First Order Logic

- In the propositional logic, the most basic elements are atoms.
- Through atoms we build up formulas.
- We then use formulas to express various complex ideas.
- In this simple logic, an atom represents a declarative sentence that can be either true or false.
- An atom is created as a single unit.
- Its structure and composition are suppressed.
- However, there are many ideas that cannot be treated in this simple way.

- Example
- The deduction of statements:
 - Every man is mortal.
 - Since Ade is a man, he is mortal.
- This reasoning is intuitively correct.

- Example (cont.)
 - If we denote
 - P: Every man is mortal,
 - Q: Ade is a man,
 - R: Ade is mortal,
 - then R is not a logical consequence of P and Q
 within the framework of the propositional logic.
 - This is because the structures of P, Q, and R are not used in the propositional logic.

- The first order logic has three more logical notions (called terms, predicates, and quantifiers) than does the propositional logic.
- Much of everyday and mathematical language can be symbolized by the first order logic.

- Just as in the propositional logic, we first have to define atoms in the first-order logic.
- Example
 - We want to represent "x is greater than 3."
 - We first define a predicate GREATER(x,y) to mean "x is greater than y."
 - A predicate is a relation.
 - Then the sentence "x is greater than 3" is represented by GREATER(x,3).

• Example:

- Similarly, we can represent "x loves y" by the predicate LOVE(x,y).
- Then "John loves Mary" can be represented by *LOVE*(John, Mary).

- We can also use function symbols in the first order logic.
- Example
 - We can use plus(x,y) to denote "x+y" and father(x) to mean the father of x.
 - The sentences "x+1 is greater than x" and "John's father laves John" can be symbolized as
 - GREATER(plus(x,1),x)
 - *LOVE*(*father*(John),John).

- Atoms:
 - -GREATER(x,3)
 - -LOVE(John,Mary)
 - -GREATER(plus(x,1),x)
 - *LOVE*(*father*(John),John).
- Predicate symbols:
 - GREATER
 - -LOVE.

- In general, we are allowed to use the following four types of symbols to construct an atom:
 - i. Individual symbols or constants: These are usually names of objects, such as John, Mary, and 3.
 - ii. Variable symbols: These are customarily lowercase unsubscripted or subscripted letters, x, y, z, ...
 - iii. Function symbols: These are customarily lowercase letters f, g, h, ... or expressive strings of lowercase letters such as *father* and *plus*.
 - iv. Predicate symbols: These are customarily uppercase letters P, Q, R, ... or expressive strings of uppercase letters such as GREATER and LOVE.

- Any function or predicate symbol takes a specified number of arguments.
- If a function symbol f takes n arguments, f is called an n-place function symbol.
- An individual symbol or a constant may be considered a function symbol that takes no argument.
- If a predicate symbol *P* takes *n* arguments, *P* is called an *n*-place predicate symbol.

- Example
 - father is a one-place function symbol,
 - GREATER and LOVE are two-place predicate symbols.
- A function is a mapping that maps a list of constants to a constant.
- Example
- *father* is a function that maps a person named John to a person who is John's father.

- father(John) represents a person, even though his name is unknown.
- We call *father*(John) a term in the first order logic.

- Definition. Terms are defined recursively as follows:
 - -i. A constant is a term.
 - ii. A variable is a term.
 - iii. If f is an n-place function symbol, and $t_1, ..., t_n$ are terms, then $f(t_1, ..., t_n)$ is a term.
 - iv. All terms are generated by applying the above rules.

Example

- Since x and 1 are both terms and plus is a two-place function symbol, plus(x,1) is a term according to the definition.
- Furthermore, plus(plus(x,1),x) and father(father(John)) are also terms; the former denotes (x+1)+x, and the latter denotes the grandfather of John.

- A predicate is a mapping that maps a list of constants to T or F.
- For example, *GREATER* is a predicate.
 - GREATER(5,3) is T,
 - but GREATER(1,3) is F.

- Definition
 - If P is an n-place predicate symbol, and $t_1, ..., t_n$ are terms, then $P(t_1, ..., t_n)$ is an atom.
- Once atoms are defined, we can use the same five logical connectives as in the propositional logic to build up formulas.
- Furthermore, since we have introduced variables, we use two special symbols \forall and \exists to characterize variables.
- The symbols \forall and \exists are called, respectively, the *universal* and *existential quantifiers*.

• If x is a variable, then $(\forall x)$ is read as "for all x", "for each x" or "for every x", while $(\exists x)$ is read as "there exists an x" "for some x" or "for at least one x"

Example

- Symbolize the following statements:
 - (a) Every rational number is a real number.
 - (b) There exists a number that is a prime.
 - (c) For every number x, there exists a number y such that x<y.

- Denote "x is a prime number" by P(x), "x is a rational number" by Q(x), "x is a real number" by R(x), and "x is less than y" by LESS(x,y).
- Then statements can be denoted, respectively, as
 - $(a') (\forall x) (Q(x) \Rightarrow R(x))$
 - (b') $(\exists x)P(x)$
 - (c') $(\forall x)(\exists y)LESS(x,y)$.
- Each of the expressions (a'), (b'), and (c') is called a formula.

• The *scope of a quantifier* occurring in a formula - the formula to which the quantifier applies.

Example

- The scope of both the universal the existential quantifiers in the formula $(\forall x)(\exists y)LESS(x,y)$ is LESS(x,y).
- The scope of the universal quantifier in the formula $(\forall x)(Q(x) \Rightarrow R(x))$ is $(Q(x) \Rightarrow R(x))$.

- An occurrence of a variable in a formula is *bound* if and only if the occurrence is within the scope of a quantifier employing the variable, or is the occurrence in that quantifier.
- An occurrence of a variable in a formula is *free* if and only if this occurrence of the variable is not bound.

- A variable is *free* in a formula if at least one occurrence of it is free in the formula.
- A variable is *bound* in a formula if at least one occurrence of it is bound.
- Example
 - In the formula $(\forall x)P(x,y)$, since both the occurrences of x are bound, the variable x is bound.
 - The variable y is free since the only occurrence of it is free.

- A variable can be both free and bound in a formula.
- Example
 - y is both free and bound in the formula $(\forall x)P(x,y)\land(\forall y)Q(y)$.

Definition

- Well formed formulas, or formulas for short, in the first-order logic are defined recursively as follows:
 - An atom is a formula. (Actually, "atom" is an abbreviation for an atomic formula.)
 - If F and G are formulas, then $\sim(F)$, $(F \vee G)$, $(F \wedge G)$, $(F \Rightarrow G)$ and $(F \Leftrightarrow G)$ are formulas.
 - If *F* is a formula and *x* is a free variable in *F*, then $(\forall x)F$ and $(\exists x)F$ are formulas.
 - Formulas are generated only by a finite number of applications of the three rules given above.

- Parentheses may be omitted by the same conventions that hold in the propositional logic.
- The quantifiers have the least rank.
- Example
 - $-(\exists x)A\lor B$ stands for $(((\exists x)A)\lor (B))$.

- Example
 - Translate the statement "Every man is mortal. Ade is a man. Therefore, Ade is mortal." into a formula.
 - Denote "x is a man" by MAN(x), and "x is mortal" by MORTAL(x). Then "every man is mortal" can be represented by
 - $(\forall x)(MAN(x) \Rightarrow MORTAL(x)),$
 - "Ade is a man" by
 - -MAN(Ade), and
 - "Ade is mortal" by
 - -MORTAL(Ade).

- Example (cont.)
 - The, whole statement can now be represented by
 - $(\forall x)(MAN(x) \Rightarrow MORTAL(x)) \land MAN(Ade) \Rightarrow MORTAL(Ade).$

- In the propositional logic, an interpretation is an assignment of truth values to atoms.
- In the first-order logic, since there are variables involved, we have to do more than that.
- To define an interpretation for a formula in the firstorder logic, we have to specify:
 - the domain
 - an assignment to constants, function symbols, and predicate symbols occurring in the formula.

- For every interpretation of a formula over a domain *D*, the formula can be evaluated to *T* or *F* according to the following rules:
 - If the truth values of formulas G and H are evaluated, then the truth values of the formulas $\sim G$, $(G \land H)$, $(G \lor H)$, $(G \Rightarrow H)$, and $(G \Leftrightarrow H)$ are evaluated by using the rules that hold in the propositional logic.
 - $-(\forall x)G$ is evaluated to T if the truth value of G is evaluated to T for every x in D; otherwise, it is evaluated to F.
 - $-(\exists x)G$ is evaluated to T if the truth value of G is T for at least one x in D; otherwise, it is evaluated to F.

- Any formula containing free variables cannot be evaluated.
- It should be assumed either that formulas do not contain free variables, or that free variables are treated as constants.

- Example
 - Let us consider the formulas
 - $(\forall x)P(x)$ and $(\exists x)\sim P(x)$.
 - Let an interpretation be as follows:
 - Domain: $D = \{1,2\}.$
 - Assignment for P: P(1)=T, P(2)=F.
- $(\forall x)P(x)$ is F in this interpretation because P(x) is not T for both x=1 and x=2.
- Since $\sim P(2)$ is T in this interpretation, $(\exists x) \sim P(x)$ is T in this interpretation

- Example
 - The formula
 - $(\forall x)(\exists y)P(x,y)$
 - The interpretation
 - P(1,1)=T, P(1,2)=F, P(2,1)=F, P(2,2)=T,
 - If x=1, there is a y, 1, such that P(1,y) is T.
 - If x=2, there is also a y, 2, such that P(2,y) is T.
- Therefore, in this interpretation, for every x in D, there is a y such that P(x,y) is T.
- That means that $(\forall x)(\exists y)P(x,y)$ is T in this interpretation.

- The formula
 - $-G: (\forall x)(P(x) \Rightarrow Q(f(x),a)).$
- There are one constant *a*, one one-place function symbol *f*, one one-place predicate symbol *P*, and one two-place predicate symbol *Q* in *G*.

- The interpretation *I* of *G*
 - Domain: $D = \{1,2\}$.
 - Assignment for a: a=1.
 - Assignment for f: f(1)=2, f(2)=1.
 - Assignment for P and Q:
 - P(1)=F, P(2)=T, Q(1,1)=T, Q(1,2)=T, Q(2,1)=F, Q(2,2)=T.

- If x=1, then
 - $\blacksquare P(x) \Rightarrow Q(f(x),a) = P(1) \Rightarrow Q(f(1),a)$
 - $\blacksquare = P(1) \Rightarrow Q(2,1)$
 - $\blacksquare = F \Longrightarrow F = T.$
- If x=2, then
 - $P(x) \Rightarrow Q(f(x),a) = P(2) \Rightarrow Q(f(2),a)$
 - $\blacksquare = P(2) \Rightarrow Q(1,1)$
 - $\blacksquare = T \Longrightarrow T = T$.

• Since $P(x) \Rightarrow Q(f(x),a)$ is true for all elements x in the domain D, the formula $(\forall x)(P(x) \Rightarrow Q(f(x),a))$ is true under the interpretation I.

Exercise

- Evaluate the truth values of the following formulas under the interpretation given in the previous example.
 - (a) $(\exists x)(P(f(x)) \land Q(x,f(a))$
 - (b) $(\exists x)(P(x) \land Q(x,a))$
 - (c) $(\forall x)(\exists y)(P(x) \land Q(x,y))$

• Once interpretations are defined, all the concepts, such as validity, inconsistency, and logical consequence, defined in propositional logic can be defined analogously for formulas of the first-order logic.

Definition

- A formula *G* is *consistent* (*satisfiable*) if and only if there exists an interpretation *I* such that *G* is evaluated to *T* in *I*. If a formula *G* is *T* in an interpretation *I*, we say that *I* is a *model* of *G* and *I satisfies G*.

Definition

A formula G is inconsistent (unsatisfiable) if and only if there exists no interpretation that satisfies G.

• Definition

A formula G is valid if and only if every interpretation of G satisfies G.

Definition

– A formula G is a *logical consequence* of formulas $F_1, F_2, ..., F_n$, if and only if for every interpretation I, if $F_1 \wedge F_2 ... \wedge F_n$ is true in I, G is also true in I.

- The relations between validity (incon-sistency) and logical consequence that hold in propositional logic also hold for the first-order logic.
- In fact, the first-order logic can be considered as an extension of the propositional logic.
- When a formula in the first-order logic contains no variables and quantifiers, it can be treated just as a formula in the propositional logic.

- In the first-order logic, since there are an infinite number of domains, in general, there are an infinite number of inter-pretations of a formula.
- Therefore, unlike in the propositional logic, it is not possible to verify a valid or an inconsistent formula by evaluating the formula under all the possible inter-pretations.

- Exercise
 - The formulas
 - F_1 : $(\forall x)(P(x) \Rightarrow Q(x))$
 - F_2 : P(a)
 - Prove that formula Q(a) is a logical consequence of F_1 and F_2 .