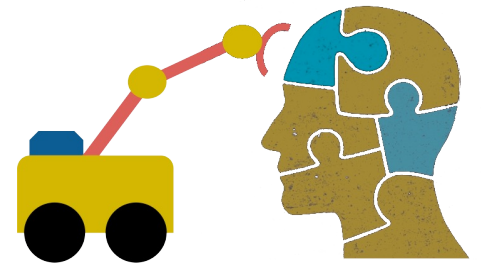


9.3.1



# First-Order Logic (FOL) part 1

# FOL Overview

- First Order logic (FOL) is a powerful knowledge representation (KR) system
- Used in AI systems in various ways, e.g., to
  - Directly represent & reason about concepts & objects
  - Formally specify meaning of KR systems (e.g., [OWL](#))
  - For programming languages (e.g., [Prolog](#)) and [rule-based systems](#)
  - Make semantic database systems ([Datalog](#)) and Knowledge graphs ([Wikidata](#), [Schema.org](#))
  - Provide features useful in neural network deep learning systems

# First-order logic

- First-order logic (FOL) models the world in terms of
  - **Objects**, which are things with individual identities
  - **Properties** of objects that distinguish them from others
  - **Relations** that hold among sets of objects
  - **Functions**, a subset of relations where there is only one “value” for any given “input”
- Examples:
  - Objects: students, lectures, companies, cars ...
  - Relations: isa, hasBrother, biggerThan, outside, hasPart, color, occursAfter, owns, visits, precedes, ...
  - Properties: blue, oval, even, large, ...
  - Functions: hasFather, hasSSN, ...

# User provides

- **Constant symbols** representing individuals in world
  - BarackObama, Green, John, 3, “John Smith”
- **Predicate symbols** map individuals to truth values
  - greater(5,3)
  - green(Grass)
  - color(Grass, Green)
  - hasProperty(Grass, Color, Green)
- **Function symbols** map individuals to individuals
  - hasFather(SashaObama) = BarackObama
  - colorOf(Sky) = Blue

How to represent properties and relations depends on our goals

# What do these mean?



- We must indicate what these mean in ways humans will understand
  - i.e., map to their own internal representations
- May be done via a combination of
  - Choosing good names for formal terms, e.g., calling a concept `HumanBeing` instead of [Q5](#)
  - Comments in the definition `#human being`
  - Descriptions and examples in documentation
  - Reference to other representations , e.g., `sameAs` [Q5](#) in Wikidata and [Person](#) in schema.org
  - Give examples like *Donald Trump* and *Luke Skywalker* to help distinguish concepts of real and fictional person

# FOL Provides

Notations  
differ, of  
course!

- **Variable symbols**

- e.g.,  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $?x$ ,  $?foo$ ,  $?number$

- **Connectives**

- Same as propositional logic: not ( $\neg$ ), and ( $\wedge$ ), or ( $\vee$ ), implies ( $\rightarrow$ ), iff ( $\leftrightarrow$ ), equivalence ( $\equiv$ ), ...

- **Quantifiers**

- Universal  $\forall \mathbf{x}$  or **(Ax)**

- Existential  $\exists \mathbf{x}$  or **(Ex)**

# Sentences: built from terms and atoms

- **term** (denoting an individual): constant or variable symbol, or n-place function of n terms, e.g.:
  - **Constants:** john, umbc
  - **Variables:** X, Y, Z
  - **Functions:** mother\_of(john), phone(mother(x))
- **Ground terms** have no variables in them
  - **Ground:** john, father\_of(father\_of(john))
  - **Not Ground:** father\_of(X)
- Syntax varies, e.g., variables start with a “?” or a capital letter, or are identified by quantifiers

# Sentences: built from terms and atoms

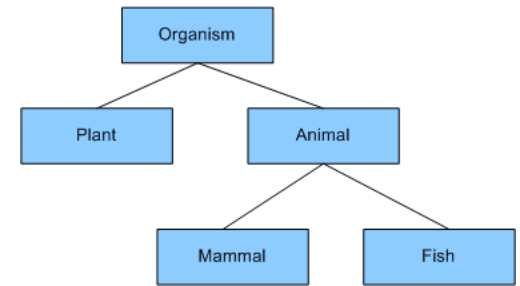
- **atomic sentences** (which are either true or false) are n-place predicates of n terms, e.g.:
  - green(kermit)
  - between(philadelphia, baltimore, dc)
  - loves(X, mother(X))
- **complex sentences** formed from atomic ones connected by the standard logical connectives with quantifiers if there are variables, e.g.:
  - loves(mary, john)  $\vee$  loves(mary, bill)
  - $\forall x$  loves(mary, x)



# What do atomic sentences mean?

- Unary predicates often used to encode a **type**
  - `muppet(Kermit)`: kermit is a kind of muppet
  - `green(kermit)`: kermit is a kind of green thing
  - `integer(X)`: x is a kind of integer
- Non-unary predicates typically encode **relations** or **properties**
  - `Loves(john, mary)`
  - `Greater_than(2, 1)`
  - `Between(newYork, philadelphia, baltimore)`
  - `hasName(john, "John Smith")`

# Ontology



- Designing a logic representation is like designing a model in an object-oriented language
- **Ontology:** a “formal naming and definition of the types, properties, and relations of entities for a domain of discourse”
- E.g.: [schema.org](http://schema.org) ontology used to put semantic data on Web pages to help search engines
  - Here’s the [semantic markup](#) Google sees on our site
  - It’s encoded as JSON, but the model is logic

# Sentences: built from terms and atoms

- **quantified sentences** adds quantifiers  $\forall$  and  $\exists$ 
  - $\forall x \text{ loves}(x, \text{mother}(x))$
  - $\exists x \text{ number}(x) \wedge \text{greater}(x, 100), \text{prime}(x)$
- **well-formed formula (wff)**: a sentence with no *free* variables or where all variables are *bound* by a universal or existential *quantifier*
  - In  $(\forall x)P(x, y)$   $x$  is bound &  $y$  is free so it's not a wff

# Quantifiers: $\forall$ and $\exists$

- **Universal quantification**

- $(\forall x)P(X)$  means  $P$  holds for **all** values of  $X$  in the domain associated with variable<sup>1</sup>
- E.g.,  $(\forall X) \text{dolphin}(X) \rightarrow \text{mammal}(X)$   
“all dolphins are mammals”

- **Existential quantification**

- $(\exists x)P(X)$  means  $P$  holds for **some** value of  $X$  in domain associated with variable
- E.g.,  $(\exists X) \text{mammal}(X) \wedge \text{lays\_eggs}(X)$   
“There is a mammal that lays eggs”
- This lets us make statements about an object without identifying it

<sup>1</sup> a variable's domain is often not explicitly stated and is assumed by the context

# Universal Quantifier: $\forall$

- **Universal quantifiers typically used with *implies* to form *rules*:**

*Logic:*  $\forall X \text{ student}(X) \rightarrow \text{smart}(X)$

Means: All students are smart

- **Universal quantification *rarely* used without *implies*:**

*Logic:*  $\forall X \text{ student}(X) \wedge \text{smart}(X)$

Means: Everything is a student and is smart

- **What about this, though:**

– *Logic:*  $\forall X \text{ alive}(X) \vee \text{dead}(X)$

– Means: everything is either alive or dead

# Universal Quantifier: $\forall$

- **What about this, though:**

- *Logic:*  $\forall X \text{ alive}(X) \vee \text{dead}(X)$

- Means: everything is either alive or dead

- **Can be rewritten using a standard tautology**

- $A \vee B \equiv \sim A \rightarrow B$

- **Giving both of these (since  $A \vee B \equiv B \vee A$ )**

- $\forall X \sim \text{alive}(X) \rightarrow \text{dead}(X)$

- $\forall X \text{ alive}(X) \rightarrow \sim \text{dead}(X)$

# Existential Quantifier: $\exists$

- Existential quantifiers usually used with **and** to specify a list of properties about an individual

*Logic:  $(\exists X) \text{ student}(X) \wedge \text{ smart}(X)$*

*Meaning: There is a student who is smart*

- Common mistake: represent this in FOL as:

*Logic:  $(\exists X) \text{ student}(X) \rightarrow \text{ smart}(X)$*

*Meaning: ?*

# Existential Quantifier: $\exists$

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*Meaning: There is a student who is smart*

- Common mistake: represent this in FOL as:

*Logic:  $(\exists X) \text{ student}(X) \rightarrow \text{ smart}(X)$*

*$P \rightarrow Q = \sim P \vee Q$*

*$\exists X \text{ student}(X) \rightarrow \text{ smart}(X) = \exists X \sim \text{student}(X) \vee \text{ smart}(X)$*

*Meaning: There's something that is either not a student or is smart*



# Quantifier Scope

- FOL sentences have structure, like programs
- In particular, variables in a sentence have a **scope**
- Suppose we want to say “everyone who is alive loves someone”

$$(\forall X) \text{ alive}(X) \rightarrow (\exists Y) \text{ loves}(X, Y)$$

- Here’s how we scope the variables

$$(\forall X) \text{ alive}(X) \rightarrow (\exists Y) \text{ loves}(X, Y)$$

-  Scope of x
-  Scope of y

# Quantifier Scope

- **Switching order of two universal quantifiers *does not* change the meaning**
  - $(\forall X)(\forall Y)P(X,Y) \leftrightarrow (\forall Y)(\forall X) P(X,Y)$
  - Dogs hate cats (i.e., all dogs hate all cats)
- **You can switch order of existential quantifiers**
  - $(\exists X)(\exists Y)P(X,Y) \leftrightarrow (\exists Y)(\exists X) P(X,Y)$
  - A cat killed a dog
- **Switching order of universal and existential quantifiers *does* change meaning:**
  - Everyone likes someone:  $(\forall X)(\exists Y) \text{ likes}(X,Y)$
  - Someone is liked by everyone:  $(\exists Y)(\forall X) \text{ likes}(X,Y)$

```
def verify1():
```

```
    # Everyone likes someone:  $(\forall x)(\exists y) \text{ likes}(x,y)$ 
```

```
    for p1 in people():
```

```
        foundLike = False
```

```
        for p2 in people():
```

```
            if likes(p1, p2):
```

```
                foundLike = True
```

```
                break
```

```
        if not foundLike:
```

```
            print(p1, 'does not like anyone 😞')
```

```
            return False
```

```
    return True
```

*Every person has at least one individual that they like*

# Procedural example 1

```
def verify2():
```

```
    # Someone is liked by everyone:  $(\exists y)(\forall x) \text{likes}(x,y)$ 
```

```
    for p2 in people():
```

```
        foundHater = False
```

```
        for p1 in people():
```

```
            if not likes(p1, p2):
```

```
                foundHater = True
```

```
                break
```

```
        if not foundHater
```

```
            print(p2, 'is liked by everyone 😊')
```

```
            return True
```

```
    return False
```

*There is a person who is liked by every person in the universe*

## Procedural example 2

# Connections between $\forall$ and $\exists$

- We can relate sentences involving  $\forall$  and  $\exists$  using extensions to De Morgan's laws:

1.  $(\forall x) P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg(\exists x) \neg P(x)$

2.  $\neg(\forall x) P(x) \leftrightarrow (\exists x) \neg P(x)$

3.  $(\exists x) P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg(\forall x) \neg P(x)$

4.  $(\exists x) P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg(\forall x) \neg P(x)$

- Examples

1. All dogs don't like cats  $\leftrightarrow$  No dog likes cats

2. Not all dogs bark  $\leftrightarrow$  There is a dog that doesn't bark

3. All dogs sleep  $\leftrightarrow$  There is no dog that doesn't sleep

4. There is a dog that talks  $\leftrightarrow$  Not all dogs can't talk

# Notational differences

- **Different symbols** for *and*, *or*, *not*, *implies*, ...

–  $\forall \exists \Rightarrow \Leftrightarrow \wedge \vee \neg \bullet \supset$

–  $p \vee (q \wedge r)$

–  $p + (q * r)$

- **Different syntax** for variables vs. constants, predicates vs. functions, etc.



*Fín*