

2. Propositional and predicate calculus⁶⁵

Propositional calculus⁶⁶

- It is a *language of assertions* that evaluate to *true* or *false*
- Assertion formulas include:
 - *true, false*
 - Symbols (p, q, r, \dots) that may stand for assertions such as “roses are red”
 - Negations: $\neg p$
 - Conjunctions: $p \wedge q$
 - Disjunctions: $p \vee q$
 - Implications: $p \rightarrow \neg(q \vee \neg p)$

Semantics⁶⁷

- Let p, q , be formulas
- Wherever p is true, $\neg p$ is false
- $(p \wedge q)$ is true when both p or q are true
- $(p \vee q)$ is true when either p or q or both are true
- $(p \rightarrow q)$ is true when p is false or q is true
- $(p \Leftrightarrow q)$ or $(p \equiv q)$ or $(p \text{ iff } q)$ is true when p and q have the same values under all interpretations (truth assignments)

Interpretations⁶⁸

- An interpretation of a set of formulas is an assignment of truth values to the symbols
- *Example:* An interpretation of $(p \wedge \neg(p \vee q))$ is $p = \text{true}$, $q = \text{false}$. Under this interpretation, $(p \wedge \neg(p \vee q))$ is false
- A formula is *satisfiable* if it has an interpretation under which it is true

Truth tables⁶⁹

- A truth table lists the values of a formula under all possible interpretations
- *Example:*

p	q	$(p \wedge \neg q)$
f	f	f
f	t	f
t	f	t
t	t	f
- Formulas with the same truth table are *equivalent*: for formulas ϕ and φ , $(\phi \Leftrightarrow \varphi)$ or $(\phi \equiv \varphi)$ or $(\phi \text{ iff } \varphi)$

Predicate calculus⁷⁰

- Predicate calculus extends propositional calculus by enabling quantifiers and formulas in predicate (functional) form
- A predicate is a Boolean function
- *Examples:*

$(\forall x) x < x + 1$	universal quantifier
prime(5)	1-ary predicate
$(\exists x) x > 1$	existential quantifier
- *Arity* of a predicate is its number of parameters

Variables in the predicate calculus⁷¹

- Suppose x is a variable in the domain of natural numbers
- In expression $\text{sum}(x, 5)$, $\text{odd}(x)$, $\text{prime}(x)$, x is a *placeholder* that stands for an unknown *constant*
- “ $\text{sum}(x, 5) = 8$ ”, “ $\text{odd}(x) = \text{true}$ ” are meaningless without having a value for x
- “ $x = 3 \rightarrow \text{sum}(x, 5) = 8$ ”, “ $x = 1 \rightarrow \text{odd}(x) = \text{true}$ ” are meaningful and true statements

Quantifiers⁷²

- Meaningful:
 - $(\exists x) x + 5 = 8$
 - $(\forall x) x + 1 = x$
- Quantifiers *bind* variables so that they can be used meaningfully in sentences

Semantics of predicate calculus⁷³

- In a real-world *domain*, there are relations:

female(h_clinton)	unary
married(b_obama, m_obama)	binary
- Predicates *female*, *married* here express these relations
- For a domain D , an *interpretation* over D is an assignment of entities in D to constants, assignment of non-empty subsets of D to variables, with each predicate mapping $D^n \rightarrow \{t, f\}$

⁶⁵ Luger05

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁶⁹ Ibid.

⁷⁰ Ibid.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Ibid., p. 57

Truth value (semantics) of predicate-calculus expressions⁷⁴

- Given expression E, and interpretation I for E over domain D, truth value is as in propositional calculus, in addition to:
- For sentence S,
 - $(\exists x) S$ is true iff some assignment under I has an assignment to x s.t. S is true
 - $(\forall x) S$ is true iff S is true for all assignments of values to x under I

Examples⁷⁵

- If it doesn't rain, Rose will go to the Park
 $\neg \text{weather}(\text{rain}) \rightarrow \text{go}(\text{Rose}, \text{park})$
- Spark is a Spaniel and a good dog
 $\text{isa}(\text{Spark}, \text{Spaniel}) \wedge \text{good-dog}(\text{Spark})$
- All basketball players are tall
 $(\forall x) (\text{basketball-player}(x) \rightarrow \text{tall}(x))$
- Nobody likes taxes
 $\neg (\exists x) (\text{likes}(x, \text{taxes}))$

Satisfiability, validity, consistency⁷⁶

- An interpretation *satisfies* a sentence if it makes the sentence true.
- If I satisfies sentence S for every set of user assignments, then I is a *model* of S
- S or a set of sentences is *satisfiable* if some I satisfies it
- An unsatisfiable set of expressions is *unsatisfiable*
- If S is true for all interpretations, then S is *valid*
- $(\forall x) (P(x) \vee \neg P(x))$ is valid
- A sentence that is not true under any interpretation is *inconsistent*
- $(\forall x) (P(x) \wedge \neg P(x))$ is inconsistent

Inference⁷⁷

- Expression x *logically follows* from a set S of sentences iff every interpretation that satisfies S also satisfies x
- Inference rule*: A validity-maintaining procedure for deriving sentences from other sentences
- Proof procedure*: An inference rule and an algorithm for applying it to a set of sentences to yield a new sentence

Soundness and completeness⁷⁸

- Sound: an inference rule that produces from set S only sentences that logically follow from S
- Complete: a rule that can infer from S every sentence that logically follows from S
- Examples:
 - Modus Ponens: $(p \wedge (p \rightarrow q)) \rightarrow q$
 - Modus Tollens: $((p \rightarrow q) \wedge \neg q) \rightarrow \neg p$
 - And elimination, and introduction, universal instantiation

Unification⁷⁹

- An algorithm for determining what substitutions are needed to make two sentences match
- Cases for unify (E1, E2):
 - E1 = E2: Return {} (no substitution)
 - E1 is variable: return {E2 / E1}
 - E2 is variable: return {E1 / E2}
 - Otherwise decompose E1, E2, return a composition of unification of the components

Predicate calculus and knowledge representation⁸⁰

- Predicate calculus is a way to represent knowledge of
 - Objects
 - Relations
- Inference rules enable derivation of new knowledge

⁷⁴ Ibid., p. 58

⁷⁵ Ibid., p. 60

⁷⁶ Ibid., p. 62

⁷⁷ Idem.

⁷⁸ Ibid., pp. 64-65

⁷⁹ Ibid., p. 66

⁸⁰ Ibid., p. 79