

First-Order Logic in Artificial intelligence

In the topic of Propositional logic, we have seen that how to represent statements using propositional logic. But unfortunately, in propositional logic, we can only represent the facts, which are either true or false. PL is not sufficient to represent the complex sentences or natural language statements. The propositional logic has very limited expressive power. Consider the following sentence, which we cannot represent using PL logic.

- **"Some humans are intelligent", or**
- **"Sachin likes cricket."**

To represent the above statements, PL logic is not sufficient, so we required some more powerful logic, such as first-order logic.

First-Order logic:

- First-order logic is another way of knowledge representation in artificial intelligence. It is an extension to propositional logic.
- FOL is sufficiently expressive to represent the natural language statements in a concise way.
- First-order logic is also known as **Predicate logic or First-order predicate logic**. First-order logic is a powerful language that develops information about the objects in a more easy way and can also express the relationship between those objects.
- First-order logic (like natural language) does not only assume that the world contains facts like propositional logic but also assumes the following things in the world:
 - **Objects:** A, B, people, numbers, colors, wars, theories, squares, pits, wumpus,
 - **Relations:** It can be unary relation such as: red, round, is adjacent, or n-any relation such as: the sister of, brother of, has color, comes between
 - **Function:** Father of, best friend, third inning of, end of,
- As a natural language, first-order logic also has two main parts:
 - a. **Syntax**
 - b. **Semantics**

Syntax of First-Order logic:

The syntax of FOL determines which collection of symbols is a logical expression in first-order logic. The basic syntactic elements of first-order logic are symbols. We write statements in short-hand notation in FOL.

Basic Elements of First-order logic:

Following are the basic elements of FOL syntax:



Constant	1, 2, A, John, Mumbai, cat,....
Variables	x, y, z, a, b,....
Predicates	Brother, Father, >,....
Function	sqrt, LeftLegOf, ...
Connectives	\wedge , \vee , \neg , \Rightarrow , \Leftrightarrow
Equality	$=$
Quantifier	\forall , \exists

Atomic sentences:

- Atomic sentences are the most basic sentences of first-order logic. These sentences are formed from a predicate symbol followed by a parenthesis with a sequence of terms.
- We can represent atomic sentences as **Predicate (term1, term2,, term n)**.

Example: Ravi and Ajay are brothers: \Rightarrow Brothers(Ravi, Ajay).

Chinky is a cat: \Rightarrow cat (Chinky).

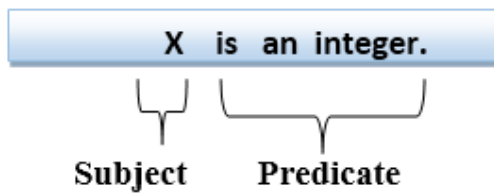
Complex Sentences:

- Complex sentences are made by combining atomic sentences using connectives.

First-order logic statements can be divided into two parts:

- Subject:** Subject is the main part of the statement.
- Predicate:** A predicate can be defined as a relation, which binds two atoms together in a statement.

Consider the statement: "x is an integer.", it consists of two parts, the first part x is the subject of the statement and second part "is an integer," is known as a predicate.



Quantifiers in First-order logic:

- A quantifier is a language element which generates quantification, and quantification specifies the quantity of specimen in the universe of discourse.
- These are the symbols that permit to determine or identify the range and scope of the variable in the logical expression. There are two types of quantifier:
 - a. **Universal Quantifier, (for all, everyone, everything)**
 - b. **Existential quantifier, (for some, at least one).**

Universal Quantifier:

Universal quantifier is a symbol of logical representation, which specifies that the statement within its range is true for everything or every instance of a particular thing.

The Universal quantifier is represented by a symbol \forall , which resembles an inverted A.



Note: In universal quantifier we use implication " \rightarrow ".

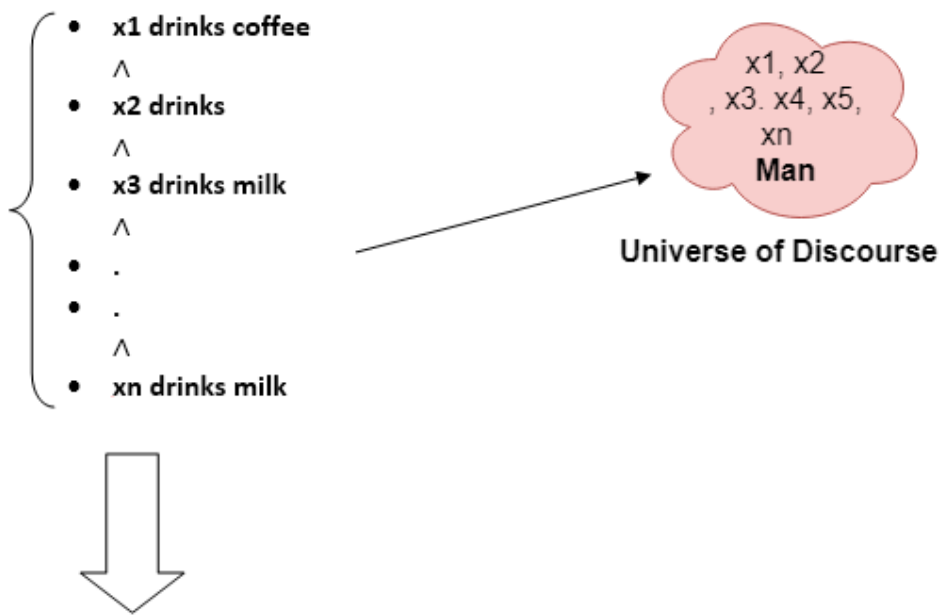
If x is a variable, then $\forall x$ is read as:

- **For all x**
- **For each x**
- **For every x.**

Example:

All man drink coffee.

Let a variable x which refers to a cat so all x can be represented in UOD as below:



So in shorthand notation, we can write it as :

$\forall x \text{ man}(x) \rightarrow \text{drink}(x, \text{coffee}).$

It will be read as: There are all x where x is a man who drink coffee.

Existential Quantifier:

Existential quantifiers are the type of quantifiers, which express that the statement within its scope is true for at least one instance of something.

It is denoted by the logical operator \exists , which resembles as inverted E. When it is used with a predicate variable then it is called as an existential quantifier.



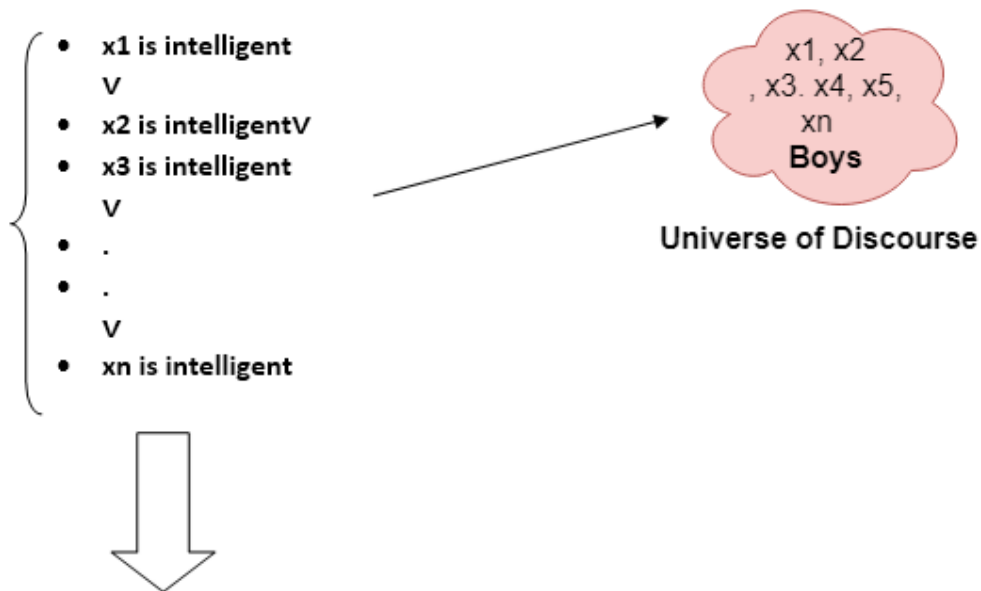
Note: In Existential quantifier we always use AND or Conjunction symbol (\wedge).

If x is a variable, then existential quantifier will be $\exists x$ or $\exists(x)$. And it will be read as:

- **There exists a 'x.'**
- **For some 'x.'**
- **For at least one 'x.'**

Example:

Some boys are intelligent.



$\exists x: \text{boys}(x) \wedge \text{intelligent}(x)$

It will be read as: There are some x where x is a boy who is intelligent.

Points to remember:

- The main connective for universal quantifier \forall is implication \rightarrow .
- The main connective for existential quantifier \exists is and \wedge .

Properties of Quantifiers:

- In universal quantifier, $\forall x \forall y$ is similar to $\forall y \forall x$.
- In Existential quantifier, $\exists x \exists y$ is similar to $\exists y \exists x$.
- $\exists x \forall y$ is not similar to $\forall y \exists x$.

Some Examples of FOL using quantifier:

1. All birds fly.

In this question the predicate is "**fly(bird)**."

And since there are all birds who fly so it will be represented as follows.

$$\forall x \text{ bird}(x) \rightarrow \text{fly}(x).$$

2. Every man respects his parent.

In this question, the predicate is "**respect(x, y)**," where x =man, and y = parent.

Since there is every man so will use \forall , and it will be represented as follows:

$$\forall x \text{ man}(x) \rightarrow \text{respects}(x, \text{parent}).$$

3. Some boys play cricket.

In this question, the predicate is "**play(x, y)**," where **x= boys**, and **y= game**. Since there are some boys so we will use \exists , **and it will be represented as:**

$$\exists x \text{ boys}(x) \rightarrow \text{play}(x, \text{cricket}).$$

4. Not all students like both Mathematics and Science.

In this question, the predicate is "**like(x, y)**," where **x= student**, and **y= subject**.

Since there are not all students, so we will use \forall **with negation**, so following representation for this:

$$\neg \forall (x) [\text{student}(x) \rightarrow \text{like}(x, \text{Mathematics}) \wedge \text{like}(x, \text{Science})].$$

5. Only one student failed in Mathematics.

In this question, the predicate is "**failed(x, y)**," where **x= student**, and **y= subject**.

Since there is only one student who failed in Mathematics, so we will use following representation for this:

$$\exists (x) [\text{student}(x) \rightarrow \text{failed}(x, \text{Mathematics}) \wedge \forall (y) [\neg (x=y) \wedge \text{student}(y) \rightarrow \neg \text{failed}(x, \text{Mathematics})]].$$

Free and Bound Variables:

The quantifiers interact with variables which appear in a suitable way. There are two types of variables in First-order logic which are given below:

Free Variable: A variable is said to be a free variable in a formula if it occurs outside the scope of the quantifier.

Example: $\forall x \exists (y)[P(x, y, z)]$, where **z is a free variable**.

Bound Variable: A variable is said to be a bound variable in a formula if it occurs within the scope of the quantifier.

Example: $\forall x [A(x) B(y)]$, here **x and y are the bound variables**.

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