

Predicate Calculus

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Part 2: Predicate Calculus (a) COM2107 Logic in Computer Science

Slides by Georg Struth
Adapted by Jonni Virtema

School of Computer Science Session code: xx-xx-xx



Limits of propositional logic

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propositional logic takes propositional variables as atomic propositions

some non-trivial system properties can be encoded/analysed (expressive enough to express NP-complete problems)

yet it's not expressive enough for many modelling/analysis tasks let alone for formalising mathematics

even the Socrates syllogism can't be formalised!



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internal structure of propositions can't be captured e.g.

All children love ice cream.

Some students understand implication.

No electron has positive charge.

quantifications such as "for all" / "there exists" can't be represented



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reasoning about properties of entities and their relationships e.g.

If
$$x \le 7$$
 and $9 \le y$, then $x \le y$.
If $y = 2 \cdot x + 6$, then $x = \frac{1}{2} \cdot y - 3$.

is impossible



Towards predicate logic

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more refined logic requires

- more expressive language/syntax
- 2 new inference rules for reasoning with this language
- 3 more fine grained semantics beyond truth values for propositions



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syntax should capture

- terms e.g. $2 \cdot x + 6$
- relations/predicates e.g. $x \le 7$
- lacktriangle quantification in sentences e.g. "All x are φ " or "Some x are φ "

semantics should

- supply objects, functions, relations that match expressions of syntax
- allow evaluating terms e.g. $2 \cdot 4 + 6$ or $9 \le 7$ in domains e.g. \mathbb{N}

predicate logic satisfies these requirements



Recap of propositional logic

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Wrap-up

Propositional logic is about modelling of Boolean statements:

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid \bot \mid p \mid \neg \varphi \mid (\varphi \land \varphi) \mid (\varphi \lor \varphi) \mid (\varphi \to \varphi),$$

where p is a propositional variable.

- 1+1=2" (regarded as a statement)
- $\blacksquare \ (p \to q) \to (\neg q \to \neg p)$
- \blacksquare it_rains \lor it_shines



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$$\varphi ::= \top \mid \bot \mid p \mid \neg \varphi \mid (\varphi \land \varphi) \mid (\varphi \lor \varphi) \mid (\varphi \to \varphi),$$

where p is a propositional variable.

- 1+1=2" (regarded as a statement)
- $\blacksquare (p \to q) \to (\neg q \to \neg p)$
- it_rains ∨ it_shines

I carry an umbrella If I carry an umbrella, it does not rain

It does not rain

$$\frac{A \longrightarrow A \to B}{B}$$
 (Modus Ponens)



Predicate logic (i.e., first-order logic)

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Predicate logic can describe properties of complex systems.

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid \bot \mid t_1 = t_2 \mid R(t_1, \ldots, t_n) \mid \neg \varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \varphi \rightarrow \varphi \mid \exists x \varphi \mid \forall x \varphi,$$

 t_i are terms (denoting individual objects) and R is a relation between objects.

- Can model and deduce properties and relationships between objects.
- Formulae describe properties of data structures.
- Formulae correspond to database queries.

Predicate logic (i.e., first-order logic)

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Predicate logic can describe properties of complex systems.

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid \bot \mid t_1 = t_2 \mid R(t_1, \ldots, t_n) \mid \neg \varphi \mid \varphi \land \varphi \mid \varphi \lor \varphi \mid \varphi \rightarrow \varphi \mid \exists x \varphi \mid \forall x \varphi,$$

 t_i are terms (denoting individual objects) and R is a relation between objects.

- Can model and deduce properties and relationships between objects.
- Formulae describe properties of data structures.
- Formulae correspond to database queries.
- $\forall x (Morning_star(x) \rightarrow (x = Venus \lor x = Mercury \lor x = Sirius))$



Examples on the use of predicate logic

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Wrap-up

■ Properties of mathematical structures $(\mathbb{N}, \leq, P_{\text{EVEN}}, +, \cdot)$.

• If $x \le 7$ and $9 \le y$ then $x \le y$.



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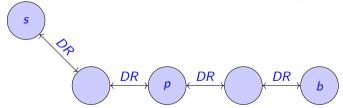
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- Properties of mathematical structures $(\mathbb{N}, \leq, P_{\text{EVEN}}, +, \cdot)$.

 - If $x \le 7$ and $9 \le y$ then $x \le y$.
- Properties of graph networks (Cities, DirectRail, sheffield, paris, brussels)
 - $\exists x \big(DR(s,x) \wedge DR(x,p) \big)$
 - If DR(x,b) then DR(b,x) (due to the axiom $\forall x \forall y (DR(x,y) \rightarrow DR(y,x))$)





Examples on the use of predicate logic

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■ Properties of mathematical structures $(\mathbb{N}, \leq, P_{\text{EVEN}}, +, \cdot)$.

- If $x \le 7$ and $9 \le y$ then $x \le y$.
- Properties of graph networks (Cities, DirectRail, sheffield, paris, brussels)
 - $\exists x \big(DR(s,x) \land DR(x,p) \big)$
 - If DR(x, b) then DR(b, x) (due to the axiom $\forall x \forall y (DR(x, y) \rightarrow DR(y, x))$)
- Queries on databases:
 - SQL: SELECT Student, Course, Grade FROM GradeList
 WHERE Course = 'COM2107' and Grade >= 70
 - FO: $\{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \mid \exists \vec{y} (GradeList(x_1, x_2, x_3, \vec{y}) \land x_2 = COM2107 \land x_3 \ge 70)\}$



Predicate Logic: Natural Deduction

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once again we start with foundational view on natural deduction

we use sentence as synonym for proposition

formulas are possibly incomplete sentences e.g. "x is an even number."

truth/falsity of formulas may depend on binding variables by quantifiers or substituting expressions e.g. "Socrates" or "5" for them

we call expression that can be substituted for variables in formulas terms

Variables, terms, and atomic formulae

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Variables x are placeholders for individual objects (e.g., 7, Socrates) (c.f. propositional variables p are placeholders for 0 and 1)

Terms are (complex) pointers for individual objects e.g., x, x + y, mother_of(x)

Atomic formulae describe relationships between terms e.g. $\operatorname{ancestor} \left(\operatorname{mother_of} \left(\operatorname{mother_of}(x) \right), x \right), \ x \leq y, \ \text{and} \ 7 \leq x$ (cf. atomic formulae of propositional logic are p, \top and \bot)

Complex formulae are built from atomic formulae by using connectives $\land, \lor, \rightarrow, \neg$ and quantifiers \exists, \forall .



Variables, terms, and atomic formulae

Terms are (complex) pointers for individual objects

Atomic formulae describe relationships between terms

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Variables x are placeholders for individual objects (e.g., 7, Socrates) (c.f. propositional variables p are placeholders for 0 and 1)

e.g., x, x + y, mother_of(x)

e.g. $\operatorname{ancestor}(\operatorname{mother_of}(\operatorname{mother_of}(x)), x)$, $x \leq y$, and $7 \leq x$ (cf. atomic formulae of propositional logic are p, \top and \bot)

Complex formulae are built from atomic formulae by using connectives $\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \neg$ and quantifiers \exists, \forall .

Interpretation will give a meaning to variables, term constructors, and relationships (cf. In propositional logic an assignment interprets propositional variables)



Notation

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we write

- $\varphi(x)$ for formula φ that is parametric in variable x
- $r, s, t \dots$ for terms
- $\varphi[t/x]$ for result of substituting t for x in φ
- lacksquare arphi(t) to indicate that the term t occurs in arphi

example:

- substituting term 5 for variable x in formula $x \le 7$ yields sentence $5 \le 7$
- $(x \le 7)[5/x]$ indicates variable/term relationship in this substitution

we'll study formal syntax later



Parametric Judgments

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we need a new kind of judgment for formulas of predicate logic

a parametric judgment

J (is true) for an arbitrary x

is judgment that depends on variable x

evidence for it is a deduction of J that is parametric in x

it is therefore uniform for any term we can substitute for x and hence for all possible instances



Parametric Judgments

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evidence for a parametric judgment

$$\varphi(x)$$
 (is true) for an arbitrary x

is proof template for $\varphi(x)$ that can be instantiated to a proof of $\varphi(x)[t/x]$, for any term t

multiple parameters must be kept distinct across parametric derivations

we write a, b, c, \ldots to distinguish parameters from ordinary variables



Proofs for universal statements

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Wrap-up

The most common mathematical statement:

Every A is a B

The sum of two odd numbers is an even number.

The complement of any finite language is a regular language.

How are statements of this kind proven?



Proofs for universal statements

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The most common mathematical statement:

Every A is a B

The sum of two odd numbers is an even number.

The complement of any finite language is a regular language.

How are statements of this kind proven?

■ Pick an arbitrary object satisfying *A* and show that it satisfies *B*!



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if φ is formula and x variable, then $\forall x. \varphi$ is formula we often write $\forall x. \varphi(x)$ to indicate that φ depends on x we read $\forall x. \varphi$ as "Every x satisfies φ " or "Every x is a φ " we can write $\forall x. (\varphi(x) \to \psi(x))$ for "Every x satisfies $\varphi(x) \to \psi(x)$ " or "Every $\varphi(x)$ is a $\psi(x)$ "



Inference Rules

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inference rules for universal quantification are

$$\begin{array}{c}
-a \\
\vdots \\
\varphi[a/x] \\
\forall x. \varphi
\end{array} \forall I$$

where t is term and a fresh parameter

evidence for $\forall x. \ \varphi$ is evidence for parametric judgment $\varphi[a/x]$ (parametric proof of $\varphi[a/x]$)

a must be discharged in $(\forall I)$ once this proof is done



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 $(\forall I)$ is standard proof strategy in mathematics

examples:

- prove that for every natural number n, either n or n+1 is even.
- lacktriangle prove that if $x \in X$ and $X \subseteq Y \subseteq Z$, then $x \in Z$

typical approach:

• fix arbitrary object a, and show the property for a.



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example: $\forall x. \ (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)), \forall x. \ P(x) \vdash \forall x. \ Q(x)$

1. How to start the proof?



Predicate Calculus

Universal statements

example:
$$\forall x. \ (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)), \forall x. \ P(x) \vdash \forall x. \ Q(x)$$

1.
$$\forall x. (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$
 hyp

2.
$$\forall x. P(x)$$
 hyp

3.



Predicate Calculus

Universal statements

example:
$$\forall x. (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)), \forall x. P(x) \vdash \forall x. Q(x)$$

- $\forall x. \ (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$ hyp
- $\forall x. P(x)$ hyp
- 3. a
- 4. subproof here
- 5. Q(a)
- $\forall x. \ Q(x)$ 6. $\forall I$.

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example: $\forall x. (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)), \forall x. P(x) \vdash \forall x. Q(x)$

1.
$$\forall x. (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

.
$$\forall x. P(x)$$
 hyp

3.

5.

4.
$$P(a) \rightarrow Q(a)$$

$$P(a)$$
 $\forall E, 2$

hyp

 $\forall E.1$

6.
$$Q(a) \rightarrow E, 5, 4$$

7.
$$\forall x. \ Q(x)$$
 $\forall I, 3-6$

proof wouldn't work if we applied $(\forall E)$ before $(\forall I)$



Universal quantifier and implication

Predicate Calculus

Universal statements

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & & & [\varphi] \\
\vdots & & & \vdots \\
 & & \varphi[a/x] \\
 & \forall x. \varphi & \forall I & & \frac{\psi}{\varphi \to \psi} \to 0
\end{array}$$

a is a fresh parameter.



Existential Quantification

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if φ is formula and x variable, then $\exists x. \varphi$ is formula

we read $\exists x. \varphi$ as "Some x satisfies φ " or "There exists an x such that $\varphi(x)$ "



Inference Rules

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inference rules for existential quantification are

$$\frac{\varphi[t/x]}{\exists x. \ \varphi} \exists I \qquad \qquad \frac{[\varphi[a/x]]}{\exists x. \ \varphi} \exists E$$

where t is term and a fresh parameter

evidence for $\exists x. \varphi$ is evidence for judgment $\varphi[t/x]$ for some witness twhen using $\exists x. \varphi$ as hypothesis, we need not know a particular witness



Existential quantifier and disjunction

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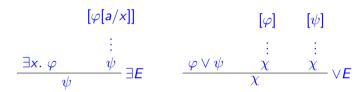
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a is a fresh parameter.

Existential quantifier is like an infinite disjunction!

Example

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Exist statements

example: $\forall x. (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)), \exists x. P(x) \vdash \exists x. Q(x)$

 $\forall x. \ (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)))$ 1. hyp

 $\exists x. P(x)$ hyp

a

4. P(a)5. $P(a) \rightarrow Q(a)$

3.

6.

7. 8.

 $\exists x. \ Q(x)$

Q(a)

 $\exists x. \ Q(x)$

hyp

 $\forall E, 1$

 $\rightarrow E, 4, 5$

 $\exists 1, 6$

 $\exists E, 2, 3-7$

once again it's important to start applying $(\exists E)$ before $(\exists I)$ and $(\forall E)$



Equality

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equality matters

it has special inference rules, too

$$\overline{t=t}=I$$

$$-rac{t_1=t_2}{\varphi[t_2/x]}rac{arphi[t_1/x]}{arphi[t_2/x]}=b$$

where t, t_1 , t_2 are terms

evidence for s = t is proof that s equals t



Examples

Predicate Calculus

Equality rules

example: equality is symmetric: $t_1 = t_2 \vdash t_2 = t_1$

1.
$$t_1 = t_2$$

2.
$$t_1 = t_1 = t_1$$

3.
$$(x = t_1)[t_1/x]$$
 rewriting 2

4.
$$(x = t_1)[t_2/x]$$

$$=E, 1, 3$$

5.
$$t_2 = t_1$$



Examples

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Equality rules

example: equality is transitive: $t_1 = t_2$, $t_2 = t_3 \vdash t_1 = t_3$

1.
$$t_1 = t_2$$

hyp

2. $t_2 = t_3$ hyp

3. $(t_1 = x)[t_2/x]$ rewriting 1

4.
$$(t_1 = x)[t_3/x]$$

=E, 2, 3

5.
$$t_1 = t_3$$

rewriting 4



Derived Rules

Predicate Calculus

Equality rules

the following derived rules for equality are helpful

$$rac{t_1=t_2}{t_2=t_1}$$
 sym $rac{t_1=t_2}{t_1=t_3}$ trans $rac{t_1=t_2}{s[t_1/x]=s[t_2/x]}$ subst

see lecture notes for additional equivalences/proofs for predicate logic



Recap: Functions and relations

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- A set $A = \{a_1, \ldots, a_n, \ldots\}$ is a collection of objects a_1, a_2, \ldots
- A^n is the set of all *n*-tuples (b_1, \ldots, b_n) , where each $b_i \in A$.
- An *n*-ary function f over A maps elements of A^n to elements of A.
 - Addition $(2,5) \mapsto 7$ is a binary function.
 - We can write $f_+(a, b)$, but also the infix a + b is used.
 - Mother_of is a unary fuction.
 - Mother_of(Bob) equals Alice, if Alice is the mother of Bob.
- An *n*-ary relation R over A is a subset of A^n .



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- A set $A = \{a_1, \ldots, a_n, \ldots\}$ is a collection of objects a_1, a_2, \ldots
- A^n is the set of all *n*-tuples (b_1, \ldots, b_n) , where each $b_i \in A$.
- An *n*-ary function f over A maps elements of A^n to elements of A.
- An *n*-ary relation R over A is a subset of A^n .
 - Friend_of is a binary relation.
 - Friend_of(Alice, Bob) denotes that Alice is a friend of Bob.
 - Size comparison relation between numbers is a binary relation.
 - We can write $R_{\leq}(a, b)$, but also the infix $a \leq b$ is used.
 - The betweenness $\beta(a, b, c)$ relation of geometry is a ternary relation.



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- A set $A = \{a_1, \ldots, a_n, \ldots\}$ is a collection of objects a_1, a_2, \ldots
- A^n is the set of all *n*-tuples (b_1, \ldots, b_n) , where each $b_i \in A$.
- An *n*-ary function f over A maps elements of A^n to elements of A.
- An *n*-ary relation R over A is a subset of A^n .
- n-ary function and relation symbols are placeholders for n-ary functions and relations.



Alphabet of Predicate Logic

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alphabet for predicate logic consists of

- 1 (countably infinite) set V of logical variables $x, y, z, x_1, x_2, ...$
- 2 set $\mathcal{F} = \{f_1, f_2, \dots\}$ of function symbols of fixed arity
- 3 set $\mathcal{P} = \{P_1, P_2, \dots\}$ of predicate/relation symbols of fixed arity
- predicate symbol =
- **5** connectives \bot , \top , \neg , \land , \lor , \rightarrow , \forall , \exists
- 6 auxiliary symbols (,)

Signature (often Σ) is a collection of function symbols and relation symbols.

for more information and notation for alphabets see lecture notes



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examples:

1 signature of arithmetic: $\Sigma_A = \{+, \cdot, 0, 1\}$

2 signature of boolean algebras: $\Sigma_{BA} = \{ \sqcap, \sqcup, -, 0, 1 \}$

3 signature of graphs: $\Sigma_G = \{E\}$

first two signatures are algebraic (only function symbols), third one is relational (only relation symbols)

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set \mathcal{T}_{Σ} of Σ -terms over signature Σ is defined by grammar

$$t ::= x \mid f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$$

x is variable, f function symbol of some arity n and t_1, \ldots, t_n are Σ -terms.

In particular

- 1 Every variable x and a constant symbol c is a term.
- 2 Application $f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ to terms t_1, \ldots, t_n is a term.
- 3 There are no other terms.

terms without variables are ground terms

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example: arithmetic

extend Σ_A with constant symbols 2, 3, 4, . . . for each element of $\mathbb N$ and let $x,y\in\mathcal V$ be variables, then

$$3+5\cdot 7$$
 $x+5\cdot y$

are terms of arithmetic



Predicate Calculus

example: boolean algebra

extend Σ_{BA} with constant symbols a and b, then

$$a \sqcap -a$$

$$a \sqcap -a$$
 $a \sqcup (b \sqcap -a)$

are terms of boolean algebra



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example:

consider signature { MotherOf, Alice, Betty}, then

MotherOf(Alice) and Betty

are terms

terms don't evaluate to true or false, but to other values e.g. numbers

variables are simple pointers to values, while terms are complex pointers to values

MotherOf(Alice) could, e.g., evaluate to Betty

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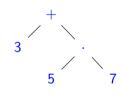
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term $3+5\cdot 7$ corresponds to (abstract syntax) tree



evaluation in N yields



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Formulas Wrap-uj Recall:

- lacksquare signature Σ determines the available function and relation symbols.
- lacksquare Σ -terms t_i are constructed using variables and function symbols from Σ

The set of predicate logic formulae of signature Σ are generated via the grammar:

$$\Phi ::= \perp | \top | t_1 = t_2 | P(t_1, \ldots, t_n) |$$

$$(\neg \Phi) | (\Phi \wedge \Phi) | (\Phi \vee \Phi) | (\Phi \to \Phi) | (\forall x. \Phi) | (\exists x. \Phi),$$

where $t_1, \ldots t_n$ are Σ -terms in \mathcal{T}_{Σ} and P is a relation symbol in Σ of arity n.

- \blacksquare \bot , \top , $t_1 = t_2$ and $P(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ are atomic formulas
- all others are composite



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example:

$$\forall P. \ (P(0) \land \forall k. \ P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)) \rightarrow \forall n. \ P(n))$$

operator precedences help minimising the number of brackets you can read about them in the lecture notes



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Wrap-u

example:

$$\forall P. \ (P(0) \land \forall k. \ P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)) \rightarrow \forall n. \ P(n))$$

is not a formula of predicate logic — it quantifies over a predicate

operator precedences help minimising the number of brackets you can read about them in the lecture notes



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examples:

Loves(Alice, Bob) Loves(x, Bob)

Loves(Alice, MotherOf(x))



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examples:

- $\exists x. \ Loves(x, Bob)$ (somebody loves Bob)
- $\exists x. Loves(Alice, x)$ (Alice loves someone)
- $\exists \neg \exists x. \ Loves(x, Bob)$ (nobody loves Bob)
- $\forall x. \ Loves(x, Alice)$ (everybody loves Alice)
- $\neg \forall x. \ Loves(x, Bob)$ (not everybody loves Bob)
- 6 $\forall x \exists y. Loves(x, y)$ (everybody loves somebody)
- $\exists x \forall y. \ Loves(x, y)$ (somebody loves everybody)

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example (arithmetic formulas):

$$3+5=8$$
 $7+2 \le 3$ $x+4 \cdot y=21$

$$7+2\leq 3$$

$$x + 4 \cdot y = 2$$

$$\exists x.\ 2 \cdot x = 7$$



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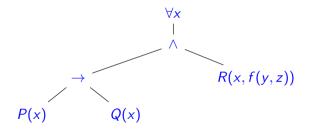
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 $\forall x. \; \Big(ig(P(x) o Q(x) ig) \land R ig(x, f(y,z) ig) \Big) \; \mathsf{has} \; \mathsf{abstract} \; \mathsf{syntax} \; \mathsf{tree}$





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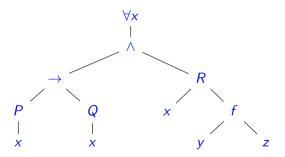
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expanding its term structure yields





Function vs Predicate Symbols

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"Every son of my father is my brother." translates as

$$\forall x \forall y. \ (F(x,m) \land S(y,x) \rightarrow B(y,m))$$

 $\forall x. \ (S(x,f(m)) \rightarrow B(x,m)$

- both formulas are correct
- but the second one is more concise



What did you learn?

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- Propositional logic doesn't suffice for expressing relationships between objects.
- We familiarised with predicate logic and learned new rules of natural deduction.
- In the end, we got a bit more formal exposition to basics of predicate logic.
- Next time: add some precision to the proof rules and cover semantics.