

# The Foundations: Logic and Proofs

Chapter 1, Part II: Predicate Logic

# Summary

- **Predicate Logic (First-Order Logic (FOL), Predicate Calculus)**
  - The Language of Quantifiers
  - Logical Equivalences
  - Nested Quantifiers
  - Translation from Predicate Logic to English
  - Translation from English to Predicate Logic

# Predicates and Quantifiers

Section 1.4

# Section Summary

- Predicates
- Variables
- Quantifiers
  - Universal Quantifier
  - Existential Quantifier
- Negating Quantifiers
  - De Morgan's Laws for Quantifiers
- Translating English to Logic
- Logic Programming

# Propositional Logic Not Enough

- If we have:
  - “All men are mortal.”
  - “Socrates is a man.”
- Does it follow that “Socrates is mortal?”
- Can't be represented in propositional logic. **Need a language that talks about objects, their properties, and their relations.**

Later we'll see how to draw inferences.

# Introducing Predicate Logic

- Predicate logic uses the following new features:
  - Variables:  $x, y, z$
  - Predicates:  $P, M$
  - Quantifiers *(to be covered in a few slides)*
- **Propositional functions** are a generalization of propositions.
  - They contain variables and a predicate, e.g.,  $P(x)$
  - Variables can be replaced by elements from their *domain*.

# Propositional Functions

- Propositional functions become propositions (and have truth values) when their variables are each replaced by a value from the **domain** or **bound** by a quantifier (as we will see later).
- The statement  $P(x)$  is said to be the value of the propositional function  $P$  at  $x$ .
- For example, let  $P(x)$  denote “ $x > 0$ ” and the domain be the integers. Then:
  - $P(-3)$  is false.
  - $P(0)$  is false.
  - $P(3)$  is true.
- Often the domain is denoted by  $U$ . So in this example  $U$  is the integers.

# Examples of Propositional Functions

- Let “ $x + y = z$ ” be denoted by  $R(x, y, z)$  and  $U$  (for all three variables) be the integers. Find these truth values:

$R(2, -1, 5)$

**Solution:** F

$R(3, 4, 7)$

**Solution:** T

$R(x, 3, z)$

**Solution:** Not a Proposition

- In general, a statement involving the  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  can be denoted by  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$
- A statement of the form  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is the value of the propositional function  $P$  at the  $n$ -tuple  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  and  $P$  is called a  $n$ -ary predicate.



# Compound Expressions

- Connectives from propositional logic carry over to predicate logic.
- If  $P(x)$  denotes “ $x > 0$ ,” find these truth values:
  - $P(3) \vee P(-1)$       Solution: T
  - $P(3) \wedge P(-1)$       Solution: F
  - $P(3) \rightarrow P(-1)$       Solution: F
  - $P(-1) \rightarrow P(3)$       Solution: T
- **Expressions with variables are not propositions** and therefore do not have truth values. For example,
  - $P(3) \wedge P(y)$
  - $P(x) \rightarrow P(y)$
- When used with quantifiers (to be introduced next), these expressions (propositional functions) become propositions.

# Quantifiers

- We need **quantifiers** to express the meaning of English words including *all* and *some*:
  - “All men are Mortal.”
  - “Some cats do not have fur.”
- The two most important quantifiers are:
  - Universal Quantifier**, “For all,” symbol:  $\forall$
  - Existential Quantifier**, “There exists,” symbol:  $\exists$
- We write as in  $\forall x P(x)$  (*the universal quantification of  $P(x)$* ) and  $\exists x P(x)$ .
  - $\forall x P(x)$  asserts  $P(x)$  is true for every  $x$  in the *domain*.
  - $\exists x P(x)$  asserts  $P(x)$  is true for some  $x$  in the *domain*.
- The quantifiers are said to **bind the variable**  $x$  in these expressions.

# Universal Quantifier

- $\forall x P(x)$  is read as "For all  $x$ ,  $P(x)$ " or "For every  $x$ ,  $P(x)$ "

## Examples:

- 1) If  $P(x)$  denotes " $x > 0$ " and  $U$  is the integers, then  $\forall x P(x)$  is false.
- 2) If  $P(x)$  denotes " $x > 0$ " and  $U$  is the positive integers, then  $\forall x P(x)$  is true.
- 3) If  $P(x)$  denotes " $x$  is even" and  $U$  is the integers, then  $\forall x P(x)$  is false.

## Remark:

The universal quantification of  $P(x)$  create a proposition from a propositional function.

# Existential Quantifier

- $\exists x P(x)$  is read as "For some  $x$ ,  $P(x)$ ", or as "There is an  $x$  such that  $P(x)$ ," or "For at least one  $x$ ,  $P(x)$ ."

## Examples:

1. If  $P(x)$  denotes " $x > 0$ " and  $U$  is the integers, then  $\exists x P(x)$  is true. It is also true if  $U$  is the positive integers.
2. If  $P(x)$  denotes " $x < 0$ " and  $U$  is the positive integers, then  $\exists x P(x)$  is false.
3. If  $P(x)$  denotes " $x$  is even" and  $U$  is the integers, then  $\exists x P(x)$  is true.

# Thinking about Quantifiers

- When the domain of discourse is finite, we can think of quantification as looping through the elements of the domain.
- To evaluate  $\forall x P(x)$  loop through all  $x$  in the domain.
  - If at every step  $P(x)$  is true, then  $\forall x P(x)$  is true.
  - If at a step  $P(x)$  is false, then  $\forall x P(x)$  is false and the loop terminates.
- To evaluate  $\exists x P(x)$  loop through all  $x$  in the domain.
  - If at some step,  $P(x)$  is true, then  $\exists x P(x)$  is true and the loop terminates.
  - If the loop ends without finding an  $x$  for which  $P(x)$  is true, then  $\exists x P(x)$  is false.
- Even if the domains are infinite, we can still think of the quantifiers this fashion, but the loops will not terminate in some cases.

# Properties of Quantifiers

- The truth value of  $\exists x P(x)$  and  $\forall x P(x)$  depend on both the propositional function  $P(x)$  and on the domain  $U$ .

Statement	When true?	When false?
$\forall x P(x)$	$P(x)$ is true for every $x$ .	There is an $x$ for which $P(x)$ is false.
$\exists x P(x)$	There is an $x$ for which $P(x)$ is true.	$P(x)$ is false for every $x$ .

# Thinking about Quantifiers as Conjunctions and Disjunctions

- If the domain is finite, a universally quantified proposition is equivalent to a conjunction of propositions without quantifiers and an existentially quantified proposition is equivalent to a disjunction of propositions without quantifiers.

- If  $U$  consists of the integers 1, 2, and 3:

$$\forall x P(x) \equiv P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge P(3)$$

$$\exists x P(x) \equiv P(1) \vee P(2) \vee P(3)$$

- Even if the domains are infinite, you can still think of the quantifiers in this fashion, but the equivalent expressions without quantifiers will be infinitely long.

# Uniqueness Quantifier

- $\exists!x P(x)$  means that  $P(x)$  is true for one and only one  $x$  in the universe of discourse.
- This is commonly expressed in English in the following equivalent ways:
  - “There is a unique  $x$  such that  $P(x)$ .”
  - “There is one and only one  $x$  such that  $P(x)$ ”
- Examples:
  1. If  $P(x)$  denotes “ $x + 1 = 0$ ” and  $U$  is the integers, then  $\exists!x P(x)$  is true.
  2. But if  $P(x)$  denotes “ $x > 0$ ,” then  $\exists!x P(x)$  is false.
- The uniqueness quantifier is not really needed as the restriction that there is a unique  $x$  such that  $P(x)$  can be expressed as:

$$\exists x (P(x) \wedge \forall y (P(y) \rightarrow y=x))$$



# Precedence of Quantifiers

- The quantifiers  $\forall$  and  $\exists$  have higher precedence than all the logical operators.

For example,

- $\forall x P(x) \vee Q(x)$  means  $(\forall x P(x)) \vee Q(x)$
- $\forall x (P(x) \vee Q(x))$  means something different.
- Unfortunately, often people write  $\forall x P(x) \vee Q(x)$  when they mean  $\forall x (P(x) \vee Q(x))$ .

# Translating from English to Logic

**Example 1:** Translate the following sentence into predicate logic: “Every student in this class has taken a course in Java.”

**Solution:**

First decide on the domain  $U$ .

**Solution 1:** If  $U$  is all students in this class, define a propositional function  $J(x)$  denoting “ $x$  has taken a course in Java” and translate as  $\forall x J(x)$ .

**Solution 2:** But if  $U$  is all people, also define a propositional function  $S(x)$  denoting “ $x$  is a student in this class” and translate as  $\forall x (S(x) \rightarrow J(x))$ .

$\forall x (S(x) \wedge J(x))$  is not correct. What does it mean?

# Translating from English to Logic

**Example 2:** Translate the following sentence into predicate logic: “Some student in this class has taken a course in Java.”

**Solution:**

First decide on the domain  $U$ .

**Solution 1:** If  $U$  is all students in this class, translate as

$$\exists x J(x)$$

**Solution 1:** But if  $U$  is all people, then translate as

$$\exists x (S(x) \wedge J(x))$$

$\exists x (S(x) \rightarrow J(x))$  is not correct. What does it mean?

# Returning to the Socrates Example

- Introduce the propositional functions  $Man(x)$  denoting “x is a man” and  $Mortal(x)$  denoting “x is mortal.”
- The two premises are:

$$\forall x Man(x) \rightarrow Mortal(x)$$

- The conclusion is:

$$Man(Socrates)$$

$$Mortal(Socrates)$$

Later we will show how to prove that the conclusion follows from the premises.

# Equivalences in Predicate Logic

- Statements involving predicates and quantifiers are **logically equivalent** if and only if they have the same truth value no matter
  - ✓ which predicates are substituted into these statements and
  - ✓ which domain of discourse is used for the variables in these propositional functions
- The notation  $S \equiv T$  indicates that  $S$  and  $T$  are logically equivalent.
- **Example:**  $\forall x \neg \neg S(x) \equiv \forall x S(x)$

# Negating Quantified Expressions

- Consider  $\forall x J(x)$   
“Every student in your class has taken a course in Java.”  
Here  $J(x)$  is “x has taken a course in calculus” and the domain is students in your class.
- Negating the original statement gives “It is not the case that every student in your class has taken Java.” This implies that “There is a student in your class who has not taken calculus.”  
Symbolically  $\neg \forall x J(x)$  and  $\exists x \neg J(x)$  are equivalent

# Negating Quantified Expressions (cont)

- Now Consider  $\exists x J(x)$   
“There is a student in this class who has taken a course in Java.”  
Where  $J(x)$  is “x has taken a course in Java.”
- Negating the original statement gives “It is not the case that there is a student in this class who has taken Java.” This implies that “Every student in this class has not taken Java”  
Symbolically  $\neg \exists x J(x)$  and  $\forall x \neg J(x)$  are equivalent

# De Morgan's Laws for Quantifiers

- The rules for negating quantifiers are:

TABLE 2 De Morgan's Laws for Quantifiers.			
<i>Negation</i>	<i>Equivalent Statement</i>	<i>When Is Negation True?</i>	<i>When False?</i>
$\neg \exists x P(x)$	$\forall x \neg P(x)$	For every $x$ , $P(x)$ is false.	There is an $x$ for which $P(x)$ is true.
$\neg \forall x P(x)$	$\exists x \neg P(x)$	There is an $x$ for which $P(x)$ is false.	$P(x)$ is true for every $x$ .

- The reasoning in the table shows that:

$$\neg \forall x P(x) \equiv \exists x \neg P(x)$$

$$\neg \exists x P(x) \equiv \forall x \neg P(x)$$

These are important. You will use these.



# More Logical Equivalences

$$\forall x(A(x) \wedge B(x)) \equiv \forall xA(x) \wedge \forall xB(x)$$

$$\exists x(A(x) \vee B(x)) \equiv \exists xA(x) \vee \exists xB(x)$$

Note:

$$\forall x(A(x) \vee B(x)) \not\equiv \forall xA(x) \vee \forall xB(x)$$

$$\exists x(A(x) \wedge B(x)) \not\equiv \exists xA(x) \wedge \exists xB(x)$$

$$\exists x(A(x) \wedge B(x)) \Rightarrow \exists xA(x) \wedge \exists xB(x)$$

$$\forall xA(x) \vee \forall xB(x) \Rightarrow \forall x(A(x) \vee B(x))$$

# More Logical Equivalences

$x$  is not occurring in  $P$ .

$$(1) \quad \forall x A(x) \vee P \quad \equiv \quad \forall x (A(x) \vee P)$$

$$(2) \quad \forall x A(x) \wedge P \quad \equiv \quad \forall x (A(x) \wedge P)$$

$$(3) \quad \exists x A(x) \vee P \quad \equiv \quad \exists x (A(x) \vee P)$$

$$(4) \quad \exists x A(x) \wedge P \quad \equiv \quad \exists x (A(x) \wedge P)$$

# More Logical Equivalences

$x$  is not occurring in  $P$  and  $B$ .

$$(1) \quad \forall x A(x) \vee P \quad \equiv \quad \forall x (A(x) \vee P)$$

$$(2) \quad \forall x A(x) \wedge P \quad \equiv \quad \forall x (A(x) \wedge P)$$

$$(3) \quad \exists x A(x) \vee P \quad \equiv \quad \exists x (A(x) \vee P)$$

$$(4) \quad \exists x A(x) \wedge P \quad \equiv \quad \exists x (A(x) \wedge P)$$

$$(5) \quad \forall x (B \rightarrow A(x)) \quad \equiv \quad B \rightarrow \forall x A(x)$$

*Proof:*

$$\forall x (B \rightarrow A(x)) \equiv \forall x (\neg B \vee A(x))$$

$$\equiv \neg B \vee \forall x A(x)$$

$$\equiv B \rightarrow \forall x A(x)$$

# Translation from English to Logic

## Examples:

- ① “Some student in this class has visited Mexico.”

### Solution:

Let  $M(x)$  denote “ $x$  has visited Mexico” and  $S(x)$  denote “ $x$  is a student in this class,” and  $U$  be all people.

$$\exists x (S(x) \wedge M(x))$$

- ② “Every student in this class has visited Canada or Mexico.”

**Solution:** Add  $C(x)$  denoting “ $x$  has visited Canada.”

$$\forall x (S(x) \rightarrow (M(x) \vee C(x)))$$

# Some Fun with Translating from English into Logical Expressions

- $U = \{\text{lions, mammals(哺乳动物), carnivorous animals(肉食动物)}\}$

$L(x)$ :  $x$  is a lion

$M(x)$ :  $x$  is a mammal

$C(x)$ :  $x$  is a carnivorous animal

**Translate “Everything is a lion”**

*Solution:*  $\forall x L(x)$

# Translation (cont)

- $U = \{\text{lions, mammals(哺乳动物), carnivorous animals(肉食动物)}\}$

$L(x)$ :  $x$  is a lion

$M(x)$ :  $x$  is a mammal

$C(x)$ :  $x$  is a carnivorous animal

**“Nothing is a mammal.”**

*Solution:*  $\neg \exists x M(x)$

What is this equivalent to?

*Solution:*  $\forall x \neg M(x)$

# Translation (cont)

- $U = \{\text{lions, mammals(哺乳动物), carnivorous animals(肉食动物)}\}$

$L(x)$ :  $x$  is a lion

$M(x)$ :  $x$  is a mammal

$C(x)$ :  $x$  is a carnivorous animal

**“All lions are mammals.”**

*Solution:*  $\forall x (L(x) \rightarrow M(x))$

# Translation (cont)

- $U = \{\text{lions, mammals(哺乳动物), carnivorous animals(肉食动物)}\}$

$L(x)$ :  $x$  is a lion

$M(x)$ :  $x$  is a mammal

$C(x)$ :  $x$  is a carnivorous animal

**“Some mammals are carnivorous animals.”**

*Solution:*     $\exists x (M(x) \wedge C(x))$



# Translation (cont)

- $U = \{\text{lions, mammals(哺乳动物), carnivorous animals(肉食动物)}\}$

$L(x)$ :  $x$  is a lion

$M(x)$ :  $x$  is a mammal

$C(x)$ :  $x$  is a carnivorous animal

**“No mammal is a carnivorous animal.”**

*Solution:*  $\neg \exists x (M(x) \wedge C(x))$

What is this equivalent to?

*Solution:*  $\forall x (\neg M(x) \vee \neg C(x))$   
 $\equiv \forall x (M(x) \rightarrow \neg C(x))$

# Translation (cont)

- $U = \{\text{lions, mammals(哺乳动物), carnivorous animals(肉食动物)}\}$

$L(x)$ :  $x$  is a lion

$M(x)$ :  $x$  is a mammal

$C(x)$ :  $x$  is a carnivorous animal

**“If any lion is a mammal then it is also a carnivorous animal.”**

*Solution:*  $\forall x ((L(x) \wedge M(x)) \rightarrow C(x))$

# System Specification Example

- Predicate logic can be used for representing system specification also.
- For example, translate into predicate logic:
  - “Every mail message larger than one megabyte will be compressed.”
  - “If a user is active, at least one network link will be available.”
- Decide on predicates and domains (left implicit here) for the variables:
  - Let  $L(m, y)$  be “Mail message  $m$  is larger than  $y$  megabytes.”
  - Let  $C(m)$  denote “Mail message  $m$  will be compressed.”
  - Let  $A(u)$  represent “User  $u$  is active.”
  - Let  $S(n, x)$  represent “Network link  $n$  is state  $x$ .”

- Now we have:

$$\forall m (L(m, 1) \rightarrow C(m))$$

$$\exists u A(u) \rightarrow \exists n S(n, available)$$

$$\forall u (A(u) \rightarrow \exists n S(n, available))?$$



Charles Lutwidge Dodgson  
(AKA Lewis Carroll)  
(1832-1898)

# Lewis Carroll Example

An argument

1. “All lions are fierce.”
2. “Some lions do not drink coffee.”
3. “Some fierce creatures do not drink coffee.”

The first two are called *premises* and the third is called the *conclusion*.

One way to translate these statements to predicate logic:

Let  $p(x)$ ,  $q(x)$ , and  $r(x)$  be the propositional functions “ $x$  is a lion,” “ $x$  is fierce,” and “ $x$  drinks coffee,” respectively. Domain of  $x$ : All creatures.

1.  $\forall x (p(x) \rightarrow q(x))$
2.  $\exists x (p(x) \wedge \neg r(x))$
3.  $\exists x (q(x) \wedge \neg r(x))$

Later we will see how to prove that the conclusion follows from the premises.



**Homework:**

**Seventh Edition:**

**P.53 16, 24, 34, 51, 62**