

CS172: COMPUTER SYSTEMS II

Lecture 11

Predicate Logic

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Progress of Logic

LiA §4



Aristotle, *Prior Analytics*, c. 350 BC



Augustus De Morgan, *Formal Logic or The Calculus of Inference*, 1847.

George Boole, *An Investigation of the Laws of Thought*, 1854.



John Venn *Symbolic Logic*, 1881.

Lewis Carroll *Symbolic Logic*, 1896.



Gottlob Frege, *Begriffsschrift: A Formal Language for Pure Thought*, 1879.

Limitations of Propositional Logic

Statement	Propositional translation
John reads	p
John walks	q
John sees Mary	r

- Propositional logic misses that these are all statements have something in common: they all concern *John*.

Limitations of Propositional Logic

Statement	Propositional translation	Predicate translation
John reads	p	
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- Propositional logic misses that these are all statements have something in common: they all concern *John*.
- Solution: Introduce **predicates** to represent properties and relations.

Statement	Predicate translation
x reads	R_x
x walks	W_x
x sees y	S_{xy}

Syntax: predicate symbols

Every predicate symbol has an **arity**, which is the number of operands it takes.

- Example: if L has an arity of 2, then it takes 2 arguments, Lxy
- Sometimes this is written explicitly, so that “ $L/2$ ” is different from “ $L/1$ ” (a kind of *overloading*)
- Names:

Arity	Name	
0	medadic	nullary
1	monadic	unary
2	dyadic	binary
3	triadic	ternary
n	n -adic	n -ary
	(Greek)	(Latin)

Syntax: *applying* predicate symbols to operands

- A predicate with **arity 2** represents a binary relation; for example we might write B_{xy} to indicate that x is bigger than y .

Java analogy:

```
public static boolean B(Person x, Person y)
```

- A predicate with **arity 1** represents a property or, equivalently, a (sub-)set; for example we might write T_x to indicate that x is tall.

Java analogy:

```
public static boolean T(Person x)
```

- A predicate with **arity 0** is really a proposition.
... analogous to a boolean variable in Java
- **Notation:** in predicate logic we write L_{xy} to state that “relationship L holds between x and y ”.
... analogous to asserting $L(x,y)$ in Java
... or writing $(L\ x\ y)$ in Lisp/ML/Haskell

The *formal language* of predicate logic

LiA §4.5

- ① Symbols for **constants**: a, b, c, \dots
- ② Symbols for **variables**: x, y, z, \dots
- ③ Symbols for **predicates**: A, B, C, \dots or P, Q, R, \dots
- ④ The five propositional **operators**: $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$
- ⑤ Two **quantifiers**:
 $(\forall x \dots)$ “for all $x \dots$ ”
 $(\exists x \dots)$ “there exists an $x \dots$ ”

First examples: one quantifier

LiA §4.1

Someone walks

Some boy walks

A boy walks

John sees a girl

A girl sees John

A girl sees herself

Everyone walks

Every boy walks

Every girl sees Mary

First examples: one quantifier

Someone walks

Some boy walks

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John sees a girl

A girl sees John

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Everyone walks

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Constants

j	John
m	Mary

Predicates

Bx	"x is a boy"
Gx	"x is a girl"

Predicates

Wx	"x walks"
Sxy	"x sees y"

Building up a *syntactically correct* formula

LiA §4.2

Once you have determined the constant and predicate symbols you want to use,

- you introduce (and *quantify*) the variables using for-all/there-exists
- and *join them up* using the (propositional) operators

Building up a *syntactically correct* formula

LiA §4.2

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Example of a syntactically correct formula:

$$(\forall x \cdot Sx \rightarrow (\exists y \cdot (Ty \vee Vxy) \wedge (\forall z \cdot \neg Rxyz)))$$

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Example of a syntactically correct formula:

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$$(\forall z \cdot \quad \quad)$$

Quantify the variable z

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Example of a syntactically correct formula:

$$(\forall x \cdot Sx \rightarrow (\exists y \cdot (Ty \vee Vxy) \wedge (\forall z \cdot \neg Rxyz)))$$

$$(\exists y \cdot (\forall z \cdot \neg Rxyz))$$

Quantify the variable y

Building up a *syntactically correct* formula

LiA §4.2

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Example of a syntactically correct formula:

$$(\forall x \cdot Sx \rightarrow (\exists y \cdot (Ty \vee Vxy) \wedge (\forall z \cdot \neg Rxyz)))$$

$$(\forall x \cdot (\exists y \cdot (\forall z \cdot)))$$

Quantify the variable x

Building up a *syntactically correct* formula

LiA §4.2

Once you have determined the constant and predicate symbols you want to use,

- you introduce (and *quantify*) the variables using for-all/there-exists
- and *join them up* using the (propositional) operators

Example of a syntactically correct formula:

$$(\forall x \cdot Sx \rightarrow (\exists y \cdot (Ty \vee Vxy) \wedge (\forall z \cdot \neg Rxyz)))$$

$$(\forall x \cdot (\exists y \cdot (\forall z \cdot$$

$$Sx \rightarrow ((Ty \vee Vxy) \wedge \neg Rxyz)$$

The formula *without* the quantifiers

Scope of a variable

Just like in Java, when we “declare” a variable using a quantifier it brings it **into scope**, until the matching end-parenthesis.

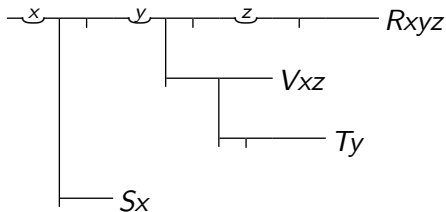
Example:

$$(\forall x \cdot Sx \rightarrow (\exists y \cdot (Ty \vee V_{xy}) \wedge (\forall z \cdot \neg R_{xyz})))$$

- Identify the **scope** of x , y and z
- Any variable under the scope of a quantifier is **bound**
- Any variable with *no* matching quantifier is **free**

Frege introduces quantification and scope

$$(\forall x \cdot Sx \rightarrow \neg(\forall y \cdot (\neg Ty \rightarrow Vxz) \rightarrow \neg(\forall z \cdot \neg Rxyz)))$$



Gottlob Frege,
Begriffsschrift: A Formal Language for Pure Thought,
 1879.

Example: syllogistic statements

All four kinds of sentence from Aristotle's syllogisms can be expressed in predicate logic

A	All A are B	$(\forall x \cdot Ax \rightarrow Bx)$
I	Some A are B	$(\exists x \cdot Ax \wedge Bx)$
E	All A are not B	$(\forall x \cdot Ax \rightarrow \neg Bx)$
	No A is B	$\neg(\exists x \cdot Ax \wedge Bx)$
O	Some A are not B	$(\exists x \cdot Ax \wedge \neg Bx)$
	Not all A are B	$\neg(\forall x \cdot Ax \rightarrow Bx)$

Common idiom: Note the use of

implies with for-all

conjunction with there-exists

Example: beyond syllogisms

- We can talk about **relations between objects**:

John sees Mary:

Mary sees John:

John gives Mary the book:

- We can express **more complicated quantifier patterns**:

Everyone sees someone:

Someone sees everyone:

Everyone is seen by someone:

Someone is seen by everyone:
