

# Lecture 19

## First Order Logic

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Reading for This Class:  
Chapter 8, Russell and Norvig

# Review

- **Last Class**
  - Inference
    - Resolution Algorithm
- **This Class**
  - First Order Logic
  - Start Homework 3
- **Next Class**
  - Learning

# Outline

- **Why first order logic?**
- **Syntax and semantics of first order logic**
- **Fun with sentences**

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- **Why first order logic?**
- **Syntax and semantics of first order logic**
- **Fun with sentences**

# Pros and Cons in Propositional Logic

- **Pro:** Propositional logic is **declarative**:
  - pieces of syntax correspond to facts
- **Pro:** Propositional logic allows partial/disjunctive/negated information
  - (unlike most data structures and databases)
- **Pro:** Propositional logic is **compositional**:
  - meaning of  $B_{1,1} \wedge P_{1,2}$  is derived from meaning of  $B_{1,1}$  and that of  $P_{1,2}$
- **Pro:** Meaning in propositional logic is **context-independent**
  - (unlike natural language, where meaning depends on context)
- **Con:** limited expressive power (unlike natural language)
  - Relationships among individuals: “Pits cause breezes in adjacent squares”, “Alice is a friend of Bob”
  - Generalizing patterns: “Every bear likes honey”, “All animals are living beings”

# First-Order Logic

- **Propositional logic:** assume that world contains facts
  - A logical system for reasoning about facts
- **First-order logic (FOL):** assume that the world contains objects, relations, and functions
  - A logical system for reasoning about relations among objects
  - **Objects:** people, houses, numbers, theories, Ronald McDonald, colors, baseball games, wars, ... (*nouns and noun phrases*)
  - **Relations:** unary relations or properties such as red, round, bogus, prime, multistoried ...,  
or n-ary relations such as brother of, inside, part of, has color, occurred after, owns, comes between, ... (*verbs, verb phrases, adjective, and adverb*)
  - **Functions:** father of, best friend, third inning of, one more than, end of ... (*a mapping from objects to objects*)
  - *E.g., “Squares neighboring the wumpus are smelly.”*  
*Objects: squares, wumpus; Relations: smelly (unary), neighboring (binary).*

# More Logics

Language	Ontological Commitment (what exists in the world)	Epistemological Commitment (what an agent believes about facts)
Propositional logic First-order logic Temporal logic Probability theory Fuzzy logic	facts facts, objects, relations facts, objects, relations, times facts facts + degree of truth	true/false/unknown true/false/unknown true/false/unknown degree of belief known interval value

## Higher-order logic:

**relations and functions operate not only on  
objects, but also on relations and functions**

# Outline

- Why first order logic?
- **Syntax and semantics of first order logic**
- Fun with sentences



# Syntax of First Order Logic

- **Symbols**

<b>Constants</b>	<i>KingJohn, 2, C, ...</i>	Stand for objects
<b>Predicates</b>	<i>Brother, &gt;, =, ...</i>	Stand for relations
<b>Functions</b>	<i>Sqrt, LeftLegOf, ...</i>	Stand for functions
<b>Variables</b>	<i>x, y, a, b, ...</i>	
<b>Connectives</b>	$\wedge \quad \vee \quad \neg \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Leftrightarrow$	
<b>Quantifiers</b>	$\forall \quad \exists$	

# Syntax of First Order Logic

- Atomic sentences

*predicate ( term<sub>1</sub>, ..., term<sub>n</sub> )*

or

*term<sub>1</sub> = term<sub>2</sub>*

- Term (object)

*constant*                      *//refers to a specified object*

or

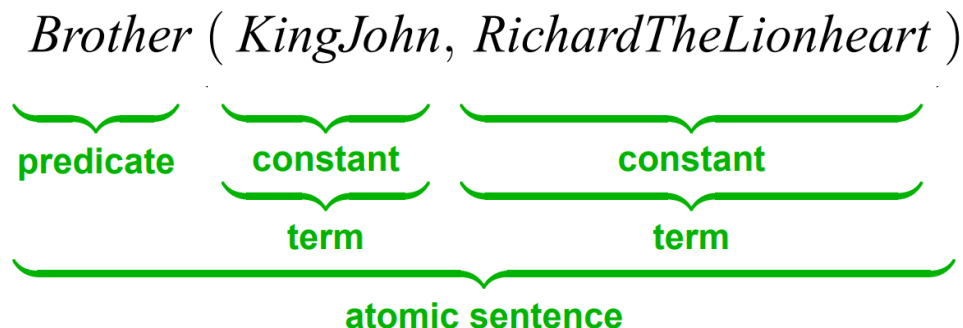
*variable*                      *//refers to an object without specifying a particular object;  
must have a quantifier in front of predicate(x)*

or

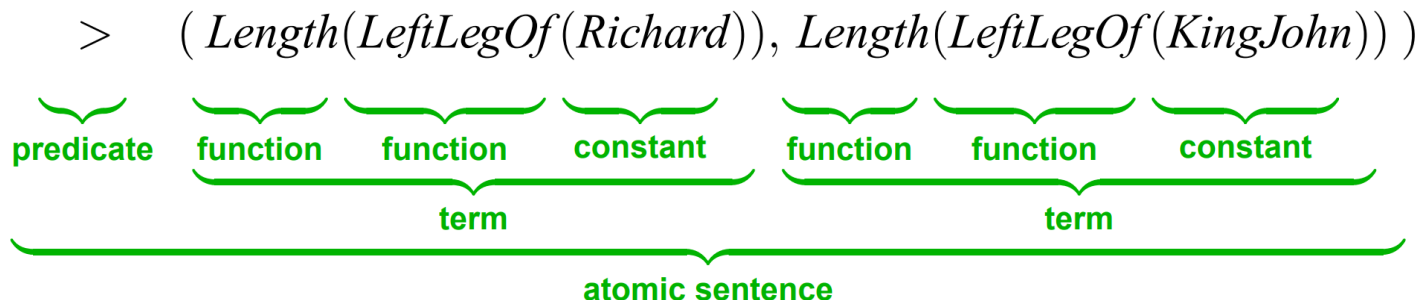
*function ( term<sub>1</sub>, ..., term<sub>n</sub> )* *//take objects as input and produce objects as output.*

# Syntax of First Order Logic

- **Atomic sentence examples**
- **KingJohn is a brother of RichardTheLionheart:**



- **The length of the left leg of Richard is longer than the length of the left leg of KingJohn**



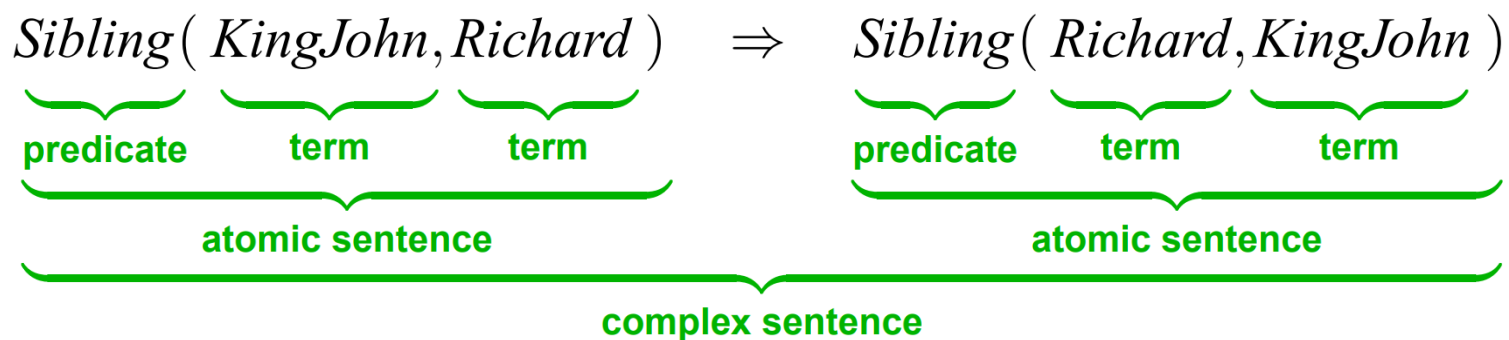
# Syntax of First Order Logic

- **Complex sentences**
  - Built from atomic sentences using connectives as in propositional logic

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

## Example:

If KingJohn is the sibling of Richard, then Richard is the sibling of KingJohn



# The language of First Order Logic

- **Terms**

- A variable is a term
- A constant symbol is a term
- If  $f$  is an  $n$ -ary function symbol and  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are  $n$  terms, then  $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is a term
- Nothing else is a term

- **Sentences**

- True (False) is a sentence
- If  $t_1, t_2$  are terms,  $t_1 = t_2$  is a sentence
- If  $p$  is an  $n$ -ary relation symbol and  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  are  $n$  terms,  $p(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is a sentence
- If  $\varphi$  is a sentence,  $\neg \varphi$ ,  $\forall x \varphi$ ,  $\exists x \varphi$  are sentences
- If  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  are sentences,  $\varphi_1 \Leftrightarrow \varphi_2$ ,  $\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \varphi_2$ ,  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ ,  $\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$  are sentences
- Nothing else is a sentence

# Models of First-Order Logic

- **Models of first-order logic**

Sentences are true or false with respect to models, which consist of

- a **domain** (also called universe) and an **interpretation**

- **Domain:** is a non-empty set of objects (domain elements); a world that our statement is situated within

- Examples: natural numbers, people, animals, etc
- Why is it important to specify a domain?
  - A statement can have different truth values in different domains.

- **Interpretation**

maps

- constant symbols to objects in the domain
- predicate symbols to relations on those objects
- function symbols to functions on those objects

# Semantics of First-Order Logic

- **Interprets**

- constant symbols and variables as *objects*;
  - Variables are placeholders for objects without specifying a particular object
- functional symbols as *functions* from objects to objects;
- relational symbols as *relations* over objects;
- $=$  as equality (ie the *identity* relation);
- the universal quantifier (essentially) as an *infinite conjunction*;  
 $(\forall x \text{ Red}(x) \equiv \text{Red}(\text{Obj}_1) \wedge \text{Red}(\text{Obj}_2) \wedge \text{Red}(\text{Obj}_3) \wedge \text{Red}(\text{Obj}_4) \wedge \dots)$
- the existential quantifier (essentially) as an *infinite disjunction*;  
 $(\exists x \text{ Red}(x) \equiv \text{Red}(\text{Obj}_1) \vee \text{Red}(\text{Obj}_2) \vee \text{Red}(\text{Obj}_3) \vee \text{Red}(\text{Obj}_4) \vee \dots)$
- **True, False,  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\neg$ ,  $\Rightarrow$ ,  $\Leftrightarrow$**  as in propositional logic.

# Models of First-Order Logic: Example

Models for PL are just set of truth values for the propositional symbols.  
Models for FOL contain a set of objects (**domain elements**) and relations among them.

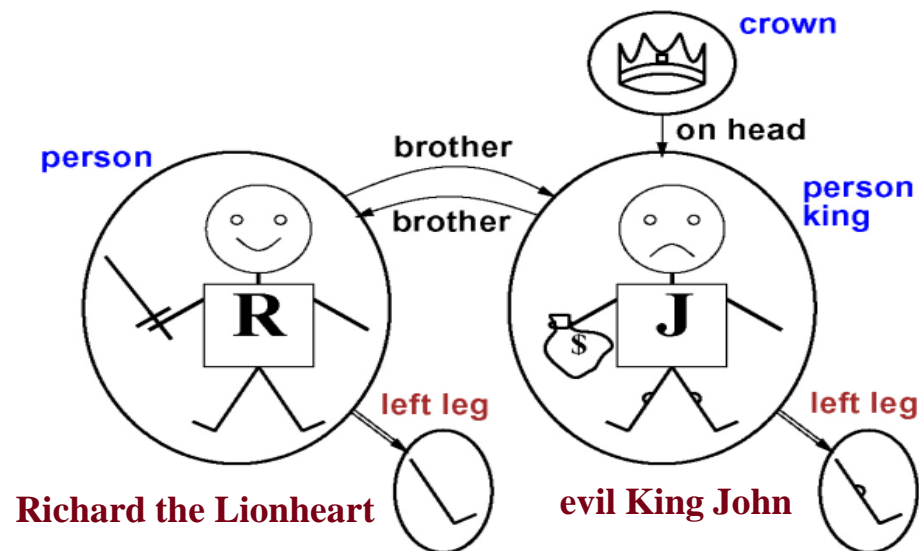
A model contains 5 **objects**, 2 **binary relations**, 3 **unary relations**, and 1 **unary function**.

**5 objects:** Richard the Lionheart; his younger brother, the evil King John; the left leg of Richard; the left leg of John; and a crown.

**2 binary relations:** Richard and John are brothers; the crown is on King John's head.

**3 unary relations:** the “person” property is true of both Richard and John; the “king” property is true only of John; the “crown” property is true only of the crown.

**1 unary function:** each person has one left leg.





# Models of First-Order Logic: Example

Domain = {Richard the Lionheart, evil King John, the left leg of Richard, the left leg of John, crown}

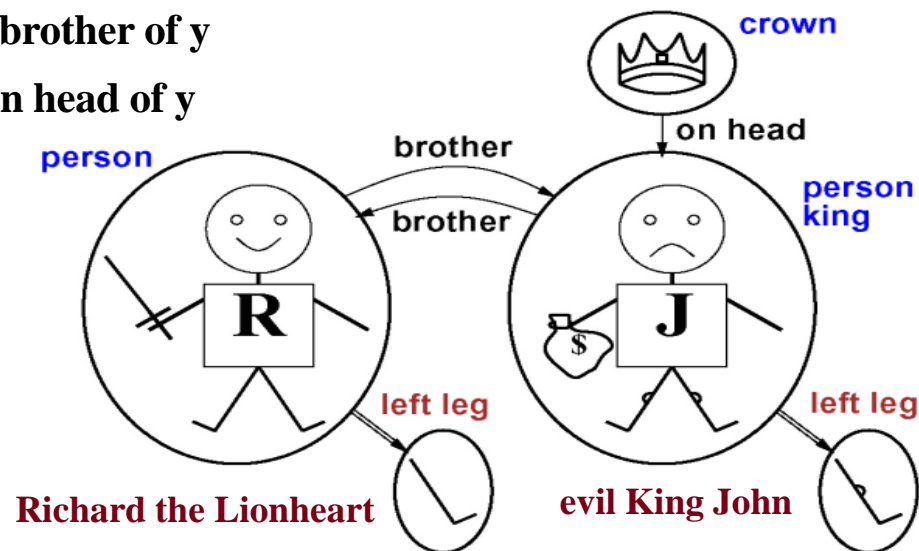
One possible interpretation is defined:

Constants: *Richard* refers to Richard the Lionheart  
*John* refers to evil King John

Predicates: *Person(x)* refers to that x is a person  
*King(x)* refers to that x is a king  
*Crown(x)* refers to that x is a crown  
*Brother(x,y)* refers to that x is a brother of y  
*OnHead(x,y)* refers to that x is on head of y

Functions:

*LeftLegOf(x)* refers to the left leg of x



# Semantics of First-Order Logic

An atomic sentence

*predicate ( term<sub>1</sub>, ..., term<sub>n</sub> )*

is true in a certain model (that consists of a domain and an interpretation)  
**if and only if** the objects referred to by *term<sub>1</sub>, ..., term<sub>n</sub>* are in the relation  
referred to by *predicate*

An atomic sentence *term<sub>1</sub> = term<sub>2</sub>* is true under a given interpretation  
**if and only if** *term<sub>1</sub>* and *term<sub>2</sub>* have the same interpretation

The truth value of a **complex sentence** in a model is computed from the  
truth-values of its atomic sub-sentences in the same way as in  
propositional logic

# Universal Quantification

Universal quantification makes statements about every object without naming them.

- **Syntax:**  $\forall$  (*variables*) (*sentence*)

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

“For all  $x$ ” or “For each  $x$ ” or “For every  $x$ ”

- **Example:** “All kings are persons”

- **Model:**  
Let the domain be the set of 5 objects.  
 $\text{King}(x)$  means that  $x$  is a king  
 $\text{Person}(x)$  means that  $x$  is a person

Domain = {Richard the Lionheart, evil King John, the left leg of Richard, the left leg of John, crown}

$$\underbrace{\forall \ x}_{\text{variables}} \underbrace{\text{King}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Person}(x)}_{\text{sentence}}$$



# Universal Quantification

- **Semantics**

$\forall x P(x)$  says that  $P(x)$  is true for every object  $x$  in a model  $m$ , or

$\forall x P(x)$  is true in a model  $m$  iff  $P(x)$  is true with  $x$  being **each possible object** in  $m$ .

Let  $D = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\}$  be the domain

$\forall x P(x)$  is equivalent to  $(P(d_1) \wedge P(d_2) \wedge \dots \wedge P(d_n))$

- **Example:** "All kings are persons"

$\forall x King(x) \Rightarrow Person(x)$

Domain = {Richard the Lionheart, evil King John, the left leg of Richard, the left leg of John, crown}

is equivalent to:

$(King(\text{Richard the Lionheart}) \Rightarrow Person(\text{Richard the Lionheart}))$   
 $\wedge (King(\text{evil King John}) \Rightarrow Person(\text{evil King John}))$   
 $\wedge (King(\text{the left leg of Richard}) \Rightarrow Person(\text{the left leg of Richard}))$   
 $\wedge (King(\text{the left leg of John}) \Rightarrow Person(\text{the left leg of John}))$   
 $\wedge (King(\text{crown}) \Rightarrow Person(\text{crown}))$

# Universal Quantification

**Note:**  $\Rightarrow$  is the main connective with  $\forall$  not  $\wedge$

**Common mistake:** Using  $\wedge$  as the main connective with  $\forall$  will lead to an overly strong statement

**Correct:**  $\forall x \text{ King}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Person}(x)$   
“Everyone who is a king is a person”

**Wrong:**  $\forall x (\text{King}(x) \wedge \text{Person}(x))$  : “Everyone is a king and everyone is a person”

$(\text{King}(\text{Richard the Lionheart}) \wedge \text{Person}(\text{Richard the Lionheart}))$   
 $\wedge (\text{King}(\text{evil King John}) \wedge \text{Person}(\text{evil King John}))$   
 $\wedge (\text{King}(\text{the left leg of Richard}) \wedge \text{Person}(\text{the left leg of Richard}))$   
 $\wedge (\text{King}(\text{the left leg of John}) \wedge \text{Person}(\text{the left leg of John}))$   
 $\wedge (\text{King}(\text{crown}) \wedge \text{Person}(\text{crown}))$

# Existential Quantification

Existential quantification makes statements about *some* object without naming it.

- **Syntax:**  $\exists$  (*variables*) (*sentence*)

If  $x$  is a variable, then  $\exists x$  is read as

“There exists an  $x$  such that . . .” or “For some  $x$  . . .”

- **Example:** “The evil King John has a crown on his head”

- **Model:**

Let the domain be the set of 5 objects.

*KingJohn* means evil King John

*Crown*( $x$ ) means that  $x$  is a crown

*OnHead*( $x, y$ ) means that  $x$  is on head of  $y$

Domain = {Richard the  
Lionheart, evil King John,  
the left leg of Richard, the  
left leg of John, crown}

$$\underbrace{\exists x}_{\text{variables}} \underbrace{Crown(x) \wedge OnHead(x, KingJohn)}_{\text{sentence}}$$

# Existential Quantification

- Semantics

$\exists x P(x)$  says that  $P(x)$  is true for at least one object  $x$ , or

$\exists x P(x)$  is true in a model  $m$  iff  $P(x)$  is true with  $x$  being **some possible object** in  $m$

Let  $D = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\}$  be the domain

$\exists x P(x)$  is equivalent to  $(P(d_1) \vee P(d_2) \vee \dots \vee P(d_n))$

- Example:**  $\exists x \text{Crown}(x) \wedge \text{OnHead}(x, \text{KingJohn})$

Domain = {Richard the Lionheart, evil King John, the left leg of Richard, the left leg of John, crown}

is equivalent to:

- $(\text{Crown}(\text{Richard the Lionheart}) \wedge \text{OnHead}(\text{Richard the Lionheart}, \text{KingJohn}))$
- $\vee (\text{Crown}(\text{evil King John}) \wedge \text{OnHead}(\text{evil King John}, \text{KingJohn}))$
- $\vee (\text{Crown}(\text{the left leg of Richard}) \wedge \text{OnHead}(\text{the left leg of Richard}, \text{KingJohn}))$
- $\vee (\text{Crown}(\text{the left leg of John}) \wedge \text{OnHead}(\text{the left leg of John}, \text{KingJohn}))$
- $\vee (\text{Crown}(\text{crown}) \wedge \text{OnHead}(\text{crown}, \text{KingJohn}))$

# Existential Quantification

**Note:**  $\wedge$  is the main connective with  $\exists$  not  $\Rightarrow$

**Common mistake:** Using  $\Rightarrow$  as the main connective with  $\exists$  will lead to a very weak statement !

**Correct:**  $\exists x \text{ Crown}(x) \wedge \text{OnHead}(x, \text{KingJohn})$

“There is something which is a crown and it is on head of KingJohn”

**Wrong:**  $\exists x (\text{Crown}(x) \Rightarrow \text{OnHead}(x, \text{KingJohn}))$

“There is something which, if it is a crown, is on the head of KingJohn”

This is true if there is anything that is not a crown

This is true if there is anything that is on head of KingJohn



# Properties of Quantifiers

## Quantifiers of same type commute

$\forall x \forall y$  is the same as  $\forall y \forall x$

$\exists x \exists y$  is the same as  $\exists y \exists x$

## Quantifiers of different type do NOT commute

$\exists x \forall y$  is **not** the same as  $\forall y \exists x$

A quantifier holds over everything to the right of it. They have different scopes.

## Example:

Let the domain be the set of persons in the world and  $Loves(x,y)$  means x loves y

$\exists x \forall y Loves(x,y)$

“There is a person who loves everyone in the world”

$\forall y \exists x Loves(x,y)$

“Everyone in the world is loved by at least one person”

# Properties of Quantifiers

## Quantifier duality:

$\forall x \text{ Likes}(x, \text{IceCream})$       is the same as       $\neg \exists x \neg \text{Likes}(x, \text{IceCream})$

$\exists x \text{ Likes}(x, \text{Broccoli})$       is the same as       $\neg \forall x \neg \text{Likes}(x, \text{Broccoli})$

$\forall$  is really a **conjunction** over the universe of objects and  
 $\exists$  is a **disjunction**

## Obey De Morgan rules

$$\forall x \neg P \equiv \neg \exists x P$$

$$\neg \forall x P \equiv \exists x \neg P$$

$$\forall x P \equiv \neg \exists x \neg P$$

$$\exists x P \equiv \neg \forall x \neg P$$

$$\neg(P \vee Q) \equiv \neg P \wedge \neg Q$$

$$\neg(P \wedge Q) \equiv \neg P \vee \neg Q$$

$$P \wedge Q \equiv \neg(\neg P \vee \neg Q)$$

$$P \vee Q \equiv \neg(\neg P \wedge \neg Q)$$

# Equality

## Semantics

$term_1 = term_2$  is true under a given interpretation if and only if

$term_1$  and  $term_2$  have the same interpretation

Equality can only be applied to objects;

to state that two propositions are equal, use  $\Leftrightarrow$

**Example:** Father (John) = Henry

$\exists x, y \text{ Brother}(x, \text{Richard}) \wedge \text{Brother}(y, \text{Richard}) \wedge \neg(x=y)$

// Richard has at least two brothers

# A Summary of Translation Idioms

- **Every/All/Each/Any**
  - $\forall x$
- **Some/At least one/There exists a/There is a**
  - $\exists x$
- **None/No x**
  - $\neg(\exists x \dots)$
- **Not every/Not all**
  - $\neg(\forall x \dots)$

# Outline

- Why first order logic?
- Syntax and semantics of first order logic
- Fun with sentences

# Fun with Sentences

Let the domain be the set of animals.

*Honey(x)* means that x likes honey.

Translate the following sentences into predicate logic.

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. All animals like honey.          | $\forall x \text{ Honey}(x)$             |
| 2. At least one animal likes honey. | $\exists x \text{ Honey}(x)$             |
| 3. Not every animal likes honey.    | $\neg(\forall x \text{ Honey}(x))$       |
| 4. No animal likes honey.           | $\neg(\exists x \text{ Honey}(x))$       |
| 5. No animal dislikes honey.        | $\neg(\exists x (\neg \text{Honey}(x)))$ |
| 6. Not every animal dislikes honey. | $\neg(\forall x (\neg \text{Honey}(x)))$ |
| 7. Some animal dislikes honey.      | $\exists x (\neg \text{Honey}(x))$       |
| 8. Every animal dislikes honey.     | $\forall x (\neg \text{Honey}(x))$       |

Note: Each pair of sentences (1 & 5, 2 & 6, 3 & 7, 4 & 8) is logically equivalent. However, when doing translations, always give the direct translation to avoid losing marks

# Summary

- **First Order Logic**
  - **Syntax**
  - **Semantics**
- **Expressions in First Order Logic**

# What I want you to do

- Review Chapter 8
- Work on your Homework 3