

Predicate Logic

● OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Basic Terms and Concepts
 - ◆ Open propositions
 - ◆ Quantifiers
- Syntax & Semantics
- Translating of English Statements
- Inference Rules / Laws of Equivalence
- Methods of Proof
 - ◆ Chain of Reasoning
 - ◆ Proof of Resolution

Slide 1

Rules of Inference for Quantified Statements

● Universal Instantiation (UI)

$$\frac{(\forall x)P(x)}{\therefore P(a)}$$

where a is an arbitrary individual object in the universe of discourse

■ Example:

All birds have feathers.
A penguin is a bird.
Therefore a penguin has feathers.

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Rules of Inference for Quantified Statements

● Universal Generalization (UG)

$$\frac{P(a)}{\therefore (\forall x)P(x)}$$

provided we know $P(a)$ is true for each object in the universe of discourse

■ Example:

A shark has gills.
(A shark is a fish.)
Therefore all fish have gills.

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Rules of Inference for Quantified Statements

● Existential Instantiation (EI)

$$\frac{(\exists x)P(x)}{\therefore P(a)}$$

where a is an individual object satisfying P and has no previous occurrence.

■ Example:

Some dogs bite.
Therefore Fluffy bites. (Assuming Fluffy is a dog.)

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Rules of Inference for Quantified Statements

● Existential Generalization (EG)

$$\frac{P(a)}{\therefore (\exists x)P(x)}$$

■ Example:

Roger is a Swiss who plays tennis.
(Therefore) Some Swiss play tennis.

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Laws of Equivalence for Quantified Statements

● First four laws...

1. $(\forall x)P(x) \vee R \leftrightarrow (\forall x)[P(x) \vee R]$
2. $(\exists x)P(x) \vee R \leftrightarrow (\exists x)[P(x) \vee R]$
3. $(\forall x)P(x) \wedge R \leftrightarrow (\forall x)[P(x) \wedge R]$
4. $(\exists x)P(x) \wedge R \leftrightarrow (\exists x)[P(x) \wedge R]$

● Rules of Negation

5. $\sim(\forall x)P(x) \leftrightarrow (\exists x) \sim P(x)$
6. $\sim(\exists x)P(x) \leftrightarrow (\forall x) \sim P(x)$

Examples:

- ◆ Not all people can read.
 \leftrightarrow Some people cannot read.
- ◆ It is not true that there is a person that has horns.
 \leftrightarrow All people do not have horns.

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Laws of Equivalence for Quantified Statements

• Distributive Laws

1. $(\forall x)P(x) \wedge (\forall x)Q(x) \leftrightarrow (\forall x)[P(x) \wedge Q(x)]$
Ex: All things are beautiful and all things are free.
 \leftrightarrow All things are both beautiful and free.
2. $(\exists x)P(x) \vee (\exists x)Q(x) \leftrightarrow (\exists x)[P(x) \vee Q(x)]$
Ex: Some things are good or some things do not last.
 \leftrightarrow Some things are either good or do not last.

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Laws of Equivalence for Quantified Statements

• Distributive Laws

3. $(\forall x)P(x) \vee (\forall x)Q(x) \leftrightarrow (\forall x)P(x) \vee (\forall y)Q(y)$
 $\leftrightarrow (\forall x)(\forall y)[P(x) \vee Q(y)]$
4. $(\exists x)P(x) \wedge (\exists x)Q(x) \leftrightarrow (\exists x)P(x) \wedge (\exists y)Q(y)$
 $\leftrightarrow (\exists x)(\exists y)[P(x) \wedge Q(y)]$

Examples:

- Some integers are even and some integers are odd.
 \neq Some integers are both even and odd.
- Everything is good or everything are perfect.
 \neq Everything is (either) good or perfect.

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Methods of Proof

• CHAIN of REASONING

- Same procedure as in propositional logic:
 - ◆ Obtain a sequence of statements
 - Use Rules of Inference and Laws of Equivalence in propositional logic
 - Apply Quantificational Rules of Inference to drop/add quantifiers.
 - Apply Laws of Equivalence *for Quantified Statements* to replace open propositions involving quantifiers.
 - ◆ Arrive at the given conclusion.

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Methods of Proof

• CHAIN of REASONING

Examples/Exercises

- 1) Every dog barks. Poochie does not bark. Therefore, Poochie is not a dog.
- 2) Every dog barks and bites. Poochie does not bark. Therefore, Poochie is not a dog.
- 3) No fish can walk. Some things that can walk have two legs. Therefore, some things that have two legs are not fish.
- 4) All geeks are thinkers. All thinkers are night owls. Therefore, anyone who is not a night owl is not a geek.

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Methods of Proof

• CHAIN of REASONING

Examples/Exercises

- 5) Everyone in this class owns a cell phone. Someone in this class has not used MMS. Therefore, someone who owns a cell phone has not used MMS.
- 6) A check is void if it has not been cashed for 30 days. You cannot cash a check which is void. This check (is a check that) has not been cashed for 30 days. Therefore, we have a check that cannot be cashed.
- 7) Some good people admire all honest people. All good people do not admire cheaters. Therefore, no honest person is a cheater.

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Methods of Proof

● CHAIN of REASONING

■ Remarks on applying Rules of Inference

- ◆ Use EI before UI.
- ◆ When using EI, the individual object must be one that has *not* been used previously in the proof.
- ◆ Don't apply UG to an object originally derived by EI.

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Methods of Proof

● CHAIN of REASONING

■ Remarks on applying Rules of Inference

◆ Example:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. $(\exists x)[B(x) \wedge E(x)]$ | (Some bats have big ears.) |
| 2. $(\exists x)[P(x) \wedge \sim S(x)]$ | (Some people cannot swim.) |
| 3. $B(a) \wedge E(a)$ | 1 EI |
| 4. $P(a) \wedge \sim S(a)$ | 2 EI |
| 5. $B(a)$ | 3 Simplification |
| 6. $P(a)$ | 4 Simplification |
| 7. $B(a) \wedge P(a)$ | 5, 6 Conjunction |
| 8. $(\exists x)[B(x) \wedge P(x)]$ | 7 EG |

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Methods of Proof

● CHAIN of REASONING

■ Remarks on applying Rules of Inference

◆ Example:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. $(\exists x)[B(x) \wedge \sim F(x)]$ | (Some birds cannot fly.) |
| 2. $B(a) \wedge \sim F(a)$ | 1 EI |
| 3. $(\forall x)[B(x) \wedge \sim F(x)]$ | 2 UG |

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ Same procedure as in propositional logic:

- ◆ Convert argument to its conjunctive normal form.
- ◆ Negate conclusion and convert to CNF.
- ◆ Arrive at a contradiction using the Resolution Rule.
 - Involves **unification** (more later)

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ Conversion to Clausal Form (CNF)

- ◆ Replace \rightarrow .
- ◆ Reduce the scope of \sim .
 - Replace $\sim[\sim P(x)]$ with $P(x)$
 - Replace $\sim[P(x) \wedge Q(x)]$ with $[\sim P(x) \vee \sim Q(x)]$
 - Replace $\sim[P(x) \vee Q(x)]$ with $[\sim P(x) \wedge \sim Q(x)]$
 - Replace $\sim(\forall x)P(x)$ with $(\exists x) \sim P(x)$
 - Replace $\sim(\exists x)P(x)$ with $(\forall x) \sim P(x)$

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ Conversion to Clausal Form (CNF)

◆ Remove quantifiers

- 1) **Standardize** variables so that each quantifier binds a unique variable.

Example:

change $(\forall x)P(x) \vee (\forall x)Q(x)$
to $(\forall x)P(x) \vee (\forall y)Q(y)$

- 2) **Move** all quantifiers to the left of the scope without changing their relative order.

Example:

change $(\forall x)[P(x) \vee (\forall y)Q(y)]$
to $(\forall x)(\forall y)[P(x) \vee Q(y)]$

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ Conversion to Clausal Form (CNF)

◆ Remove quantifiers (cont'd)

- 3) Eliminate existential quantifiers by substituting a constant.

Example:

convert $(\exists x)P(x)$ to simply $P(s_1)$

If the existential quantifiers occurs within the scope of universal quantifiers, substitute a skolem function for each variable.

Example:

replace $(\forall x)(\exists y) \text{ likes}(x, y)$

with $(\forall x) \text{ likes}(x, s(x))$

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ Conversion to Clausal Form (CNF)

◆ Remove quantifiers (cont'd)

- 4) Drop remaining universal quantifiers.

- 5) Convert the matrix into a conjunction of disjuncts.

- ◆ Treat each term in a conjunct as a separate clause (premise).
- ◆ Standardize apart variables in the set of clauses generated in the previous step. That is, rename the variables so that no two clauses refer to the same variable.

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ Unification

- ◆ The process of **finding a substitution** (a set of replacements of variables by terms) for predicate parameters.

◆ Rules:

- different constants cannot match.
Example: $P(b)$ and $P(c)$ are *not* unifiable
- a variable may be replaced by a constant.

Examples:

$P(x)$ and $P(c)$ are unifiable

$P(f(x))$ and $P(f(a))$ are unifiable

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ Unification (cont'n)

- ◆ a variable may be replaced by another variable.

Example: $P(x)$ and $P(y)$ are unifiable

- ◆ a variable may be replaced by a function as long as the function does not contain an instance of the variable.

Examples:

$P(x)$ and $P(f(x))$ are *not* unifiable

$P(x)$ and $P(f(a))$ are unifiable

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ Another example:

Dialogue from *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* (1975)

Sir Bedevere: There are ways of telling whether she is a witch.

Peasant 1: Are there? Oh well, tell us.

Sir Bedevere: Tell me. What do you do with witches?

Peasant 1: Burn them.

Sir Bedevere: And what do you burn, apart from witches?

Peasant 1: More witches.

Peasant 2: Wood.

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ Example 2: (cont'n)

Sir Bedevere: Good. Now, why do witches burn?

Peasant 3: Because they're made of ... wood?

Sir Bedevere: Good. So how do you tell whether she is made of wood?

Peasant 1: Build a bridge out of her.

Sir Bedevere: But can you not also build bridges out of stone?

Peasant 1: Oh yeah.

Sir Bedevere: Does wood sink in water?

Peasant 1: No, no, it floats! ... It floats! Throw her into the pond!

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ **Example 2:** (cont'n)

Sir Bedevere: No, no. What else floats in water?

King Arthur: A duck.

Sir Bedevere: Exactly. So, logically...

Peasant 1: If she weighed the same as a duck ...
she's made of wood.

Sir Bedevere: And therefore ...

Peasant 2: A witch!

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ **Example 2:** (cont'n)

Translations:

1) $(\forall x) [\mathbf{B}urns(x) \wedge \mathbf{W}oman(x) \rightarrow wi\mathbf{T}ch(x)]$

2) $\mathbf{W}oman(girl)$

3) $(\forall x) [wo\mathbf{D}(x) \rightarrow \mathbf{B}urns(x)]$

4) $(\forall x) [\mathbf{F}loats(x) \rightarrow wo\mathbf{D}(x)]$

5) $\mathbf{F}loats(duck)$

6) $(\forall x)(\forall y) [\mathbf{F}loats(x) \wedge \mathbf{S}ameweight(x,y) \rightarrow \mathbf{F}loats(y)]$

7) $\mathbf{S}ameweight(duck, girl)$

8) *Therefore:* $wi\mathbf{T}ch(girl)$

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Methods of Proof

● PROOF by RESOLUTION

■ **Example 2:** (cont'n)

Conjunction normal form (verify!!):

1) $\sim \mathbf{B}(x_1) \vee \sim \mathbf{W}(x_1) \vee \mathbf{T}(x_1)$

2) $\mathbf{W}(girl)$

3) $\sim \mathbf{D}(x_2) \vee \mathbf{B}(x_2)$

4) $\sim \mathbf{F}(x_3) \vee \mathbf{D}(x_3)$

5) $\mathbf{F}(duck)$

6) $\sim \mathbf{F}(x_4) \vee \sim \mathbf{S}(x_4,y) \vee \mathbf{F}(y)$

7) $\mathbf{S}(duck, girl)$

8) $\sim \mathbf{T}(girl)$

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