \leq type'_{\varphi}(x))$$

# Type mappings

An ordering on type mappings for a stratified formula  $\varphi$  can be defined as:

$$type_{\varphi} \leq type'_{\varphi} :\Leftrightarrow (\forall x \in \text{Var } \varphi)(type_{\varphi}(x) \leq type'_{\varphi}(x))$$

Let  $\varphi$  be a stratified formula with underlying type mapping  $type_{\varphi}$ . Then for every integer  $k$ ,  $type_{\varphi} + k$  also satisfies stratification conditions.

# Type mappings

An ordering on type mappings for a stratified formula  $\varphi$  can be defined as:

$$type_{\varphi} \leq type'_{\varphi} :\Leftrightarrow (\forall x \in \text{Var } \varphi) (type_{\varphi}(x) \leq type'_{\varphi}(x))$$

Let  $\varphi$  be a stratified formula with underlying type mapping  $type_{\varphi}$ . Then for every integer  $k$ ,  $type_{\varphi} + k$  also satisfies stratification conditions.

By convention, we will usually fix the least type of a variable to 1.

# The least type mapping

Variables  $x, y \in \text{Var } \varphi$  are **connected**, written  $x \parallel y$ , if at least one of the formulas  $x \in y$ ,  $y \in x$ ,  $x = y$  or  $y = x$  is a subformula of  $\varphi$ .



# The least type mapping

Variables  $x, y \in \text{Var } \varphi$  are **connected**, written  $x \parallel y$ , if at least one of the formulas  $x \in y$ ,  $y \in x$ ,  $x = y$  or  $y = x$  is a subformula of  $\varphi$ .

We will observe the reflexive and transitive closure of  $\parallel$  denoted by  $\parallel^*$ .  
Then  $x \parallel^* y$  is equivalent to  $x \parallel z_1 \parallel \dots \parallel z_n \parallel y$  for some  $z_1, \dots, z_n$ .

# The least type mapping

Variables  $x, y \in \text{Var } \varphi$  are **connected**, written  $x \parallel y$ , if at least one of the formulas  $x \in y$ ,  $y \in x$ ,  $x = y$  or  $y = x$  is a subformula of  $\varphi$ .

We will observe the reflexive and transitive closure of  $\parallel$  denoted by  $\parallel^*$ .  
Then  $x \parallel^* y$  is equivalent to  $x \parallel z_1 \parallel \dots \parallel z_n \parallel y$  for some  $z_1, \dots, z_n$ .

Let  $\varphi$  be a stratified formula with type mappings  $\text{type}_\varphi$  and  $\text{type}'_\varphi$ . Then for every  $x, y \in \text{Var } \varphi$ , if  $x \parallel^* y$ , then

$$\text{type}_\varphi(x) - \text{type}_\varphi(y) = \text{type}'_\varphi(x) - \text{type}'_\varphi(y)$$

# The least type mapping

Variables  $x, y \in \text{Var } \varphi$  are **connected**, written  $x \parallel y$ , if at least one of the formulas  $x \in y$ ,  $y \in x$ ,  $x = y$  or  $y = x$  is a subformula of  $\varphi$ .

We will observe the reflexive and transitive closure of  $\parallel$  denoted by  $\parallel^*$ .  
Then  $x \parallel^* y$  is equivalent to  $x \parallel z_1 \parallel \dots \parallel z_n \parallel y$  for some  $z_1, \dots, z_n$ .

Let  $\varphi$  be a stratified formula with type mappings  $\text{type}_\varphi$  and  $\text{type}'_\varphi$ . Then for every  $x, y \in \text{Var } \varphi$ , if  $x \parallel^* y$ , then

$$\text{type}_\varphi(x) - \text{type}_\varphi(y) = \text{type}'_\varphi(x) - \text{type}'_\varphi(y)$$

Let  $\varphi$  be a stratified formula with type mappings  $\text{type}_\varphi$ , and  $z_1, \dots, z_k \in \text{Var } \varphi$ . If  $z_1 \parallel \dots \parallel z_k$ , then the image of  $\{z_1, \dots, z_k\}$  under  $\text{type}_\varphi$  must be of the form  $\{m, m+1, \dots, m+l\}$ .

# The least type mapping

Variables  $x, y \in \text{Var } \varphi$  are **connected**, written  $x \parallel y$ , if at least one of the formulas  $x \in y$ ,  $y \in x$ ,  $x = y$  or  $y = x$  is a subformula of  $\varphi$ .

We will observe the reflexive and transitive closure of  $\parallel$  denoted by  $\parallel^*$ .  
Then  $x \parallel^* y$  is equivalent to  $x \parallel z_1 \parallel \dots \parallel z_n \parallel y$  for some  $z_1, \dots, z_n$ .

Let  $\varphi$  be a stratified formula with type mappings  $\text{type}_\varphi$  and  $\text{type}'_\varphi$ . Then for every  $x, y \in \text{Var } \varphi$ , if  $x \parallel^* y$ , then

$$\text{type}_\varphi(x) - \text{type}_\varphi(y) = \text{type}'_\varphi(x) - \text{type}'_\varphi(y)$$

Let  $\varphi$  be a stratified formula with type mappings  $\text{type}_\varphi$ , and  $z_1, \dots, z_k \in \text{Var } \varphi$ . If  $z_1 \parallel \dots \parallel z_k$ , then the image of  $\{z_1, \dots, z_k\}$  under  $\text{type}_\varphi$  must be of the form  $\{m, m+1, \dots, m+l\}$ .

If  $\varphi$  is a stratified formula, then there exists the least type mapping  $\text{mintype}_\varphi$  of  $\varphi$ .

# Axioms of NFU

## Extensionality:

$$\forall x \forall y (set(x) \wedge set(y) \wedge \forall z (z \in x \leftrightarrow z \in y) \rightarrow x = y).$$

# Axioms of NFU

## Extensionality:

$$\forall x \forall y (set(x) \wedge set(y) \wedge \forall z (z \in x \leftrightarrow z \in y) \rightarrow x = y).$$

## Sethood:

$$\forall x \forall y (y \in x \rightarrow set(x)).$$

# Axioms of NFU

## Extensionality:

$$\forall x \forall y (set(x) \wedge set(y) \wedge \forall z (z \in x \leftrightarrow z \in y) \rightarrow x = y).$$

## Sethood:

$$\forall x \forall y (y \in x \rightarrow set(x)).$$

**Stratified comprehension:** If  $\varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is stratified, then

$$\forall x_1 \dots \forall x_n \exists y (set(y) \wedge \forall z (z \in y \leftrightarrow \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n))).$$

# Abstraction terms

Let  $\varphi(x, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a formula. An expression of the form  $\{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\}$  is called an **abstraction term**.



# Abstraction terms

Let  $\varphi(x, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a formula. An expression of the form  $\{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\}$  is called an **abstraction term**.

We can eliminate abstraction terms in the following way:

- $x \in \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\} :\Leftrightarrow \varphi(x, x_1, \dots, x_n)$
- $x = \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\} :\Leftrightarrow \forall y (y \in x \Leftrightarrow y \in \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\})$
- $\{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\} \in x :\Leftrightarrow (\exists y \in x)(y = \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\})$ .
- $\text{set}(\{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\}) :\Leftrightarrow \exists t (t = \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\} \wedge \text{set}(t))$

# Abstraction terms

Let  $\varphi(x, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a formula. An expression of the form  $\{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\}$  is called an **abstraction term**.

We can eliminate abstraction terms in the following way:

- $x \in \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\} :\Leftrightarrow \varphi(x, x_1, \dots, x_n)$
- $x = \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\} :\Leftrightarrow \forall y (y \in x \Leftrightarrow y \in \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\})$
- $\{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\} \in x :\Leftrightarrow (\exists y \in x)(y = \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\})$ .
- $\text{set}(\{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\}) :\Leftrightarrow \exists t (t = \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\} \wedge \text{set}(t))$

Some sets in NFU:  $\emptyset$ ,  $SET$ ,  $V$ ,  $x \cup y$ ,  $x \setminus y$ ,  $\bigcap x$ ,  $\{x\}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}(x)$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_1(x) := \{\{t\} \mid t \in x\} \dots$

# Types of abstraction terms

Let  $\psi'$  be a formula in the language extended by abstraction terms,  $\psi$  the corresponding formula in the basic language, and let  $\psi$  be a stratified formula with type mapping  $type_\psi$ . Let  $t = \{z \mid \varphi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)\}$  be an abstraction term in formula  $\psi'$ , where  $\varphi(x, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is stratified formula, and let  $type_\varphi$  be a restriction of mapping  $type_\psi$  on variables of  $\varphi$ . We extend  $type_\psi$  to the mapping  $type_{\psi'}$  so that  $type_{\psi'}(t) := 1 + type_\varphi(z)$ .

# Nested terms

Let  $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m)$  and  $\psi(w, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be formulas. By a **nested abstraction term** we mean a term of the form  $\{f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m)\}$ , where  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  itself is an abstraction term.

We eliminate nested abstraction terms in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \{w \mid \psi(w, x_1, \dots, x_n)\} \mid \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m) \} := \\ & \{z \mid \exists x_1 \dots \exists x_n (\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m) \wedge z = \{w \mid \psi(w, x_1, \dots, x_n)\}) \} \end{aligned}$$

# Types of nested terms

Let  $\psi(w, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a stratified formula,  
 $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m)$  a stratified formula with underlying type mapping  $type_\varphi$ , let  $s = \{w \mid \psi(w, x_1, \dots, x_n)\}$  and let  
 $t = \{s \mid \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m)\}$  be a nested abstraction term.  
 If  $z \in s \leftrightarrow \psi(z, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is stratified, where types of  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are determined by the mapping  $type_\varphi$ , then the type of a nested term  $t$  is one greater than the type of  $s$ .

# Natural numbers and ordered pairs

**Zero:**  $0 := \{\emptyset\}$

**Successor:**  $S(x) := \{y \mid (\exists z \in y)(y \setminus \{z\} \in x)\}$

**Natural numbers:**  $\mathbb{N} := \bigcap \{x \mid 0 \in x \wedge (y \in x \rightarrow S(y) \in x)\}$

# Natural numbers and ordered pairs

**Zero:**  $0 := \{\emptyset\}$

**Successor:**  $S(x) := \{y \mid (\exists z \in y)(y \setminus \{z\} \in x)\}$

**Natural numbers:**  $\mathbb{N} := \bigcap \{x \mid 0 \in x \wedge (y \in x \rightarrow S(y) \in x)\}$

**“Axiom of infinity”; P4:**

$$(\forall x \in \mathbb{N})(S(x) = S(y) \rightarrow x = y)$$

# Natural numbers and ordered pairs

**Zero:**  $0 := \{\emptyset\}$

**Successor:**  $S(x) := \{y \mid (\exists z \in y)(y \setminus \{z\} \in x)\}$

**Natural numbers:**  $\mathbb{N} := \bigcap \{x \mid 0 \in x \wedge (y \in x \rightarrow S(y) \in x)\}$

**“Axiom of infinity”; P4:**

$$(\forall x \in \mathbb{N})(S(x) = S(y) \rightarrow x = y)$$

**Quine's functions:**

- $Q_1(x) := (x \setminus \mathbb{N}) \cup \{S(y) \mid y \in x \cap \mathbb{N}\}$
- $Q_2(x) := Q_1(x) \cup \{0\}$

**Ordered pairs:**  $(x, y) := \{Q_1(z) \mid z \in x\} \cup \{Q_2(z) \mid z \in y\}$



# Relations and functions

**Cartesian product:**  $X \times Y := \{(x, y) \mid x \in X \wedge y \in Y\}$

**Binary relation:**  $R \subseteq X \times Y$ , written  $rel(R, X, Y)$ .

**Function:**  $rel(f, X, Y) \wedge (\forall x \in X)(\exists! y \in Y)(x f y)$ ,  
written  $func(f, X, Y)$

**Equivalence relation:** reflexive, symmetric and transitive

**Equivalence class:**  $[x]_R := \{y \mid rel(R, X, X) \wedge x R y\}$

**Quotient set:**  $X/R := \{[x]_R \mid x \in X\}$

# Orders

## Partial order:

$rel(<, X, X) \wedge \forall x(x \not< x) \wedge \forall x\forall y\forall z(x < y \wedge y < z \rightarrow x < z)$ ,  
written  $Po(X, <)$

**Well-order:**  $Po(X, <) \wedge (\forall x \in X)(\forall y \in X)(x < y \vee x = y \vee y < x) \wedge \forall Y(Y \subseteq X \wedge Y \neq \emptyset \rightarrow (\exists m \in Y)(\forall y \in Y)(m < y \vee m = y))$ ,  
written  $Wo(X, <)$

## Preserving well order:

$Wo(X, <) \wedge Wo(Y, \prec) \wedge func(f, X, Y) \wedge \forall x\forall y(x < y \rightarrow f(x) \prec f(y))$ ,  
written  $wop(f, X, <, Y, \prec)$

**Similarity:**  $bij(f, X, Y) \wedge wop(f, X, <, Y, \prec) \wedge wop(f^{-1}, Y, \prec, X, <)$ ,  
written  $sim(f, X, <, Y, \prec)$

# Ordinal numbers

**Class of well-ordered sets:**  $W = \{(X, <) \mid Wo(X, <)\}$  is a set

# Ordinal numbers

**Class of well-ordered sets:**  $W = \{(X, <) \mid Wo(X, <)\}$  is a set

**Similarity class:**

$(\simeq) := \{((X, <), (Y, \prec)) \mid \exists f \text{ sim}(f, X, <, Y, \prec)\}$  is a set

# Ordinal numbers

**Class of well-ordered sets:**  $W = \{(X, <) \mid Wo(X, <)\}$  is a set

**Similarity class:**

$(\simeq) := \{((X, <), (Y, \prec)) \mid \exists f \text{ sim}(f, X, <, Y, \prec)\}$  is a set

**Class of ordinal numbers:**  $ORD := W/(\simeq)$  is a set.

# Cardinal numbers

**Equinumerosity:**  $\exists f \text{ bij}(f, x, y)$ , which is written  $x \sim y$

# Cardinal numbers

**Equinumerosity:**  $\exists f \text{ bij}(f, x, y)$ , which is written  $x \sim y$

**Equinumerosity class:**  $(\sim) := \{(x, y) \mid x \sim y\}$  is a set

# Cardinal numbers

**Equinumerosity:**  $\exists f \text{ bij}(f, x, y)$ , which is written  $x \sim y$

**Equinumerosity class:**  $(\sim) := \{(x, y) \mid x \sim y\}$  is a set

**Class of cardinal numbers:**  $CARD := SET/(\sim)$  is a set



# Ordinal numbers – a harder approach





$$\{[(X, <)]_{\simeq} \mid Wo(X, <)\} = \{t \mid \exists X \exists < (t = [(X, <)]_{\simeq} \wedge Wo(X, <))\}$$

# Ordinal numbers – a harder approach

$$\{[(X, <)]_{\simeq} \mid Wo(X, <)\} = \{t \mid \exists X \exists < (t = [(X, <)]_{\simeq} \wedge Wo(X, <))\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \exists X \exists < (\forall z (z \in t \leftrightarrow \exists Y \exists \prec (\forall u (u \in z \leftrightarrow ((\exists t \in Y)(u = \\ Q_1(t)) \vee (\exists t \in \prec)(u = Q_2(t)))) \wedge \exists f ((\forall t \in f \rightarrow (\exists x \in X)(\exists y \in \\ Y)(\forall u (u \in t \leftrightarrow ((\exists v \in x)(u = Q_1(v)) \vee (\exists v \in y)(u = \\ Q_2(v)))))) \wedge (\forall x \in X)(\exists! y \in Y)((x, y) \in f)) \wedge (\forall y \in Y)(\exists x \in \\ X)((x, y) \in f) \wedge (\forall x_1 \in X)(\forall x_2 \in X)(f(x_1) = f(x_2) \rightarrow x_1 = \\ x_2) \wedge Wo(X, <) \wedge Wo(Y, \prec) \wedge \forall x \forall y (x < y \rightarrow f(x) \prec \\ f(y)) \wedge \forall u \forall v (u \prec v \rightarrow f^{-1}(u) < f^{-1}(v)))) \wedge Wo(X, <)) \end{aligned}$$

# Bibliography

-  [Ronald Björn Jensen](#). “On the consistency of a slight (?) modification of Quine’s New Foundations”. In: *Words and objections*. Springer, 1969.
-  [Willard V Quine](#). “New foundations for mathematical logic”. In: *The American mathematical monthly* 44.2 (1937).
-  [Thomas E Forster](#). *Set theory with a universal set. Exploring an untyped universe*. Oxford University press, 1995.
-  [M Randall Holmes](#). *Elementary set theory with a universal set*. URL: <http://math.boisestate.edu/~holmes/indstudy/proofsetslogic.pdf>.