

# Philosophy 140A Take-Home Mid-Term

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You are to answer all six (6) exercises on this take-home exam. Your solutions are **due on Tuesday, April 10 at 4pm**. You may work in groups on this exam (with the usual rules and procedures for group work).

## 1 Formalizing Some of the Metatheory of $P$ in $Q$

### 1.1 The Formal System $PS'$ for $P$

Consider the following formal system for  $P$ , which I will call  $PS'$ . The system  $PS'$  has the same three axiom schemata (PS1)–(PS3) that Hunter's formal system  $PS$  has, and it has the following single rule of inference:

(MP') From  $\vdash_{PS'} A$  and  $\vdash_{PS'} A \supset B$ , infer  $\vdash_{PS'} B$ .

So, the only difference between  $PS$  and  $PS'$  is that the (MP) rule of  $PS$  does *not* require its premises to be theorems of  $PS$ , whereas the (MP') rule of  $PS'$  *does* require its premises to be theorems of  $PS'$ .

**Exercise #1.** Explain why  $PS$  and  $PS'$  have exactly the same set of theorems.

**Exercise #2.** Explain why  $PS$  and  $PS'$  are (nonetheless) *not* the same formal system.

### 1.2 Formalizing Some of the Metatheory of $PS'$ in $Q$

Consider the following four universally quantified WFFs of  $Q$ :

$$(1) \ \bigwedge x' \bigwedge x'' F^* f^{**} x' f^{**} x'' x'$$

$$(2) \ \bigwedge x' \bigwedge x'' \bigwedge x''' F^* f^{**} f^{**} x' f^{**} x'' x''' f^{**} f^{**} x' x'' f^{**} x' x''$$

$$(3) \ \bigwedge x' \bigwedge x'' F^* f^{**} f^{**} f^* x' f^* x'' f^{**} x'' x'$$

$$(4) \ \bigwedge x' \bigwedge x'' (F^* x' \supset (F^* f^{**} x' x'' \supset F^* x''))$$

Now, consider the following interpretation  $I$  of  $Q$ .<sup>1</sup>

The domain  $D$  of  $I$  is the set of WFFs of  $P$ .

" $F^*$ " gets interpreted by  $I$  as the (metatheoretic) property "is a theorem of  $PS'$ " (*i.e.*,  $\vdash_{PS'}$ ).

" $f^*$ " gets interpreted by  $I$  as the " $\sim$ " connective in  $PS'$ .

" $f^{**}$ " gets interpreted by  $I$  as the " $\supset$ " connective in  $PS'$ .

**Exercise #3.** Explain why (1)–(4) are all *true* on  $I$ . [**Hint:** you might want to do Exercise #4 first.]

**Exercise #4.** Describe a procedure for translating schematic metatheoretic statements of the form " $\vdash_{PS'} S$ " (" $S$  is a theorem *schemata* of  $PS'$ ") into universally quantified WFFs of  $Q$  (assuming the  $I$ -interpretations of  $f^*$ ,  $f^{**}$ , and  $F^*$ ). And, explain why the  $Q$ -translation of any *true* metatheoretic statement of this form must be *true* on  $I$ . [Example: the  $Q$ -translation of " $\vdash_{PS'} A \supset A$ " should come out as " $\bigwedge x' F^* f^{**} x' x''$ "].]

<sup>1</sup>Strictly speaking, we should also say what  $I$  assigns to (i) the constant symbols of  $Q$ , (ii) the propositional symbols of  $Q$ , and (iii) the other predicate and function symbols of  $Q$ . But, since these aspects of  $I$  will not matter for the question at hand, I have not bothered to specify them. You could, for instance, let  $a_i$  denote the  $i$ th formula in some enumeration of  $P$ 's WFFs. And, you could assign any properties/functions you like to all the other predicate/function symbols in  $Q$ . Moreover, you can let  $I$  assign whatever truth-values you want to  $Q$ 's propositional symbols. Be sure not to confuse the propositional symbols of  $P$  — which are in the domain of  $I$  — with the propositional symbols of  $Q$ , which are *not*. Also, do not confuse the connectives of  $P$  with the connectives of  $Q$ . The connectives of  $Q$  are — on  $I$  — being used to express connectives in the *metalanguage* of  $P$ ! It is very important to stay clear on object-language vs meta-language in this problem!

Now, consider the following, different interpretation  $I'$  of  $Q$ :

The domain  $D$  of  $I'$  is the following set of three natural numbers:  $\{0, 1, 2\}$ .

“ $F^*$ ” gets interpreted by  $I'$  as the property “is identical to the number zero”.

“ $f^*$ ” gets interpreted by  $I'$  as the 1-place function  $f_1$  with the following matrix:

$x$	0	1	2
$f_1(x)$	1	1	0
$f_2$	0	1	2
	0	2	2
	1	2	0
	2	0	0

“ $f^{**}$ ” gets interpreted by  $I'$  as the 2-place function  $f_2$  with the following matrix:

**Exercise #5.** Show that (2)–(4) are all *true* on  $I'$ , but (1) is *false* on  $I'$ . And, explain how this could be used to show that (PS1) is *independent* of  $\{(PS2), (PS3), (MP')\}$ . [Hints: Hunter’s discussion on pages 123–124 and my handout on Hiž should both be useful for #5. What you’ll need to do here is show that the  $Q$ -translations of all theorem schemata of the system  $\{(PS2), (PS3), (MP')\}$  are true on  $I'$ , but that the  $Q$ -translation of (PS1) is false on  $I'$ . Hunter does the hard part of this on pages 123–124 (the easy part is writing down the  $Q$ -translations). This will imply the existence of a property (the truth-on- $I'$  of their  $Q$ -translation) that all theorem schemata of the system  $\{(PS2), (PS3), (MP')\}$  have, but that (PS1) lacks. This is sufficient to show that (PS1) is not a theorem of the system  $\{(PS2), (PS3), (MP')\}$ .]

## 2 Completeness of Another Formal System for Propositional Logic

Consider a language  $P^*$  that is similar to  $P$  but has as its two connectives  $\sim$  and  $\&$  (negation and conjunction) rather than  $\sim$  and  $\supset$ . Of course, the axioms and rules of inference of the formal system for  $P^*$  (call it  $PS^*$ ) are going to be different from the ones for our  $(PS)$ , since the axioms and rules of  $(PS)$  can’t even be expressed in  $P^*$ . Assume that the following five (5) *schemas* are rules of inference in the system  $(PS^*)$ :

- ( $PS^*1$ )  $\{A, \sim A\} \vdash_{PS^*} B$  [i.e., from  $A$  and  $\sim A$ , infer  $B$ , for any WFFs  $A$  and  $B$  of  $P^*$ ]  
 ( $PS^*2$ )  $\{\sim(\sim A \& B), \sim(\sim A \& \sim B)\} \vdash_{PS^*} A$  [i.e., from  $\sim(\sim A \& B)$  and  $\sim(\sim A \& \sim B)$ , infer  $A$ ]  
 ( $PS^*3$ )  $A \& B \vdash_{PS^*} A$  [i.e., from  $A \& B$ , infer  $A$ ]  
 ( $PS^*4$ )  $A \& B \vdash_{PS^*} B$  [i.e., from  $A \& B$ , infer  $B$ ]  
 ( $PS^*5$ )  $\{A, B\} \vdash_{PS^*} A \& B$  [i.e., from  $A$  and  $B$ , infer  $A \& B$ ]

Also, assume that the system  $(PS^*)$  has a “deduction theorem” of the following sort:

- ( $PS^*6$ ) If  $\Gamma \cup \{A\} \vdash_{PS^*} B$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash_{PS^*} \sim(A \& \sim B)$ .

**Exercise #6.** Show that any system  $(PS^*)$  with these six properties is *strongly complete* for the standard truth-table semantics for  $\sim$  and  $\&$ . That is, show that every  $p$ -consistent [in  $(PS^*)$ ] set of formulas of  $P^*$  has a model, by extending it first to a maximal  $p$ -consistent set. In other words, show (Henkin-style) that:

$$\text{If } \Gamma \models_{p^*} A, \text{ then } \Gamma \vdash_{PS^*} A,$$

by proving its contrapositive:

$$\text{If } \Gamma \not\vdash_{PS^*} A, \text{ then } \Gamma \not\models_{p^*} A.$$

This will involve showing that

$$\text{If } \Gamma \cup \{\sim A\} \text{ is } p\text{-consistent [in } (PS^*)], \text{ then } \Gamma \cup \{\sim A\} \text{ has a model [in } P^*\text{'s semantics].}$$

And, that will involve proving an appropriate version of Lindenbaum’s Lemma for  $(PS^*)$ . You will also need to prove some other metatheoretic lemmas here [like the equivalence of “ $\Gamma \not\vdash_{PS^*} A$ ” and “ $\Gamma \cup \{\sim A\}$  is  $p$ -consistent in  $(PS^*)$ ”]. But, the two main parts of the proof are (i) the Lindenbaum construction for any  $p$ -consistent  $\Gamma \cup \{\sim A\}$ , and (ii) the Henkin interpretation for  $P^*$ , which leads to a *model* of such a  $\Gamma \cup \{\sim A\}$ .