

Predicate Logic

CS 130

Alex Vondrak

`ajvondrak@csupomona.edu`

Winter 2012

Predicates and Terms

Definition (Predicate)

- A “yes/no”, “true/false” property of one or more **terms**
- Typically represented by uppercase letters (A, B, C , etc.)

Definition (Term)

- A **variable**, denoted by a lowercase letter (a, b, c , etc.)
- A **constant**, denoted by an underlined lowercase letter ($\underline{a}, \underline{b}, \underline{c}$, etc.)
- A **function**, also denoted by a lowercase letter, but followed by a comma-separated list of more terms—**inputs**

Predicates and Terms

Examples (Notation)

Typically, we write predicates and functions in **prefix notation**:

- $A(x)$
- $B(x, f(y), \underline{z})$
- $q(n, \underline{m})$
- $g(x, \underline{a}, h(z))$

For common predicates like $=$, we might also write **infix notation**:

$$x = y \quad \text{VS} \quad = (x, y)$$

Example (Predicates vs Functions)

Compare:

- $f(x)$: “the father of x ”
- $F(x)$: “ x is a father”

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$K(x)$ = “ x is a Klingon”

$V(x)$ = “ x is a Vulcan”

$f(x)$ = the father of x

\underline{s} = Spock

\underline{w} = Worf

How would you symbolize the sentence “Worf is a Klingon”?

(A) $K(\underline{w})$

(B) $K(x)$

(C) $K(w)$

(D) $\underline{w}(K)$

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$K(x)$ = “ x is a Klingon”

$V(x)$ = “ x is a Vulcan”

$f(x)$ = the father of x

\underline{s} = Spock

\underline{w} = Worf

How would you symbolize the sentence “Worf is a Vulcan”?

(A) $K(\underline{w})$

(B) $V(\underline{s})$

(C) $V(\underline{w})$

(D) You can't; Worf is a Klingon, not a Vulcan

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$K(x)$ = “ x is a Klingon”

$V(x)$ = “ x is a Vulcan”

$f(x)$ = the father of x

\underline{s} = Spock

\underline{w} = Worf

How would you symbolize the sentence “Spock’s father is a Vulcan”?

(A) $f(V(\underline{s}))$

(B) $V(\underline{s})$

(C) $V(f(\underline{s}))$

(D) $V(x)$

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$K(x)$ = “ x is a Klingon”

$V(x)$ = “ x is a Vulcan”

$f(x)$ = the father of x

\underline{s} = Spock

\underline{w} = Worf

How would you symbolize the sentence “Darth Vader is a Vulcan”?

(A) $V(\underline{d})$

(B) $V(\text{Darth Vader})$

(C) $V(x)$

(D) None of the above

Quantifiers

Definition

We will have two quantifier symbols, \forall and \exists , which will **always** be followed by a variable (never a constant or a function)

- $\forall x$ is pronounced “for all x ”
- $\exists x$ is pronounced “there exists an x ”

Predicate WFFs

Definition

One of:

- A term
- A predicate applied to one or more terms
- $(F_1 \wedge F_2)$
- $(F_1 \vee F_2)$
- $(F_1 \implies F_2)$
- $(F_1 \iff F_2)$
- $\neg F_1$
- $\forall x[F_1]$
- $\exists x[F_1]$

where F_1 and F_2 are themselves predicate WFFs and x is any variable.

Predicate WFFs

Note

- We'll often denote an arbitrary predicate WFF by a single uppercase letter (A , B , C , etc.)
- We'll usually use $A(x, y, z)$ to represent a predicate WFF involving the variables x , y , and z

If there's any potential confusion between a formula and a predicate, I'll try to have an extra explanation.

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$M(x)$ = “ x is a Class M planet”

$L(x)$ = “ x supports life”

What is the English equivalent of the following predicate WFF?

$$\forall x[(L(x) \implies M(x))]$$

- (A) Every Class M planet supports life
- (B) Every life-supporting planet is Class M
- (C) Some Class M planets do not support life
- (D) All planets support life or are Class M

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$M(x)$ = “ x is a Class M planet”

$L(x)$ = “ x supports life”

What is the English equivalent of the following predicate WFF?

$$\forall x[(M(x) \vee L(x))]$$

- (A) All planets are either Class M or support life
- (B) Either all planets are Class M or all planets support life
- (C) All planets are Class M and support life
- (D) Some planets are Class M; others support life

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$M(x)$ = “ x is a Class M planet”

$L(x)$ = “ x supports life”

What is the English equivalent of the following predicate WFF?

$$(\forall x[M(x)] \vee \forall x[L(x)])$$

- (A) All planets are either Class M or support life
- (B) Either all planets are Class M or all planets support life
- (C) All planets are Class M and support life
- (D) Some planets are Class M; others support life

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$M(x)$ = “ x is a Class M planet”

$L(x)$ = “ x supports life”

What is the English equivalent of the following predicate WFF?

$$\forall x[(M(x) \vee \neg M(x))]$$

- (A) All planets are Class M
- (B) All planets are Class M, or all planets are not
- (C) Some planets are Class M; others are not
- (D) A planet is either Class M or it is not

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$M(x) = \text{"}x \text{ is a Class M planet"}$

$L(x) = \text{"}x \text{ supports life"}$

What is the English equivalent of the following predicate WFF?

$$(\forall x[M(x)] \vee \forall x[\neg M(x)])$$

- (A) Some planets are Class M; others are not
- (B) All planets are Class M, or all planets are not
- (C) Some planets are Class M and others are not
- (D) A planet is either Class M or it is not

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$M(x)$ = “ x is a Class M planet”

$L(x)$ = “ x supports life”

What is the English equivalent of the following predicate WFF?

$$\neg \forall x [(M(x) \vee L(x))]$$

- (A) Some planets are neither Class M nor support life
- (B) Not all planets are both Class M and support life
- (C) All planets are neither Class M nor support life
- (D) All planets are either not Class M or do not support life

Thinking About \forall and \exists

\forall is like a big conjunction

Intuitively, $\forall x[x > 2]$ means:

$$0 > 2$$

$$\wedge 1 > 2$$

$$\wedge 2 > 2$$

$$\wedge 3 > 2$$

\vdots

\exists is like a big disjunction

Intuitively, $\exists x[x > 2]$ means:

$$0 > 2$$

$$\vee 1 > 2$$

$$\vee 2 > 2$$

$$\vee 3 > 2$$

\vdots

A	B	$(\neg(A \wedge B))$	\iff	$(\neg A \vee \neg B)$
F	F	T	F	T
F	T	T	F	T
T	F	T	F	T
T	T	F	T	F

Thinking About \forall and \exists

\forall is like a big conjunction

Intuitively, $\forall x[x > 2]$ means:

$$0 > 2$$

$$\wedge 1 > 2$$

$$\wedge 2 > 2$$

$$\wedge 3 > 2$$

\vdots

\exists is like a big disjunction

Intuitively, $\exists x[x > 2]$ means:

$$0 > 2$$

$$\vee 1 > 2$$

$$\vee 2 > 2$$

$$\vee 3 > 2$$

\vdots

A	B	$(\neg(A \vee B))$	\iff	$(\neg A \wedge \neg B)$
F	F	T	F	T
F	T	F	T	F
T	F	F	T	F
T	T	F	T	F

Multiple Choice Question

Let $L(x, y) =$ “ x loves y ”.

What is the predicate logic equivalent of the following English sentence?

Somebody loves everybody

- (A) $\forall x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (B) $\forall x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$
- (C) $\exists x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (D) $\exists x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$

Multiple Choice Question

Let $L(x, y) = \text{“}x \text{ loves } y\text{”}$.

What is the predicate logic equivalent of the following English sentence?

Everybody loves somebody

- (A) $\forall x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (B) $\forall x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$
- (C) $\exists x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (D) $\exists x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$

Multiple Choice Question

Let $L(x, y) =$ “ x loves y ”.

What is the predicate logic equivalent of the following English sentence?

Somebody loves somebody

- (A) $\forall x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (B) $\forall x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$
- (C) $\exists x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (D) $\exists x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$

Multiple Choice Question

Let $L(x, y) = \text{“}x \text{ loves } y\text{”}$.

What is the predicate logic equivalent of the following English sentence?

Everybody loves everybody

- (A) $\forall x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (B) $\forall x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$
- (C) $\exists x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (D) $\exists x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$

Multiple Choice Question

Let $L(x, y) =$ “ x loves y ”.

What is the predicate logic equivalent of the following English sentence?

Everybody is loved by everybody

- (A) $\forall x[\forall y[L(y, x)]]$
- (B) $\forall x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (C) $\exists x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$
- (D) $\exists x[\exists y[L(y, x)]]$

Multiple Choice Question

Let $L(x, y) =$ “ x loves y ”.

What is the predicate logic equivalent of the following English sentence?

Somebody is loved by somebody

- (A) $\forall x[\forall y[L(y, x)]]$
- (B) $\forall x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (C) $\exists x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$
- (D) $\exists x[\exists y[L(y, x)]]$

Multiple Choice Question

Let $L(x, y) =$ “ x loves y ”.

What is the predicate logic equivalent of the following English sentence?

Everybody is loved by somebody

- (A) $\forall x[\exists y[L(y, x)]]$
- (B) $\forall x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$
- (C) $\exists x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (D) $\exists x[\forall y[L(y, x)]]$

Multiple Choice Question

Let $L(x, y) = \text{“}x \text{ loves } y\text{”}$.

What is the predicate logic equivalent of the following English sentence?

Somebody is loved by everybody

- (A) $\forall x[\exists y[L(y, x)]]$
- (B) $\forall x[\exists y[L(x, y)]]$
- (C) $\exists x[\forall y[L(x, y)]]$
- (D) $\exists x[\forall y[L(y, x)]]$

Multiple Choice Question

Let

$P(x) = \text{“}x \text{ is a man”}$

$Q(x) = \text{“}x \text{ is mortal”}$

$\underline{s} = \text{Socrates}$

How would you symbolize the following argument in predicate logic?

All men are mortal.

Socrates is a man.

\therefore Socrates is mortal.

(A) $\forall x[(P(x) \wedge Q(x))], \quad P(\underline{s}) \quad \vdash \quad Q(\underline{s})$

(B) $\forall x[(P(x) \wedge Q(x))], \quad \exists \underline{s}[P(\underline{s})] \quad \vdash \quad Q(\underline{s})$

(C) $\forall x[(P(x) \implies Q(x))], \quad P(\underline{s}) \quad \vdash \quad Q(\underline{s})$

(D) $\forall x[(P(x) \implies Q(x))], \quad \exists \underline{s}[P(\underline{s})] \quad \vdash \quad Q(\underline{s})$

Multiple Choice Question

Is the following true or false?

$$x = 2$$

- (A) True
- (B) False
- (C) Can't be determined

Free Variables

Definition (Scope)

The **scope** of a quantifier is the stuff in between the square brackets:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{scope of } \forall x \\ \forall x \left[\begin{array}{c} \dots \end{array} \right] \\ \text{scope of } \exists x \\ \exists x \left[\begin{array}{c} \dots \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

Definition (Free & Bound Variables)

A variable in a predicate WFF is **bound** if it occurs within the scope of a quantifier over that variable.

Otherwise, the variable is **free**.

Free Variables

Examples

Free variables are **highlighted** in the WFFs below:

- $(\forall x[(P(x) \implies \forall y[(R(x) \vee Q(y))])] \wedge B(x))$
- $(\exists x[\forall y[M(x, y, f(x, z))] \vee G(x, y, z)])$

Definition

A **closed** predicate WFF is one in which there are no free variables.
Also known as a **sentence**.

Multiple Choice Question

Which of the following is a closed formula?

- (A) $\forall x[x = 2]$
- (B) $\exists x[x = 2]$
- (C) Both of the above
- (D) None of the above

Multiple Choice Question

Which of the following is true?

(A) $\forall x[x = 2]$

(B) $\exists x[x = 2]$

(C) Both of the above

(D) None of the above

Models

Definition

To evaluate the truth of a predicate WFF, we may need to define a **model** (aka an **interpretation**):

- A “universe” (or **domain of interpretation**) of possible objects that variables may represent
- The meanings of all predicate symbols
- The meanings of all function symbols
- The meanings of all constant symbols (which must represent objects from the domain of interpretation)

Note

- We don't change the meaning of symbols like \forall , \exists , \wedge , \vee , etc.
- All predicates and functions must make sense for everything in the particular universe

Multiple Choice Question

$$\left(\forall x[(P(x) \vee Q(x))] \implies (\forall x[P(x)] \vee \forall x[Q(x)]) \right)$$

Given the following model, is the WFF true or false?

- The universe is everybody in this room
- $P(x)$ = “x is a student”
- $Q(x)$ = “x is a teacher”

- (A) True
- (B) False
- (C) Can't be determined

Multiple Choice Question

$$\left(\forall x[(P(x) \vee Q(x))] \implies (\forall x[P(x)] \vee \forall x[Q(x)]) \right)$$

Given the following model, is the WFF true or false?

- The universe is everybody in this room
- $P(x)$ = “x is wearing clothes”
- $Q(x)$ = “x is wearing shoes”

- (A) True
- (B) False
- (C) Can't be determined

Multiple Choice Question

$$\left(\forall x[(P(x) \vee Q(x))] \implies (\forall x[P(x)] \vee \forall x[Q(x)]) \right)$$

Given the following model, is the WFF true or false?

- The universe is everybody on Earth
- $P(x)$ = “x is wearing clothes”
- $Q(x)$ = “x is wearing shoes”

- (A) True
- (B) False
- (C) Can't be determined

Multiple Choice Question

Can we determine the truth value of a predicate WFF **without** a model?

- (A) Yes
- (B) No

Validity

Definition

A predicate WFF is valid if it is true in **every** possible model

Examples

- $\forall x[(A(x) \implies A(x))]$
- $\forall x[\exists y[(C(x, y) \implies C(x, y))]]$
- $(\forall x[(P(x) \wedge Q(x))] \iff (\forall x[P(x)] \wedge \forall x[Q(x)]))$
- $(\forall x[W] \iff \neg \exists x[\neg W])$
- $(\exists y[A] \implies (\forall x[B] \implies \exists y[A]))$

Moral: all **propositional** tautologies are logically valid predicate WFFs, but not every logically valid predicate WFF is an instance of a propositional tautology.

Predicate Logic Proof System

Definition (Axioms)

Axiom 1: $\vdash (A \implies (B \implies A))$

Axiom 2: $\vdash ((A \implies (B \implies C)) \implies ((A \implies B) \implies (A \implies C)))$

Axiom 3: $\vdash ((\neg B \implies \neg A) \implies (A \implies B))$

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t)),$

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

Axiom 5: $\vdash (\forall x[(A \implies B)] \implies (A \implies \forall x[B])),$

Provided that: x does not occur free in A

Definition (Inference Rules)

$A, (A \implies B) \quad \vdash \quad B \quad \text{(Modus Ponens)}$

$A \quad \vdash \quad \forall x[A] \quad \text{(Universal Generalization)}$

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(x, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(x, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes —there are no $\exists x$ or $\forall x$ quantifiers in $\exists y [B(x, y, z)]$

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(y, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(y, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes

(B) No— x occurs free in the scope of $\exists y$

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(z, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(z, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes —there are no $\exists z$ or $\forall z$ quantifiers in $\exists y [B(x, y, z)]$

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(q, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(q, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes —there are no $\exists q$ or $\forall q$ quantifiers in $\exists y [B(x, y, z)]$

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(\underline{c}, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(\underline{c}, y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes —there are no variables in the term \underline{c}

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(f(x, y), y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes

(B) No

When Can We Replace A Variable With A Term?

Axiom 4: $\vdash (\forall x[A(x)] \implies A(t))$,

Provided that: x can be replaced by term t in $A(x)$

- For every variable v in term t ...
- ... x must **not** occur free within the scope of a $\forall v$ or $\exists v$ in $A(x)$

Examples

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 4?

$$\left(\forall x [\exists y [B(x, y, z)]] \implies \exists y [B(f(x, y), y, z)] \right)$$

(A) Yes

(B) No — x occurs free in the scope of $\exists y$, and y is a variable in the term $f(x, y)$

Multiple Choice Question

Axiom 5: $\vdash (\forall x[(A \implies B)] \implies (A \implies \forall x[B]))$,
Provided that: x does not occur free in A

Is the following a correct instance of Axiom 5?

$$\left(\forall x \left[(\exists y [A(x, y)] \implies B(x)) \right] \implies (\exists y [A(x, y)] \implies \forall x [B(x)]) \right)$$

- (A) Yes
- (B) No

Abbreviations and Notation

Definitions

Like in propositional logic, we use the following abbreviations

$(A \wedge B)$ abbreviates $\neg(A \implies \neg B)$

$(A \vee B)$ abbreviates $(\neg A \implies B)$

$(A \iff B)$ abbreviates $\neg((A \implies B) \implies \neg(B \implies A))$

Additionally,

$\exists x[W]$ abbreviates $\neg\forall x[\neg W]$

Metatheorems

Theorem (Soundness)

If: *A is logically valid*

Then: $\vdash A$

Theorem (Completeness)

If: $\vdash A$

Then: *A is logically valid*

Theorem (The Deduction Theorem)

If: $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_n, A \vdash B$

Provided that: in the proof, there are no applications of Universal Generalization to any free variables in A

Then: $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_n \vdash (A \implies B)$

Multiple Choice Question

Does the converse of the Deduction Theorem still hold?

- (A) Yes
- (B) No