



# First-Order Logic

## Chapter 8

# Outline

- Why FOL?
- Syntax and semantics of FOL
- Using FOL
- Wumpus world in FOL
- Knowledge engineering in FOL

# Pros and cons of propositional logic

- ☺ Propositional logic is **declarative**
- ☺ 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 the world contains **facts**,
- first-order logic (like natural language) assumes the world contains
  - **Objects**: people, houses, numbers, colors, baseball games, wars, ...
  - **Relations**: red, round, prime, brother of, bigger than, part of, comes between, ...
  - **Functions**: father of, best friend, one more than, plus, ...

# Syntax of FOL: Basic elements

- Constants KingJohn, 2, NUS,...
- Predicates Brother, >,...
- Functions Sqrt, LeftLegOf,...
- Variables  $x, y, a, b, \dots$
- Connectives  $\neg, \Rightarrow, \wedge, \vee, \Leftrightarrow$
- Equality  $=$
- Quantifiers  $\forall, \exists$

# Atomic sentences

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

Term = *function* ( $term_1, \dots, term_n$ )  
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

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

E.g.  $Sibling(KingJohn, Richard) \Rightarrow Sibling(Richard, KingJohn)$

$$>(1,2) \vee \leq (1,2)$$

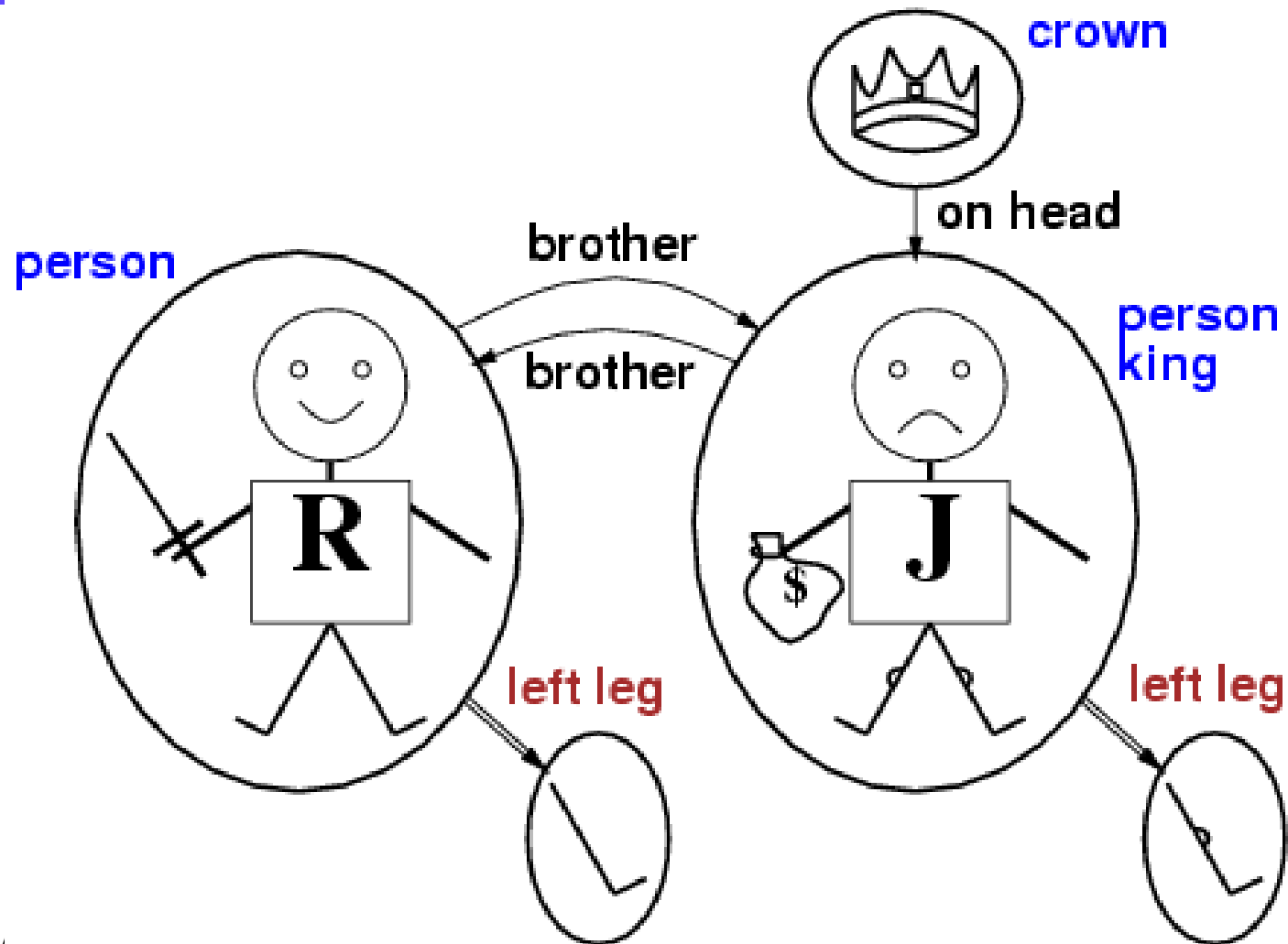
$$>(1,2) \wedge \neg >(1,2)$$

# Truth in first-order logic

- Sentences are true with respect to a **model** and an **interpretation**
- Model contains objects (**domain elements**) and relations among them
- Interpretation specifies referents for
  - constant symbols** → **objects**
  - predicate symbols** → **relations**
  - function symbols** → **functional relations**
- An atomic sentence  $predicate(term_1, \dots, term_n)$  is true iff the **objects** referred to by  $term_1, \dots, term_n$  are in the **relation** referred to by  $predicate$



# Models for FOL: Example



# Universal quantification

- $\forall \langle \text{variables} \rangle \langle \text{sentence} \rangle$

Everyone at NUS is smart:

$$\forall x \text{ At}(x, \text{NUS}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(x)$$

- $\forall x P$  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  $P$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{At}(\text{KingJohn}, \text{NUS}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(\text{KingJohn}) \\ \wedge & \text{At}(\text{Richard}, \text{NUS}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(\text{Richard}) \\ \wedge & \text{At}(\text{NUS}, \text{NUS}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(\text{NUS}) \\ \wedge & \dots \end{aligned}$$

# A common mistake to avoid

- Typically,  $\Rightarrow$  is the main connective with  $\forall$
- Common mistake: using  $\wedge$  as the main connective with  $\forall$ :

$\forall x \text{ At}(x, \text{NUS}) \wedge \text{Smart}(x)$

means “Everyone is at NUS and everyone is smart”

# Existential quantification

- $\exists \langle \text{variables} \rangle \langle \text{sentence} \rangle$
- Someone at NUS is smart:
- $\exists x \text{ At}(x, \text{NUS}) \wedge \text{Smart}(x)$
- $\exists x P$  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  $P$ 
  - At(KingJohn, NUS)  $\wedge$  Smart(KingJohn)
  - ✓ At(Richard, NUS)  $\wedge$  Smart(Richard)
  - ✓ At(NUS, NUS)  $\wedge$  Smart(NUS)
  - ✓ ...

# Another common mistake to avoid

- Typically,  $\wedge$  is the main connective with  $\exists$
- Common mistake: using  $\Rightarrow$  as the main connective with  $\exists$ :

$$\exists x \text{ At}(x, \text{NUS}) \Rightarrow \text{Smart}(x)$$

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

# 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  $\forall y \exists x$
- $\exists x \forall y \text{ Loves}(x,y)$ 
  - “There is a person who loves everyone in the world”
- $\forall y \exists x \text{ Loves}(x,y)$ 
  - “Everyone in the world is loved by at least one person”
  
- **Quantifier duality**: each can be expressed using the other
- $\forall x \text{ Likes}(x, \text{IceCream}) \quad \neg \exists x \neg \text{Likes}(x, \text{IceCream})$
- $\exists x \text{ Likes}(x, \text{Broccoli}) \quad \neg \forall x \neg \text{Likes}(x, \text{Broccoli})$

# 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., definition of *Sibling* in terms of *Parent*:

$$\forall x,y \text{ Sibling}(x,y) \Leftrightarrow [\neg(x = y) \wedge \exists m,f \neg (m = f) \wedge \text{Parent}(m,x) \wedge \text{Parent}(f,x) \wedge \text{Parent}(m,y) \wedge \text{Parent}(f,y)]$$

# Using FOL

The kinship domain:

- Brothers are siblings

$$\forall x,y \text{ Brother}(x,y) \Rightarrow \text{Sibling}(x,y)$$

- One's mother is one's female parent

$$\forall m,c \text{ Mother}(c) = m \Leftrightarrow (\text{Female}(m) \wedge \text{Parent}(m,c))$$

- “Sibling” is symmetric

$$\forall x,y \text{ Sibling}(x,y) \Leftrightarrow \text{Sibling}(y,x)$$



# Using FOL

The set domain:

- $\forall s \text{ Set}(s) \Leftrightarrow (s = \{\}) \vee (\exists x, s_2 \text{ Set}(s_2) \wedge s = \{x|s_2\})$
- $\neg \exists x, s \{x|s\} = \{\}$
- $\forall x, s \ x \in s \Leftrightarrow s = \{x|s\}$
- $\forall x, s \ x \in s \Leftrightarrow [ \exists y, s_2 \ (s = \{y|s_2\} \wedge (x = y \vee x \in s_2)) ]$
- $\forall s_1, s_2 \ s_1 \subseteq s_2 \Leftrightarrow (\forall x \ x \in s_1 \Rightarrow x \in s_2)$
- $\forall s_1, s_2 \ (s_1 = s_2) \Leftrightarrow (s_1 \subseteq s_2 \wedge s_2 \subseteq s_1)$
- $\forall x, s_1, s_2 \ x \in (s_1 \cap s_2) \Leftrightarrow (x \in s_1 \wedge x \in s_2)$
- $\forall x, s_1, s_2 \ x \in (s_1 \cup s_2) \Leftrightarrow (x \in s_1 \vee x \in s_2)$

# Interacting with FOL KBs

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

```
Tell(KB,Percept([Smell,Breeze,None],5))  
Ask(KB,∃a BestAction(a,5))
```

- I.e., does the KB entail some best action at  $t=5$ ?
- Answer: Yes,  $\{a/Shoot\}$  ← substitution (binding list)
- Given a sentence  $S$  and a substitution  $\sigma$ ,
- $S\sigma$  denotes the result of plugging  $\sigma$  into  $S$ ; e.g.,  
 $S = \text{Smarter}(x,y)$   
 $\sigma = \{x/Hillary,y/Bill\}$   
 $S\sigma = \text{Smarter}(Hillary,Bill)$
- $\text{Ask}(KB,S)$  returns some/all  $\sigma$  such that  $KB \models \sigma$

# Knowledge base for the wumpus world

## ■ Perception

- $\forall t,s,b \text{ Percept}([s,b,\text{Glitter}],t) \Rightarrow \text{Glitter}(t)$

## ■ Reflex

- $\forall t \text{ Glitter}(t) \Rightarrow \text{BestAction}(\text{Grab},t)$

# Deducing hidden properties

- $\forall x,y,a,b \text{ Adjacent}([x,y],[a,b]) \Leftrightarrow [a,b] \in \{[x+1,y], [x-1,y],[x,y+1],[x,y-1]\}$

Properties of squares:

- $\forall s,t \text{ At}(\text{Agent},s,t) \wedge \text{Breeze}(t) \Rightarrow \text{Breezy}(s)$

Squares are breezy near a pit:

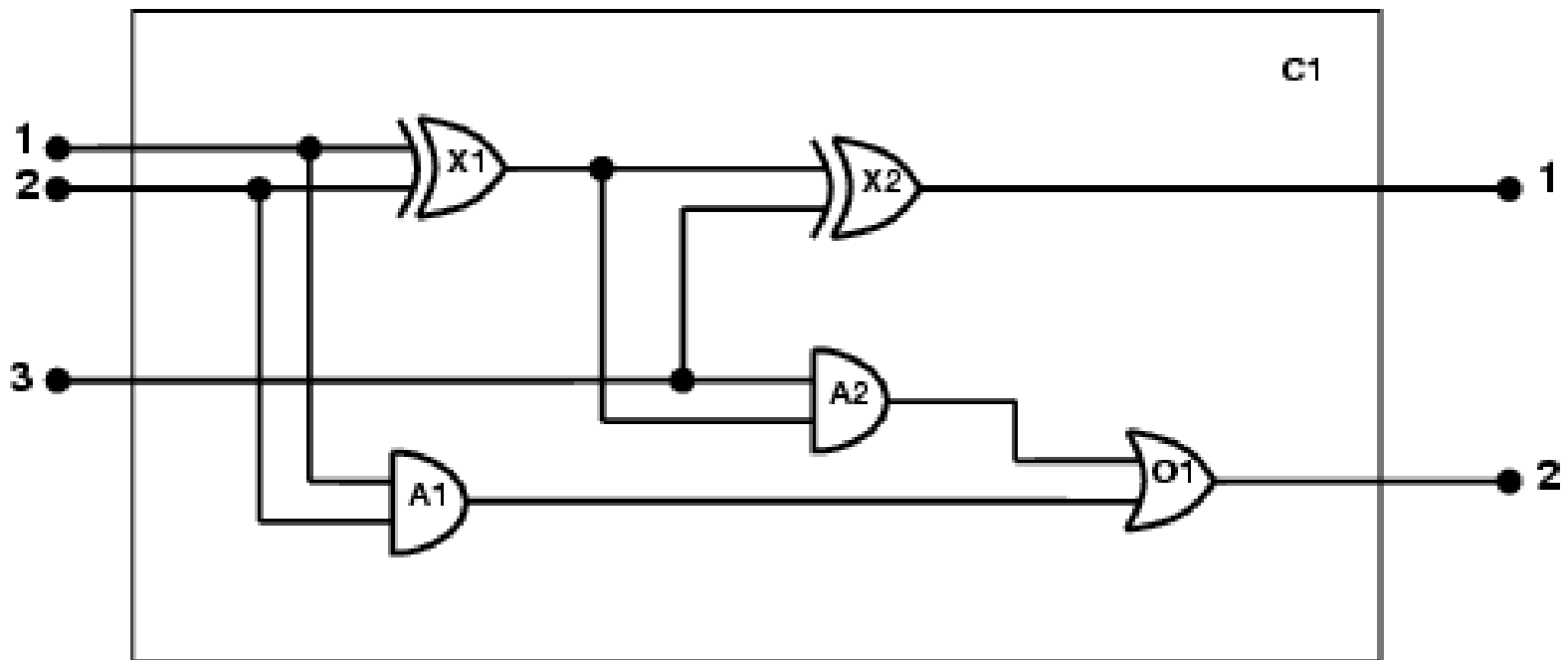
- **Diagnostic** rule - infer cause from effect  
 $\forall s \text{ Breezy}(s) \Rightarrow \exists r \text{ Adjacent}(r,s) \wedge \text{Pit}(r)$
- **Causal** rule - infer effect from cause  
 $\forall r \text{ Pit}(r) \Rightarrow [\forall s \text{ Adjacent}(r,s) \Rightarrow \text{Breezy}(s) ]$

# Knowledge engineering in FOL

1. Identify the task
2. Assemble the relevant knowledge
3. Decide on a vocabulary of predicates, functions, and constants
4. Encode general knowledge about the domain
5. Encode a description of the specific problem instance
6. Pose queries to the inference procedure and get answers
7. Debug the knowledge base

# The electronic circuits domain

## One-bit full adder



# The electronic circuits domain

1. Identify the task
  - Does the circuit actually add properly? (circuit verification)
2. Assemble the relevant knowledge
  - Composed of wires and gates; Types of gates (AND, OR, XOR, NOT)
  - Irrelevant: size, shape, color, cost of gates
3. Decide on a vocabulary
  - Alternatives:  
Type( $X_1$ ) = XOR  
Type( $X_1$ , XOR)  
XOR( $X_1$ )

# The electronic circuits domain

## 4. Encode general knowledge of the domain

- $\forall t_1, t_2 \text{ Connected}(t_1, t_2) \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(t_1) = \text{Signal}(t_2)$
- $\forall t \text{ Signal}(t) = 1 \vee \text{Signal}(t) = 0$
- $1 \neq 0$
- $\forall t_1, t_2 \text{ Connected}(t_1, t_2) \Rightarrow \text{Connected}(t_2, t_1)$
- $\forall g \text{ Type}(g) = \text{OR} \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{Out}(1, g)) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \exists n \text{ Signal}(\text{In}(n, g)) = 1$
- $\forall g \text{ Type}(g) = \text{AND} \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{Out}(1, g)) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \exists n \text{ Signal}(\text{In}(n, g)) = 0$
- $\forall g \text{ Type}(g) = \text{XOR} \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{Out}(1, g)) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{In}(1, g)) \neq \text{Signal}(\text{In}(2, g))$
- $\forall g \text{ Type}(g) = \text{NOT} \Rightarrow \text{Signal}(\text{Out}(1, g)) \neq \text{Signal}(\text{In}(1, g))$



# The electronic circuits domain

## 5. Encode the specific problem instance

Type( $X_1$ ) = XOR

Type( $A_1$ ) = AND

Type( $O_1$ ) = OR

Type( $X_2$ ) = XOR

Type( $A_2$ ) = AND

Connected(Out(1, $X_1$ ),In(1, $X_2$ ))

Connected(Out(1, $X_1$ ),In(2, $A_2$ ))

Connected(Out(1, $A_2$ ),In(1, $O_1$ ))

Connected(Out(1, $A_1$ ),In(2, $O_1$ ))

Connected(Out(1, $X_2$ ),Out(1, $C_1$ ))

Connected(Out(1, $O_1$ ),Out(2, $C_1$ ))

Connected(In(1, $C_1$ ),In(1, $X_1$ ))

Connected(In(1, $C_1$ ),In(1, $A_1$ ))

Connected(In(2, $C_1$ ),In(2, $X_1$ ))

Connected(In(2, $C_1$ ),In(2, $A_1$ ))

Connected(In(3, $C_1$ ),In(2, $X_2$ ))

Connected(In(3, $C_1$ ),In(1, $A_2$ ))

# The electronic circuits domain

## 6. Pose queries to the inference procedure

What are the possible sets of values of all the terminals for the adder circuit?

$$\begin{aligned} \exists i_1, i_2, i_3, o_1, o_2 \text{ Signal(In}(1, C_1)) = i_1 \wedge \text{Signal(In}(2, C_1)) = i_2 \wedge \\ \text{Signal(In}(3, C_1)) = i_3 \wedge \text{Signal(Out}(1, C_1)) = o_1 \wedge \\ \text{Signal(Out}(2, C_1)) = o_2 \end{aligned}$$

## 7. Debug the knowledge base

May have omitted assertions like  $1 \neq 0$

# Summary

- First-order logic:
  - objects and relations are semantic primitives
  - syntax: constants, functions, predicates, equality, quantifiers
- Increased expressive power: sufficient to define wumpus world