



Logic and Knowledge Representation

Predicate Logic

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Predicate logic

All men are mortals.

Socrates is a man.

Therefore... ?

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—————▶ TRUE

Socrates is a man.

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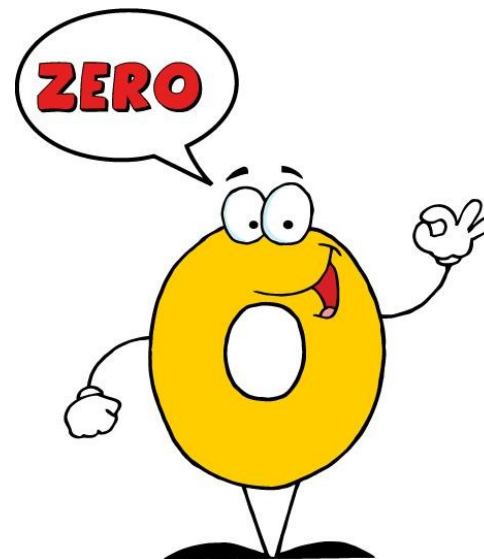
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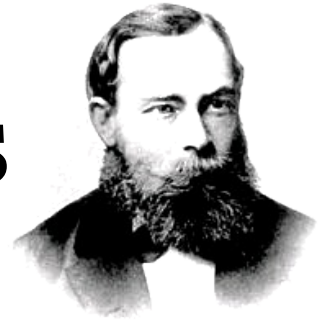
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- **No man** is immortal ???



Predicate logic: Quantifiers



Gottlob Frege

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Nota bene: the x is a specific individual within $[...]$, and it cannot be outside of $[...]$

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- $A(x)$ is a **predicate** with **argument** x
from *prae-dico* (\sim to say something about x publicly)
- It is a “*open*” statement: there is no anchoring to actual elements. ex. $Red(car)$: “car is red” does not make complete sense: which car?

Predicate logic

- $A(x)$ is a **predicate** with **argument** x
- when t has a defined **value** (i.e. it refers to a specific entity), $A(t)$ is a **proposition** and may be true or false.
- Example: That car is red: $Red(thatcar)$
(assuming $thatcar$ to be a shared constant)

$thatcar$ \longrightarrow

shared symbol *correspondence semantics*



Predicate logic

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- when t has a defined **value** (i.e. it refers to a specific entity), $A(t)$ is a **proposition** and may be true or false.

We can create a map with all the possible values of x , where $A(x)$ is true, and where is false, i.e. where $\neg A(x)$ is true

Predicate logic and Venn diagrams

- Considering just one predicate $A(x)$, we have:

domain or universe of the predicate variable x



A

*set of all x such
as $A(x)$ is true*

A^c

*set of all x such
as $A(x)$ is not
true*



Predicate logic: new features

- **Individual variables:** x, y, z, \dots may be considered to vary over one (or more) universes.

Attention: letters in the propositional calculus denoted fixed statements, like "it rains", "Giovanni is teaching LKR", etc.

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First-order logic (FOL):

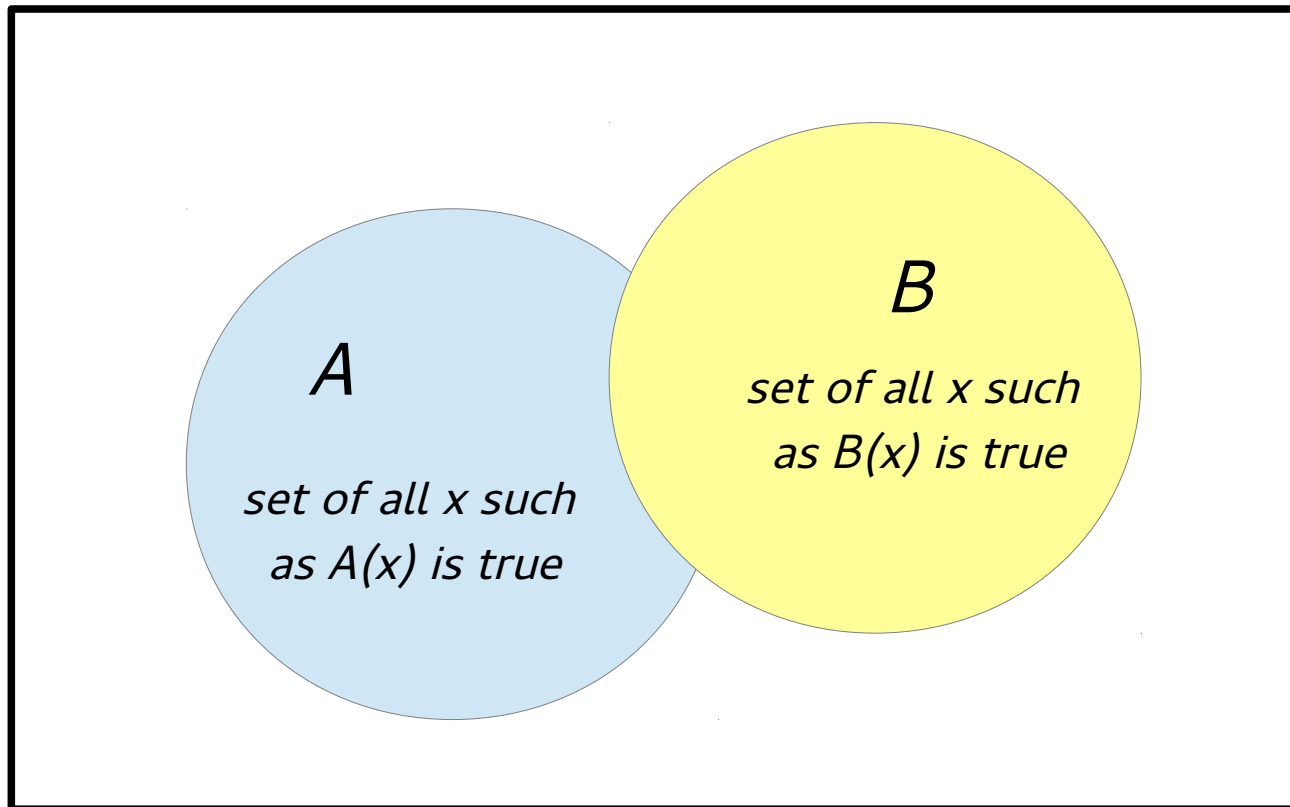
no quantifiers over predicates, e.g. $\forall P [..]$

no predicate applies on predicates. e.g. $P(Q, R)$

Predicate logic and Venn diagrams

- When a statement contains more predicates, we can map the different sets and translate the logical operators in set operators. The resulting set is where our original statement is true.

domain or **universe** of the predicate variable x



Predicate logic and syllogisms

A: *All students wear uniforms.*

E: *No student wears uniforms.*

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$\forall x \text{ WearsUniform}(x)$

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$\forall x [\text{Student}(x) \rightarrow \text{WearsUniform}(x)]$

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but the universe
may be empty!

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Syllogisms assume that in **A**
there is always some student:

$\dots \wedge \exists x \text{ Student}(x)$

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Example

any two individuals communicate, if there is an interpreter

$$(\forall x) (\forall y) (\forall l_1) (\forall l_2) ((s(x, l_1) \wedge (s(y, l_2) \wedge (\exists z) (s(z, l_1) \wedge s(z, l_2)))) \supset c(x, y))$$

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negate



$$(\exists x) (\exists y) (\exists l_1) (\exists l_2) ((s(x, l_1) \wedge (s(y, l_2) \wedge (\exists z) (s(z, l_1) \wedge s(s, l_2)))) \wedge \neg c(x, y))$$

there are two individuals who do not communicate despite
the presence of an interpreter

A language consists of **symbols**, ...

- Alphabet
 - *terms*:
 - *constants*: c_1, c_2, \dots
 - *variables*: v_1, v_2, \dots
 - *functors*: $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$, where t_1, \dots, t_n are terms

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- *quantifiers:* \forall, \exists

- *propositional logic connectives:* $\top, \perp, \neg, \wedge, \vee, \supset, \equiv, \dots$

A language consists of a **syntax** (rules to aggregate symbols), ...

- **set A of atomic formulas**
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- **A formula is**
 - an atomic formula
 - if F is a formula, then $\neg F$ is a formula
 - if F and G are formulas, then $(F \circ G)$ is a formula, where \circ is a binary connective.
 - if F is a formula, $(\forall x) F$ and $(\exists x) F$ are formulas, where x is a variable.

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 - unbound variables are **free**.
- A **closed formula** or ***statement*** is a formula with no free variables.

Another example: Peano arithmetics

- **Alphabet**

- *terms:*

- *constants:* 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
 - *variables:* x, y, z, \dots
 - *functors (arity):* 0/0, +/2, */2

- *predicates (arity):* </2, \leq /2, \approx /2, ...

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- **Examples:**

$$(\forall x) (\forall y) (x \leq y \equiv (\exists z) (x+z \approx y))$$

$$(\exists x) (\forall y) (x+y \approx y)$$

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- *quantifiers:* ∀, ∃

- *propositional logic connective* T, ⊥, ¬, ∧, ∨, ⊃, ≡, ...



*trade-off between complexity of
signature and of quantification*

- **Examples:**

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- An **assignment** A instantiates each variable v by giving it a value v^A taken from D .

A language consists of a **semantic** (rules to interpret it)

- Terms are interpreted recursively from the interpretation of their elements: for each term t , $t^{I,A}$ is defined as:
 - c^I for a constant c ,
 - v^A for a variable v ,
 - $f^I(t_1^{I,A}, t_2^{I,A}, \dots, t_n^{I,A})$ for a functional term $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$.
- A **model** $M(D, I)$ is defined by the domain D and the interpretation I .

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 $P(t_1, \dots, t_n)^{I,A} = \mathbf{V}$ if and only if $(t_1^{I,A}, \dots, t_n^{I,A}) \in P^I$
- $\top^{I,A} = \mathbf{V}$; $\perp^{I,A} = \mathbf{F}$
- $(\neg X)^{I,A} = \neg X^{I,A}$
- $(X \circ Y)^{I,A} = X^{I,A} \bullet Y^{I,A}$ for coupled operators \circ and \bullet
- $((\forall x) F)^{I,A} = \mathbf{V}$ if and only if $F^{I,B} = \mathbf{V}$ for all assignment B equal to A save for x.
- $((\exists x) F)^{I,A} = \mathbf{V}$ if and only if $F^{I,B} = \mathbf{V}$ for (at least) one assignment B equal to A save for x.

Semantics of formulas

- A formula F is *true* in $M(D,I)$
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if $F^{I,A} = \mathbf{V}$ for all assignments A .
- A formula F is **valid**
if F is true in any $M(D,I)$.
- A set S of formulas is **satisfiable** in $M(D,I)$
if there exists (at least) an assignment A such
that $F^{I,A} = \mathbf{V}$ for all F belonging to S .

NOTA BENE: A formula F is **valid**
if and only if $\{\neg F\}$ is not satisfiable.

Example

- Consider
 - the domain $D = \{\text{"France"}, \text{"Vatican"}, \text{"Japan"}, \text{"to have diplomatic relations with"}\}$
 - in the interpretation I which matches f to f^I as "France", ...
 D to the only relation of D ,
- We can then evaluate the truth and validity of formula as $D(x, y)$, $D(\text{france}, \text{vatican})$, and all their combinations

Herbrand model

- A model $M(D, I)$ for a first-order language L is an **Herbrand model**, if and only if:
 - D contains only closed terms of L
 - For each closed term t , $t^I = t$

Noting with $F\{v/d\}$ the outcome of a substitution of v by d in F (note that $F\{v/d\}$ is still a formula!)...

In an Herbrand model:

- For any formula F , **$(\forall v) F$ is true** if and only if $F\{v/d\}$ is true for any $d \in D$
- For any formula F , **$(\exists v) F$ is true** if and only if $F\{v/d\}$ is true for at least a $d \in D$

Replacing quantifiers

- $M(D,I)$ is an Herbrand Model for a first order language L :
- If γ is a formula of L , γ is true in M if and only if $\gamma(d)$ is true for any $d \in D$;
- If δ is a formula of L , δ is true in M if and only if $\delta(d)$ is true for (at least a) $d \in D$

γ -rule	$\gamma(d)$
$(\forall x) F$	$F\{x/d\}$
$\neg(\exists x) F$	$\neg F\{x/d\}$

δ -rule	$\delta(d)$
$(\exists x) F$	$F\{x/d\}$
$\neg(\forall x) F$	$\neg F\{x/d\}$

Example of resolution

$$((\forall x) (P(x) \vee Q(x)) \supset ((\exists x) P(x) \vee (\forall x) Q(x)))$$

start from the negated formula (refutation):

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9. $[P(c), Q(c)]$ modification of 9. (β -rule)

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11. $[\]$ resolving clause of 6. and 10.

Prenex form

- A formula is in **prenex** form if it is written as a sequence of quantifiers (prefix) followed by a quantifier-free part (matrix).

 prefix matrix
 $(Q_1 x_1) \dots (Q_n x_n) M$

$Q_i \in \{\forall, \exists\}$

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helpers

$\neg(\exists x) A(x) \equiv (\forall x) \neg A(x)$
 $\neg(\forall x) A(x) \equiv (\exists x) \neg A(x)$
 $((\forall x) A(x) \wedge B) \equiv (\forall x) (A(x) \wedge B)$
 $(A \wedge (\forall x) B(x)) \equiv (\forall x) (A \wedge B(x))$
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 $((\forall x) A(x) \supset B) \equiv (\exists x) (A(x) \supset B)$
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non-deterministic process

a good practice: existential quantifiers in the *leftmost* possible positions.

helpers

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$$((\forall x) A(x)) \wedge B \equiv (\forall x) (A(x) \wedge B)$$

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Example

$$(\forall x) (\exists y) \neg(A(x) \supset A(y))$$

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Skolemization

- Skolemization is a transformation in which a formula in prenex form, as

$$(Q_1x_1) (Q_2x_2) \dots (\exists x_k) \dots (Q_nx_n) F$$

is transformed in

$$(Q_1x_1) (Q_2x_2) \dots (Q_nx_n) F\{x_k/f(x_1, x_2 \dots x_{k-1})\}$$

where f is a new functor (called ***Skolem function***) that does not belong to the language.

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- The two formulas are not equivalent, but they have the same satisfiability.

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non-deterministic process

a good practice: start from external quantifiers

Herbrand model lemma

- Let S be a set of statements in Skolem form

S has a model

if and only if

S has a Herbrand model

Automatic proving in practice

To prove the validity of a formula F :

- rename variables if necessary,
e.g. $((\forall x) p(x) \supset (\forall x) r(x))$ in $((\forall x) p(x) \supset (\forall y) r(y))$
- transform $\neg F$ in prenex form
- skolemize
- remove the quantifiers
- transform in CNF
- use the resolution method
- apply unification

