



## PREDICATE LOGIC

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- Often we need to reason about statements of the form:
  - *everything has the property  $p$*
  - *something has the property  $p$*
- However, propositional logic is not expressive enough to support such reasoning
- Predicate logic, an extension to propositional logic, adds *quantifiers* to allow this type of reasoning.
  - If also includes all the definitions, inference rules, theorems, algebraic laws, etc.

# Outline



Idaho State  
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Computer  
Science

- Language of Predicate Logic
- Translating English to Logic
- Computing with Quantifiers
- Inference with Predicates
- Algebraic Laws of Predicate Logic
- Proof Concepts



# § Language of Predicate Logic

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- **Predicate:** A statement that an object  $x$  has a certain property
  - such statements may be either `True` or `False`
  - **Example:**  $x > 5$
- Predicates may extend over multiple variables
  - **Example:**  $x > y$
- Conditional expressions in programs are a form of predicate
- Predicates are typically written in the concise form  $F(x)$ 
  - $F$  is the predicate,  $x$  is the variable
  - $G(x, y)$  is a multivariate predicate
  - Can be thought of as a function that returns a Boolean

- Any term in the form  $F(x)$ , where  $F$  is the predicate name and  $x$  is a variable name, is a WFF
  - $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)$  is a WFF that is a predicate with  $k$  variables
- **Universe of Discourse (U)** - also called *universe*, is the set of possible values that the variables can have
  - Typically specified once, at the start of a piece of reasoning
- In predicate logic, the following standards apply
  - Universe is called  $U$
  - Constants are lowercase letters (typically  $c$  and  $p$ )
  - Variables are lowercase letters (typically  $x, y, z$ )
  - Predicates are uppercase letters, i.e.,  $F(x)$
  - Generic predicates start with a lowercase letter, i.e.,  $f(x)$

- **Universal Quantification ( $\forall$ ):** If  $F(x)$  is a WFF containing the variable  $x$ , then  $\forall x. F(x)$  is a WFF
  - This is a statement that *everything* in the universe has a certain property
  - Says: "For all  $x$  in the universe, the predicate  $F(x)$  holds"
  - Used to state required properties
- **Existential Quantification ( $\exists$ ):** If  $F(x)$  is a WFF containing the variable  $x$ , then  $\exists x. F(x)$  is a WFF
  - This is a statement that *something* in the universe has a certain property
  - Says: "Some  $x$  has the property  $F$ "
  - Used to state a property must occur at least once
- **Note:** we can also nest quantifiers:  $\forall x. \exists y. x < y$

- Let  $U$  be the set of even numbers. Let  $E(x)$  mean  $x$  is even. Then,  $\forall x. E(x)$  is a WFF that is true
- Let  $U$  be the set of natural numbers. Let  $E(x)$  mean  $x$  is even, then  $\forall x. E(x)$  is a WFF that is false
- Let  $U$  be the set of natural numbers and  $F(x, y)$  be  $2x = y$ , then
  - $\exists x. F(x, 6)$  is a WFF and is True
  - $\exists x. F(x, 7)$  is a WFF and is False



# Expanding Quantified Expressions



- If we have a finite universe
  - Quantified expressions can be interpreted as ordinary terms in propositional logic
  - The quantifiers simply act as syntactic abbreviations

Suppose:  $U = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$  (of size  $n$ ), then

$$\forall x. F(x) = F(c_1) \wedge F(c_2) \wedge \dots \wedge F(c_n) = \bigwedge_{i=1}^n F(c_i)$$

$$\exists x. F(x) = F(c_1) \vee F(c_2) \vee \dots \vee F(c_n) = \bigvee_{i=1}^n F(c_i)$$

- Quantifiers make reasoning practical
- If we have an infinite universe
  - It is impossible to expand quantifiers
- All WFFs must have a finite size (even if the universe itself is infinite)

# Expanding Quantified Expressions



- Let  $U = \{1, 2, 3\}$  with the following predicates

$$\text{even } x = (x \bmod 2 = 0)$$

$$\text{odd } x = (x \bmod 2 = 1)$$

## Universal Expansion

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall x. (\text{even } x \rightarrow \neg(\text{odd } x)) \\ &= (\text{even } 1 \rightarrow \neg(\text{odd } 1)) \wedge (\text{even } 2 \rightarrow \neg(\text{odd } 2)) \wedge (\text{even } 3 \rightarrow \neg(\text{odd } 3)) \\ &= (\text{False} \rightarrow \neg\text{True}) \wedge (\text{True} \rightarrow \neg\text{False}) \wedge (\text{False} \rightarrow \neg\text{True}) \\ &= \text{True} \wedge \text{True} \wedge \text{True} \\ &= \text{True} \end{aligned}$$

## Existential Expansion

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists x. (\text{even } x \wedge \text{odd } x) \\ &= (\text{even } 1 \wedge \text{odd } 1) \vee (\text{even } 2 \wedge \text{odd } 2) \vee (\text{even } 3 \wedge \text{odd } 3) \\ &= (\text{False} \wedge \text{True}) \vee (\text{True} \wedge \text{False}) \vee (\text{False} \wedge \text{True}) \\ &= \text{False} \vee \text{False} \vee \text{False} \\ &= \text{False} \end{aligned}$$

- Let  $U = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , expand the following expression into propositional term
  - $\forall x. F(x)$
  - $\exists x. \forall y. G(x, y)$
- Expand the following expression  
 $\forall x \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}. \exists y \in \{5, 6\}. F(x, y)$

- Let  $U = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , expand the following expression into propositional term

- $\forall x. F(x)$

$$\forall x. F(x)$$

$$= F(1) \wedge F(2) \wedge F(3)$$

- $\exists x. \forall y. G(x, y)$

$$\exists x. G(x, y)$$

$$= G(1, 1) \vee G(1, 2) \vee G(1, 3) \vee G(2, 1) \vee G(2, 2) \vee G(2, 3) \vee G(3, 1) \vee G(3, 2) \vee G(3, 3)$$

- Expand the following expression

$$\forall x \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}. \exists y \in \{5, 6\}. F(x, y)$$

$$\forall x. \exists y. F(x, y)$$

$$= (F(1, 5) \vee F(1, 6)) \wedge (F(2, 5) \vee F(2, 6)) \wedge (F(3, 5) \vee F(3, 6)) \wedge (F(4, 5) \vee F(4, 6))$$

- **Binding:** Quantifiers *bind* variables by assigning them values from a universe
  - **Dangling expressions:** expressions without explicit quantification have no explicit binding:  $x + 2$
- **Scope:** Extent of a binding
  - Convention: Quantifiers extend over the smallest sub-expression possible. So use parentheses to make meaning clear.
- **Example:**  $\forall x, y. (p(x) \rightarrow q(x, y)) \wedge r(z)$ 
  - $x, y$  are bound
  - $z$  is free
  - All are in the scope of  $\forall x, y$  except  $r(z)$
  - $r(z)$  is a dangling expression

# § Translating English to Logic

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- When an English statement has no internal structure relevant to reasoning, we can use simple propositional variables:

$A \equiv$  Elephants are big.

$B \equiv$  Cats are furry.

$C \equiv$  Cats are good pets.

- We can combine statements using the operators corresponding to connective words.

$\neg A \equiv$  Elephants are small.

$A \vee B \equiv$  Elephants are big and cats are furry.

$B \rightarrow C \equiv$  If cats are furry then they make good pets.

- However, when general statements are made about classes of objects, then predicates and quantifiers are needed
- For example, these statements are difficult to model with propositional logic:

$A \equiv$  Small animals are good pets.

$C \equiv$  Cats are animals.

$S \equiv$  Cats are small.

- This leads to weak conclusions such as:
  - $A \wedge C$
  - $S \vee A$



- However, we can model the internal structure of these statements using predicates:

$$\begin{aligned}A(x) &\equiv x \text{ is an animal.} \\C(x) &\equiv x \text{ is a cat.} \\S(x) &\equiv x \text{ is small.} \\GP(x) &\equiv x \text{ is a good pet.}\end{aligned}$$

- Using these we can produce the following richer translations of the english statements:

$$\begin{aligned}\forall x. C(x) \rightarrow A(x) &\equiv \text{Cats are animals.} \\ \forall x. C(x) \rightarrow S(x) &\equiv \text{Cats are small.} \\ \forall x. C(x) \rightarrow S(x) \wedge A(x) &\equiv \text{Cats are small animals.} \\ \forall x. S(x) \wedge A(x) \rightarrow GP(x) &\equiv \text{Small animals are good pets.}\end{aligned}$$

- Often the difficulty in translating English to Logic is found in determining what the original speaker meant to say.

# ⌘ Computing with Quantifiers

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- If the universe is finite, we can utilize computers to evaluate quantified expressions
- In the context of Haskell,
  - A *predicate* is a function returning a Boolean value
  - The `forall` function
    - takes in an `Int` list, representing the universe, and a predicate
    - it applies the predicate to each item in the universe and returns the results

```
forall :: [Int] -> (Int -> Bool) -> Bool
```

- uses the `and` function
- Similarly, the `exists` function
  - applies the `or` function

```
exists :: [Int] -> (Int -> Bool) -> Bool
```

- Both `forall` and `exists` are defined in the `StdM` module

- Write the predicate logic expressions corresponding to the following Haskell expressions. Then decide whether the value is `True` or `False`, and finally evaluate each using a computer.

```
forall [1, 2, 3] (==2)
```

```
exists [1, 2, 3] (<= 5)
```

- Write the predicate logic expressions corresponding to the following Haskell expressions. Then decide whether the value is `True` or `False`, and finally evaluate each using a computer.

```
forall [1, 2, 3] (==2)
```

**Solution:**

$\forall x \in [1, 2, 3]. x = 2$

`False`

```
exists [1, 2, 3] (<= 5)
```

**Solution:**

$\exists x \in [1, 2, 3]. x \leq 5$

`True`

# § Inference with Predicates

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- Inference rules can be extended to predicate logic
- An additional four rules are required for dealing with quantifiers
- As noted before, if the universe of finite quantification acts as propositions
- However, if the universe is infinite, the inference rules of predicate logic allow deductions that are otherwise impossible with propositional logic.

# Universal Introduction $\{\forall I\}$



## Rule:

$$\frac{F(x) \quad \{x \text{ arbitrary}\}}{\forall x. F(x)} \{\forall I\}$$

## Meaning:

- If the expression  $a$  (which may contain a variable  $x$ ) can be proved for an *arbitrary*  $x$ , then we may infer the proposition  $\forall x. a$

**Example:**  $\vdash \forall x. E(x) \rightarrow (E(x) \vee \neg E(x))$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\cancel{E(p)}}{E(p) \vee \neg E(p)} \{\vee I_L\}}{E(p) \rightarrow E(p) \vee \neg E(p)} \{\rightarrow I\}}{\forall x. E(x) \rightarrow E(x) \vee \neg E(x)} \{\forall I\}$$



# Universal Elimination $\{\forall E\}$



## Rule:

$$\frac{\forall x. F(x)}{F(p)} \{\forall E\}$$

## Meaning:

- If we have established  $\forall x. F(x)$  and  $p$  is an element of the universe, then you can infer  $F(p)$

**Example:**  $\forall x. F(x) \rightarrow G(x) \vdash G(p)$

$$\frac{F(p) \quad \frac{\forall x. F(x) \rightarrow G(x)}{F(p) \rightarrow G(p)} \{\forall E\}}{G(p)} \{\rightarrow E\}$$

# Exercises



- Prove:  $\forall x. F(x), \forall x. F(x) \rightarrow G(x) \vdash \forall x. G(x)$

- Prove:  $\forall x. F(x), \forall x. F(x) \rightarrow G(x) \vdash \forall x. G(x)$

**Solution:**

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\forall x. F(x)}{F(p)} \{\forall E\} \quad \frac{\frac{\forall x. F(x) \rightarrow G(x)}{F(p) \rightarrow G(p)} \{\forall E\}}{G(p)} \{\rightarrow E\}}{\forall x. G(x)} \{\forall I\} \quad \{\text{arbitrary } p\}$$

# Existential Introduction $\{\exists I\}$



## Rule:

$$\frac{f(p)}{\exists x. f(x)} \{\exists I\}$$

## Meaning:

- If  $f(p)$  has been established for a particular  $p$ , then you can infer  $\exists x. f(x)$

**Example:**  $\forall x. F(x) \vdash \exists x. F(x)$

$$\frac{\forall x. F(x)}{F(p)} \{\forall E\}$$
$$\frac{F(p)}{\exists x. F(x)} \{\exists I\}$$

# Existential Elimination $\{\exists E\}$



## Rule:

$$\frac{\exists x. F(x) \quad F(x) \vdash A \quad \{x \text{ arbitrary}\}}{A} \{\exists E\}$$

## Meaning:

- If we know  $\exists x. F(x)$  holds for some  $x$ , and furthermore that  $A$  must hold if  $F(x)$  holds for *arbitrary*  $x$ , then  $A$  can be inferred.

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

$$\frac{\exists x. P(x) \quad \frac{\frac{\cancel{P(c)} \quad \frac{\forall x. P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)}{P(c) \rightarrow Q(c)} \{\forall E\}}{P(c) \rightarrow Q(c)} \{\rightarrow E\}}{Q(c)} \{\exists E\}}{Q(c)} \{\exists I\}$$

# Exercises



- Prove:  $\exists x. \exists y. F(x, y) \vdash \exists y. \exists x. F(x, y)$

- Prove:  $\exists x. \exists y. F(x, y) \vdash \exists y. \exists x. F(x, y)$

**Solution:**

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\cancel{\exists y. F(p, y)}}{F(p, q)} \{\exists E\}}{\exists x. F(x, q)} \{\exists I\}}{\exists y. \exists x. F(x, y)} \{\exists I\}}{\frac{\exists x. \exists y. F(x, y)}{\exists y. \exists x. F(x, y)} \{\exists E\}}$$

# ⌘ Algebraic Laws of Predicate Logic

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- Just as with propositional logic, we have an alternate style of reasoning based on a set of algebraic laws
  - All previous propositional laws apply, as well as new ones we will discuss
- Not a minimal, nor a complete set of laws
  - Some correspond to inference rules
  - Some are provable as theorems
- Here, we focus on practical use, rather than theoretical foundations

- These laws are related to rules of inference

## Laws:

$$\forall x. f(x) \rightarrow f(c) \quad (7.3)$$

$$f(c) \rightarrow \exists x. f(x) \quad (7.4)$$

## Where:

- $x$  is bound by the quantifier
- $c$  is a fixed element in the universe

## Example:

- Prove:  $\forall x. f(x) \rightarrow \exists x. f(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x. f(x) & \\ \rightarrow f(c) & \quad \{7.3\} \\ \rightarrow \exists x. f(x) & \quad \{7.4\} \end{aligned}$$

- These laws focus on the effects of negation on quantifiers

## Laws:

$$\forall x. \neg f(x) = \neg \exists x. f(x) \quad (7.5)$$

$$\exists x. \neg f(x) = \neg \forall x. f(x) \quad (7.6)$$

- These laws are concerned with how a predicate  $f(x)$  combines with a proposition  $q$  that does not contain  $x$

## Laws:

$$(\forall x. f(x)) \wedge q = \forall x. (f(x) \wedge q) \quad (7.7)$$

$$(\forall x. f(x)) \vee q = \forall x. (f(x) \vee q) \quad (7.8)$$

$$(\exists x. f(x)) \wedge q = \exists x. (f(x) \wedge q) \quad (7.9)$$

$$(\exists x. f(x)) \vee q = \exists x. (f(x) \vee q) \quad (7.10)$$

- These laws concern the combination of quantifiers with  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$

## Laws:

$$\forall x. f(x) \wedge \forall x. g(x) = \forall x. (f(x) \wedge g(x)) \quad (7.11)$$

$$\forall x. f(x) \vee \forall x. g(x) \rightarrow \forall x. (f(x) \vee g(x)) \quad (7.12)$$

$$\exists x. (f(x) \wedge g(x)) \rightarrow \exists x. f(x) \wedge \exists x. g(x) \quad (7.13)$$

$$\exists x. f(x) \vee \exists x. g(x) = \exists x. (f(x) \vee g(x)) \quad (7.14)$$

- Prove:  $\forall x. (f(x) \wedge \neg g(x)) = \forall x. f(x) \wedge \neg \exists x. g(x)$

$$\begin{aligned}\forall x. (f(x) \wedge \neg g(x)) \\ &= \forall x. f(x) \wedge \forall x. \neg g(x) && \{7.11\} \\ &= \forall x. f(x) \wedge \neg \exists x. g(x) && \{7.5\}\end{aligned}$$

- Prove:  $\exists x. (f(x) \rightarrow g(x)) \wedge (\forall x. f(x)) \rightarrow \exists x. g(x)$

$$\begin{aligned}\exists x. (f(x) \rightarrow g(x)) \wedge (\forall x. f(x)) \\ &= (\exists x. (f(x) \rightarrow g(x))) \wedge (\forall y. f(y)) && \text{change of var} \\ &= \exists x. ((f(x) \rightarrow g(x)) \wedge (\forall y. f(y))) && \{7.9\} \\ &= \exists x. ((f(x) \rightarrow g(x)) \wedge f(x)) && \{7.3\} \\ \rightarrow \exists x. g(x) && \{ModusPonens\}\end{aligned}$$

- Often include steps where both a rule of inference for propositions and a rule of inference for quantifiers are used.
- For example, universal instantiation and *modus ponens* are often used together
- When these rules of inference are combined, for example:
  - $\forall x. (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$
  - $P(c)$  // where  $c$  is a member of the universe of discourse
  - $Q(c)$

# § Proof Concepts

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# Methods of Proving Theorems



- Direct Proof
- Indirect Proofs
  - Proof by contraposition
  - Vacuous and trivial proofs
  - Proof by contradiction

- **Example:** Prove that “if  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n^2$  is an odd integer”

- **Proof:**

$$n \text{ is odd} \rightarrow n = 2k + 1$$

$$n^2 = (2k + 1)^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 = 2k(2k + 2) + 1 \text{ which is odd}$$

- **Example:** Prove that the sum of two rational numbers is rational

- rational number =  $p/q$  ( $q \neq 0$ )

- **Proof:**

$$r = \frac{p}{q} \quad (q \neq 0)$$

$$s = \frac{t}{u} \quad (u \neq 0)$$

$$r + s = \frac{p}{q} + \frac{t}{u} = \frac{pu + tq}{qu}$$

which is rational.

# Indirect Proofs



- Proof by contraposition
- Vacuous and Trivial Proofs
- Proof by contradiction

# Proof by Contraposition



- Based on the idea:  $p \rightarrow q \equiv \neg q \rightarrow \neg p$
- Makes use of the fact that the conditional statement  $p \rightarrow q$  is equivalent to  $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$
- The first step is to take  $\neg q$  as a hypothesis and then using axioms, statements we assume to be true, definitions, and previously proven theorems together with rules of inference, we show that  $\neg p$  must follow.
- **Example:** prove that “if  $3n + 2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd”
  - **Proof:** Suppose  $n$  is even. Then  $n = 2k$   
 $3n + 2 = 3(2k) + 2 = 6k + 2 = 2(3k + 1)$  which is even  
 $\therefore$  by contraposition if,  $3n + 2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd.
- **Example:** prove that if  $n^2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd
  - **Proof:** Suppose  $n$  is even. Then  $n = 2k$   
 $n^2 = (2k)^2 = 4k^2 = 2(2k^2)$  which is even

# Vacuous and Trivial Proofs



- **Vacuous Proofs:** if we can show that  $q$  is false, then,  $p \rightarrow q$  will always be true.
- **Trivial Proofs:** we can quickly prove  $p \rightarrow q$  if we know  $q$  is true.

# Proof by Contradiction



- Suppose we want to show that a statement  $p$  is true
- Suppose we can find a contradiction  $q$  such that  $\neg p \rightarrow q$  is true
- Because  $q$  is false, but  $\neg p \rightarrow q$  is true, we can conclude  $\neg p$  is false and therefore  $p$  is true
- How to find the contradiction  $q$  to help us in this way:
  - Because the statement  $r \wedge \neg r$  is a contradiction if  $r$  is a proposition, we can prove that  $p$  is true if we can show that  $\neg p \rightarrow (r \wedge \neg r)$  is true for some proposition  $r$
- **Example:** Prove that  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational
  - **Proof:** Suppose that  $\sqrt{2}$  is rational  
Then:  $\sqrt{2} = \frac{a}{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  have no common factor  
square both sides:  $2 = \frac{a^2}{b^2}$   
 $2b^2 = a^2 \rightarrow a$  is even  
 $a = 2c$   
 $\therefore 2b^2 = 4c^2$   
 $b^2 = 2c^2 \rightarrow b$  is even  
 $\therefore$  The assumption that  $a$  and  $b$  have no common factor is false so there is a contraction  
 $\rightarrow \sqrt{2}$  is irrational.

# Proof Methods and Strategy



- Exhaustive proofs
- Proof-by-cases
- Existence Proofs
- Uniqueness Proofs

- There are times when we cannot prove a theorem using a single argument that holds for all cases.
- By considering different cases separately we can prove a theorem.
- This is based on the following rule of inference:  
$$(p_1 \vee p_2 \vee p_3 \vee \dots \vee p_n) \rightarrow q$$

The tautology:  $[(p_1 \vee p_2 \vee \dots \vee p_n) \rightarrow q] \leftrightarrow [(p_1 \rightarrow q) \wedge (p_2 \rightarrow q) \wedge \dots \wedge (p_n \rightarrow q)]$



# Exhaustive Proof



- Can be proved by examining a relatively small number of examples.
- Called exhaustive proof, since these proofs proceed by exhausting all possibilities
- It is a special case of proof-by-cases where each case involves checking a single example

- Must cover all possible cases that arise in a theorem
- Generally, we look for a proof-by-cases when there is no obvious way to begin a proof
- **Without Loss of Generality (WLOG)**
  - Used in a proof, we assert that by proving one case of a theorem, no additional argument is required to prove other specified cases



- Many theorems are assertions that objects of a particular type exists
- Such a theorem is a proposition of the form  $\exists x. P(x)$ , where  $P$  is a predicate
- Proving this proposition is called an **existence proof**
- An existence proof of the form  $\exists x. P(x)$  can be given by finding an element,  $a$ , such that  $P(a)$  is true. This type of existence proof is called a **constructive proof**.
- It is also possible to give a **non-constructive proof**.
  - That is we do not find an element  $a$  such that  $P(a)$  is true, but rather prove that  $\exists x. P(x)$  is true in some other way.

- Some theorems assert the existence of a unique element with a particular property (one element with this property)
- To prove this we need to show that an element with this property exists and that no other element has this property.
- The two parts of a **uniqueness proof** are:
  - **Existence:** we show that an element  $x$  with the desired property exists.
  - **Uniqueness:** we show that if  $y \neq x$ , then  $y$  does not have the desired property.
- Equivalently we can show that if  $x$  and  $y$  both have the desired property, then  $x = y$
- This is the equivalent (proving the uniqueness proof) of proving the statement:  
$$\exists x. (P(x) \wedge \forall y. (y \neq x \rightarrow \neg P(y)))$$

# For Next Time



- Review DMUC Chapter 7
- Review this Lecture
- Read DMUC Chapter 8
- Come To Lecture





# Are there any questions?