

# Predicate Logic

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Part 2  
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# Recall Syntax of a grammatically correct sentence (wff) in predicate logic

- $p(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is a wff if  $p$  is an  $n$ -ary predicate symbol and the  $t_i$  are terms.

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- If  $W$ ,  $W1$ , and  $W2$  are wffs then so are the following:

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$$\neg W \quad W1 \wedge W2 \quad W1 \vee W2$$

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$$W1 \rightarrow W2 \quad W1 \leftrightarrow W2$$

$$\forall X(W) \quad \exists X(W)$$

where  $X$  is a variable symbol.

- There are no other wffs.

From the description above you can see that propositional logic is a special case of predicate logic.

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Predicate Logic: the predicates are  $n$ -ary,  $n \geq 0$ , and we have terms and quantifiers

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Propositional Logic:  
all the predicates are  
nullary

# Some useful equivalences

All propositional logic equivalences hold for predicate logic wffs.

E.g.  $A \rightarrow B \equiv \neg A \vee B$

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So

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$\text{able\_to\_work}(\text{john}) \rightarrow \text{employed}(\text{john}) \equiv$   
 $\neg \text{able\_to\_work}(\text{john}) \vee \text{employed}(\text{john})$   
 $\forall X (\text{able\_to\_work}(X) \rightarrow \text{employed}(X)) \equiv$   
 $\forall X (\neg \text{able\_to\_work}(X) \vee \text{employed}(X))$

# Some useful equivalences cntd.

E.g.  $\neg(A \wedge B) = \neg A \vee \neg B$

So

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$\neg (\text{academic}(\text{john}) \wedge \text{rich}(\text{john})) \equiv$

$\neg \text{academic}(\text{john}) \vee \neg \text{rich}(\text{john})$

Another instance of the same equivalence:

$$\neg(A \wedge B) \equiv \neg A \vee \neg B$$

**A**

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$$\neg(\forall X (\text{able\_to\_work}(X) \rightarrow \text{employed}(X)) \wedge \text{inflation}(\text{low})) \equiv$$

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**B**

$$\neg (\forall X (\text{able\_to\_work}(X) \rightarrow \text{employed}(X))) \vee \neg \text{inflation}(\text{low})$$

# Some other equivalences in predicate logic

- $\forall X p(X) \equiv \neg \exists X \neg p(X)$

all true, none false

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- $\forall X \neg p(X) \equiv \neg \exists X p(X)$

all false - none true

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- $\exists X p(X) \equiv \neg \forall X \neg p(X)$

at least one true - not all false

- $\exists X \neg p(X) \equiv \neg \forall X p(X)$

at least one false - not all true

# Equivalence exercises

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall X (\text{cautious}(X) \vee \text{normal}(X) \rightarrow \\ & \quad \exists Y \text{shelter}(Y, X)) \equiv \\ & \neg \exists X ((\text{cautious}(X) \vee \text{normal}(X)) \wedge \\ & \quad \neg \exists Y \text{shelter}(Y, X)) \\ & \forall X \forall Y (\text{aggresive}(X) \wedge \text{sees}(X, Y) \rightarrow \\ & \quad \text{fights}(X, Y)) \equiv \\ & \forall X \neg \exists Y (\text{aggresive}(X) \wedge \text{sees}(X, Y) \wedge \\ & \quad \neg \text{fights}(X, Y)) \end{aligned}$$



# Some other equivalences in predicate logic

Suppose  $W1, W2$  are wffs.

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If  $W1$  can be transformed to  $W2$  by a  
consistent renaming of variables, then  $W1$   
and  $W2$  are equivalent.

E.g.

$$\forall X p(X) \equiv \forall Y p(Y)$$

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$$\forall X \exists Y (p(X, Y) \rightarrow q(Y, X)) \equiv$$

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$$\forall Z \exists W (p(Z, W) \rightarrow q(W, Z))$$

# Some other equivalences in predicate logic

If two wffs differ only in the order of two adjacent quantifiers of the same kind, then they are equivalent. E.g.

$$\forall X \forall Y p(X, Y) \equiv \forall Y \forall X p(X, Y)$$

$$\exists X \exists Y p(X, Y) \equiv \exists Y \exists X p(X, Y)$$

But

$$\forall X \exists Y p(X, Y) \quad \text{is not equivalent to} \quad \exists Y \forall X p(X, Y)$$

# More Equivalences

$$\exists X(A \vee B) \equiv \exists XA \vee \exists XB$$

**E.g.**

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$$\exists X(\text{male}(X) \vee \text{female}(X)) \equiv$$

$$\exists X \text{ male}(X) \vee \exists X \text{ female}(X)$$

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# More Equivalences

$$\forall X (A \wedge B) \equiv \forall X A \wedge \forall X B$$

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E.g.

$$\forall X ( \text{mscDegree}(X) \rightarrow \text{duration}(X, 12\text{months}) \wedge \text{phdDegree}(X) \rightarrow \text{duration}(X, 42\text{months}) ) \equiv$$

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$$\forall X (\text{mscDegree}(X) \rightarrow \text{duration}(X, 12\text{months})) \wedge \forall X (\text{phdDegree}(X) \rightarrow \text{duration}(X, 42\text{months}))$$

# Some notes on quantifiers

## 1. Free and Bound variables:

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An occurrence of a variable in a wff is  
bound if it is within the scope of a quantifier  
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in that wff. It is free if it is not within the  
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scope of any quantifier in that wff.

# Examples

$$\forall X (p(X) \rightarrow q(Y, X))$$

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Both occurrences of X in the above wff are bound (they are both within the scope of the  $\forall$ .)

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The occurrence of Y is free (it is not within the scope of any quantifier.)

$$(\forall X p(X)) \wedge (\exists X q(X))$$

In the wff above, both occurrences of X are bound, the first by the  $\forall$ , the second by the  $\exists$ .

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$$(\forall X p(X)) \wedge (\exists Y q(X, Y))$$

In the wff above, the first occurrence of X is bound, the second is free. The occurrence of Y is bound.

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## Definition.

If a wff contains no free occurrences of variables it is said to be **closed**, otherwise it is said to be **open**.

A wff with no free occurrences of variables is also called a **sentence**.

E.g.

$\text{Bird}(X) \rightarrow \text{has\_beak}(X)$

is a wff but not a sentence.

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$\forall X (\text{Bird}(X) \rightarrow \text{has\_beak}(X))$

is a wff and a sentence.

# Back to equivalences

2. A particular occurrence of a variable is bound by the closest quantifier which can bind it.

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E.g.

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$$\forall X (p(X) \rightarrow \forall X q(X)) \equiv$$

$$\forall X (p(X) \rightarrow \forall Y q(Y))$$

### 3. Law of vacuous quantification

$\forall X W \equiv W$  if  $W$  (a wff) contains no free occurrences of  $X$ .

$$\forall X (p(a) \rightarrow q(a)) \equiv p(a) \rightarrow q(a)$$

$$\forall X \exists X p(X) \equiv \exists X p(X)$$

$$\forall X \exists Y (p(X) \rightarrow \exists Y q(X, Y))$$

which quantification can we drop?

# More Equivalences

If  $X$  does not occur free in  $A$  then

$\forall X(A \rightarrow B) \equiv A \rightarrow \forall X B$ , and

$\exists X(A \rightarrow B) \equiv A \rightarrow \exists X B$ .

E.g.

$\forall X(\text{funny}(\text{john}) \rightarrow \text{loves}(X, \text{john})) \equiv$   
 $\text{funny}(\text{john}) \rightarrow \forall X \text{ loves}(X, \text{john})$

# More Equivalences

If  $X$  doesn't occur free in  $A$ , then

$\exists X(A \wedge B) \equiv A \wedge \exists X B$ , and

$\forall X(A \vee B) \equiv A \vee \forall X B$ .

E.g.

$\exists X(\text{station}(\text{victoria}) \wedge \text{tubeLine}(X, \text{victoria}))$   
 $\equiv \text{station}(\text{victoria}) \wedge \exists X \text{tubeLine}(X, \text{victoria})$

# More Equivalences

If  $X$  does not occur free in  $B$  then

$\forall X(A \rightarrow B) \equiv \exists X A \rightarrow B$ , and

$\exists X(A \rightarrow B) \equiv \forall X A \rightarrow B$ .

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Be careful:

The quantifier changes.



$\forall X(A \rightarrow B)$  is equivalent to  $\exists X A \rightarrow B$ , and

$\exists X(A \rightarrow B)$  is equivalent to  $\forall X A \rightarrow B$

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E.g.

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$\forall X(\text{loves}(X, \text{john}) \rightarrow \text{happy}(\text{john})) \equiv$   
 $(\exists X \text{ loves}(X, \text{john})) \rightarrow \text{happy}(\text{john})$

# Warning: non-equivalences

The following are *NOT* logically equivalent  
(though always, the first  $\models$  the second):

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$\forall X(A \rightarrow B)$  and  $\forall XA \rightarrow \forall XB$

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$\exists X(A \wedge B)$  and  $\exists XA \wedge \exists XB$

$\forall XA \vee \forall XB$  and  $\forall X (A \vee B)$

Can you find a ‘counter-example’ for each one?

Counter-example for

$\forall X(p(X) \rightarrow q(X))$  and  $\forall Xp(X) \rightarrow \forall Xq(X)$

Take

$p(a)$

$p(b)$

$\neg p(c)$

$q(a)$

$\neg q(b)$

Then RHS is true, but LHS is not.

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# Examples for slide 26

$\exists X(A \wedge B)$  and  $\exists XA \wedge \exists XB$

Not equivalent

$\exists X(\text{male}(X) \wedge \text{female}(X))$  and

$\exists X \text{ male}(X) \wedge \exists X \text{ female}(X)$

$\forall XA \vee \forall XB$  and  $\forall X (A \vee B)$

$\forall X \text{ msc}(X) \vee \forall X \text{ meng}(X)$  and

$\forall X (\text{msc}(X) \vee \text{meng}(X))$