



BITS Pilani
Pilani Campus



CS/IS F214 Logic in Computer Science

MODULE: PREDICATE LOGIC

Propositional Logic – Expressiveness Predicates

Propositional Logic – Expressiveness

- Consider the following statements:

- Ravi is a student
- Kavi is a student

- If you were to express these in propositional logic as:

- **ravi_student**
- **kavi_student**

you end up with propositions that are atomic (i.e. they do not have a structure).

- And the consequence is:

- *we cannot infer the relation – that both are students – between the two propositions*



The need for structure

- What do we need to express such relations?
 - We need predicates.
- A proposition is also a predicate but
 - a ***predicate*** can capture a *property (or a relation) on one or more entities*: e.g.
 - student(ravi)
 - student(kavi)
 - friend(ravi, kavi)
 - friend(ravi, pavi)



Predicates – Expressiveness

- Consider the following statement:
 - A teaching assistant is a student and a teacher.*
 - If you were to express this in propositional logic:
 - $ta \leftrightarrow student \wedge teacher$
 - But now if you want to ask:
 - Is Kavi a **ta**?
 - You need to ask:
 - Is Kavi a student?
 - Is Kavi a teacher?
 - You can (try to) fix this by saying:
 - $ta(kavi) \leftrightarrow student(kavi) \wedge teacher(kavi)$
- This does not fix the problem adequately! Why?





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Expressiveness of Predicates

- Need for variables and quantification

Predicates – The need for variables

- How do we address this problem?
 - Introduce variables:
 - $ta(X) \leftrightarrow student(X) \wedge teacher(X)$
- What is X?
 - X is a variable which may stand
 - for Kavi, Pavi, or Ravi - in our example or
 - for “any **student** or **teacher**” in a generic context
 - In the latter form there is a **quantification** i.e. *who (or what) can X range over?*
 - i.e. the statement above should actually be read as
 - for all X $ta(X) \leftrightarrow student(X) \wedge teacher(X)$
- In notation, we write:
 - $\forall(X) ta(X) \leftrightarrow student(X) \wedge teacher(X)$
 - This is referred to as **universal quantification**.



Use of Predicates, Variables, and Quantification

- Write each of the following using predicates, variables, and (universal) quantifiers:
 - *All birds fly*
 - *All humans are mammals*
 - *All students in BITS think they are brighter than others*



Predicates ,Variables, and Quantification - Examples

- *All birds fly*
 - $\forall X \text{ bird}(X) \rightarrow \text{fly}(X)$
- *All humans are mammals*
 - $\forall X \text{ human}(X) \rightarrow \text{mammal}(X)$
- *All students in BITS think they are brighter than others*
 - $\forall X \forall Y \text{ student}(X, \text{"BITS"}) \wedge \neg \text{equals}(X,Y) \rightarrow \text{think_brighter}(X, Y)$
 - Question:
 - Why not express it as ***think(brighter(X,Y))***?
 - Relation (think) over a Relation (brighter)!



Predicates – Variables and Quantification

- Consider the following statements:
 1. *There are some students in BITS who are not bright.*
 2. *For every number, there is a larger number.*
 3. *Not all birds can fly*
- What do you need – in addition to predicates, variables, and universal quantifiers – to specify these?



Predicates and Variables – Existential Quantification

- Writing the following statements:
 1. *There are some students in BITS who are not bright.*
 2. *For every number, there is a larger number.*
 3. *Not all birds can fly*
 - require “existential quantification” of the form
 - there exists X : $P(X)$
- in notation, formulas of the form
- $\exists X P(X)$



Predicates and Variables - Existential Quantification: Examples

- Write the following statements formally:

1. *There are some students in BITS who are not bright.*

$$\exists X (\text{student}(X, \text{"BITS"}) \wedge \neg \text{bright}(X))$$

2. *For every number, there is a larger number*

$$\forall X (\text{number}(X) \rightarrow \exists Y \text{ number}(Y) \wedge \text{larger}(Y, X))$$

3. *Not all birds can fly*

$$\neg(\forall X \text{ bird}(X) \rightarrow \text{fly}(X))$$



Quantifiers: Order of quantifiers and Negation of Quantifiers

1. *For every number, there is a larger number*

$$\forall X (\text{number}(X) \rightarrow \exists Y \text{ number}(Y) \wedge \text{larger}(Y, X))$$

- Is this different from each of the following?
 - $\forall X \exists Y (\text{number}(X) \rightarrow \text{number}(Y) \wedge \text{larger}(Y, X))$
 - $\exists Y \forall X (\text{number}(X) \rightarrow \text{number}(Y) \wedge \text{larger}(Y, X))$

2. *Not all birds can fly*

$$\neg(\forall X \text{ bird}(X) \rightarrow \text{fly}(X))$$

- Is this the same as $\exists X \text{ bird}(X) \wedge \neg \text{fly}(X)$?



Predicates, Variables, and Quantification

- Predicates capture relations (on entities or values)
- Variables range over entities (or values)
 - i.e. they may not denote a specific entity but
 - can be substituted by an entity from a **collection** (that is not explicitly stated)
- Quantifiers quantify the range
 - universal quantifier denotes that the range is the universal set (or collection)
 - existential quantifier denotes that there exists at least one such element (in the universe)





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MODULE: PREDICATE LOGIC

Expressiveness of Predicates: Arguments of Predicates

Predicate Logic: Nature of relations

- Predicates capture relations:
 - A (binary) relation can be:
 - one to one
 - **successor(X, Y)** *on natural numbers*
 - X's successor is Y
 - many to one
 - **mother(X,Y)** *on persons*
 - X's mother is Y
 - one to many
 - **characterOf(N, A)** *on novels and persons*
 - characters of N include A



Predicate Logic: Nature of relations

- *Predicates may capture properties*
 - **lawyer(X)**
 - X is a lawyer
 - **god()**
 - *which is TRUE, if you are a monotheist*
 - *FALSE, otherwise*



N-ary Predicates

- Predicates may N-ary (for some positive integer N) e.g.
 - $\text{plus}(X,Y,Z)$
 - TRUE if $X + Y = Z$
 - Example Usage:
 - $\forall X \forall Z (\text{less}(X,Z) \leftrightarrow \exists Y \text{plus}(X,Y,Z))$
 - definition of less than on natural numbers (in fact, on all positive numbers).



N-ary Predicates

[2]

- $\text{div}(S,D,Q,R)$
 - TRUE if S when divided by D yields the quotient Q and the remainder R
- Sample usage:
 - $\forall X \forall Z (\exists Q \exists R \text{div}(X,Z,Q,R) \leftrightarrow (\exists P \text{mult}(Q,Z,P) \wedge \text{plus}(P,R,X)))$
 - relation between division and multiplication



N-ary Predicates

[2]

- `royalty(Pub,W,Amt,Y)`
 - TRUE if published Pub owes writer W a royalty payment of Amt in year Y.
- Sample usage:
 - $\text{wrote}(A, T, P, Y) \rightarrow \forall Y1 (\text{greater}(Y1, Y) \rightarrow \text{royalty}(P, A, R, Y1))$
 - if writer A authored a book titled T published by P, in year Y,
 - then P owes A a royalty payment of R in all years $Y1 > Y$.





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MODULE: PREDICATE LOGIC

Expressiveness of Predicates

- Need for function terms
- Using function terms to specify Deterministic Relations
- Non-deterministic Relations and Partial Relations

Predicate Logic: Deterministic Relations

- Predicates capture relations
 - In that sense a predicate may not be deterministic.
 - Consider the following examples:
 - i. Every child is younger than its mother*
 - ii. Ravi and Kavi have the same maternal grandmother.*



Predicate Logic: Need for function terms – Example 1

- A predicate may not be deterministic: e.g.

Every child is younger than its mother

- $\forall C \forall M \text{ child}(C) \wedge \text{mother}(M,C) \rightarrow \text{younger}(C, M)$
 - This states that for all children C, for all mothers M of C ...
 - *This is a bit awkward and redundant!*
- $\forall C \exists M \text{ child}(C) \wedge \text{mother}(M,C) \rightarrow \text{younger}(C, M)$
 - This reads better but it still leaves the possibility that there is more than one M !



Predicate Logic: Need for function terms – Example 2

- A predicate may not be deterministic: e.g.

Ravi and Kavi have the same maternal grandmother.

- $\exists X \exists Y \exists G \text{ mother}(\text{ravi}, X) \wedge \text{mother}(\text{kavi}, Y) \wedge \text{mother}(X, G) \wedge \text{mother}(Y, G)$
 - This is similarly awkward.



Predicate Logic: Function terms

- How do you specify something that is deterministic?
 - Use **function terms**!
 - Function terms are syntactic forms to denote a function (i.e. a deterministic relation) e.g.
 - **mother(X)**
 - to denote X's mother (whoever that is)
 - **successor(N)**
 - to denote N's successor (whatever that is)
 - Function terms are values



Predicate Logic: Using Function terms – Example 1

- Use function terms to specify deterministic relations:

e.g. *Every child is younger than its mother*

- This was specified as:

$\forall C \exists M \text{ child}(C) \wedge \text{mother}(M, C) \rightarrow \text{younger}(C, M)$

but it is better specified using function terms as

$\forall C \text{ child}(C) \rightarrow \text{younger}(C, \text{mother}(C))$



Predicate Logic: Using Function terms – Example 2

- Use function terms to specify deterministic relations:
- e.g. *Ravi and Kavi have the same maternal grandmother.*
 - This was specified as:

$$\exists X \exists Y \exists G \text{ mother}(\text{ravi}, X) \wedge \text{mother}(\text{kavi}, Y) \wedge \text{mother}(X, G) \wedge \text{mother}(Y, G)$$

but it can be better specified using function terms as:

$$\text{equals}(\text{mother}(\text{mother}(\text{ravi})), \text{mother}(\text{mother}(\text{kavi})))$$



Predicate Logic: Function Terms: Composability

- Note that function terms are *composable*
 - *mother(mother(ravi))* is well-formed
 - *successor(successor(N))* is well-formed
- This makes predicates simpler and more readable!
 - e.g. Assume **succ** and **pred** denote the “successor” and the “predecessor” relations respectively on **integers**.
 - Then the statement “**X’s successor’s predecessor is X**” can be specified as

$$\forall X \text{ equals}(\text{pred}(\text{succ}(X)), X)$$
 - Without function terms, this could be specified as:

$$\forall X \exists Y \exists Z \text{ succ}(Y, X) \wedge \text{pred}(Z, Y) \rightarrow \text{equals}(X, Z)$$



Predicate Logic: Non-deterministic Relations - Example

- It may be inappropriate to use function terms for relations that are not deterministic:
 - e.g. Ravi's brother is Kavi's friend.
 - **equals(brother(ravi), friend(kavi))**
 - This statement is ambiguous to begin with (which brother? which friend?)
 - The following is a better specification:
 $\exists X \text{ brother(ravi}, X) \wedge \text{friend(kavi}, X)$
 - Is this different from the following specification?
 - **$\exists X \text{ brother(ravi}, X) \rightarrow \text{friend(kavi}, X)$**



Predicate Logic: Non-deterministic Relations – Examples

- e.g. Ravi's brother is Kavi's friend.
- It was not intended that *all brothers of Ravi are friends of Kavi*:
 $\forall X \text{ brother}(\text{ravi}, X) \rightarrow \text{friend}(\text{kavi}, X)$

[Construct an example statement (in English) where the latter would be the right form!]

Predicate Logic: Partial Functions and Function Terms

- Consider this statement:
 - *All of Ravi's friends and their brothers and sisters are welcome to the party*
- This can be specified as:
 $\forall X \text{ friend}(\text{ravi}, X) \rightarrow$
 $\text{welcomeToParty}(X) \wedge \text{welcomeToParty}(\text{brother}(X)) \wedge$
 $\text{welcomeToParty}(\text{sister}(X))$
- Is there a problem with this specification?



Predicate Logic: Partial Functions and Function Terms

- Consider this statement in English and in Predicate Logic:
 - All of Ravi's friends and their brothers and sisters are welcome to the party*
 - $\forall X \text{ friend}(\text{ravi}, X) \rightarrow$
 $\text{welcomeToParty}(X) \wedge \text{welcomeToParty}(\text{brother}(X)) \wedge$
 $\text{welcomeToParty}(\text{sister}(X))$
- brother** and **sister** are neither *total* nor *deterministic*:
 - i.e. $\text{brother}(X)$ may not be defined for a given X and
 - if defined it may be ambiguous.
- So this is better specified as:

$$\forall X \forall Y ((\text{friend}(\text{ravi}, X) \wedge (\text{brother}(X, Y) \vee \text{sister}(X, Y))) \rightarrow (\text{welcomeToParty}(X) \wedge \text{welcomeToParty}(Y)))$$

Predicate Logic: Partial Functions

- Note that:
 - ***Universal quantification does not assume existence!***
 - i.e. the universal set may be empty!
 - In the above example,
 - Ravi may have not friends.
 - Some of his friends may not have a brother nor a sister.

