

# Artificial Intelligence Methods

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# First-Order Logic

\*see (Russel & Norvig, 2004) Chapter 8

# Outline

- Why FOL?
- Syntax and semantics of FOL
- Using FOL
- Wumpus world in FOL
- Knowledge engineering in FOL

## Pros and cons of propositional logic

- ☺ Propositional logic is **declarative**
- ☺ Propositional logic allows partial/disjunctive/negated information
  - (unlike most data structures and databases)
- ☺ Propositional logic is **compositional**:
  - meaning of  $B_{1,1} \wedge P_{1,2}$  is derived from meaning of  $B_{1,1}$  and of  $P_{1,2}$
- ☺ Meaning in propositional logic is **context-independent**
  - (unlike natural language, where meaning depends on context)
- ☹ Propositional logic has very limited expressive power
  - (unlike natural language)
  - E.g., cannot say "pits cause breezes in adjacent squares"
    - except by writing one sentence for each square

# Logic in general

- Ontological Commitment: What exists in the world — **TRUTH**
- Epistemological Commitment: What an agent believes about facts — **BELIEF**

Language	Ontological Commitment	Epistemological Commitment
Propositional logic	facts	true/false/unknown
First-order logic	facts, objects, relations	true/false/unknown
Temporal logic	facts, objects, relations, times	true/false/unknown
Probability theory	facts	degree of belief $\in [0, 1]$
Fuzzy logic	degree of truth $\in [0, 1]$	known interval value

## First-order logic

- Whereas propositional logic assumes the world contains **facts**,
- first-order logic (like natural language) assumes the world contains
  - **Objects**: people, houses, numbers, colors, baseball games, wars, ...
  - **Relations**: red, round, prime, brother of, bigger than, part of, comes between, ...
  - **Functions**: father of, best friend, one more than, plus, ...

### Basic FOL elements:

- |              |                        |               |  |
|--------------|------------------------|---------------|--|
| • Constants  | KingJohn, 2, UNIBI,... | • Connectives | $\neg, \Rightarrow, \wedge, \vee, \Leftrightarrow$ |
| • Predicates | Brother, >,...         | • Equality    | =  |
| • Functions  | Sqrt, LeftLegOf,...    | • Quantifiers | $\forall, \exists$                                 |
| • Variables  | x, y, a, b,...         |               |  |

# FOL Syntax

## Term:

*function* ( $term_1, \dots, term_n$ )  
or *constant* or *variable*

## Atomic sentence:

*predicate* ( $term_1, \dots, term_n$ )  
or  $term_1 = term_2$

E.g.,

- *Brother*(*KingJohn*, *RichardTheLionheart*)
- $>(\text{Length}(\text{LeftLegOf}(\text{Richard})), \text{Length}(\text{LeftLegOf}(\text{KingJohn})))$

## Complex sentences:

made from atomic sentences  
using connectives

$\neg S, S_1 \wedge S_2, S_1 \vee S_2, S_1 \Rightarrow S_2, S_1 \Leftrightarrow S_2,$

E.g.

- *Sibling*(*KingJohn*, *Richard*)  $\Rightarrow$  *Sibling*(*Richard*, *KingJohn*)
- $>(1,2) \vee \leq (1,2)$
- $>(1,2) \wedge \neg >(1,2)$

<i>Sentence</i>	$\rightarrow$	<i>AtomicSentence</i>
		( <i>Sentence</i> <i>Connective</i> <i>Sentence</i> )
		<i>Quantifier</i> <i>Variable</i> , ... <i>Sentence</i>
		$\neg$ <i>Sentence</i>
<i>AtomicSentence</i>	$\rightarrow$	<i>Predicate</i> ( <i>Term</i> , ...)   <i>Term</i> = <i>Term</i>
<i>Term</i>	$\rightarrow$	<i>Function</i> ( <i>Term</i> , ...)
		<i>Constant</i>
		<i>Variable</i>
<i>Connective</i>	$\rightarrow$	$\Rightarrow$   $\wedge$   $\vee$   $\Leftrightarrow$
<i>Quantifier</i>	$\rightarrow$	$\forall$   $\exists$
<i>Constant</i>	$\rightarrow$	<i>A</i>   <i>X<sub>1</sub></i>   <i>John</i>   ...
<i>Variable</i>	$\rightarrow$	<i>a</i>   <i>x</i>   <i>s</i>   ...
<i>Predicate</i>	$\rightarrow$	<i>Before</i>   <i>HasColor</i>   <i>Raining</i>   ...
<i>Function</i>	$\rightarrow$	<i>Mother</i>   <i>LeftLeg</i>

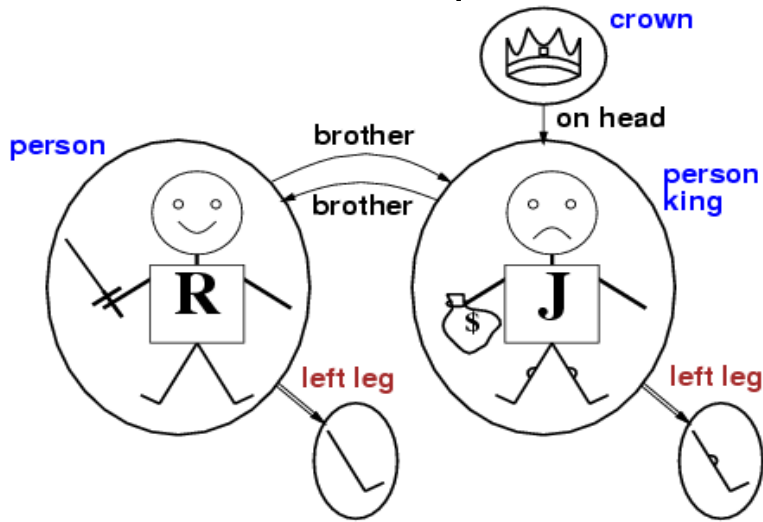
Syntax for FOL in BNF

# Truth in first-order logic

- Sentences are true with respect to a **model** and an **interpretation**
- Model contains objects (**domain elements**) and relations among them
- Interpretation specifies referents for
 

<b>constant symbols</b>	$\rightarrow$	<b>objects</b>
<b>predicate symbols</b>	$\rightarrow$	<b>relations</b>
<b>function symbols</b>	$\rightarrow$	<b>functional relations</b>
- An atomic sentence *predicate*( $term_1, \dots, term_n$ ) is true iff the **objects** referred to by  $term_1, \dots, term_n$  are in the **relation** referred to by *predicate*

## Models for FOL: Example



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## Models for FOL

- We can enumerate the models for a given KB vocabulary:

For each number of domain elements  $n$  from 1 to  $\infty$   
For each  $k$ -ary predicate  $P_k$  in the vocabulary  
For each possible  $k$ -ary relation on  $n$  objects  
For each constant symbol  $C$  in the vocabulary  
For each choice of referent for  $C$  from  $n$  objects ...

- Computing entailment by enumerating the models will not be easy even for a finite number of elements in given domain!
- It is worse for an infinite number, e.g., for the domains of integers or real values.
  - Infinite number of possible models!
  - Infinite number of possible interpretations!

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# Universal quantification

$\forall \langle \text{variables} \rangle \langle \text{sentence} \rangle$

E.g., everyone at UNIBI is smart:  $\forall x \text{ At}(x, \text{UNIBI}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(x)$

- $\forall x P$  is true in a model  $m$  iff  $P$  is true with  $x$  being each possible object in the model
- Roughly speaking, equivalent to the **conjunction of instantiations** of  $P$ 
  - $\text{At}(\text{KingJohn}, \text{UNIBI}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(\text{KingJohn})$
  - $\wedge \quad \text{At}(\text{Richard}, \text{UNIBI}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(\text{Richard})$
  - $\wedge \quad \text{At}(\text{Table}, \text{UNIBI}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(\text{Table})$
  - $\wedge \dots$

A common mistake to avoid:

- Typically,  $\Rightarrow$  is the main connective with  $\forall$
- Common mistake: using  $\wedge$  as the main connective with  $\forall$ :  
 $\forall x \text{ At}(x, \text{UNIBI}) \wedge \text{Smart}(x)$   
...means "Everyone is at UNIBI and everyone is smart"

# Existential quantification

$\exists \langle \text{variables} \rangle \langle \text{sentence} \rangle$

E.g., someone at UNIBI is smart:  $\exists x \text{ At}(x, \text{UNIBI}) \wedge \text{Smart}(x)$

- $\exists x P$  is true in a model  $m$  iff  $P$  is true with  $x$  being some possible object in the model
- Roughly speaking, equivalent to the **disjunction of instantiations** of  $P$ 
  - $\text{At}(\text{KingJohn}, \text{UNIBI}) \wedge \text{Smart}(\text{KingJohn})$
  - $\vee \text{ At}(\text{Richard}, \text{UNIBI}) \wedge \text{Smart}(\text{Richard})$
  - $\vee \text{ At}(\text{UNIBI}, \text{UNIBI}) \wedge \text{Smart}(\text{UNIBI})$
  - $\vee \dots$

Another common mistake to avoid:

- Typically,  $\wedge$  is the main connective with  $\exists$
- Common mistake: using  $\Rightarrow$  as the main connective with  $\exists$ :  
 $\exists x \text{ At}(x, \text{UNIBI}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(x)$   
...is true if there is anyone who is not at UNIBI!

# Quantifiers/Equality

## Properties of quantifiers:

- $\forall x \forall y$  is the same as  $\forall y \forall x$
- $\exists x \exists y$  is the same as  $\exists y \exists x$
- $\exists x \forall y$  is **not** the same as  $\forall y \exists x$
- $\exists x \forall y \text{ Loves}(x,y)$ : “There is a person who loves everyone in the world”
- $\forall y \exists x \text{ Loves}(x,y)$ : “Everyone in the world is loved by at least one person”
- **Quantifier duality**: each can be expressed using the other
- $\forall x \text{ Likes}(x, \text{IceCream}) \quad \neg \exists x \neg \text{Likes}(x, \text{IceCream})$
- $\exists x \text{ Likes}(x, \text{Broccoli}) \quad \neg \forall x \neg \text{Likes}(x, \text{Broccoli})$

## Equality:

- $\text{term}_1 = \text{term}_2$  is true under a given interpretation if and only if  $\text{term}_1$  and  $\text{term}_2$  refer to the same object
- E.g., definition of *Sibling* in terms of *Parent*:  
$$\forall x, y \text{ Sibling}(x, y) \Leftrightarrow [\neg(x = y) \wedge \exists m, f \neg (m = f) \wedge \text{Parent}(m, x) \wedge \text{Parent}(f, x) \wedge \text{Parent}(m, y) \wedge \text{Parent}(f, y)]$$

# Using FOL

## The kinship domain:

1. Domain objects: humans
  2. Two unary predicates *Male* and *Female*, binary predicates for kinship relations
  3. Functions for *Mother* and *Father* since they are unique for an individual.
- One's mother is one's female parent:  
$$\forall m, c \text{ Mother}(c) = m \Leftrightarrow (\text{Female}(m) \wedge \text{Parent}(m, c))$$
  - Husband is one's male spouse:  
$$\forall w, h \text{ Husband}(w, h) \Leftrightarrow (\text{Male}(h) \wedge \text{Spouse}(h, w))$$
  - Male and female are disjoint categories:  
$$\forall x \text{ Male}(x) \Leftrightarrow \neg \text{Female}(x)$$
  - Parent and child are inverse relations:  
$$\forall p, c \text{ Parent}(p, c) \Leftrightarrow \text{Child}(c, p)$$
  - “Sibling” is symmetric  
$$\forall x, y \text{ Sibling}(x, y) \Leftrightarrow \text{Sibling}(y, x)$$
  - A grandparent is a parent of one's parents:  
$$\forall g, c \text{ Grandparent}(g, c) \Leftrightarrow \exists p \text{ Parent}(g, p) \wedge \text{Parent}(p, c)$$
  - A sibling is another child of one's parents:  
$$\forall x, y \text{ Sibling}(x, y) \Leftrightarrow x \neq y \wedge \exists p \text{ Parent}(p, x) \wedge \text{Parent}(p, y)$$