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#### Session 2

# **Predicate Logic**

## Agenda

- From Propositional to Predicate Logic
- Relational Logic (= Predicate Logic without Functions)
  - Syntax
  - Semantics
- Predicate Logic with Functions
  - Syntax
  - Herbrand Semantics ( $\rightarrow$  Herbrand Logic)
  - Tarskian Semantics ( $\rightarrow$  First-Order Logic)
- Deductive systems will be treated in the following lectures

## From Propositional to Predicate Logic

- Propositional Logic
  - Premises:
    - If Jack knows Jill, then Jill knows Jack.
    - Jack knows Jill.
  - Conclusion:
    - Is it the case that Jill knows Jack?
- What about
  - Premises:
    - If one person knows another, then the second person knows the first.
    - Jack knows Jill
  - Conclusion:

## **Relational Logic**

- We need to introduce new features
  - Variables
  - Quantifiers
- Sample sentence

$$\forall x \forall y (\mathsf{knows}(x, y) \Rightarrow \mathsf{knows}(y, x))$$

## **Relational Logic: Syntax**

- Object constants (individuals): Joe, Nice, France, 0, 2345, 3.1415
- Relation constants (predicates): knows, loves, same
- Predicates have an arity:
  - Unary 1 argument
  - Binary 2 arguments
  - Ternary 3 arguments
  - *n*-ary *n* arguments
- Signature:
  - Set of object constants
  - Set of predicates together with a specification of their arity
- Variables: *x*, *y*, *z*, etc.

#### **Terms and Sentences**

- A term is a either a variable or an object constant
- Terms represent objects
- Terms are analogous to noun phrases in natural language
- Sentences
  - Relational sentences (atoms,  $\approx$  simple propositions):
    - A predicate of arity *n* applied to *n* terms
  - Logical sentences ( $\approx$  complex propositions):
    - Combinations of sentences using logical operators
  - Quantified sentences:
    - Sentences with quantified variables

## **Definition (Sentence)**

Sentence ::=

- A relation constant with arity *n* applied to *n* terms.
- $(\neg \phi)$  where  $\phi$  is a sentence.
- $(\phi \ v \ \psi)$ , where  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are sentences.
- $(\phi \land \psi)$ , where  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are sentences.
- $(\phi \Rightarrow \psi)$ , where  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are sentences.
- $(\phi \Leftrightarrow \psi)$ , where  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are sentences.
- $(\forall x \phi)$ , where  $\phi$  is a sentence.
- $(\exists x \phi)$ , where  $\phi$  is a sentence.

Only expressions produced by the above rules are sentences.

#### Some Nomenclature

- An **atom** is a relation constant with arity *n* applied to *n* terms
- A **literal** is either an atom or the negation of an atom
- A ground sentence has no variables or quantifiers
- A variable is **bound** if and only if it lies within the scope of a quantifier of that variable
- A variable is **free** if it is not bound
- A **closed** sentence has no free variables
- An **open** sentence does have free variables
- We treat free variables in an open sentence as being implicitly universally quantified.



## **Relational Logic: Semantics**

- The classical semantics of relational logic is based on seminal work by Polish logician Alfred Tarski in the 1930s
- Tarski, "Pojęcie prawdy w językach nauk dedukcyjnych" 1933, →
  "Der Wahrheitsbegriff in den formalisierten Sprachen", 1935
- We will refer to his approach as "Tarskian semantics"

- An alternative approach stems from the work by French mathematician Jacques Herbrand (who died at age 23 while mountain-climbing on the Alps)
- We will refer to this approach as "Herbrand semantics"

#### Herbrand Base

- The **Herbrand base** for a Relational language is the set of all ground relational sentences that can be formed from the vocabulary of the language
- Example:
  - Object constants: a, b
  - Unary predicate: P
  - Binary predicate: R
  - Herbrand base: { P(a), P(b), R(a,a), R(a,b), R(b,a), R(b,b) }

#### Interpretation

- An interpretation is a mapping from the Herbrand base (i.e., the ground atoms) to the truth values {F, T}.
- We will use 1 as a synonym for T and 0 as a synonym for F.

$$\mathcal{I}: H \to \{0, 1\}$$

Example: let

$$H = \{P(a), P(b), R(a, a), R(a, b), R(b, a), R(b, b)\}$$
$$P(a)^{\mathcal{I}} = 1 \qquad P(b)^{\mathcal{I}} = 0 \qquad R(a, a)^{\mathcal{I}} = 1$$
$$R(a, b)^{\mathcal{I}} = 0 \qquad R(b, a)^{\mathcal{I}} = 1 \qquad R(b, b)^{\mathcal{I}} = 0$$

Equivalent view: interpretation as a subset of the Herbrand base

#### Sentential Interpretation

• A sentential interpretation is an extension of an interpretation mapping every sentence to the truth values 0 or 1.

$$P(a)^{\mathcal{I}} = 1 \qquad (P(a) \lor P(b))^{\mathcal{I}} = 1$$
$$P(b)^{\mathcal{I}} = 0 \qquad (\neg P(b) \land P(a))^{\mathcal{I}} = 1$$

• Each interpretation is extended to a sentential interpretation based on the type of sentence.

#### Logical Sentences

 $\begin{aligned} (\neg \phi)^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 & \text{if and only if} & \phi^{\mathcal{I}} &= 0 \\ (\phi \land \psi)^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 & \text{if and only if} & \phi^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 \text{ and } \psi^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 \\ (\phi \lor \psi)^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 & \text{if and only if} & \phi^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 \text{ or } \psi^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 \\ (\phi \Rightarrow \psi)^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 & \text{if and only if} & \phi^{\mathcal{I}} &= 0 \text{ or } \psi^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 \\ (\phi \Leftrightarrow \psi)^{\mathcal{I}} &= 1 & \text{if and only if} & \phi^{\mathcal{I}} &= \psi^{\mathcal{I}} \end{aligned}$ 

### **Quantified Sentences**

- A universally quantified sentence is true under an interpretation if and only if every instance of the scope of the quantified sentence is true under that interpretation.
- An existentially quantified sentence is true under an interpretation if and only if some instance of the scope of the quantified sentence is true under that interpretation.
- An interpretation satisfies a sentence with free variables if and only if it satisfies every instance of that sentence.

## Alternative (Equivalent) View

- An interpretation (or model) M is a subset of H
- $|=_{M} P(t_1,...,t_n)$  if and only if  $P(t_1,...,t_n) \in M$ .
- $|=_{M} \neg \psi$  if and only if  $|\neq_{M} \psi$ .
- $|=_{M} \phi \land \psi$  if and only if  $|=_{M} \phi$  and  $|=_{M} \psi$ .
- $|=_{M} \phi \vee \psi$  if and only if  $|=_{M} \phi$  or  $|=_{M} \psi$ .
- $|=_{M} \phi \Rightarrow \psi$  if and only if  $|\neq_{M} \phi$  or  $|=_{M} \psi$ .
- $|=_{_{M}} \phi \leftarrow \psi$  if and only if  $|=_{_{M}} \psi \Rightarrow \phi$ .
- $|=_{M} \phi \Leftrightarrow \psi$  if and only if either  $|=_{M} \phi \land \psi$  or  $|=_{M} \neg \phi \land \neg \psi$ .
- $|=_{M} \forall x.\phi(x)$  if and only if  $|=_{M} \phi(t)$  for all ground terms t.
- $|=_{M} \exists x.\phi(x)$  if and only if  $|=_{M} \phi(t)$  for some ground term t.

#### Quantificational Tautologies

Common Quantifier Reversal:

$$\forall x \forall y P(x, y) \Leftrightarrow \forall y \forall x P(x, y) \\ \exists x \exists y P(x, y) \Leftrightarrow \exists y \exists x P(x, y)$$

**Existential Distribution:** 

$$\exists x \forall y P(x, y) \Leftrightarrow \forall y \exists x P(x, y)$$

Negation Distribution:

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

## (Herbrand) Entailment

- Let  $\Delta$  be a set of closed sentences and V a vocabulary that is a superset of the vocabulary of  $\Delta$ .
- Let  $\phi$  be a closed sentence.
- $\Delta$  entails  $\phi$  with respect to vocabulary V if and only if every Herbrand model for V that satisfies  $\Delta$  also satisfies  $\phi$ .

 $\Delta \models \varphi$  wrt V if and only if  $\models_M \Delta$  implies  $\models_M \varphi$ ,

where M is a Herbrand model for V

• If no vocabulary is named in satisfaction or entailment, it is assumed the minimal vocabulary is used, i.e. the vocabulary that includes just the constants in the sentences given.

## Mapping Relational Sentences to Propositional Sentences

There is a simple procedure for mapping Relational Logic sentences to equivalent Propositional Logic sentences.

- 1) Convert to Prenex form.
- 2) Compute the grounding.
- 3) Consider each ground atom as a propositional constant.

Since satisfiability and entailment in Propositional Logic are decidable, then satisfiability and entailment in Relational Logic are decidable too.

#### **Prenex Form**

- A sentence is in prenex form if and only if
  - 1) it is closed and

2) all of the quantifiers are outside of all logical operators.

- Sentence in Prenex Form:
  - $\forall x. \exists y. \forall z. (p(x,y) \lor q(z))$
- Sentences not in Prenex Form:
  - $\forall x. \exists y. p(x, y) \lor \exists y. q(y)$
  - $\forall x.(p(x,y) \ V \ q(x))$

#### **Conversion to Prenex Form**

1) Rename duplicate variables.

 $- \forall y.p(x,y) \lor \exists y.q(y) \rightarrow \forall y.p(x,y) \lor \exists z.q(z)$ 

2) Distribute logical operators over quantifiers.

 $- \forall y.p(x,y) \lor \exists z.q(z) \rightarrow \forall y.\exists z.(p(x,y) \lor q(z))$ 

3) Quantify any free variables.

 $- \forall y. \exists z. (p(x,y) \lor q(z)) \rightarrow \forall x. \forall y. \exists z. (p(x,y) \lor q(z))$ 

### **Substitution**

• A **substitution** is a finite set of the form

$$\{t_1/v_1,\ldots,t_n/v_n\}$$

where

- Every  $v_i$  is a variable
- Every  $t_i$  is a term different from  $v_i$
- All variables  $v_i$  are different
- When t<sub>1</sub>, ..., t<sub>n</sub> are ground terms, the substitution is called a ground substitution.
- We denote by  $\phi[\theta]$  the application of substitution  $\theta$  to sentence  $\phi$

## Grounding

• Replace each universally quantified sentence with the set of its instances

 $\forall x \phi \rightsquigarrow \{ \phi[c/x] \mid c \text{ is an object constant} \}$ 

• Replace each existentially quantified sentence with the disjunction of its instances

$$\exists x \phi \rightsquigarrow \bigvee_{c} \phi[c/x]$$

• Until all sentences are quantifier-free (and, therefore, ground)

#### Compactness

- A logic is **compact** if and only if every unsatisfiable set of sentences (including infinite sets) has a finite subset that is unsatisfiable.
- Propositional Logic is compact.
- Given our mapping, we know that Relational Logic must also be compact.

#### Predicate Logic (with Functions)

- The syntax is an extension of the syntax of Relational Logic
- Function constants with their arity: f(.), g(., .), etc.
- The definition of a term becomes:
  - A variable
  - An object constant
  - A function constant with arity *n* applied to *n* terms.
- Only expressions produced by the the above rules are terms.
- As a result, the set of terms will be infinite, even though the vocabulary of the language is finite.

#### **Avoiding Constants and Functions**

- It is possible to entirely avoid function symbols and constant symbols, rewriting them via predicate symbols in an appropriate way.
- For example, instead of using a constant symbol 0 one may use a predicate O(x), interpreted as x = 0, and replace every predicate such as P(0, y) with  $\forall x(O(x) \Rightarrow P(x, y))$ .
- A function such as  $f(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)$  will similarly be replaced by a predicate  $F(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n, y)$  interpreted as  $y = f(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)$ .
- This change comes at a cost: additional axioms must be added to the theory at hand, so that interpretations of the predicate symbols used have the correct semantics.

#### Herbrand Semantics

- Same definition as for the Relational Logic but...
- In the presence of functions, the Herbrand base is infinite!
- However, every interpretation (or model) M, as subset of H, is a finite set of atoms.

## Undecidability

- Satisfiability and logical entailment for Herbrand Logic are undecidable.
- Proof sketch:
  - We can reduce a problem that is generally accepted to be non-semidecidable to a question of satisfiability / logical entailment in Herbrand Logic
  - If Herbrand logic were semidecidable, then such question would be semidecidable as well
  - Since it is known not to be semidecidable, then Herbrand
    Logic must not be semidecidable either.

## Tarskian Semantics

- Herbrand logic differs from first-order logic solely in the structures it considers to be models.
- The semantics of a given set of sentences is defined to be the set of Herbrand models that satisfy it, for a given vocabulary.
- In Tarskian semantics, we map all the elements of the language to the element of an (external) domain D
- A first-order model M consists of a domain D and a mapping  $\cdot^{\scriptscriptstyle M}$  such that
  - For each *n*-ary predicate *P* an *n*-ary relation  $P^{M}$  over D
  - For each *n*-ary function constant *f* an *n*-ary function  $f^{M}$  over D
  - For each object constant *c* an element  $c^{M}$  from D

#### First-Order Model

- In a model M, a variable assignment is a mapping of all the variables in the vocabulary to elements in D.
- Given an arbitrary model and a variable assignment for that model, every term in the language is assigned an element in that model's universe:
  - Let v be a variable assignment and M a first-order model
  - e<sub>v</sub> maps a term to an element of D.
    - For variable *x*,  $e_v(x) = v(x)$
    - For object constant c,  $e_v(c) = c^M$
    - For terms  $t_1, ..., t_n, e_v(f(t_1, ..., t_n)) = f^{M}(e_v(t_1), ..., e_v(t_n))$

#### First-Order Satisfaction

Given M and v,  $|=_{M} \varphi$  is defined as follows:

- $|=_{M} P(t_1,...,t_n)[v]$  if and only if  $\langle e_v(t_1),...,e_v(t_n) \rangle \in P^M$
- $|=_{M} \neg \psi[v]$  if and only if  $|\neq_{M} \psi[v]$
- $|=_{M} (\phi \land \psi)[v]$  if and only if  $|=_{M} \phi[v]$  and  $|=_{M} \psi[v]$
- $|=_{M} (\phi \ v \ \psi)[v]$  if and only if  $|=_{M} \phi[v]$  or  $|=_{M} \psi[v]$
- $|=_{M} (\phi \Rightarrow \psi)[v]$  if and only if  $|\neq_{M} \phi[v]$  or  $|=_{M} \psi[v]$
- $|=_{M} (\phi \Leftrightarrow \psi)[v]$  if and only if either  $|=_{M} (\phi \land \psi)[v]$  or  $|=_{M} (\neg \phi \land \neg \psi)[v]$
- $|=_M \forall x.\phi[v]$  if and only if for every  $d \in D \mid =_M \phi[v][d/x]$
- $|=_M \exists x.\phi[v]$  if and only if for some  $d \in D \mid =_M \phi[v][d/x]$

#### Comparison of the Two Semantics

- Given vocabulary  $\{P(\cdot), a, b\}$ ,
- Sentence *P*(*a*):
  - Has exactly 2 Herbrand models:
    - { *P*(*a*) }
    - { *P*(*a*), *P*(*b*) }
  - Has infinitely many First-Order models:
    - $D = \{1\}, P^{M} = \{<1>\}, a^{M} = 1, b^{M} = 1,$
    - $D = \{1, 2, 3, ...\}, P^{M} = \{<17>, <63>\}, a^{M} = 17, b^{M} = 51,$
    - D = Reals,  $P^{M} = \{<3.14159...>, <17.0>\},\ a^{M} = 3.14159..., b^{M} = 0.33333...$

. . .

#### Comparison of the Two Semantics

- Given vocabulary  $\{P(\cdot), a\}$ ,
- Sentences P(a),  $\exists x. \neg P(x)$ :
  - Are Herbrand-unsatisfiable
  - Are always satisfiable in First-Order Logic:

• 
$$D = \{1, 2\}, P^{M} = \{<1>\}, a^{M} = 1$$

- ..
- We have to extend the vocabulary to  $\{P(\cdot), a, b\}$  for them to be Herbrand-satisfiable:

•  $M = \{ P(a) \}$ 

## **Skolem Standard Form**

We can obtain the Skolem Standard form of a sentence by applying the following procedure:

- 1) Transform the sentence into prenex normal form
- 2) Transform the matrix of the prenex normal form into CNF
- 3) Eliminate the existential quantifiers in the prefix by using Skolem functions:
  - 1) For each quantifier  $\exists x$  in the prefix, let *m* be the number of  $\forall$ 's preceding it;
  - 2) Replace every occurrence of *x* in the matrix with the term  $s_x(x_1, ..., x_m)$ , where  $s_x$  is a new function constant of arity *m* and  $x_1, ..., x_m$  are the universally quantified variables occurring before *x* in the prefix.

#### Semantic Trees

- Checking the Herbrand-satisfiability of a set of clauses (obtained from the matrix of a Skolem Standard Form) can be done by constructing a semantic tree
- Given a set S of clauses, a **semantic tree** for S is a tree where each edge is labeled with a finite set of literals of atoms of S in such a way that
  - The disjunction of all the labels of the outgoing edges of a node is a tautology
  - The labels on the path from the root to node N constitute a partial interpretation I(N).
- A semantic tree is complete iff for every leaf N, I(N) contains either A or ¬A for every atom in S

#### Semantic Trees (continued)

- A node N is a **failure node** if I(N) falsifies some ground instance of a clause in S, but I(N') does not falsify any ground instance of a clause in S for every ancestor N' of N.
- A semantic tree is **closed** if and only if every branch terminates at a failure node
- A node N of a closed semantic tree is an **inference node** if all the children of N are failure nodes.



 $\{P(x), \neg P(x) \lor Q(f(x)), \neg Q(f(a))\}$ 



#### Herbrand's Theorem

A set S of clauses is unsatisfiable if and only if corresponding to every complete semantic tree of S, there is a finite closed semantic tree

Proof:

- [⇒]: Suppose that S is unsatisfiable. Then for every path in a complete semantic tree of S, there must be a failure node at a finite depth.
- [⇐]: If corresponding to every complete semantic tree of S there is a finite closed semantic tree, then every branch contains a failure node. This means that every interpretation falsifies S. Hence S is unsatisfiable.

## Thank you for your attention

