First-Order Logic

Outline

- First-order logic
  - Properties, relations, functions, quantifiers, …
  - Terms, sentences, axioms, theories, proofs, …
- Extensions to first-order logic
- Logical agents
  - Reflex agents
  - Representing change: situation calculus, frame problem
  - Preferences on actions
  - Goal-based agents

First-order logic

- First-order logic (FOL) models the world in terms of
  - **Objects,** which are things with individual identities
  - **Properties** of objects that distinguish them from other objects
  - **Relations** that hold among sets of objects
  - **Functions,** which are a subset of relations where there is only one "value" for any given "input"
- Examples:
  - Objects: Students, lectures, companies, cars ...
  - Relations: Brother-of, bigger-than, outside, part-of, has-color, occurs-after, owns, visits, precedes, ...
  - Properties: blue, oval, even, large, ...
  - Functions: father-of, best-friend, second-half, one-more-than ...

User provides

- **Constant symbols,** which represent individuals in the world
  - Mary
  - 3
  - Green
- **Function symbols,** which map individuals to individuals
  - father-of(Mary) = John
  - color-of(Sky) = Blue
- **Predicate symbols,** which map individuals to truth values
  - greater(5,3)
  - green(Grass)
  - color(Grass, Green)

FOL Provides

- **Variable symbols**
  – E.g., x, y, foo
- **Connectives**
  – Same as in PL: not (¬), and (∧), or (∨), implies (→), if and only if (biconditional ↔)
- **Quantifiers**
  – Universal ∀**x** or **(Ax)**
  – Existential ∃**x** or **(Ex)**

Sentences are built from terms and atoms

- A **term** (denoting a real-world individual) is a constant symbol, a variable symbol, or an n-place function of n terms.
  - x and f(x_1, ..., x_n) are terms, where each x_i is a term.
  - A term with no variables is a **ground term**
- An **atomic sentence** (which has value true or false) is an n-place predicate of n terms
- A **complex sentence** is formed from atomic sentences connected by the logical connectives:
  - $\neg P$, $P \vee Q$, $P \wedge Q$, $P \rightarrow Q$, $P \leftrightarrow Q$ where P and Q are sentences
- A **quantified sentence** adds quantifiers $\forall$ and $\exists$
- A **well-formed formula (wff)** is a sentence containing no "free" variables. That is, all variables are "bound" by universal or existential quantifiers.
  - $(\forall x)P(x,y)$ has x bound as a universally quantified variable, but y is free.

Quantifiers

- **Universal quantification**
  - $(\forall x)P(x)$ means that P holds for **all** values of x in the domain associated with that variable
  - E.g., $(\forall x)$ dolphin(x) $\rightarrow$ mammal(x)
- **Existential quantification**
  - $(\exists\, x)P(x)$ means that P holds for **some** value of x in the domain associated with that variable
  - E.g., $(\exists\, x)$ mammal(x) $\wedge$ lays-eggs(x)
  - Permits one to make a statement about some object without naming it

Quantifiers

- Universal quantifiers are often used with “implies” to form “rules”:

  $(\forall x)$ student(x) $\rightarrow$ smart(x) means “All students are smart”

- Universal quantification is *rarely* used to make blanket statements about every individual in the world:

  $(\forall x)$student(x)$\wedge$smart(x) means “Everyone in the world is a student and is smart”

- Existential quantifiers are usually used with “and” to specify a list of properties about an individual:

  $(\exists x)$ student(x) $\wedge$ smart(x) means “There is a student who is smart”

- A common mistake is to represent this English sentence as the FOL sentence:

  $(\exists x)$ student(x) $\rightarrow$ smart(x)

  – But what happens when there is a person who is *not* a student?

Quantifier Scope

- Switching the order of universal quantifiers *does not* change the meaning:
  - $(\forall x)(\forall y)P(x,y) \leftrightarrow (\forall y)(\forall x)\ P(x,y)$
- Similarly, you can switch the order of existential quantifiers:
  - $(\exists x)(\exists y)P(x,y) \leftrightarrow (\exists y)(\exists x)\ P(x,y)$
- Switching the order of universals and existentials *does* change meaning:
  - Everyone likes someone: $(\forall x)(\exists y)$ likes(x,y)
  - Someone is liked by everyone: $(\exists y)(\forall x)$ likes(x,y)

Connections between All and Exists

We can relate sentences involving $\forall$ and $\exists$ using De Morgan's laws:

$(\forall x)\ \neg P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg(\exists x)\ P(x)$

$\neg(\forall x)\ P \leftrightarrow (\exists x)\ \neg P(x)$

$(\forall x)\ P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg\ (\exists x)\ \neg P(x)$

$(\exists x)\ P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg(\forall x)\ \neg P(x)$

Quantified inference rules

- Universal instantiation
  - $\forall x\ P(x)\ \therefore\ P(A)$
- Universal generalization
  - $P(A) \wedge P(B) \ldots \therefore\ \forall x\ P(x)$
- Existential instantiation
  - $\exists x\ P(x)\ \therefore P(F)$ ← **skolem constant F**
- Existential generalization
  - $P(A)\ \therefore\ \exists x\ P(x)$

Universal instantiation (a.k.a. universal elimination)

- If $(\forall x)\ P(x)$ is true, then $P(C)$ is true, where C is *any* constant in the domain of x
- Example:

  $(\forall x)$ eats(Ziggy, x) $\Rightarrow$ eats(Ziggy, IceCream)
- The variable symbol can be replaced by any ground term, i.e., any constant symbol or function symbol applied to ground terms only

Existential instantiation (a.k.a. existential elimination)

- From $(\exists x)\ P(x)$ infer $P(c)$
- Example:
  - $(\exists x)$ eats(Ziggy, x) $\rightarrow$ eats(Ziggy, Stuff)
- Note that the variable is replaced by a **brand-new constant** not occurring in this or any other sentence in the KB
- Also known as skolemization; constant is a **skolem constant**
- In other words, we don’t want to accidentally draw other inferences about it by introducing the constant
- Convenient to use this to reason about the unknown object, rather than constantly manipulating the existential quantifier

Existential generalization (a.k.a. existential introduction)

- If P(c) is true, then $(\exists x)$ P(x) is inferred.
- Example

  eats(Ziggy, IceCream) $\Rightarrow$ $(\exists x)$ eats(Ziggy, x)
- All instances of the given constant symbol are replaced by the new variable symbol
- Note that the variable symbol cannot already exist anywhere in the expression

Translating English to FOL

Every gardener likes the sun.

$\forall x\ gardener(x) \rightarrow likes(x,Sun)$

You can fool some of the people all of the time.

$\exists x\ \forall t\ \ person(x) \wedge time(t) \rightarrow can\text{-}fool(x,t)$

You can fool all of the people some of the time.

$\forall x\ \exists t\ (person(x) \rightarrow time(t) \wedge can\text{-}fool(x,t))$

$\forall x\ (person(x) \rightarrow \exists t\ (time(t) \wedge can\text{-}fool(x,t)))$

Equivalent

All purple mushrooms are poisonous.

$\forall x\ (mushroom(x) \wedge purple(x)) \rightarrow poisonous(x)$

No purple mushroom is poisonous.

$\neg\exists x\ purple(x) \wedge mushroom(x) \wedge poisonous(x)$

$\forall x\ \ (mushroom(x) \wedge purple(x)) \rightarrow \neg poisonous(x)$

Equivalent

There are exactly two purple mushrooms.

$\exists x\ \exists y\ mushroom(x) \wedge purple(x) \wedge mushroom(y) \wedge purple(y) \wedge \neg(x=y) \wedge \forall z\ (mushroom(z) \wedge purple(z)) \rightarrow ((x=z) \vee (y=z))$

Clinton is not tall.

$\neg tall(Clinton)$

X is above Y iff X is on directly on top of Y or there is a pile of one or more other objects directly on top of one another starting with X and ending with Y.

$\forall x\ \forall y\ above(x,y) \leftrightarrow (on(x,y) \vee\ \exists z\ (on(x,z) \wedge above(z,y)))$

Monty Python and The Art of Fallacy

Cast

- **Sir Bedevere the Wise**, master of (odd) logic
- **King Arthur**
- **Villager 1**, witch-hunter
- **Villager 2**, ex-newt
- **Villager 3**, one-line wonder
- **All**, the rest of you scoundrels, mongrels, and nere-do-wells.

An example from Monty Python by way of Russell & Norvig

- **FIRST VILLAGER:** We have found a witch. May we burn her?
- **ALL:** A witch! Burn her!
- **BEDEVERE:** Why do you think she is a witch?
- **SECOND VILLAGER:** She turned *me* into a newt.
- **B:** A newt?
- **V2** *(after looking at himself for some time)*: I got better.
- **ALL:** Burn her anyway.
- **B:** Quiet! Quiet! There are ways of telling whether she is a witch.

Example: A simple genealogy KB by FOL

- **Build a small genealogy knowledge base using FOL that**
  – contains facts of immediate family relations (spouses, parents, etc.)
  – contains definitions of more complex relations (ancestors, relatives)
  – is able to answer queries about relationships between people
- **Predicates:**
  – parent(x, y), child(x, y), father(x, y), daughter(x, y), etc.
  – spouse(x, y), husband(x, y), wife(x,y)
  – ancestor(x, y), descendant(x, y)
  – male(x), female(y)
  – relative(x, y)
- **Facts:**
  – husband(Joe, Mary), son(Fred, Joe)
  – spouse(John, Nancy), male(John), son(Mark, Nancy)
  – father(Jack, Nancy), daughter(Linda, Jack)
  – daughter(Liz, Linda)
  – etc.

- **Rules for genealogical relations**
  - $(\forall x,y)$ parent(x, y) $\leftrightarrow$ child (y, x)
    $(\forall x,y)$ father(x, y) $\leftrightarrow$ parent(x, y) $\wedge$ male(x) (similarly for mother(x, y))
    $(\forall x,y)$ daughter(x, y) $\leftrightarrow$ child(x, y) $\wedge$ female(x) (similarly for son(x, y))
  - $(\forall x,y)$ husband(x, y) $\leftrightarrow$ spouse(x, y) $\wedge$ male(x) (similarly for wife(x, y))
    $(\forall x,y)$ spouse(x, y) $\leftrightarrow$ spouse(y, x) (**spouse relation is symmetric**)
  - $(\forall x,y)$ parent(x, y) $\rightarrow$ ancestor(x, y)
    $(\forall x,y)(\exists z)$ parent(x, z) $\wedge$ ancestor(z, y) $\rightarrow$ ancestor(x, y)
  - $(\forall x,y)$ descendant(x, y) $\leftrightarrow$ ancestor(y, x)
  - $(\forall x,y)(\exists z)$ ancestor(z, x) $\wedge$ ancestor(z, y) $\rightarrow$ relative(x, y)
    (related by common ancestry)
    $(\forall x,y)$ spouse(x, y) $\rightarrow$ relative(x, y) (related by marriage)
    $(\forall x,y)(\exists z)$ relative(z, x) $\wedge$ relative(z, y) $\rightarrow$ relative(x, y) (**transitive**)
    $(\forall x,y)$ relative(x, y) $\leftrightarrow$ relative(y, x) **(symmetric**)
- **Queries**
  - ancestor(Jack, Fred) /* the answer is yes */
  - relative(Liz, Joe) /* the answer is yes */
  - relative(Nancy, Matthew)
    /* no answer in general, no if under closed world assumption */
  - $(\exists z)$ ancestor(z, Fred) $\wedge$ ancestor(z, Liz)

Semantics of FOL

- **Domain M**: the set of all objects in the world (of interest)
- **Interpretation I**: includes
  - Assign each constant to an object in M
  - Define each function of n arguments as a mapping M^n => M
  - Define each predicate of n arguments as a mapping M^n => {T, F}
  - Therefore, every ground predicate with any instantiation will have a truth value
  - In general there is an infinite number of interpretations because |M| is infinite
- **Define logical connectives**: **~, ^, ∨, =>, <=>** as in PL
- **Define semantics of (∀x) and (∃x)**
  - (∀x) P(x) is true iff P(x) is true under all interpretations
  - (∃x) P(x) is true iff P(x) is true under some interpretation

- **Model**: an interpretation of a set of sentences such that every sentence is *True*
- **A sentence is**
  - **satisfiable** if it is true under some interpretation
  - **valid** if it is true under all possible interpretations
  - **inconsistent** if there does not exist any interpretation under which the sentence is true
- **Logical consequence**: S |= X if all models of S are also models of X

Axioms, definitions and theorems

- **Axioms** are facts and rules that attempt to capture all of the (important) facts and concepts about a domain; axioms can be used to prove **theorems**
  - Mathematicians don't want any unnecessary (dependent) axioms –ones that can be derived from other axioms
  - Dependent axioms can make reasoning faster, however
  - Choosing a good set of axioms for a domain is a kind of design problem
- A **definition** of a predicate is of the form "$p(X) \leftrightarrow \ldots$" and can be decomposed into two parts
  - **Necessary** description: "$p(x) \rightarrow \ldots$"
  - **Sufficient** description "$p(x) \leftarrow \ldots$"
  - Some concepts don't have complete definitions (e.g., person(x))

More on definitions

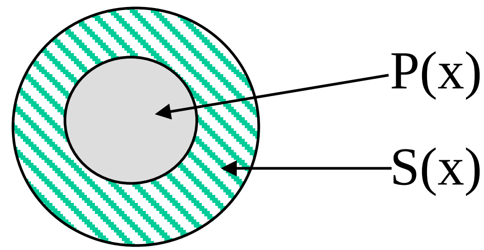
- A **necessary** condition must be satisfied for a statement to be true.
- A **sufficient** condition, if satisfied, assures the statement's truth.
- Duality: "P is sufficient for Q" is the same as "Q is necessary for P."
- Examples: define father(x, y) by parent(x, y) and male(x)
  - parent(x, y) is a necessary (**but not sufficient**) description of father(x, y)
    - father(x, y) → parent(x, y)
  - parent(x, y) ^ male(x) ^ age(x, 35) is a **sufficient** (**but not necessary**) description of father(x, y):

    father(x, y) ← parent(x, y) ^ male(x) ^ age(x, 35)
  - parent(x, y) ^ male(x) is a **necessary and sufficient** description of father(x, y)

    parent(x, y) ^ male(x) ↔ father(x, y)

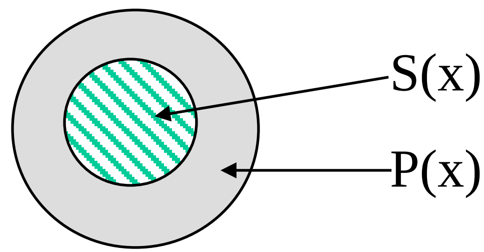
More on definitions

S(x) is a necessary condition of P(x)



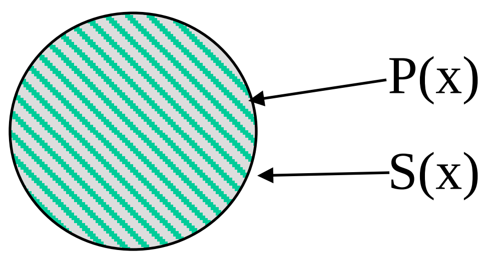
$(\forall x)\ P(x) \Rightarrow S(x)$

S(x) is a sufficient condition of P(x)



$(\forall x)\ P(x) \Leftarrow S(x)$

S(x) is a necessary and sufficient condition of P(x)



$(\forall x)\ P(x) \Leftrightarrow S(x)$

Thank You