First-order logic and inference

Chapters 8, 10.3 (thru pg. 335)

Ch. 8 Outline

- ♢ Why FOL?
- ♢ Syntax and semantics of FOL
- ♢ Fun with sentences
- ♢ Wumpus world in FOL

Pros and cons of propositional logic

- Propositional logic is *declarative*: pieces of syntax correspond to facts
- Propositional logic allows partial/disjunctive/negated information
  (unlike most data structures and databases)
- Propositional logic is *compositional*:
  meaning of $B_{1,1} \wedge P_{1,2}$ is derived from meaning of $B_{1,1}$ and of $P_{1,2}$
- Meaning in propositional logic is *context-independent*
  (unlike natural language, where meaning depends on context)
- Propositional logic has very limited expressive power
  (unlike natural language)
  E.g., cannot say "pits cause breezes in adjacent squares"
  except by writing one sentence for each square

First-order logic

Whereas propositional logic assumes world contains *facts*,
first-order logic (like natural language) assumes the world contains

- Objects: people, houses, numbers, theories, Ronald McDonald, colors, baseball games, wars, centuries . . .
- Relations: red, round, bogus, prime, multistoried . . .,
  brother of, bigger than, inside, part of, has color, occurred after, owns, comes between, . . .
- Functions: father of, best friend, third inning of, one more than, beginning of . . .

Logics in general

Ontological Commitments: what is assumed about the nature of reality.

Epistemological Commitments: the possible states of knowledge allowed for each fact.

Language	Ontological Commitment	Epistemological Commitment
Propositional logic	facts	true/false/unknown
First-order logic	facts, objects, relations	true/false/unknown
Temporal logic	facts, objects, relations, times	true/false/unknown
Probability theory	facts	degree of belief $\in [0, 1]$
Fuzzy logic	degree of truth $\in [0, 1]$	known interval value

Syntax of FOL: Basic elements

Constants	$KingJohn,\ 2,\ UTK, \ldots$
Predicates	$Brother,\ >, \ldots$
Functions	$Sqrt,\ LeftLegOf, \ldots$
Variables	$x,\ y,\ a,\ b, \ldots$
Connectives	$\land\ \lor\ \neg\ \Rightarrow\ \Leftrightarrow$
Equality	$=$
Quantifiers	$\forall\ \exists$

Atomic sentences

Atomic sentence $= predicate(term_1, \ldots, term_n)$
or $term_1 = term_2$

Term $= function(term_1, \ldots, term_n)$
or $constant$ or $variable$

E.g., $Brother(KingJohn, RichardTheLionheart)$
$> (Length(LeftLegOf(Richard)), Length(LeftLegOf(KingJohn)))$

Complex sentences

Complex sentences are made from atomic sentences using connectives

$$\neg S, \quad S_1 \wedge S_2, \quad S_1 \vee S_2, \quad S_1 \Rightarrow S_2, \quad S_1 \Leftrightarrow S_2$$

E.g. $Sibling(KingJohn, Richard) \Rightarrow Sibling(Richard, KingJohn)$
$>(1,2) \vee \leq(1,2)$
$>(1,2) \wedge \neg>(1,2)$

Truth in first-order logic

Sentences are true with respect to a model and an interpretation

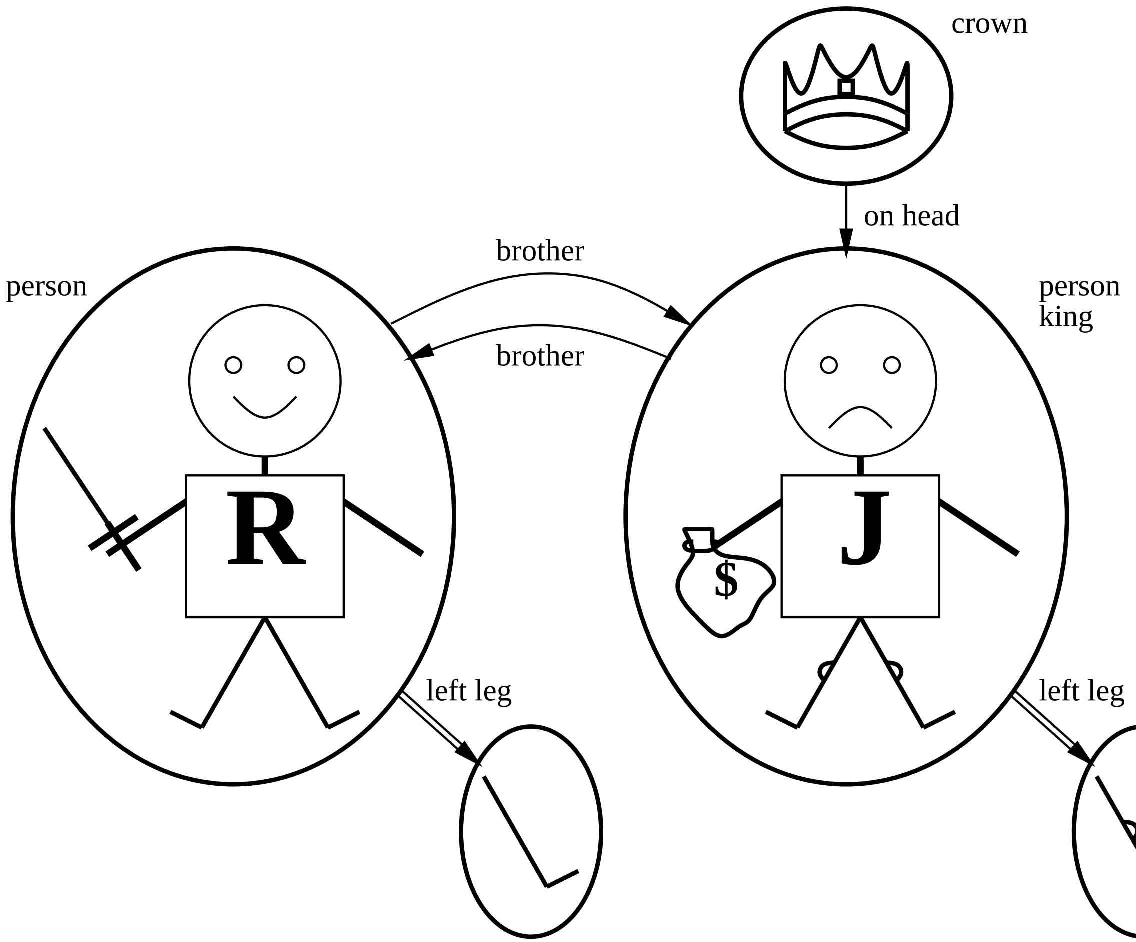
Model contains ≥ 1 objects (domain elements) and relations among them

Interpretation specifies referents for
constant symbols $\rightarrow$ objects
predicate symbols $\rightarrow$ relations
function symbols $\rightarrow$ functional relations

An atomic sentence $predicate(term_1, \ldots, term_n)$ is true
iff the objects referred to by $term_1, \ldots, term_n$
are in the relation referred to by $predicate$

Models for FOL: Example

Here is a model containing 5 objects, 2 binary relations, 3 unary relations, and 1 unary function:



Models for FOL: Lots!

We *can* enumerate the models for a given KB vocabulary:

For each number of domain elements n from 1 to ∞
  For each k-ary predicate P_k in the vocabulary
    For each possible k-ary relation on n objects
      For each constant symbol C in the vocabulary
        For each choice of referent for C from n objects . . .

Computing entailment by enumerating models is not going to be easy!

Universal quantification

$\forall \langle variables \rangle \;\; \langle sentence \rangle$

Everyone at UTK is smart:
$\forall x \;\; At(x, UTK) \;\Rightarrow\; Smart(x)$

$\forall x \;\; P$ is true in a model m iff P is true with x being each possible object in the model

Roughly speaking, equivalent to the conjunction of instantiations of P

$$\begin{aligned} & At(KingJohn, UTK) \;\Rightarrow\; Smart(KingJohn) \\ \wedge\; & At(Richard, UTK) \;\Rightarrow\; Smart(Richard) \\ \wedge\; & At(UTK, UTK) \;\Rightarrow\; Smart(UTK) \\ \wedge\; & \ldots \end{aligned}$$

A common mistake to avoid

Typically, $\Rightarrow$ is the main connective with $\forall$

Common mistake: using $\wedge$ as the main connective with $\forall$:

$$\forall x \;\; At(x, UTK) \wedge Smart(x)$$

means "Everyone is at UTK and everyone is smart"

Existential quantification

$\exists \langle variables \rangle \;\; \langle sentence \rangle$

Someone at Vanderbilt is smart:
$\exists x \;\; At(x, Vanderbilt) \land Smart(x)$

$\exists x \;\; P$ is true in a model m iff P is true with x being *some* possible object in the model

Roughly speaking, equivalent to the disjunction of instantiations of P

$$
\begin{aligned}
& At(KingJohn, Vanderbilt) \land Smart(KingJohn) \\
\lor \;& At(Richard, Vanderbilt) \land Smart(Richard) \\
\lor \;& At(Vanderbilt, Vanderbilt) \land Smart(Vanderbilt) \\
\lor \;& \ldots
\end{aligned}
$$

Another common mistake to avoid

Typically, $\wedge$ is the main connective with $\exists$

Common mistake: using $\Rightarrow$ as the main connective with $\exists$:

$$\exists\, x \;\; At(x, Vanderbilt) \Rightarrow Smart(x)$$

is true if there is anyone who is not at Vanderbilt!

Properties of quantifiers

$\forall x \;\; \forall y$ is the same as $\forall y \;\; \forall x$

$\exists x \;\; \exists y$ is the same as $\exists y \;\; \exists x$

$\exists x \;\; \forall y$ is not the same as $\forall y \;\; \exists x$

$\exists x \;\; \forall y \;\; Loves(x, y)$
"There is a person who loves everyone in the world"

$\forall y \;\; \exists x \;\; Loves(x, y)$
"Everyone in the world is loved by at least one person"

Quantifier duality: each can be expressed using the other

$\forall x \;\; Likes(x, IceCream) \qquad \neg\exists x \;\; \neg Likes(x, IceCream)$

$\exists x \;\; Likes(x, Broccoli) \qquad \neg\forall x \;\; \neg Likes(x, Broccoli)$

Fun with sentences

Brothers are siblings

Fun with sentences

Brothers are siblings

$\forall x, y \;\; Brother(x, y) \;\Rightarrow\; Sibling(x, y).$

"Sibling" is symmetric

Fun with sentences

Brothers are siblings

$\forall\, x, y \;\; Brother(x, y) \;\Rightarrow\; Sibling(x, y).$

"Sibling" is symmetric

$\forall\, x, y \;\; Sibling(x, y) \;\Leftrightarrow\; Sibling(y, x).$

One's mother is one's female parent

Fun with sentences

Brothers are siblings

$\forall\, x, y \;\; Brother(x, y) \;\Rightarrow\; Sibling(x, y).$

"Sibling" is symmetric

$\forall\, x, y \;\; Sibling(x, y) \;\Leftrightarrow\; Sibling(y, x).$

One's mother is one's female parent

$\forall\, x, y \;\; Mother(x, y) \;\Leftrightarrow\; (Female(x) \land Parent(x, y)).$

A first cousin is a child of a parent's sibling

Fun with sentences

Brothers are siblings

$\forall\, x, y \;\; Brother(x, y) \;\Rightarrow\; Sibling(x, y).$

"Sibling" is symmetric

$\forall\, x, y \;\; Sibling(x, y) \;\Leftrightarrow\; Sibling(y, x).$

One's mother is one's female parent

$\forall\, x, y \;\; Mother(x, y) \;\Leftrightarrow\; (Female(x) \wedge Parent(x, y)).$

A first cousin is a child of a parent's sibling

$\forall\, x, y \;\; FirstCousin(x, y) \;\Leftrightarrow\; \exists\, p, ps \;\; Parent(p, x) \wedge Sibling(ps, p) \wedge Parent(ps, y)$

Equality

$term_1 = term_2$ is true under a given interpretation
if and only if $term_1$ and $term_2$ refer to the same object

E.g., $1 = 2$ and $\forall\, x \;\; \times(Sqrt(x), Sqrt(x)) = x$ are satisfiable
$2 = 2$ is valid

E.g., definition of (full) $Sibling$ in terms of $Parent$:

$$\forall\, x, y \;\; Sibling(x, y) \;\Leftrightarrow\; [\neg(x = y) \land \exists\, m, f \;\; \neg(m = f) \land Parent(m, x) \land Parent(f, x) \land Parent(m, y) \land Parent(f, y)]$$

Interacting with FOL KBs

Suppose a wumpus-world agent is using an FOL KB
and perceives a smell and a breeze (but no glitter, bump, or scream) at $t = 5$:

$Tell(KB, Percept([Smell, Breeze, None, None, None], 5))$
$Ask(KB, \exists\, a \;\; Action(a, 5))$

I.e., does the KB entail any particular actions at $t = 5$?

Answer: $Yes,\ \{a/Shoot\}$ $\leftarrow$ substitution (binding list)

Given a sentence S and a substitution θ,
Subst(θ, S) denotes the result of plugging θ into S; e.g.,
$S = Smarter(x, y)$
$\theta = \{x/Alexander, y/Bubba\}$
Subst(θ, S) $= Smarter(Alexander, Bubba)$

$Ask(KB, S)$ returns some/all θ such that $KB \models$Subst(θ, S)

Knowledge base for the wumpus world

"Perception"

$\forall\, t, b, g, m, c \;\; Percept([Smell, b, g, m, c], t) \;\Rightarrow\; Smelt(t)$

$\forall\, t, s, b, m, c \;\; Percept([s, b, Glitter, m, c], t) \;\Rightarrow\; AtGold(t)$

Reflex: $\forall\, t \;\; AtGold(t) \;\Rightarrow\; Action(Grab, t)$

Reflex with internal state: do we have the gold already?

$\forall\, t \;\; AtGold(t) \wedge \neg Holding(Gold, t) \;\Rightarrow\; Action(Grab, t)$

$Holding(Gold, t)$ cannot be observed

$\Rightarrow$ keeping track of change is essential

Deducing hidden properties

Properties of locations:
$\forall\, x,t \;\; At(Agent,x,t) \land Smelt(t) \;\Rightarrow\; Smelly(x)$
$\forall\, x,t \;\; At(Agent,x,t) \land Breeze(t) \;\Rightarrow\; Breezy(x)$

Squares are breezy near a pit:

Diagnostic rule—infer cause from effect

$$\forall\, y \;\; Breezy(y) \;\Rightarrow\; \exists\, x \;\; Pit(x) \land Adjacent(x,y)$$

Causal rule—infer effect from cause

$$\forall\, x,y \;\; Pit(x) \land Adjacent(x,y) \;\Rightarrow\; Breezy(y)$$

Neither of these is complete—e.g., the causal rule doesn't say whether squares far away from pits can be breezy

Definition for the $Breezy$ predicate:

$$\forall\, y \;\; Breezy(y) \;\Leftrightarrow\; [\exists\, x \;\; Pit(x) \land Adjacent(x,y)]$$

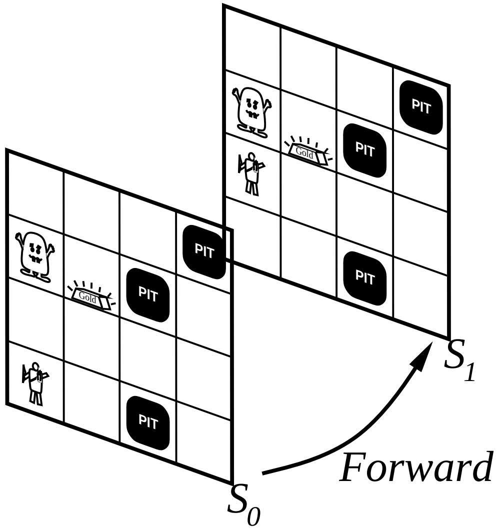
Keeping track of change (Ch. 10.3)

Facts hold in situations, rather than eternally
E.g., $Holding(Gold, Now)$ rather than just $Holding(Gold)$

Situation calculus is one way to represent change in FOL:

Adds a situation argument to each non-eternal predicate
E.g., Now in $Holding(Gold, Now)$ denotes a situation

Situations are connected by the $Result$ function
$Result(a, s)$ is the situation that results from doing a in s



Describing actions I

"Effect" axiom—describe changes due to action

$\forall s \;\; AtGold(s) \;\Rightarrow\; Holding(Gold, Result(Grab, s))$

"Frame" axiom—describe non-changes due to action

$\forall s \;\; HaveArrow(s) \;\Rightarrow\; HaveArrow(Result(Grab, s))$

Frame problem: find an elegant way to handle non-change

(a) representation—avoid frame axioms

(b) inference—avoid repeated "copy-overs" to keep track of state

Qualification problem: true descriptions of real actions require endless caveats—what if gold is slippery or nailed down or . . .

Ramification problem: real actions have many secondary consequences—what about the dust on the gold, wear and tear on gloves, . . .

Describing actions II

Successor-state axioms solve the representational frame problem

Each axiom is "about" a predicate (not an action per se):

$$\text{P true afterwards} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad [\text{an action made P true} \\ \lor \quad \text{P true already and no action made P false}]$$

For holding the gold:

$$\forall\, a, s \;\; Holding(Gold, Result(a, s)) \;\Leftrightarrow \\ [(a = Grab \land AtGold(s)) \\ \lor (Holding(Gold, s) \land a \neq Release)]$$

Making plans

Initial condition in KB:

$At(Agent, [1,1], S_0)$
$At(Gold, [1,2], S_0)$

Query: $Ask(KB, \exists\, s\;\; Holding(Gold, s))$
i.e., in what situation will I be holding the gold?

Answer: $\{s/Result(Grab, Result(Forward, S_0))\}$
i.e., go forward and then grab the gold

This assumes that the agent is interested in plans starting at S_0 and that S_0 is the only situation described in the KB

Making plans: A better way (Preview of Ch. 11)

Represent plans as action sequences $[a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n]$

$PlanResult(p, s)$ is the result of executing p in s

Then the query $Ask(KB, \exists\, p\;\; Holding(Gold, PlanResult(p, S_0)))$
has the solution $\{p/[Forward, Grab]\}$

Definition of $PlanResult$ in terms of $Result$:

$$\forall\, s\;\; PlanResult([\,], s) = s$$

$$\forall\, a, p, s\;\; PlanResult([a|p], s) = PlanResult(p, Result(a, s))$$

Planning systems are special-purpose reasoners designed to do this type of inference more efficiently than a general-purpose reasoner

Summary of Chapter 8

First-order logic:
- objects and relations are semantic primitives
- syntax: constants, functions, predicates, equality, quantifiers

Increased expressive power: sufficient to define wumpus world

Thought discussion

♢ Continuing with discussion on "Weak AI"...

♢ We'll discuss the "argument from informality" re: creating intelligent machines (read pages 950-952)