# Second-Order Logic

Final seminar for "Logic in Computer Science"

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#### Outline

- Introduction
  - A recall on first-order logic
    - Syntax
    - Semantic

Second-Order Logic

#### Introduction

- First-order logic allows "iteration" over the elements of a structure
- Happens thanks to **quantifiers**:  $\forall$ ,  $\exists$ 
  - ▶  $\forall x.\phi(x) \rightarrow$  "For each x, x satisfies the formula  $\phi$ "
  - ▶  $\exists x.\phi(x) \rightarrow$  "There exists x s.t. the formula  $\phi$  is satisfied"
- Limiting since we may only need to range over subsets or "combinations" (e.g. Cartesian product)

#### A brief recall

- Second-order logic "extends" first-order logic
- Since that, let's recall the basics of first-order logic
- Two key parts:
  - Syntax: Which sequences constitute well-formed expressions
  - ▶ Semantics: The **meaning** behind this expressions

# Syntax

### Syntax - Introduction

- Two base types:
  - ► **Terms**: Represents *objects*
  - ► Formulas: Represents *predicates*
- Both formed by symbol concatenation
- All symbols together form the alphabet of the language
- Can divide symbols in two categories
  - Logical symbols
  - Non-logical symbols

## Syntax - Logical symbols

- Infinite set of variables:  $x, y, z, ..., x_0, x_1, ...$  (Lowercase letters)
- Connectives:  $\land, \lor, \Rightarrow, \lnot$
- Quantifiers: ∀,∃
- Equality (or *Identity*): =
- Auxiliary symbols: (; ); . (dot); , (comma)

## Syntax - Non-logical symbols

- Represents predicates (or relations), functions and constants
- $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^*$  we have a set of *n*-ary **predicate symbols**

$$P_0^n, P_1^n, \dots$$
 (Uppercase letters)

•  $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^*$  there exist <u>infinite</u> *n-ary* **function symbols** 

$$f_0^n, f_1^n, \dots$$
 (Lowercase letters)

## Syntax - Formation rules (1)

#### Definition (Terms formation)

The set TERM of terms can be inductively defined by the following rules:

- **1** If x is a variable, then  $x \in TERM$
- ② Any expression  $f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ , with  $t_1, \ldots, t_n \in \text{TERM}$ , is a term. Since that, the following statement holds

$$f(t_1,\ldots,t_n)\in \mathtt{TERM}$$

## Syntax - Formation rules (2)

#### Definition (Formulas formation)

The set FORM of formulas can be inductively defined by the following rules:

- lacktriangledown If  $P \in \mathtt{PRED}^a$  and  $t_1, \ldots, t_n \in \mathtt{TERM}$ , than  $P(t_1, \ldots, t_n) \in \mathtt{FORM}$
- ② If  $t_1, t_2 \in \text{TERM}$ , than  $t_1 = t_2 \in \text{FORM}$
- **3** If  $\phi \in FORM$ , than  $\neg \phi \in FORM$
- **1** If  $\phi, \psi \in \text{FORM}$ , than  $\phi \square \psi \in \text{FORM}$  (with  $\square \in \{\land, \lor, \Rightarrow\}$ )
- **1** If  $\phi \in \text{FORM}$  and x is a variable, than  $Qx.\phi \in \text{FORM}$  (with  $Q \in \{\forall, \exists\}$ )

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>The set of *predicate symbols* 

## Syntax - Variables (1)

#### Definition (Free and Bound variables)

The *free* and *bound* variable occurrences in a formula are defined inductively by the following rules:

- **1** If  $\phi$  is atomic, than any variable  $x \in Var(\phi)$  is free
- ② x is free/bound in  $\neg \phi$  iff x is free/bound in  $\phi$
- **3** x is *free/bound* in  $\phi \square \psi$  iff x is *free/bound* in either  $\phi$  or  $\psi$  (with  $\square \in \{\land, \lor, \Rightarrow\}$ )
- **4**  $\mathbf{v}$  is free in  $\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{v}$ . $\phi$  iff  $\mathbf{v}$  is free in  $\phi$  and  $\mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{v}$
- **3** x is bound in  $Qy.\phi$  iff x is bound in  $\phi$

## Syntax - Variables (2)

- More easily, a variable x is bounded if it occurs in a quantification, x is free otherwise
- A variable can be both free and bounded in the same formula, e.g.

$$P(x,y) \Rightarrow \exists x. Q(x)$$

- 1 In the **LHS** *x* is *free*
- 2 In the **RHS** x is bounded
- Even so, the formula is still well-formed
- A formula with no free variables is called a sentence

# **Semantic**

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## Semantic - Structure and Interpretation

### Definition (Structure)

A structure is formed by a domain D,  $\mathbb{P} = \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$  predicates on D,  $\mathbb{F} = \{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$  total functions on D and a set  $\mathbb{C} \subseteq D$  of constants

#### Definition (Interpretation)

Given a structure  $\mathfrak{D}$  and a map  $(\cdot)^{\mathfrak{D}}$  s.t.

- ullet for all c in my language,  $(c)^{\mathfrak{D}}=c^{\mathfrak{D}}\in\mathbb{C}$
- for all k-ary function f in my language,  $(f)^{\mathfrak{D}} = f^{\mathfrak{D}}: D^k \to D \in \mathbb{F}$
- for all *n-ary* predicate P in my language,  $(P)^{\mathfrak{D}} = P^{\mathfrak{D}} \subseteq D^k \in \mathbb{P}$  we call  $(\mathfrak{D}, (\cdot)^{\mathfrak{D}})$  an *interpretation*.

## Semantic - Evaluation (1)

- Given an interpretation and an assignment a, it is possible to evaluate a formula
- The evaluation process maps the whole formula to a truth value
- ullet The assignment  $\overline{a}$  associates each free variable with a truth value
- If the formula is a *sentence*,  $\overline{a}$  does not affect the *truth value* of the formula
- Next slides shows the evaluation steps

## Semantic - Evaluation (2)

- **①** Extend  $\overline{a}$  to all terms of the language with the following rules:
  - ▶ Each variable x evaluates to  $\overline{a}(x)$
  - ▶ Given  $\{t_1, ..., t_n\}$  ∈ TERM evaluated to  $\{d_1, ..., d_n\}$ , a function  $f(t_1, ..., t_n)$  evaluates to  $(f)^{\mathfrak{D}1}(d_1, ..., d_n)$
- Assign each formula to a truth value with the following (inductive) rules:
  - ▶ (Continues in next slides)

## Semantic - Evaluation (3)

• An atomic formula  $P(t_1, ..., t_n)$  is associated with a truth value, depending on the truth of the following:

$$\langle v_1,\ldots,v_n\rangle\in (P)^{\mathfrak{D}}$$

where  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  represents the evaluation of the predicate terms

• An atomic formula  $t_1 = t_2$  evaluates to a truth value depending if  $v_1 = v_2$  in D, where  $v_1, v_2$  represents the evaluation of the terms

# Semantic - Evaluation (4)

- A formula containing *logical connectives* (e.g.  $\phi \Box \psi^2, \neg \phi$ ) is evaluated according to the *truth table* of the connective
- A formula  $\exists x.\phi$  is evaluated true iff exists an assignment  $\overline{a}'$  s.t. it differs from  $\overline{a}$  only for the assignment of x and  $\phi$  is evaluated true via the  $\overline{a}'$  assignment, false otherwise
- A formula  $\forall x.\phi$  is evaluated true iff exists an assignment  $\overline{a}'$  s.t. it differs from  $\overline{a}$  only for the assignment of x and  $\phi$  is evaluated true for all values in  $\overline{a}'$ , false otherwise

# Semantic - Evaluation (5)

ullet Given a structure  $\mathfrak{D}$ , evaluation can be seen as a map

$$\rho_{\mathfrak{D}}: Var \to D$$

ullet We can use the  $[\![\cdot]\!]$  notation to express the evaluation of a term

#### **Definition**

Given a structure  $\mathfrak D$  and  $[\![\cdot]\!]_{
ho_{\mathfrak D}}$ : TERM o D, we can define

## Semantic - Satisfiability

#### Definition (Satisfiability)

Given a *structure*  $\mathfrak{D}$  we can recursively define the *satisfiability relation*  $\vDash$  as:

- $0 \rho_{\mathfrak{D}} \not\models \bot$

# Second-Order Logic

### Syntax and Semantic

- As said before, second-order logic extends first-order logic
- The terms and formulas are unchanged...
- ...but we need to redefine structures to represent this "extension"

#### Structure

#### Definition (Structure)

A structure is formed by a domain D, a set  $D^* = \langle D_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle$  with  $D_n \subseteq \mathcal{P}(A^n)$ , a set  $\mathbb{P} = \{P_1^n, \dots, P_k^n\}$  of predicates s.t.  $P_i^n \in D_n$  and a set of constants  $\mathbb{C} \subseteq D$ 

• If  $D_n$  contains **all** n-ary predicates  $(D_n = \mathcal{P}(D^n))$  we call the structure *full*