

# *Predicate Logic*

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# *An Excursion into Logic*

- The semantics of SBVR is defined by a mapping to predicate logic
- A predicate calculus consists of
  - ◆ formation rules (i.e. definitions for forming well-formed formulae).
  - ◆ a proof theory, made of
    - axioms (logical formulae).
    - transformation rules (i.e. inference rules for deriving new formulae).
  - ◆ a semantics, telling which interpretation of the symbols make the formulae true.

# *Predicate Logic vs Propositional Logic*

- Propositional Logic is a formal system in which formulae
  - ◆ represent atomic propositions (having truth values true or false) or
  - ◆ are formed by combining propositions using logical connectives (and, or, not, ...)

Propositional Logic does not care for the structure of atomic forms, it only assumes that they have a truth value.

- Predicate Logic considers the deeper structure of propositions
  - ◆ Logical symbol: connectives, variables and quantifiers
  - ◆ Non-logical symbols: predicate and function symbols

# Formulas in Propositional Logic

- A and B are logical formulas having truth values
- Atomic formulas have truth values (true or false)
- Formulas can be build using logical operators
- Symbols denoting logical operators:
  - $\neg$  (negation – logical not)
  - $\wedge$  (conjunction – logical and)
  - $\vee$  (disjunction – logical or)
  - $\rightarrow$  (implication – logical condition)
  - $\leftrightarrow$  (equivalence – logical equivalence)

Truth values of formulas are computed using truth tables

A	B	$\neg A$	$A \wedge B$	$A \vee B$	$A \rightarrow B$	$A \leftrightarrow B$
true	true	false	true	true	true	true
true	false	false	false	true	false	false
false	true	true	false	true	true	false
false	false	true	false	false	true	true

# *What does the*

- In Propositional Logic, the formulas represent entire propositions (or sentences)
- Examples:
  - ◆ It is raining
  - ◆ The street is wet
  - ◆ Paris is in France
  - ◆ The stars are blue
  - ◆ Fishes are sleeping in the trees

# *Truth Values of complex statements*

- Using the truth table it is also possible to derive the truth value of more complicated statements:
- What is the truth value of  $A \wedge \neg B$  given that A and B are true?
- What is the truth value of
 

◆ $A \wedge \neg A$	false
◆ $A \vee \neg A$	true
◆ $(A \wedge B) \vee \neg A \vee \neg B$	true
◆ $((A \wedge B) \rightarrow C) \leftrightarrow (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C))$	true
- Prove that  $(A \rightarrow B)$  is equivalent to  $(\neg A \vee B)$

# *Tautology and Contradiction*

- A statement that is always true is called *logically true* or a *tautology*.
- A statement that is always false is called *logically false* or a *contradiction*.

# Propositional Calculus

- A calculus consists of
  - ◆ a set of **axioms** (formulae representing the knowledge base)
  - ◆ a set of **inference rules**: *syntactic* transformations which derive from a set of formulae a new formula
- Examples of Inference Rules for Propositional calculus:

Modus Ponens 
$$\frac{A, A \rightarrow B}{B}$$

Modus Tolens 
$$\frac{\neg B, A \rightarrow B}{\neg A}$$



## *Exercise: Deriving Truth Values using Propositional Calculus*

- Represent the following statements in Propositional calculus
  - ◆ If it is raining then the street is wet
- You know that it is raining. Represent this fact so that you can apply an inference rule to derive new information
- What rule can be applied if you know that the street is not wet?

# *Limits of Propositional Logic*

- Take the following example:

A = All humans are mortal

B = Socrates is a human

C = Socrates is mortal

- It is intuitively valid that  $\frac{A, B}{C}$

(if A and B are true then C is also true)

- But there is no way in Propositional Logic to verify this argument, because the letters represent entire propositions and do not represent anything of the internal meaning of the sentences.
- Therefore we need a more powerful logic which is called Predicate logic (or First Order Predicate Logic)

# *First-order Predicate Logic – Logical Symbols*

The logical symbols include variables, logical operators and quantifiers.

- Variables are usually denoted by lowercase letters at the end of the alphabet  $x, y, z, \dots$
- Symbols denoting quantifiers
  - $\forall$  (universal quantification, typically read as "for all")
  - $\exists$  (existential quantification, typically read as "there exists")
- Symbols denoting logical operators are usually denoted as
  - $\neg$  (negation – logical not)
  - $\wedge$  (conjunction – logical and)
  - $\vee$  (disjunction – logical or)
  - $\rightarrow$  (implication – logical condition)
  - $\leftrightarrow$  (equivalence – logical equivalence)

# *First-order Predicate Logic – Nonlogical Symbols*

The nonlogical symbols include predicate symbols and function symbols

- The predicate symbols (or relation symbols) are often denoted by uppercase letters P, Q, R,...
  - ◆ each predicate symbol has some arity  $\geq 0$
  - ◆ relations of arity 0 can be identified with propositional variables.
- The function symbols are often denoted by lowercase letters f, g, h,...
  - ◆ each predicate symbol has some arity  $\geq 0$
  - ◆ function symbols of arity 0 are called constant symbols, and are often denoted by lowercase letters at the beginning of the alphabet a, b, c,...

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arity is the number of arguments

# *First-order Predicate Logic – Syntax of Terms*

The set of terms is recursively defined by the following rules:

1. Any variable is a term,
2. Any constant symbol is a term,
3. If  $f$  is a function symbol of arity  $n$  and  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are terms, then  $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is a term
4. nothing else is a term

# *First-order Predicate Logic – Syntax of Formulas*

The set of formulae is recursively defined by the following rules:

1. If  $P$  is a predicate symbol of arity  $n$  and  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are terms, then  $P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is a formula  
(all these formulae are called atomic formula or atoms).
2. If  $A$  and  $B$  are formulae and the set of logical operators is  $\{\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow\}$ , then  $(A)$ ,  $\neg A$ ,  $A \wedge B$ ,  $A \vee B$ ,  $A \rightarrow B$ ,  $A \leftrightarrow B$  are formulae.
3. If  $x$  is a variable,  $A$  is a formula and the set of quantifiers is  $\{\forall, \exists\}$ , then  $\forall x A$  und  $\exists x A$  are formulae.
4. Nothing else is a formula

In the formulae  $\exists x:A$  and  $\forall x:A$  the quantifiers bind the variable  $x$ . If a variable is not bound in a formula it is called a free variable.

# *First-order Predicate Logic – Interpretation*

- To say whether a formula is true, we have to decide what the non-logical symbols mean.
- Interpretation: Let  $L$  be a language, i.e. the set of non-logical symbols. An interpretation consists of
  - ◆ a non-empty set  $D$  called the domain
  - ◆ for each constant in  $L$  the assignment of an element in  $D$
  - ◆ for each  $n$ -ary function symbol in  $L$  the assignment of a mapping from  $D^n$  to  $D$
  - ◆ for each  $n$ -ary predicate symbol in  $L$  the assignment of a relation in  $D^n$   
(this is equivalent to a mapping of  $D^n$  into  $\{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$ )

# First-order Predicate Logic – Interpretation

## ■ Meaning of logic operators

- ◆ The truth values of the logical operators are defined by the some truth tables as propositional logic

A	B	$\neg A$	$A \wedge B$	$A \vee B$	$A \rightarrow B$	$A \leftrightarrow B$
true	true	false	true	true	true	true
true	false	false	false	true	false	false
false	true	true	false	true	true	false
false	false	true	false	false	true	true

## ■ In addition, the quantifiers have to following meaning

- ◆ The formula  $\exists x F$  is true in the interpretation, if there is an assignment of x with an individual such that F is true
- ◆ The formula  $\forall x F$  is true in an interpretation, if for every assignment of x the formula F



# *Domain*

- A domain represents a set of things we are talking about.
- We can decide that the domain is unrestricted, i.e. the sentences apply to all things in the universe
- Often it is more intuitive to say that the domain is restricted. For example we can specify that the domain is „human beings“ or „enterprise objects“

## Exercise

- Find a domain and two unary predicates  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  such that

$$\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

- Find a domain and two unary predicates  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  such that

$$\exists x (P(x) \wedge Q(x)) \text{ is false}$$

and  $(\exists x (P(x)) \wedge (\exists x Q(x)))$  is true

# Exercise

- Find a domain and a binary predicates  $P(x,y)$  such that

$\exists x (P(x,a) \wedge P(x,b))$  is false

and  $(\exists x (P(x,b)) \wedge (\exists x P(x,b)))$  is true

# Negation with Quantifiers

- The expression „There are no unicorns“ can be represented in two ways

$\forall x (\neg U(x))$                       an universal negation  
 or                       $\neg \exists x (U(x))$                       a negated existential

- Some transformations that convert between universal and existential quantification:

◆ Something is A	$\exists x (A(x))$	$\neg \forall x (\neg A(x))$
◆ Nothing is A	$\neg \exists x (A(x))$	$\forall x (\neg A(x))$
◆ Everything is A	$\forall x (\neg A(x))$	$\neg \exists x (\neg A(x))$
◆ Some As are Bs	$\exists x (A(x) \wedge B(x))$	$\neg \forall x (\neg (A(x) \wedge B(x)))$
◆ All As are Bs	$\forall x (A(x) \rightarrow B(x))$	$\neg \exists x (A(x) \wedge \neg B(x))$
◆ No As are Bs	$\neg \exists x (A(x) \wedge B(x))$	$\forall x (A(x) \rightarrow \neg B(x))$

# Translating from Natural Language into Predicate Logic

- When translating arguments from Natural Language into Predicate Logic the following rules should be followed:

- ◆ Universal Conditional: All As are Bs

$$\forall x (A(x) \rightarrow B(x))$$

- ◆ Existentially qualified condition: Some As are Bs

$$\exists x (A(x) \wedge B(x))$$

- It is common to make the following mistakes:

- ◆ All As are Bs:  $\forall x (A(x) \wedge B(x))$

„For all x, x are A and x are B“ (-> **wrong!**)

- ◆ Some As are Bs:  $\exists x (A(x) \rightarrow B(x))$

„For some x, if x is an A then x is a B“ (-> **wrong!**)

# *The Meaning of Quantifiers*

- Consider the sentence „All unicorns have one horn“
- This can be translated as

$$\forall x (\text{Unicorn}(x) \rightarrow \text{Horn}(x))$$

(or equivalent:  $\forall x (U(x) \rightarrow H(x))$  )

The meaning is: „If something is a unicorn then it has one horn“.  
It does not imply that unicorns exist

- Similar, the expression „not all men are brave“ can be translated as

$$\neg \forall x (M(x) \rightarrow B(x))$$

It does not imply that there exist any men or that there is a man who is brave.

- Universal quantification makes no claims about existence. Therefore we need the universal quantifier

# First-order Predicate Logic – Calculus

- A calculus consists of
  - ◆ a set of **axioms** (formulae representing the knowledge base)
  - ◆ a set of **inference rules**: *syntactic* transformations which derive from a set of formulae a new formula
- Examples of Inference Rules:

Modus Ponens 
$$\frac{A, A \rightarrow B}{B}$$

Substitution 
$$\frac{\forall x P}{P \{x/a\}}$$

Modus Tolens 
$$\frac{\neg B, A \rightarrow B}{\neg A}$$

Modus Ponens with substitution 
$$\frac{P(a), \forall x: (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))}{Q(a)}$$

# *First-order Predicate Logic – Models and Consequences*

- An interpretation that makes a formula  $F$  true is called a model of  $F$
- Logical consequence:
  - ◆ A formula  $G$  is a logical consequence of a formula  $F$ , if all models of  $F$  are also models of  $G$ . This is written as

$$F \models G$$



# First-order Predicate Logic – Calculus

- If a formula  $F$  can be derived from a set of formulas  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  by a sequence of inference rule applications, we write

$$F_1, \dots, F_n \vdash F$$

(One says that there is a proof for  $F$  from  $F_1, \dots, F_n$ )

- The control system that selects and applies the inference rules is called **inference procedure**.
- An inference procedure should be

♦ **correct**, i.e. if  $F_1, \dots, F_n \vdash F$  then  $F_1, \dots, F_n \models F$

♦ **complete**, i.e. if  $F_1, \dots, F_n \models F$  then  $F_1, \dots, F_n \vdash F$