



First-Order Logic

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FOL Examples
Power of FOL

Reasoning in
FOL

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$\forall person \text{ ItIsRaining}() \rightarrow \text{IsWet}(person)$

■ Things:

- constants: $Fred, Car54$
- functions (thing \rightarrow thing): $\text{MotherOf}(Fred), \text{NextTo}(Fred, House)$

■ Relations:

- predicates (thing \rightarrow bool): $\text{IsWet}(Fred), \text{LivesIn}(\text{MotherOf}(Fred), House)$

■ Complex expressions:

- connectives: $\text{IsWet}(Fred) \vee \text{OnRoad}(Car54)$
- variables: $\exists person$
- quantifiers: $\forall person \text{ IsWet}(person)$

FOL Examples

$\forall person \forall time$

$(\text{IsRaining}(time) \wedge \neg \exists \text{umbrella Holding}(person, \text{umbrella}, time)) \rightarrow$

$\text{IsWet}(person, time)$

Fred loves Mary.

All crows are black.

Whales are mammals that live in the water.

Mary likes the color of one of Fred's ties.

I can't hold more than one thing at a time.

Power of FOL

- Indirect knowledge: $\text{Tall}(\text{MotherOf}(\text{Fred}))$
- Counterfactuals: $\neg \text{Tall}(\text{John})$
- Partial knowledge: $\text{IsSisterOf}(b, a) \vee \text{IsSisterOf}(c, a)$
- Partial knowledge: $\exists x \text{IsSisterOf}(x, a)$



Reasoning in FOL

Clauses

- 1 Eliminate \leftrightarrow : convert $a \leftrightarrow b$ to $a \rightarrow b \wedge b \rightarrow a$
- 2 Eliminate \rightarrow : convert $a \rightarrow b$ to $\neg a \vee b$
- 3 Move \neg inwards: eliminate double negatives and apply De Morgan's law
- 4 Standardize variables – rename so variables are unique
- 5 Skolemize existential variables: convert $\exists x \text{ Rich}(x)$ to $\text{Rich}(y)$, where y is a newly named constant
- 6 Drop universal qualifiers: convert $\forall x \text{ Person}(x)$ to $\text{Person}(x)$
- 7 Distribute \vee : convert $(a \wedge b) \vee c$ to $(a \vee c) \wedge (b \vee c)$



Example

- 1 Cows like grass.
- 2 Cows eat everything they like.
- 3 Martin is a cow.

Prove that Martin eats grass.

Resolving the truth of a query

RESOLUTION(KB, α)

- 1: $clauses \leftarrow$ set of clauses in $KB \wedge \neg \alpha$
 - 2: $new \leftarrow \{\}$
 - 3: **while true do**
 - 4: **for each** pair of clauses C_i, C_j in $clauses$ **do**
 - 5: $resolvents \leftarrow$ RESOLVE(C_i, C_j)
 - 6: **if** $\square \in resolvents$ **then**
 - 7: **return true**
 - 8: $new \leftarrow new \cup resolvents$
 - 9: **if** $new \subseteq clauses$ **then**
 - 10: **return false**
 - 11: $clauses \leftarrow clauses \cup new$
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KB is the knowledge base, α is the query

Unifying Two Terms

UNIFY($t1, t2$)

- 1: **if** One term is a constant **then**
 - 2: **if** Other term is a constant **then**
 - 3: **return** $t1 = t2$
 - 4: **if** Other term is a function **then**
 - 5: **return** fail
 - 6: **if** Other term is a variable **then**
 - 7: substitute constant for variable
 - 8: **else if** One term is a function **then**
 - 9: **if** Other term is a function **then**
 - 10: **return** UNIFY(arg lists)
 - 11: **if** Other term is a variable **then**
 - 12: **if** variable occurs in function **then**
 - 13: **return** fail
 - 14: **else** substitute function for variable
 - 15: **else**
 - 16: substitute one variable for the other
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Example

- 1 Anyone who reads is literate.
- 2 Whales are not literate.
- 3 Some whales are intelligent.
- 4 Prove: someone intelligent cannot read.

Conversion to CNF

Basis for Refutation

Remember $KB \models \alpha$ iff $KB \rightarrow \alpha$ is valid

- 1 Assume $KB \models \alpha$
- 2 If a model i satisfies KB , then i satisfies α
- 3 If i satisfies α , then it doesn't satisfy $\neg\alpha$
- 4 Therefore no model satisfies KB and $\neg\alpha$
- 5 Therefore $KB \wedge \neg\alpha$ is unsatisfiable
- 6 Therefore we can derive \square from $KB \wedge \neg\alpha$