Finite information logic

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Work in progress. Please do not circulate!

Partial information logic is a generalization of both first order logic and Hintikka-Sandu [1] IF-logic. We motivate this logic by means of an example. Suppose we have a model \mathcal{M} on some domain D and some formula $A = (\forall x)(\forall y)(\exists z)R(x,y,z)$ where R is atomic. Then to this formula corresponds a game between two players Abelard and Eloise. Abelard chooses two elements a, b from D. Then Eloise chooses a third element c from D. If the formula R(a,b,c) holds in \mathcal{M} then Eloise has won, else Abelard has. Now it can be shown that the formula A is true in \mathcal{M} iff Eloise has a winning strategy.

The game as we have just desribed tells us how classical first order logic works. To look at IF-logic we consider a slight variant. Let B be the variant of A obtained by writing $B = (\forall x)(\forall y)(\exists z/x)R(x,y,z)$. Now the game proceeds as before with Abelard choosing a,b and Eloise choosing c, but now, the choice of c has to be *independent* of a because the quantifier $\exists z$ has now been marked by a /x, indicating independence of x, or as we might say, ignorance of x.

But we could just as easily say that Eloise's knowledge is restricted to the value of y, i.e. to b. Instead of concentrating on what Eloise does not know we concentrate on what she does. Similar restrictions might of course apply to Abelard in case he too has a move which follows the move of Eloise.

Now we introduce an innovation which will turn out to be interesting. IF-logic allows Eloise to know the value of x, or of y or of both or neither. Could we consider other possibilities? E.g. suppose x, y are integers. We might restrict Eloise to know the value of their sum. Or for another example, suppose you meet on the airplane an attractive woman who tells you only her first name (until she knows you better). Now if x is the name variable

whose value is Eloise Dzhugashvili and she only tells you 'Eloise', then you do not know x but neither are you ignorant of it. You know it in part.

This opens up the possibility of more general kinds of knowledge of the values of variables than allowed by IF-logic and we will see that it leads to interesting possibilities.

As usual we have variables, predicate symbols, certain special function symbols. Atomic formulas are defined as usual. Literals are atomic formulas or their negations. For simplicity we will apply negation only to atoms.

Definition 1 1 Literals are formulas of PI.

- **2a** If $\varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ is a formula of PI and f is one of the special function symbols, then $(\exists y /\!\!/_{f(\vec{x})}) \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ is a formula of PI.
- **2b** If $\varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ is a formula of PI and f is one of the special function symbols, then $(\forall y /\!\!/_{f(\vec{x})}) \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ is a formula of PI.
- **3a** If $\varphi(\vec{x})$, $\theta(\vec{x})$ are formulas of PI then $\varphi(\vec{x}) \vee /\!\!/_{f(\vec{x})} \theta(\vec{x})$ is a formula of PI.
- **3b** If $\varphi(\vec{x}), \theta(\vec{x})$ are formulas of PI then $\varphi(\vec{x}) \wedge /\!\!/_{f(\vec{x})} \theta(\vec{x})$ is a formula of PI.

Intuitively, the $\exists y$ in $(\exists y/\!\!/_{f(\vec{x})})\varphi(\vec{x},y)$ is Eloise's move but because of the restriction $/\!\!/_{f(\vec{x})}$ she only knows $f(\vec{x})$ when she makes her move. We may, more generally, allow her also to know the values of two or more functions f,g of \vec{x} so that in the extreme case she could know all the projection functions and hence know \vec{x} precisely. That case corresponds to our usual first order logic. In an intermediate case, she could know *some* of the projection functions on \vec{x} , i.e. some but not all of the variables in \vec{x} . That case corresponds to IF-logic.

In $(\forall y /\!\!/_{f(\vec{x})}) \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ the move is Abelard's and he too is restricted in a similar way.

Let us consider $\varphi(\vec{x}) \vee /\!\!/_{f(\vec{x})} \theta(\vec{x})$. Since we have a disjunction here, it is for Eloise to choose which of the two formulas φ, θ to play. But when she chooses, she only knows the value $f(\vec{x})$ or perhaps more than one such value, but her knowledge of \vec{x} might not be complete.

On the other hand, in $\varphi(\vec{x}) \wedge /\!\!/_{f(\vec{x})} \theta(\vec{x})$ the move is Abelard's but the restrictions are similar to those in 3a above.

Compositional sematics can be defined for PI in just the same way as they have been defined for IF-logic by Hodges [2, 3], Väänänen [8], etc. Moreover PI-logic can be interpreted into second order logic in the same way.

Now we come to a special kind of PI-logic where the special functions f allow only a *finite* amount of information about the arguments. Thus if a, b are integers and Eloise has to make a choice based on them, she might be allowed only to know whether a < b or whether a + b is odd, or whatever. Knowing the precise value of a, b or even of a + b is out of the question.

Why consider such a restricted case? We have two reasons. One is that this special case of PI-logic which we shall call FI-logic, or *finite information logic* has very elegant logical properties. The other is that since quantifiers correspond to moves in games, the games which FI-logic represents arise all the time in social algorithms and are deeply related to how social human interations work.

For example a passport official at an airport only wants to know whether you have a valid visa or not. If you do, she lets you in, if not, she sends you back on the next flight. Or perhaps she classifies you among four classes, those who are citizens, those who come from friendly countries whose citizens do not require a visa, those who have a visa, and the remaining who are the ones sent back. In any case she only wants a finite amount of information about the variable, namely you.

Or a young man looking for a date might want to know if the prospective date is blonde or brunette. If she is, he is not interested, he wants to date brown hair only. If she does have brown hair, he wants to know if she is tall. If not, he is again not interested. So he seeks a finite amount of information about the prospective date. Naturally she may have similar questions about him. But each will seek only a finite amount of information.

We repeat the definitions which we had above for formulas of PI-logic, indicating where the difference arises between PI-logic in general and its special case, FI. Since only a finite amount of information is available at each step, it could easily be represented by one or more booleans, i.e. by formulas. Thus our special functions f drop out. Our main result is Theorem 7 which says that every consistent FI-sentence has a finite model. We use a strong form of this result to show that FI is exactly the existential-universal fragment of first order logic, if considered as a classical logic. However, FI is actually

a non-classical logic with a rich many-valued semantics (this aspect will not be pursued in this paper). The reduction to first order logic is non-trivial in the sense that there is a trade-off: the first order expression seems to be exponentially longer than its FI representation.

In this section we define the *finite information logic* FI and discuss its semantics. It turns out that it makes sense to pay attention to what kind of θ we allow in $/\!\!/_{\theta}$, as the following informal result demonstrates:

Lemma 2 The following conditions are intuitively equivalent in any model \mathfrak{A} with at least two elements, whatever sentence θ is:

1.
$$\mathfrak{A} \models (\forall x)(\exists y //(x=c \lor \theta))(y \neq x)$$
.

2.
$$\mathfrak{A} \models \neg \theta$$

Proof. Suppose θ is true and \exists knows it. Then the information that $(x = c \lor \theta)$ is true tells \exists nothing about x. Also the information that $(x = c \lor \theta)$ is false tells nothing because this information is impossible, i.e. never given in this case. Thus in this case \exists cannot possibly have a winning strategy for choosing $y \neq x$. On the other hand, suppose θ is false and \exists knows it. Then she can make the following inference: If I am told that $(x = c \lor \theta)$ is true, I know that it is true because x = c, and then I know what x is. If I am told that $(x = c \lor \theta)$ is false, I know it is because $x \neq c$, and I can choose y = c.

In the proof we used the assumption that although the information that \exists has is limited as to the values of the variables, \exists knows "generally known" things. For example, it follows that if \exists has a winning strategy, she knows what it is. Also, if it is known that $\neg \theta$ (in a given model), then \exists knows it too.

Lemma 2 shows that if we allow θ in $/\!\!/_{\theta}$, we are committed to have also the negation of θ . On the other hand, games of imperfect information may very well be non-determined. Therefore we should be cautious with negation.

In social software it seems that the information we use in decisions is often atomic ("man", "woman") or existential ("has a ticket", "has a visa, which is valid") or boolean combinations of such ("is retired or has exactly three children"). Accordingly we start by allowing θ in $/\!/_{\theta}$ to be any boolean combination of existential formulas.

Definition 3 The set of formulas of FI is defined as follows:

- (1) Atomic and negated formulas are FI-formulas.
- (2) If $\varphi(\vec{x})$ and $\psi(\vec{x})$ are FI- formulas and $\theta(\vec{x})$ is a boolean combination of existential formulas, then

$$\varphi(\vec{x}) \wedge /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})} \psi(\vec{x})$$

and

$$\varphi(\vec{x}) \vee /\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})} \psi(\vec{x})$$

are FI-formulas.

(3) If $\varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ is an FI-formula and $\theta(\vec{x})$ is a boolean combination of existential formulas, then

$$(\forall y /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})}) \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$$

and

$$(\exists y /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})}) \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$$

are FI-formulas.

We now define semantics for FI. Suppose ${\mathfrak A}$ is a model and X is a set of functions s such that

- (1) dom(s) is a finite set of variables
- (2) $s, s' \in X \Longrightarrow \operatorname{dom}(s) = \operatorname{dom}(s')$
- (3) $ran(s) \subseteq A$.

Intuitively X is a set of plays i.e. assignments of values to variables. To incorporate partial information we have to consider sets of plays rather than mere individual plays. A partition $X = X_0 \cup X_1$ is $\theta(\vec{x})$ -homogeneous, where $\theta(\vec{x})$ is first-order, if for all $s, s' \in X$

$$(\mathfrak{A} \models_s \theta(\vec{x}) \iff \mathfrak{A} \models_{s'} \theta(\vec{x})) \Longrightarrow (s \in X_0 \iff s' \in X_0).$$

Let

$$X[a:y] = \{(s \setminus \{\langle y, b \rangle : b \in A\}) \cup \{\langle y, a \rangle\} : s \in X\}$$

$$X[A:y] = \{s \cup \{\langle y, a \rangle\} : s \in X, a \in A\}.$$

We define the concept

$$\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi$$

for $\varphi \in FI$ as follows:

- (S1) $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi$ iff $\mathfrak{A} \models_s \varphi$ for all $s \in X$, if φ is atomic or negated atomic.
- (S2) $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi(\vec{x}) \land /\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})} \psi(\vec{x})$ iff $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi(\vec{x})$ and $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \psi(\vec{x})$. $(\theta(\vec{x})$ plays no role)
- (S3) $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi(\vec{x}) \vee /\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})} \psi(\vec{x})$ iff there is a $\theta(\vec{x})$ -homogeneous partition $X = X_0 \cup X$, such that $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_0} \varphi(\vec{x})$ and $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_1} \psi(\vec{x})$.
- (S4) $\mathfrak{A} \models_X (\exists y /\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})}) \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ iff there is a $\theta(\vec{x})$ -homogeneous partition $X = X_0 \cup X$, and y_1, y_2 such that $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_0[y, y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ and $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_1[y_2:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$.
- (S5) $\mathfrak{A} \models_X (\forall y /\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})})) \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ iff

$$\mathfrak{A} \models_{X[A:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$$

 $(\theta(\vec{x})$ plays no role).

There is an asymmetry between $\wedge /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})}$ and $\vee /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})}$ on one hand and between $(\forall y /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})})$ and $(\exists y /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})})$ on the other hand. This is because in this paper we consider truth from the point of view of \exists only, i.e. "classically". Thus we are concerned about the knowledge that \exists has. As \exists has to be prepared to play against all strategies of \forall , \exists has to consider also the case that \forall plays "accidentally" with perfect information. If we considered FI "non-classically" the symmetry would be preserved.

Suppose $\mathfrak{A} \models_{\{\emptyset\}} \varphi$. Now \exists has a winning strategy in the obvious semantic game, namely, while \exists plays she keeps $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi$ and the play $\in X$ true. More exactly:

- (G1) Suppose we are at an atomic or negated atomic formula φ . Since $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi$ and the play is in X, \exists wins by (S1).
- (G2) We are at $\varphi(\vec{x}) \wedge /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})} \psi(\vec{x})$. Now \forall plays choosing, say, $\varphi(\vec{x})$. We use (S2) to conclude $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi(\vec{x})$.
- (G3) We are at $\varphi(\vec{x}) \vee /\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})} \psi(\vec{x})$. We can by (S3) divide $X = X_0 \cup X_1$ in a $\theta(\vec{x})$ -homogeneous way and $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_0} \varphi(\vec{x})$ and $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_1} \psi(\vec{x})$. The play is in X so it is in one of X_0 and X_1 . Let \exists choose one of them. She should make the choice without knowing more about the play except that $\theta(\vec{x})$ is true or false. If $\theta(\vec{x})$ is true and some \vec{x}' in X_0 satisfies $\theta(\vec{x}')$, then she chooses X_0 , otherwise X_1 . Similarly, if $\theta(\vec{x})$ is false and some \vec{x}' in X_0 satisfies $\theta(\vec{x}')$, then she chooses X_1 , otherwise X_2 .

- (G4) We are at $(\forall y /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})}))\varphi(\vec{x}, y)$. \exists knows $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X[A:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ and the play so far is in X. Whatever \forall plays, the play is in X[A:y].
- **(G5)** We are at $(\exists y/\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})})\varphi(\vec{x},y)$. (This is like (G3)).

Examples 4 1° $(\forall x/\!\!/)(\exists y/\!\!/_{P(x)})(x=y)$ says that both P and its complement have at most one element

 $2^{\circ} (\forall x/\!\!/)(\exists y/\!\!/_{P(x)})(x \neq y)$ says that both P and its complement are non-empty.

Lemma 5 If $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi$ and $X_0 \subseteq X$, then $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_0} \varphi$.

A first order formula is existential-universal $\exists \forall$ if it is of the form

$$(\exists x_1) \dots (\exists x_n) (\forall y_1) \dots (\forall y_m) \varphi$$

where φ is quantifier-free. A formula is Δ_2 if it is equivalent to an $\exists \forall$ -formula and its negation is too. An example of a Δ_2 formula is

$$(\exists x_1)(\exists x_2)(x_1 \neq x_2) \land (\forall x_1)(\forall x_2)(\forall x_3)(x_1 = x_2 \lor x_1 = x_3 \lor x_2 = x_3).$$

which says that there exactly three elements. Boolean combinations of existential formulas are, of course, Δ_2 .

Lemma 6 The following conditions are equivalent for any first order sentence φ :

- (1) φ is equivalent to an $\exists \forall$ -formula.
- (2) If $\mathfrak{A} \models \varphi$ and \mathfrak{A} is the union of a chain $\mathfrak{A}_{\alpha}(\alpha < \beta)$ of models, then there is an $\alpha < \beta$ such that $\mathfrak{A}_{\alpha} \models \varphi$.
- (3) If $\mathfrak{A} \models \varphi$ and $B \subseteq A$ is finite, then there is $C \subseteq A$ finite such that $B \subseteq C$ and for all finite \mathfrak{D} with $C \subseteq D \subseteq A$ we have $\mathfrak{D} \models \varphi$.

Proof. Clearly $(1) \to (3) \to (2)$. We prove $(2) \to (1)$. By (2) the sentence $\neg \varphi$ is closed under unions of chains of modules. By the Łoś-Suszko lemma, $\neg \varphi$ is universal-existential, whence φ is equivalent to an $\exists \forall$ formula.

Theorem 7 Every FI-sentence has the finite model property.

Proof. We prove condition (3) of Lemma 6. We use induction on φ to prove:

- (*) If $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi$, $\mathfrak{A}_0 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}$ is finite and $\forall s \in X \ (ran(s) \subseteq A_0)$, then there is a finite \mathfrak{A}_1 , s.t. $\mathfrak{A}_0 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}_1 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}$ and for all $\mathfrak{A}_2 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}$ with $A_1 \subseteq A_2 \subseteq A$ we have $\mathfrak{A}_2 \models_X \varphi$.
- (S1) φ is atomic or negated atomic. We can choose $\mathfrak{A}_1 = \mathfrak{A}_0$.
- (S2) $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi(\vec{x}) \wedge \psi(\vec{x})$. Again we choose $\mathfrak{A}_1 = \mathfrak{A}_0$
- (S3) $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi(\vec{x}) \vee /\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})} \psi(\vec{x})$. Let $X = X_0 \cup X_1$ such that $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_0} \varphi(\vec{x})$, $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_1} \psi(\vec{x})$ and the partition is $\theta(\vec{x})$ -homogeneous. By induction hypothesis we have \mathfrak{A}_1^0 for X_0 and $\varphi(\vec{x})$, and \mathfrak{A}_1^1 for X_1 and $\psi(\vec{x})$. Let $A_1 = A_1^0 \cup A_1^1$. Clearly this works.
- (S4) $\mathfrak{A} \models_X (\forall y) \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$. Choose $\mathfrak{A}_1 = \mathfrak{A}_0$.
- (S5) $\mathfrak{A} \models_X (\exists y /\!/_{\theta(\vec{x})}) \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$. Let $X = X_0 \cup X_1$ be $\theta(\vec{x})$ -homogeneous and y_1, y_2 such that $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_0[y_1:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ and $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_1[y_2:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$. If $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_0} \theta(\vec{x})$, let \mathfrak{A}_1^* be finite such that $\mathfrak{A}_0 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}_1^* \subseteq \mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{A}_1^* \subseteq \mathfrak{A}_2 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}$ implies $\mathfrak{A}_2 \models_{X_0} \theta(\vec{x})$. If $\mathfrak{A} \nvDash_{X_0} \theta(\vec{x})$, let \mathfrak{A}_1 , be likewise with $\mathfrak{A}_2 \nvDash_{X_0} \theta(\vec{x})$. As $\theta(\vec{x})$ is Δ_2 , \mathfrak{A}_1 can be found in either case. Let \mathfrak{A}_1 be such that $A_1^* \cup \{y_1, y_2\} \subseteq A_1 \subseteq A$ and $\mathfrak{A}_1 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}_2 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}$ implies $\mathfrak{A}_2 \models_{X_0[y_1:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$ and $\mathfrak{A}_2 \models_{X_1[y_2:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$. Now $\mathfrak{A}_1 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}_2 \subseteq \mathfrak{A}$ implies $\mathfrak{A}_2 \models_{X_0[y_1:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$. Why? Because $X = X_0 \cup X_1$ is $\theta(\vec{x})$ -homogeneous in \mathfrak{A}_2 [If $\mathfrak{A}_2 \models_s \theta(\vec{x})$, $\mathfrak{A}_2 \models_s \theta(\vec{x})$, where $s, s' \in X$, then $\mathfrak{A} \models_s \theta(\vec{x})$ and $\mathfrak{A} \models_s \theta(\vec{x})$ whence $s \in X_0 \iff s' \in X_0$.] and $\mathfrak{A}_2 \models_{X_0[y_1:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$, $\mathfrak{A}_2 \models_{X_1[y_2:y]} \varphi(\vec{x}, y)$.

Example 8 The sentence

$$(\forall x /\!\!/)(\exists y /\!\!/_{x=x})(x \le y)$$

says that the linear order \leq has a last element. It has no negation in FI as the negation does not have the finite model property.

The finite model property would be true even if we allowed any Δ_2 formula θ to occur in $/\!\!/_{\theta}$. However, allowing $\exists \forall$ -formulas θ leads us to new avenues: Let $FI(\exists \forall)$ be this generalization.

Theorem 9 $FI(\exists \forall)$ does not have the finite model property.

Proof. Let φ be the sentence

$$(\forall x /\!\!/)(\exists y /\!\!/_{\psi(x)})(y \neq x)$$

where $\psi(x)$ is the $\exists \forall$ -formula

$$x = 0 \lor (\exists u)(\forall v)(v \le u).$$

The vocabulary consists of \leq and the constant 0. Let φ' be the conjunction of φ and the universal (hence FI) axioms of linear order.

Claim 1 $\langle \omega, \leq, 0 \rangle \models \varphi'$. The task of \exists is choose $y \neq x$ knowing only whether $\psi(x)$ is true or not. She argues as follows: If I am told $\psi(x)$ is true, I know it is because x = 0, so I choose y = 1. If, on the other hand, I am told that $\psi(x)$ is not true, I know $x \neq 0$, so I choose y = 0.

Claim 2 φ' has no finite models. Suppose $\mathfrak{A} = \langle A, \leq, 0 \rangle$ were one. Now $\psi(x)$ is true independently of x. So \exists has no way of choosing $y \neq x$ on the basis of whether $\psi(x)$ is true or not. More formally, suppose $\mathfrak{A} \models_X \varphi'$, where $X = \{\emptyset\}$. Then $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X[A:x]} (\exists y /\!\!/_{\psi(x)})(y \neq x)$. Let $X[A:x] = X_0 \cup X_1$ be a $\psi(x)$ - homogeneous partition and $y_0, y_1 \in A$ such that $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_0[y_0:y]} y \neq x$ and $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_1[y_1:y]} y \neq x$. Since $\psi(x)$ is always true, $X_0 = \emptyset$ or $X_1 = \emptyset$. Say $X_1 = \emptyset$. Thus $\langle x, y_0 \rangle \in X_0$, whence $\mathfrak{A} \models_{X_0[y_0:y]} y = x$, a contradiction. \square

Let FI(FO) denote the extension of FI where any first-order θ is allowed to occur in $/\!\!/_{\theta}$. Lemma 2 implies that FI(FO) contains all of first-order logic. Let FI(IF) denote the extension of FI where any θ from IF-logic is allowed to occur in $/\!\!/_{\theta}$. We know that non-well-foundedness can be expressed in the IF-logic. Lemma 2 implies that FI(IF) can express also well-foundedness. Thus FI(IF) is not included in IF-logic.

The FI as we have defined it turns out to be translatable into first-order logic:

Theorem 10 Every FI-sentence is equivalent to an $\exists \forall$ -sentence, and vice versa, every $\exists \forall$ -sentence is equivalent to an FI-sentence.

Proof. One direction follows from Theorem 7. For the converse implication it suffices to notice that following are equivalent:

$$\mathfrak{A} \models (\exists x_1) \dots (\exists x_n) (\forall y_1) \dots (\forall y_m) \varphi$$

$$\mathfrak{A} \models_{\{\emptyset\}} (\exists x_1 /\!\!/) \dots (\exists x_n /\!\!/) (\forall y_1 /\!\!/) \dots (\forall y_m /\!\!/) \varphi',$$

where φ is obtained from φ by replacing each disjunction $\theta(\vec{x}) \vee \psi(\vec{x})$ by $\theta(\vec{x}) \vee /\!\!/_{\theta(\vec{x}),\psi(\vec{x})}\psi(\vec{x})$. We assume that \exists knows her own strategy.

Theorem 11 FI has an exponential compression relative to first order $\exists \forall logic$.

Proof. Consider the structure \mathfrak{A} whose domain consists of all binary numerals. The predicate C(x,y) means that $y=x+1 \mod 2^n$. Of course $0 \leq y < 2^n$. The predicate $P_i(x)$ for $i \leq n$ means that the *i*-th digit of x from the right is 1. Consider the formula $\theta = (\forall x)(\exists y /\!\!/ P_1(x), ..., P_n(x))C(x,y)$. The formula says that \exists can choose y knowing only the truth values of $P_i(x): i \leq n$. θ is true in \mathfrak{A} , and remains true if we only take integers $< 2^n$. But it is not true in any sub-structure of size $< 2^n$. Thus any $\exists \forall$ formula which was equivalent to θ would have to have at least 2^n quantifiers. \Box

However, note that if we use full first order logic to express θ we do not need exponential growth. For the formula $\phi = (\forall x)(\exists y)(\forall z)([\bigwedge_{i\leq n}P_i(x)\leftrightarrow P_i(z)]\to C(z,y))$ is equivalent to θ . If \forall is allowed to change his move after \exists has played hers then she is in effect restricted to what she could have done had she known only the values of the booleans.

Theorem 12 FI(FO) = FO.

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