

# First Order Logic

27/01/2025

**Koustav Rudra**

# Objective

- Formulate more types of sentences in logic?
- Write correct predicate logic formulae

# Limitations of propositional logic

- All dogs are faithful
- Tommy is a dog
- Therefore, Tommy is faithful

How to represent and infer this in propositional logic?

- P: All dogs are faithful
- Q: Tommy is a dog
- **Can we claim?**  $P \wedge Q \rightarrow \text{Tommy is faithful}$
- **Machine does not know what does “all dogs” mean?**

# Limitations of propositional logic

- Anil is a hardworking student
  - Hardworking\_Anil
- Anil is an intelligent student
  - Intelligent\_Anil
- Anil scores high marks
  - Score\_High\_Mark\_Anil
- If Anil is hardworking and Anil is intelligent, then Anil scores high marks
  - $\text{Hardworking\_Anil} \wedge \text{Intelligent\_Anil} \rightarrow \text{Score\_High\_Mark\_Anil}$
- What about Akash and Asish?

# Limitations of propositional logic

- Anil is a hardworking student
- Anil is an intelligent student
- All students who are hardworking and intelligent scores high marks
- **For all**  $x$  such that  $x$  is a student and  $x$  is intelligent and  $x$  is hardworking then  $x$  scores high marks
  - $x$  is a variable
  - **Need power to write such sentences**

# The problem of Infinite Model

- Propositional logic, we have to restrict ourselves to constants
- In general, propositional logic can deal with only a finite number of propositions
- If there are only three students Anil Akash Asish, then
  - P: Anil is intelligent
  - Q: Akash is intelligent
  - R: Asish is intelligent
- All students are intelligent:  $P \wedge Q \wedge R$
- If a new student joins the class?
- How long should we go on?
- Limitation: Finiteness of statements

# First Order Logic

- Generalization of propositional logic that allows us to express and infer arguments in infinite models like
  - All men are mortal
  - Some birds cannot fly
  - At least one planet has life on it

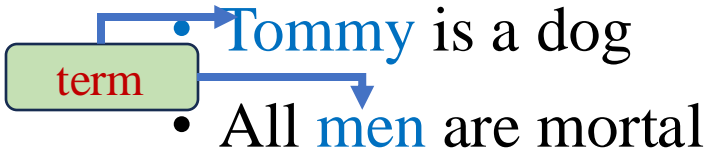
# Syntax of FOL

- The **syntax** of **First-Order Logic** can be defined in terms of
  - Terms
  - Predicates
  - Quantifiers



# Term

- A term denotes some object other than **true** or **false**



- Terms can be constants as well as variables
- In proposition logic, we only have constants

# Term: Constants & Variables

- A constant of type  $W$  is a name that denotes a particular object in a set  $W$ 
  - Example: 5, Anil
- A variable of type  $W$  is a name that can denote any element in the set  $W$ 
  - Examples:  $x \in \mathbb{N}$  denotes a Natural number
  - $s$  denotes the name of a student

# Functions

- A functional term of arity  $n$  takes  $n$  objects of type  $W_1$  to  $W_n$  as inputs and returns an object of type  $W$

- $f(W_1, W_2, \dots, W_n)$

- $\text{plus}(3,4) = 7$

- Two objects of type constant from the set of Natural numbers

Functional Term

Constants

# Functions: Example

- Let plus be a function that takes two arguments of type Natural number and returns a Natural number
- **Valid** Functional Terms:
  - plus(2,3)
  - plus(5,plus(7,3))
- **Invalid** Functional Terms:
  - plus(0,-1)
  - Plus(1.2,3.3)

# Predicates

- Predicates are like functions except that their return type is **true** or **false**
- **Example:**
  - $gt(x,y)$  is true iff  $x > y$
  - Here  $gt$  is a predicate symbol that takes two arguments of type natural number
  - $gt(3,4)$  is a valid predicate but  $gt(3,-4)$  is not

# Types of Predicates

- A predicate with no variable is a proposition
  - Anil is a student
- A predicate with one variable is called a property
  - $\text{student}(x)$  is true iff  $x$  is student
  - $\text{mortal}(y)$  is true iff  $y$  is mortal

# Formulation of Predicates

- Let  $P(x,y,\dots)$  and  $Q(x,y,\dots)$  are two predicates
- Then so are
  - $P \wedge Q$
  - $P \vee Q$
  - $\sim P$
  - $P \rightarrow Q$

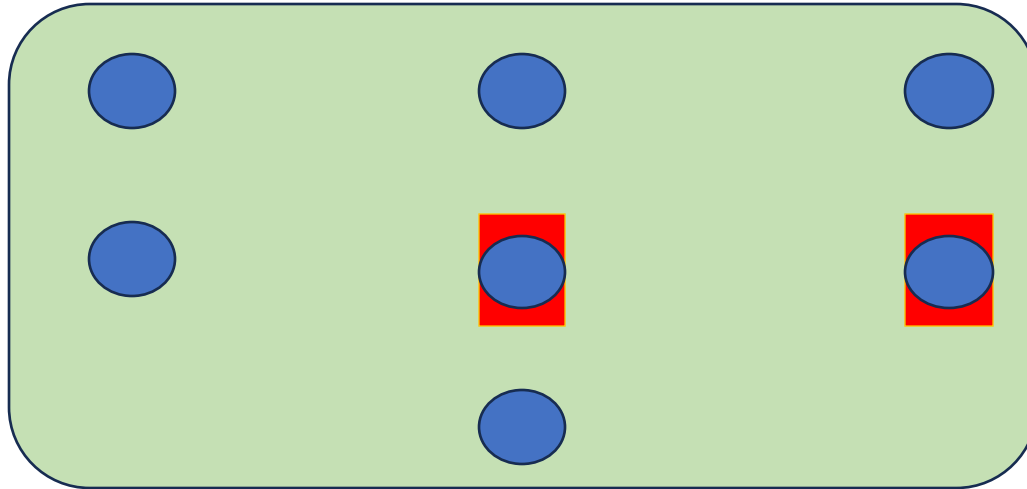
# Predicate Examples

- If  $x$  is a man then  $x$  is mortal
  - $\text{man}(x) \rightarrow \text{mortal}(x)$
  - $\sim \text{man}(x) \vee \text{mortal}(x)$
- If  $n$  is a natural number then  $n$  is either even or odd
  - $\text{natural}(n) \rightarrow \text{even}(n) \vee \text{odd}(n)$



# Quantifiers

- There are two basic quantifiers in FOL
- $\forall$  “for all” Universal Quantifier
- $\exists$  “there exists” Existential Quantifier




Days in a week

$\forall_x \text{sunrise}(x)$

$\exists_x \text{holiday}(x)$

# Universal Quantifiers

- All dogs are faithful
  - faithful(x): x is faithful
  - dog(x): x is a dog
  - $\forall_x (\text{dog}(x) \rightarrow \text{faithful}(x))$
- All birds cannot fly
  - fly(x): x can fly
  - bird(x): x is a bird
  -   $(\forall_x (\text{bird}(x) \rightarrow \text{fly}(x)))$

# Existential Quantifiers

- At least one planet has life on it
  - planet(x): x is a planet
  - haslife(x): x has life on it
  - $\exists_x(\text{planet}(x) \wedge \text{haslife}(x))$
- There exists a bird that can't fly
  - fly(x): x can fly
  - bird(x): x is a bird
  - $\exists_x(\text{bird}(x) \wedge \sim \text{fly}(x))$

# First Order Logic

*27/01/2025*

**Koustav Rudra**

# Duality of Quantifiers

- All men are mortal
  - No man is immortal
- $\forall_x(\text{man}(x) \rightarrow \text{mortal}(x))$
- $\neg(\exists_x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \neg \text{mortal}(x)))$

Universal quantifiers could be expressed in a different way with existential quantifiers

# Sentences

- A predicate is a sentence
- If  $\text{sen}$ ,  $\text{sen}'$  are sentences and  $x$  is a variable then following are sentences
  - $(\text{sen})$ ,  $\sim\text{sen}$ ,  $\exists_x\text{sen}$ ,  $\forall_x\text{sen}$
  - $\text{sen} \wedge \text{sen}'$
  - $\text{sen} \vee \text{sen}'$
  - $\text{sen} \rightarrow \text{sen}'$
- Nothing else is sentence

# First-order Logic


- Sentence  $\rightarrow$  AtomicSentence
  - | Sentence Connective Sentence
  - Quantifier Variable, ... Sentence
  - $\sim$  Sentence | (Sentence)
- AtomicSentence  $\rightarrow$  Predicate(Term, ...)
  - | Term = Term
- Term  $\rightarrow$  Function(Term, ...) | Constant | Variable
- Connective  $\rightarrow \Rightarrow | \vee | \wedge | \Leftrightarrow$
- Quantifier  $\rightarrow \forall | \exists$

# Difference from second order logic

- In FOL we quantify only variables
- In second order logic we can quantify predicates
  - $\exists_P \forall_x \forall_y P(x, y)$



# Examples

- Not all students take history and biology
  - Student(x): x is a student
  - Takes(x,y): subject x is taken by y
  -   $[\forall_x \text{Student}(x) \rightarrow \text{Takes}(\text{History}, x) \wedge \text{Takes}(\text{Biology}, x)]$
  - $\exists_x \text{Student}(x) \wedge [\sim \text{Takes}(\text{History}, x) \vee \sim \text{Takes}(\text{Biology}, x)]$
- Only one student failed biology
  - Failed(x,y): student y failed in subject x

# Examples

- Only one student failed both history and biology
  - Failed(x,y): student y failed in subject x
- The best score in history is better than the best score in biology
  - Function: score(subject, student)
  - Greater(x,y):  $x > y$

# Takeaway

- Predicate logic is a more powerful version of proposition logic
- Provide support for variables and quantifiers
- Can capture sentences more naturally

How we can perform inferencing with predicates?

Thank You