

# L10: Semantics III - First order logic/predicate calculus (FOPC)

Simon Dobnik

Department of Philosophy, Linguistics and Theory of Science

October 14, 2015



GÖTEBORGS UNIVERSITET

# Up to now: Propositional logic to represent sentences

and  $\wedge$ , or  $\vee$ , neg  $\neg$ , and propositions  $P$ ,  $Q$ ...

- (1) a. Pavarotti is hungry.  $P$   
b. Bond likes Loren.  $Q$   
c. Pavarotti is hungry and Bond likes Loren.  $P \wedge Q$   
d. Pavarotti is not hungry or Bond likes Loren.  $\neg P \vee Q$   
e. If Pavarotti is hungry, Bond likes Loren.  $P \rightarrow Q$



# Up to now: Propositional logic to represent sentences

and  $\wedge$ , or  $\vee$ , neg  $\neg$ , and propositions  $P$ ,  $Q$ ...

- (1) a. Pavarotti is hungry.  $P$   
b. Bond likes Loren.  $Q$   
c. Pavarotti is hungry and Bond likes Loren.  $P \wedge Q$   
d. Pavarotti is not hungry or Bond likes Loren.  $\neg P \vee Q$   
e. If Pavarotti is hungry, Bond likes Loren.  $P \rightarrow Q$

We cannot express internal structure of propositions.



# Pronouns

- (2) She likes Pavarotti but he doesn't.
- (3) a. Loren likes Pavarotti and Pavarotti doesn't like Pavarotti.  
b. Loren likes Pavarotti and James Bond doesn't like Pavarotti.



# Pronouns

- (2) She likes Pavarotti but he doesn't.
- (3) a. Loren likes Pavarotti and Pavarotti doesn't like Pavarotti.  
b. Loren likes Pavarotti and James Bond doesn't like Pavarotti.
- The denotation of “she” and “he”?



# Pronouns

- (2) She likes Pavarotti but he doesn't.
- (3) a. Loren likes Pavarotti and Pavarotti doesn't like Pavarotti.  
b. Loren likes Pavarotti and James Bond doesn't like Pavarotti.
- ▶ The denotation of “she” and “he”?
  - ▶ Variables that allow alternative assignments (e.g. pointing).



# Quantified NPs

- (4) a. Everyone likes Loren.  
b. No one is boring.  
c. Someone is hungry.



# Quantified NPs

- (4) a. Everyone likes Loren.  
b. No one is boring.  
c. Someone is hungry.
- (5) a. Loren likes Loren, and James Bond likes Loren, and Pavarotti likes Loren.  
b. It is not the case that [Loren is boring or Bond is boring or Pavarotti is boring].  
b'. Loren is not boring, and Bond is not boring, and Pavarotti is not boring.  
c. Loren is hungry, or Bond is hungry, or Pavarotti is hungry.





# Quantified NPs

- (4) a. Everyone likes Loren.  
b. No one is boring.  
c. Someone is hungry.
- (5) a. Loren likes Loren, and James Bond likes Loren, and Pavarotti likes Loren.  
b. It is not the case that [Loren is boring or Bond is boring or Pavarotti is boring].  
b'. Loren is not boring, and Bond is not boring, and Pavarotti is not boring.  
c. Loren is hungry, or Bond is hungry, or Pavarotti is hungry.

Finding denotations: pointing and cardinality over pointing.



# Quantifiers in FOPC

- ▶ **Universal quantifier:**  $\forall$  (every, all)  
for every assignment  $x$
- ▶ **Existential quantifier:**  $\exists$  (a, some)  
for some (one or more) assignment  $x$
- ▶ **Generalised quantifiers:** ? (most, many, a few):  
cannot be handled in FOPC



We need to express. . .

(6) She likes Pavarotti but he doesn't.

$$L(x_1, p) \wedge \neg L(x_2, p)$$

(7) Everyone likes Loren.

$$\forall x_1 [L(x_1, l)]$$

- Constants:  $p, b, m$
- Predicates:  $L/2$
- Variables:  $x_1, x_2$



# Syntax of FOPC

(8) a. **Variables:** for any integer  $n$ ,  $x_n$  is a variable.

Infinite number of variables denoting objects/individuals



# Syntax of FOPC

- (8) a. **Variables:** for any integer  $n$ ,  $x_n$  is a variable.  
Infinite number of variables denoting objects/individuals
- b. **Constants:**  $j, m, \dots c_n$   
denoting individuals



# Syntax of FOPC

- (8) a. **Variables:** for any integer  $n$ ,  $x_n$  is a variable.  
Infinite number of variables denoting objects/individuals
- b. **Constants:**  $j, m, \dots c_n$   
denoting individuals
- c. **Terms:** variables and constants



# Syntax of FOPC

- (8) a. **Variables:** for any integer  $n$ ,  $x_n$  is a variable.  
Infinite number of variables denoting objects/individuals
- b. **Constants:**  $j, m, \dots c_n$   
denoting individuals
- c. **Terms:** variables and constants
- d. **Predicates:**  $P, Q$  for one-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_1$ ),  $K$  for two-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_2$ ) and  $G$  for three-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_3$ )



# Syntax of FOPC

- (8) a. **Variables:** for any integer  $n$ ,  $x_n$  is a variable.  
Infinite number of variables denoting objects/individuals
- b. **Constants:**  $j, m, \dots c_n$   
denoting individuals
- c. **Terms:** variables and constants
- d. **Predicates:**  $P, Q$  for one-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_1$ ),  $K$  for two-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_2$ ) and  $G$  for three-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_3$ )
- e. If  $A$  is an  $n$ -place predicate and  $t_1, \dots t_n$  are  $n$  terms, then  $A(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is a **formula** (Form)  
Terms are arguments to predicates





# Syntax of FOPC

- (8) a. **Variables:** for any integer  $n$ ,  $x_n$  is a variable.  
Infinite number of variables denoting objects/individuals
- b. **Constants:**  $j, m, \dots c_n$   
denoting individuals
- c. **Terms:** variables and constants
- d. **Predicates:**  $P, Q$  for one-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_1$ ),  $K$  for two-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_2$ ) and  $G$  for three-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_3$ )
- e. If  $A$  is an  $n$ -place predicate and  $t_1, \dots t_n$  are  $n$  terms, then  $A(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is a **formula** (Form)  
Terms are arguments to predicates
- f. If  $A$  and  $B$  are **formulae**, then so are  $\neg A$ ,  $[A \wedge B]$ ,  $[A \vee B]$ ,  $[A \rightarrow B]$ ,  $[A \leftrightarrow B]$ ,  $\forall x_n A$ ,  $\exists x_n A$  (recursive definition!)



# Syntax of FOPC

- (8) a. **Variables:** for any integer  $n$ ,  $x_n$  is a variable.  
Infinite number of variables denoting objects/individuals
- b. **Constants:**  $j, m, \dots c_n$   
denoting individuals
- c. **Terms:** variables and constants
- d. **Predicates:**  $P, Q$  for one-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_1$ ),  $K$  for two-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_2$ ) and  $G$  for three-place predicates ( $\text{Pred}_3$ )
- e. If  $A$  is an  $n$ -place predicate and  $t_1, \dots t_n$  are  $n$  terms, then  $A(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is a **formula** (Form)  
Terms are arguments to predicates
- f. If  $A$  and  $B$  are **formulae**, then so are  $\neg A$ ,  $[A \wedge B]$ ,  $[A \vee B]$ ,  $[A \rightarrow B]$ ,  $[A \leftrightarrow B]$ ,  $\forall x_n A$ ,  $\exists x_n A$  (recursive definition!)
- g. If  $t_1, t_2$  are terms. then  $t_1 = t_2$  is a formula



## Well-formed formula: *wff*

- (9) a.  $P(j)$   
b.  $\neg P(j)$   
c.  $[P(j) \wedge Q(x, y)]$   
d.  $\neg[(P(j) \vee Q(x, y))]$  and  $[[\neg(P(j))] \vee Q(x, y)]$  (bracketing!)  
e.  $\exists x_3[Q(x_3)]$  (bound variables)  
f.  $Q(x_3)$  (free variables)
- (10) a.  $K(j, x_4)$   
b.  $\forall x_2[G(j, m, x_2) \wedge P(x_2)]$   
c.  $\exists x_3[P(x_3) \vee Q(j)]$   
d.  $[[\exists x_3 P(x_3)] \vee Q(j)]$   
e.  $\forall x_3[[\exists x_3 P(x_3)] \vee Q(x_3)]$   
f.  $\forall x_1[\exists x_3[P(x_3) \vee Q(x_1)]]$



# Semantics of FOPC

Let  $\mathcal{M}_1$  be a pair  $\langle U_1, V_1 \rangle$  where  $U_1$  is a set of individuals (**domain** or **universe of discourse**) and  $V_1$  assigns an extension in  $U_1$  to each constant of FOPC and an extension of  $n$ -tuples built from  $U_1$  to each predicate.

$$U_1 = \{\text{Bond, Pavarotti, Loren}\}$$



# Semantics of FOPC

Let  $\mathcal{M}_1$  be a pair  $\langle U_1, V_1 \rangle$  where  $U_1$  is a set of individuals (**domain** or **universe of discourse**) and  $V_1$  assigns an extension in  $U_1$  to each constant of FOPC and an extension of  $n$ -tuples built from  $U_1$  to each predicate.

$$U_1 = \{\text{Bond}, \text{Pavarotti}, \text{Loren}\}$$

$$V_1(j) = \text{Bond}$$

$$V_1(m) = \text{Loren}$$



# Semantics of FOPC

Let  $\mathcal{M}_1$  be a pair  $\langle U_1, V_1 \rangle$  where  $U_1$  is a set of individuals (**domain** or **universe of discourse**) and  $V_1$  assigns an extension in  $U_1$  to each constant of FOPC and an extension of  $n$ -tuples built from  $U_1$  to each predicate.

$$U_1 = \{\text{Bond}, \text{Pavarotti}, \text{Loren}\}$$

$$V_1(j) = \text{Bond}$$

$$V_1(m) = \text{Loren}$$

$$V_1(P) = \{\text{Loren}, \text{Pavarotti}\}$$

$$V_1(Q) = \{\text{Loren}, \text{Bond}\}$$

$$V_1(K) = \{\langle \text{Bond}, \text{Bond} \rangle, \langle \text{Bond}, \text{Loren} \rangle, \langle \text{Loren}, \text{Pavarotti} \rangle, \langle \text{Pavarotti}, \text{Loren} \rangle\}$$

$$V_1(G) = \{\langle \text{Bond}, \text{Loren}, \text{Pavarotti} \rangle, \langle \text{Loren}, \text{Loren}, \text{Bond} \rangle, \langle \text{Loren}, \text{Bond}, \text{Pavarotti} \rangle, \langle \text{Pavarotti}, \text{Pavarotti}, \text{Loren} \rangle\}$$



# Semantics of FOPC

- ▶ We need to assume some way of interpreting variables by associating them with elements in  $U_1$ .
- ▶ If  $g$  is an assignment of values to variables,  $v$  a variable and  $a$  an individual in  $U_1$ , then  $g[v/a]$  is an assignment exactly like  $g$  except that it assigns the value  $a$  to  $v$ . (If  $g$  already assigned  $a$  to  $v$  then there is no change.)
- ▶  $g$  helps us to keep track of assignments of members of  $U_1$  to variables.



## Assigning $u_1 \in U_1$ to $g_1$

E.g. we start with  $g_1$  like this. . .

$$g_1 = \left[ \begin{array}{ll} x_1 & \rightarrow \text{Bond} \\ x_2 & \rightarrow \text{Loren} \\ x_n & \rightarrow \text{Pavarotti; where } n \geq 3 \end{array} \right]$$

Assigning Bond to  $x_3$  gives us. . .

$$g_1[Bond/x_3] = \left[ \begin{array}{ll} x_1 & \rightarrow \text{Bond} \\ x_2 & \rightarrow \text{Loren} \\ x_3 & \rightarrow \text{Bond} \\ x_n & \rightarrow \text{Pavarotti; where } n \geq 4 \end{array} \right]$$

$$g_1[Bond/x_1] = g_1$$





## Assigning $u_1 \in U_1$ to $g_1$

Assignments may be nested: we can modify already a modified assignment, c.f. expressions with multiple quantifiers

$$g_1[[Bond/x_3]/Loren/x_1] = \left[ \begin{array}{ll} x_1 \rightarrow & Loren \\ x_2 \rightarrow & Loren \\ x_3 \rightarrow & Bond \\ x_n \rightarrow & Pavarotti; \text{ where } n \geq 4 \end{array} \right]$$

Checking the value in the assignment:

- ▶  $g_1[[Bond/x_3]/Loren/x_1](x_1) = Loren$
- ▶  $g_1[[Bond/x_3]/Loren/x_1](x_6) = Pavarotti$



# Interpreting FOPC

If  $A$  is either a predicate or a constant, then  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = V_1(A)$ .

If  $A$  is a variable,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = g_1(A)$ .



# Interpreting FOPC

For any formulas  $A$ ,  $B$ , any  $\text{Pred}_n R$ , and any terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,

- a.  $\llbracket R(t_1, \dots, t_n) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\langle \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}, \dots, \llbracket t_n \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} \rangle \in \llbracket R \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$



# Interpreting FOPC

For any formulas  $A$ ,  $B$ , any  $\text{Pred}_n R$ , and any terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,

- a.  $\llbracket R(t_1, \dots, t_n) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\langle \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}, \dots, \llbracket t_n \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} \rangle \in \llbracket R \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$
- b.  $\llbracket A \wedge B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  and  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$



# Interpreting FOPC

For any formulas  $A$ ,  $B$ , any  $\text{Pred}_n R$ , and any terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,

- a.  $\llbracket R(t_1, \dots, t_n) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\langle \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}, \dots, \llbracket t_n \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} \rangle \in \llbracket R \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$
- b.  $\llbracket A \wedge B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  and  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- c.  $\llbracket A \vee B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  or  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$



# Interpreting FOPC

For any formulas  $A$ ,  $B$ , any  $\text{Pred}_n R$ , and any terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,

- a.  $\llbracket R(t_1, \dots, t_n) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\langle \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}, \dots, \llbracket t_n \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} \rangle \in \llbracket R \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$
- b.  $\llbracket A \wedge B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  and  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- c.  $\llbracket A \vee B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  or  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- d.  $\llbracket A \rightarrow B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 0$  or  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$



# Interpreting FOPC

For any formulas  $A, B$ , any  $\text{Pred}_n R$ , and any terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,

- a.  $\llbracket R(t_1, \dots, t_n) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\langle \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}, \dots, \llbracket t_n \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} \rangle \in \llbracket R \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$
- b.  $\llbracket A \wedge B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  and  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- c.  $\llbracket A \vee B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  or  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- d.  $\llbracket A \rightarrow B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 0$  or  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- e.  $\llbracket A \leftrightarrow B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = \llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$



# Interpreting FOPC

For any formulas  $A$ ,  $B$ , any  $\text{Pred}_n R$ , and any terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,

- a.  $\llbracket R(t_1, \dots, t_n) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\langle \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}, \dots, \llbracket t_n \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} \rangle \in \llbracket R \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$
- b.  $\llbracket A \wedge B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  and  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- c.  $\llbracket A \vee B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  or  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- d.  $\llbracket A \rightarrow B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 0$  or  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- e.  $\llbracket A \leftrightarrow B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = \llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$
- f.  $\llbracket \neg A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 0$





# Interpreting FOPC

For any formulas  $A$ ,  $B$ , any  $\text{Pred}_n R$ , and any terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,

- a.  $\llbracket R(t_1, \dots, t_n) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\langle \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}, \dots, \llbracket t_n \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} \rangle \in \llbracket R \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$
- b.  $\llbracket A \wedge B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  and  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- c.  $\llbracket A \vee B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  or  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- d.  $\llbracket A \rightarrow B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 0$  or  $\llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$
- e.  $\llbracket A \leftrightarrow B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = \llbracket B \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$
- f.  $\llbracket \neg A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 0$
- g.  $\llbracket t_1 = t_j \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff  $\llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$  is the same as  $\llbracket t_j \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}$



# Interpreting FOPC: Quantifiers

- h.  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_i, g_i[u/x_n]}$  stands for a donation of  $A$  where  $u$  is assigned to every occurrence of  $x_n$  in  $A$ .



# Interpreting FOPC: Quantifiers

- h.  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_i, g_i[u/x_n]}$  stands for a denotation of  $A$  where  $u$  is assigned to every occurrence of  $x_n$  in  $A$ .
- i.  $\llbracket \forall x_n A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff for all  $u \in U$ ,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[u/x_n]} = 1$ , where  $g_1[u/x_n] = g_1$ , except that  $g_1[u/x_n](x_n) = u$   
The function  $g_1[u/x_n]$  is the same as  $g_1$  except that  $x_n$  is assigned to  $u$ , for every  $u$ , other assignments are the same



# Interpreting FOPC: Quantifiers

- h.  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_i, g_i[u/x_n]}$  stands for a denotation of  $A$  where  $u$  is assigned to every occurrence of  $x_n$  in  $A$ .
- i.  $\llbracket \forall x_n A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff for all  $u \in U$ ,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[u/x_n]} = 1$ , where  $g_1[u/x_n] = g_1$ , except that  $g_1[u/x_n](x_n) = u$   
The function  $g_1[u/x_n]$  is the same as  $g_1$  except that  $x_n$  is assigned to  $u$ , for every  $u$ , other assignments are the same
- j.  $\llbracket \exists x_n A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff for some  $u \in U$ ,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[u/x_n]} = 1$



# Interpreting FOPC: Quantifiers

- h.  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_i, g_i[u/x_n]}$  stands for a valuation of  $A$  where  $u$  is assigned to every occurrence of  $x_n$  in  $A$ .
  - i.  $\llbracket \forall x_n A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff for all  $u \in U$ ,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[u/x_n]} = 1$ , where  $g_1[u/x_n] = g_1$ , except that  $g_1[u/x_n](x_n) = u$   
The function  $g_1[u/x_n]$  is the same as  $g_1$  except that  $x_n$  is assigned to  $u$ , for every  $u$ , other assignments are the same
  - j.  $\llbracket \exists x_n A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff for some  $u \in U$ ,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[u/x_n]} = 1$
- For  $\forall$  stop assignment if some  $u$  results in falsehood.



# Interpreting FOPC: Quantifiers

- h.  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_i, g_i[u/x_n]}$  stands for a valuation of  $A$  where  $u$  is assigned to every occurrence of  $x_n$  in  $A$ .
  - i.  $\llbracket \forall x_n A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff for all  $u \in U$ ,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[u/x_n]} = 1$ , where  $g_1[u/x_n] = g_1$ , except that  $g_1[u/x_n](x_n) = u$   
The function  $g_1[u/x_n]$  is the same as  $g_1$  except that  $x_n$  is assigned to  $u$ , for every  $u$ , other assignments are the same
  - j.  $\llbracket \exists x_n A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff for some  $u \in U$ ,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[u/x_n]} = 1$
- For  $\forall$  stop assignment if some  $u$  results in falsehood.
  - For  $\exists$  stop assignment if some  $u$  results in truth.



# An example interpretation I

Evaluate  $\exists x_1 P(x_1)$  in  $\mathcal{M}_1$  with respect to  $g_1$ .

- ▶  $\llbracket \exists x_1 P(x_1) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$  iff for some  $u \in U_1$ ,  $\llbracket P(x_1) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[u/x_1] = 1$
- ▶ Assign Bond to  $x_1$ ; i.e., consider  $g_1[Bond/x_1]$
- ▶  $\llbracket P(x_1) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[u/x_1] = 1$  iff  $\llbracket x_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[u/x_1] \in \llbracket P \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[u/x_1]$
- ▶  $\llbracket x_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[u/x_1] \in \llbracket P \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[u/x_1]$  iff  $g_1[Bond/x_1](x_1) \in V_1(P)$   
 $= \{\text{Loren, Pavarotti}\}$
- ▶  $g_1[Bond/x_1](x_1) = \text{Bond}$
- ▶  $\llbracket P(x_1) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[u/x_1] = 1$  iff  $\text{Bond} \in \{\text{Loren, Pavarotti}\}$
- ▶  $\llbracket P(x_1) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[u/x_1] = 0$
- ▶ Assign Loren to  $x_1$ ; i.e., consider  $g_1[Loren/x_1]$
- ▶  $\llbracket P(x_1) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[Loren/x_1] = 1$  iff  $\llbracket x_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[Loren/x_1] \in \llbracket P \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1}[Loren/x_1]$



## An example interpretation II

- ▶  $\llbracket x_1 \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[Loren/x_1]} \in \llbracket P \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[Loren/x_1]}$  iff  $g_1^{[Loren/x_1]}(x_1) \in V_1(P) = \{\text{Loren, Pavarotti}\}$
- ▶  $g_1[Loren/x_1](x_1) = \text{Loren}$
- ▶  $\llbracket P(x_1) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[Loren/x_1]} = 1$  iff  $\text{Loren} \in \{\text{Loren, Pavarotti}\}$
- ▶  $\llbracket P(x_1) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1[Loren/x_1]} = 1$
- ▶  $\llbracket \exists x_1 P(x_1) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_1, g_1} = 1$





## Leaving out interpretation steps...

$$\mathcal{M}_2 \langle U_2, V_2 \rangle$$

$$U_2 = \{l, a, g, f\}$$

$$V_2(\text{Lydia}) = l; V_2(\text{Alex}) = a; V_2(\text{Goldy}) = g; V_2(\text{Fido}) = f$$

$$V_2(\text{likes}) = \{\langle l, a \rangle, \langle l, f \rangle, \langle a, g \rangle, \langle l, g \rangle\}$$

$$V_2(\text{runs}) = \{l, f\}$$

$$V_2(\text{human}) = \{l, a\}$$

$$V_2(\text{dog}) = \{g, f\}$$

$$V_2(\text{owns}) = \{\langle l, f \rangle, \langle a, g \rangle\}$$

$$V_2(\text{sybling\_of}) = \{\langle l, a \rangle, \langle a, l \rangle, \langle g, f \rangle, \langle f, g \rangle\}$$



$$\llbracket \forall x. (\exists y. (\text{likes}(x, y))) \rrbracket^{\mathcal{M}_2, g}$$

$\forall x.$	$(\exists y.$	$(\text{likes}(x, y)))$	$x$	$y$
		0	<i>l</i>	<i>l</i>
	1	1	<i>l</i>	<i>a</i>
		1	<i>l</i>	<i>g</i>
		1	<i>l</i>	<i>f</i>
		0	<i>a</i>	<i>l</i>
	1	0	<i>a</i>	<i>a</i>
		1	<i>a</i>	<i>g</i>
<b>0</b>		0	<i>a</i>	<i>f</i>
		0	<i>g</i>	<i>l</i>
	0	0	<i>g</i>	<i>a</i>
		0	<i>g</i>	<i>g</i>
		0	<i>g</i>	<i>f</i>
		0	<i>f</i>	<i>l</i>
	0	0	<i>f</i>	<i>a</i>
		0	<i>f</i>	<i>g</i>
		0	<i>f</i>	<i>f</i>

So **FALSE**.



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(11) Every cat has a secret.



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(11) Every cat has a secret.

$$\forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \text{have}(x, y)))$$



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(11) Every cat has a secret.

$$\forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \text{have}(x, y)))$$

$$\exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \text{have}(x, y)))$$



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(11) Every cat has a secret.

$$\forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \text{have}(x, y)))$$

$$\exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \text{have}(x, y)))$$

(12) George owns a dog and his brother owns a dog.



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(11) Every cat has a secret.

$$\forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \text{have}(x, y)))$$

$$\exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \text{have}(x, y)))$$

(12) George owns a dog and his brother owns a dog.

$$\exists x.(\text{dog}(x) \wedge \text{own}(\text{George}, x)) \wedge \exists y.(\text{dog}(y) \wedge \text{own}(\text{brother\_of}(\text{George}), y))$$



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(11) Every cat has a secret.

$$\begin{aligned} &\forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \text{have}(x, y))) \\ &\exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \text{have}(x, y))) \end{aligned}$$

(12) George owns a dog and his brother owns a dog.

$$\begin{aligned} &\exists x.(\text{dog}(x) \wedge \text{own}(\text{George}, x)) \wedge \exists y.(\text{dog}(y) \wedge \\ &\text{own}(\text{brother\_of}(\text{George}), y)) \\ &(?)\exists x.(\text{dog}(x) \wedge \text{own}(\text{George}, x) \wedge \exists y.(\text{dog}(y) \wedge \\ &\text{own}(\text{brother\_of}(x), y))) \end{aligned}$$





# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(11) Every cat has a secret.

$$\begin{aligned} &\forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \text{have}(x, y))) \\ &\exists y.(\text{secret}(y) \wedge \forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \text{have}(x, y))) \end{aligned}$$

(12) George owns a dog and his brother owns a dog.

$$\begin{aligned} &\exists x.(\text{dog}(x) \wedge \text{own}(\text{George}, x)) \wedge \exists y.(\text{dog}(y) \wedge \\ &\text{own}(\text{brother\_of}(\text{George}), y)) \\ &(?)\exists x.(\text{dog}(x) \wedge \text{own}(\text{George}, x) \wedge \exists y.(\text{dog}(y) \wedge \\ &\text{own}(\text{brother\_of}(x), y))) \\ &(??)\exists x.(\text{dog}(x) \wedge \text{own}(\text{George}, x) \wedge \text{own}(\text{brother\_of}(\text{George}), x)) \end{aligned}$$



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(13) No cat meowed in the night.



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(13) No cat meowed in the night.

$$\neg \exists x. (\text{cat}(x) \wedge \text{meowed\_in\_the\_night}(x))$$



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(13) No cat meowed in the night.

$$\neg \exists x.(\text{cat}(x) \wedge \text{meowed\_in\_the\_night}(x))$$

$$\forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \neg \text{meowed\_in\_the\_night}(x))$$



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(13) No cat meowed in the night.

$$\neg \exists x.(\text{cat}(x) \wedge \text{meowed\_in\_the\_night}(x))$$

$$\forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \neg \text{meowed\_in\_the\_night}(x))$$

$$(?) \neg \exists t.(\text{time}(t) \wedge \text{in\_the\_night}(t) \wedge \exists d.(\text{cat}(d) \wedge \text{meow\_at\_time}(d, t)))$$



# Representing natural language in first order logic, I

(13) No cat meowed in the night.

$$\neg \exists x.(\text{cat}(x) \wedge \text{meowed\_in\_the\_night}(x))$$
$$\forall x.(\text{cat}(x) \rightarrow \neg \text{meowed\_in\_the\_night}(x))$$
$$(?) \neg \exists t.(\text{time}(t) \wedge \text{in\_the\_night}(t) \wedge \exists d.(\text{cat}(d) \wedge \text{meow\_at\_time}(d, t)))$$
$$(?) \neg \exists e.([\text{event}(e) \wedge ] \exists d.(\text{cat}(d) \wedge \text{meow}(e, d) \wedge \text{in}(e, \text{the\_night})))$$


# Inference: definitions

- ▶ A wff is **logically valid** iff it is true for every interpretation.
- ▶ A wff is **contradictory** iff  $\neg$ wff is logically valid.
- ▶ A **logically implies**  $B$  ( $B$  is a **logical consequence** of  $A$ ) iff in every interpretation, when  $A$  is true,  $B$  is true (i.e.  $A \rightarrow B$  is logically valid).
- ▶  $A$  and  $B$  are **logically equivalent** iff they logically imply each other.



# Inference: rules

- ▶ All the inference rules of propositional calculus, plus:
  - ▶ Universal instantiation:  
 $\forall x.P(x) \vdash P(a)$  where  $a$  is a constant
  - ▶ Existential generalisation:  
 $P(a) \vdash \exists x.P(x)$





# Inference: rules

- ▶ All the inference rules of propositional calculus, plus:
  - ▶ Universal instantiation:  
 $\forall x.P(x) \vdash P(a)$  where  $a$  is a constant
  - ▶ Existential generalisation:  
 $P(a) \vdash \exists x.P(x)$
- ▶ FOPC is **consistent** – no inference rule will go from a logically valid statement to an invalid one, and
- ▶ **complete** – every logically valid statement can be derived by some sequence of application of the inference rules.



# Inference

We can show the validity of our inference pattern either via the semantics of the expressions, or by the application of inference rules:



# Inference

We can show the validity of our inference pattern either via the semantics of the expressions, or by the application of inference rules:

- ▶ Pavarotti was Italian; all Italians are Europeans; therefore Pavarotti was European.
- ▶ Italian(Pavarotti)  
 $\forall x. \text{Italian}(x) \rightarrow \text{European}(x)$   
European(Pavarotti)



# Lewis Carroll's puzzle

1. All honest industrious men are healthy.  
 $\forall x. \text{honest}(x) \wedge \text{industrious}(x) \rightarrow \text{healthy}(x)$
2. No grocers are healthy.  
 $\neg \exists x. \text{grocer}(x) \wedge \text{healthy}(x)$
3. All industrious grocers are honest.  
 $\forall x. \text{industrious}(x) \wedge \text{grocer}(x) \rightarrow \text{honest}(x)$
4. All cyclists are industrious.  
 $\forall x. \text{cyclist}(x) \rightarrow \text{industrious}(x)$
5. All unhealthy cyclists are dishonest.  
 $\forall x. \text{cyclist}(x) \wedge \neg \text{healthy}(x) \rightarrow \neg \text{honest}(x)$
6. We have to show that it follows that:  
No grocer is a cyclist  
 $\neg \exists x. \text{grocer}(x) \wedge \text{cyclist}(x)$



# Proof by refutation

Assume the contrary and try to derive a contradiction.

- A. Assume  $\exists x.\text{grocer}(x) \wedge \text{cyclist}(x)$
  - B.  $\exists x.\text{grocer}(x) \wedge \text{cyclist}(x) \wedge \text{industrious}(x)$  (from A and 4)
  - C.  $\exists x.\text{grocer}(x) \wedge \text{cyclist}(x) \wedge \text{industrious}(x) \wedge \text{honest}(x)$  (from B and 3)
  - D.  $\exists x.\text{grocer}(x) \wedge \text{cyclist}(x) \wedge \text{industrious}(x) \wedge \text{honest}(x) \wedge \text{healthy}(x)$  (from C and 1)
  - E.  $\exists x.\text{grocer}(x) \wedge \text{healthy}(x)$  (from D by conjunction elimination)
- E contradicts 2. QED



# Examples from NLTK

- ▶ ex04.py
- ▶ ex05.py



## Further reading

- ▶ On semantics of natural language: (Chierchia and McConnell-Ginet, 2000): Chapter 3
- ▶ On logic: (Bird, Klein, and Loper, 2009): Chapter 10, Section 3 and (Allwood, Andersson, and Dahl, 1977), Chapters 5 and 6



# Acknowledgements

Slides 22–26 based on slides by Stephen Pulman





# References I

Allwood, Jens, Lars-Gunnar Andersson, and Osten Dahl. 1977. *Logic in linguistics*. Cambridge University Press.

Bird, Steven, Ewan Klein, and Edward Loper. 2009. *Natural language processing with Python*. O'Reilly, Beijing, Cambridge, Farnham, Köln, Sebastopol and Tokyo, 1st ed edition.

Chierchia, Gennaro and Sally McConnell-Ginet. 2000. *Meaning and grammar: an introduction to semantics*. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass, 2nd ed edition.

