

# Unification in First-Order Logic

## Key conditions

- i) Same predicate symbol & the predicate symbols in the expressions must match
- ii) Same number of arguments & the expressions must have an equal number of arguments
- iii) variable conflict resolution: variables cannot take multiple conflicting values
- iv) No conflicting function symbols: different function symbols cannot unify

## Examples :-

- ① Expression A:  $\text{knows}(f(x, y), g(x))$   
Expression B:  $\text{knows}(f(\text{Alice}, \text{Bob}), g(z))$

## Steps :-

- i) By comparing the predicates, we arrive that Both are knows
- ii) Consider  $f(x, y) \Rightarrow f(\text{Alice}, \text{Bob})$   
 $x = \text{Alice}, y = \text{Bob}$   
 $g(x) \rightarrow g(z)$   
 $z = \text{Alice}$  (since  $x = \text{Alice}$ )
- iii)  $x = \text{Alice}$   
 $y = \text{Bob}$   
 $z = \text{Alice}$
- iv) Unified Expression  
 $\text{knows}(f(\text{Alice}, \text{Bob}), g(\text{Alice}))$

*Prm*  
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code:-

Knowledge base = [

{ "type": "rule", "rule": " $\forall x \forall y (\text{doctor}(x) \wedge \text{sick}(y) \rightarrow \text{Treats}(x, y))$ " }

{ "type": "fact", "fact": " $\text{Doctor}(\text{John})$ " }

{ "type": "fact", "fact": " $\exists x (\text{doctor}(x) \rightarrow \exists h (\text{hospital}(h) \wedge \text{worksAt}(x, h)))$ " }

{ "type": "fact", "fact": " $\text{Hospital}(\text{GeneralHospital})$ " },

{ "type": "fact", "fact": " $\text{worksAt}(\text{John}, \text{GeneralHospital})$ " },

]

query = { "predict": "Treats", "arguments": ["?", "mary"] }

def unify(kb, query):

    predicate = query["predicate"]

    target\_args = query["arguments"]

    result = None

    for item in kb:

        if item["type"] == "rule" and predicate in item["rule"]:

            rule = item["rule"]

            if " $\text{Doctor}(x)$ " in rule and " $\text{sick}(y)$ " in rule:

                doctor = None

                sick\_person = None

    for fact in kb:

        if fact["type"] == "fact" and "Doctor" in fact["fact"]:

            doctor = fact["fact"].split(" ")[1][:-1]

        if fact["type"] == "fact" and "sick" in fact["fact"]:

            sick\_person = fact["fact"].split(" ")[1][:-1]



if result:

return ('The query' {query["predict"]} {result},  
{target\_args}) 'is unified: {result} + treats  
{target\_arg}.'

else:

return "The query '{query} {query['predicates']} {  
query['arguments'][0]}, {target\_args}'  
could not required with knowledge base."

result = unify(knowledge\_base, query)

print(result)

Output:-

The query cant Access? , project x 'is unified:  
John Treats Mary