

CS 512, Spring 2017, Handout 15

Syntax of Predicate Logic (aka First-Order Logic)

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March 14, 2017

from English reasoning to formal reasoning:

for all x , **if** x is a bird **then** x has wings

for all x , **if** x has wings **then** x can fly

Coco is a bird

Coco has wings

Coco's *mother* can fly

from English reasoning to formal reasoning:

for all x , **if** x is a bird **then** x has wings

$$\forall x (B(x) \rightarrow W(x))$$

for all x , **if** x has wings **then** x can fly

$$\forall x (W(x) \rightarrow F(x))$$

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$$F(m(\mathbf{C}))$$

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it is **not** the case that **for all** $x \dots$

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there exists an x such that \dots

$$\exists x (B(x) \wedge \neg W(x))$$

WFF's of predicate logic

- ▶ *vocabulary* (a.k.a. *similarity type*, a.k.a. *signature*):

set \mathcal{P} of **predicate** symbols, each of arity $n \geq 0$

- ▶ *terms*:

- ▶ *well-formed formulas*:

WFF's of predicate logic

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▶ as a BNF definition:

$$t ::= x \mid c \mid f(t, \dots, t)$$

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if t_1, \dots, t_n are terms and $P \in \mathcal{P}$ has arity $n \geq 0$,
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if t_1, t_2 are terms,
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$\varphi ::= P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid t_1 \doteq t_2 \mid (\neg\varphi) \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid (\varphi \vee \varphi) \mid (\forall x \varphi) \mid (\exists x \varphi)$

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► are all WFF's of propositional logic WFF's of predicate logic ???

free and bound variables

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- ▶ scopes of two binding occurrences “ $\mathbf{Q}x$ ” and “ $\mathbf{Q}'x'$ ” may be

disjoint: $\dots (\mathbf{Q}x \underbrace{\dots \dots}) \dots (\mathbf{Q}'x' \underbrace{\dots \dots}) \dots$

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or **nested:** $\dots (\mathbf{Q}x \dots (\mathbf{Q}'x' \underbrace{\dots}) \dots) \dots$

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but cannot **overlap**

free and bound variables (continued)

- ▶ the set of **free variables** in terms t and WFF's φ :

$$\text{FV}(t) = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } t = c \\ \{x\} & \text{if } t = x \\ \text{FV}(t_1) \cup \dots \cup \text{FV}(t_n) & \text{if } t = f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \end{cases}$$

$$\text{FV}(\varphi) = \begin{cases} \text{FV}(t_1) \cup \dots \cup \text{FV}(t_n) & \text{if } \varphi = P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \\ \text{FV}(t_1) \cup \text{FV}(t_2) & \text{if } \varphi = (t_1 \doteq t_2) \\ \text{FV}(\varphi') & \text{if } \varphi = \neg\varphi' \\ \text{FV}(\varphi_1) \cup \text{FV}(\varphi_2) & \text{if } \varphi = (\varphi_1 \star \varphi_2), \star \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow\} \\ \text{FV}(\varphi') - \{x\} & \text{if } \varphi = (\mathbf{Q}x \varphi') \text{ and } \mathbf{Q} \in \{\forall, \exists\} \end{cases}$$

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- ▶ **assumption**: every variable x has ≤ 1 binding occurrence in any WFF (is this realistic?)

this assumption is not essential, but without it, a variable may occur both free and bound in the same WFF.

free and bound variables (continued)

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free and bound variables (continued)

- ▶ φ is **closed** iff $FV(\varphi) = \emptyset$,
- ▶ how to satisfy the **assumption**:
every variable x has ≤ 1 binding occurrence in any WFF,
- ▶ consider a WFF φ (**not** satisfying the **assumption**), say:

$$\varphi = \dots \left(\mathbf{Q}_1 x (\dots x \dots) \right) \dots \left(\mathbf{Q}_2 x (\dots x \dots) \right) \dots$$

where $\mathbf{Q}_1, \mathbf{Q}_2 \in \{\forall, \exists\}$,

- ▶ is φ equivalent to:

$$\varphi' = \dots \left(\mathbf{Q}_1 x (\dots x \dots) \right) \dots \left(\mathbf{Q}_2 x' (\dots x' \dots) \right) \dots ??$$

free and bound variables (continued)

- ▶ φ is **closed** iff $FV(\varphi) = \emptyset$,
- ▶ how to satisfy the **assumption**:
every variable x has ≤ 1 binding occurrence in any WFF,
- ▶ consider a WFF φ (**not** satisfying the **assumption**), say:

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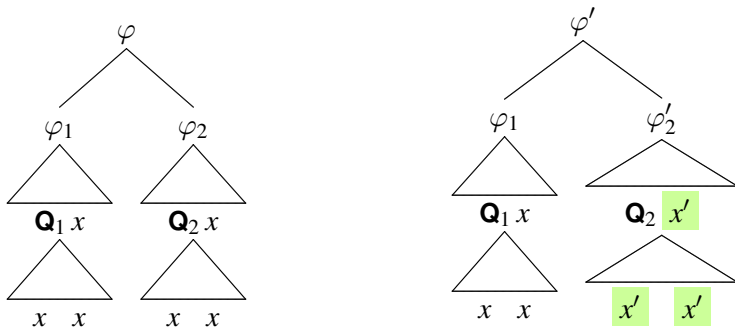
$$\varphi' = \dots \left(\mathbf{Q}_1 x (\dots x \dots) \right) \dots \left(\mathbf{Q}_2 x' (\dots x' \dots) \right) \dots ??$$

- ▶ yes, φ and φ' are equivalent

Exercise: define the algorithm to transform φ into φ'

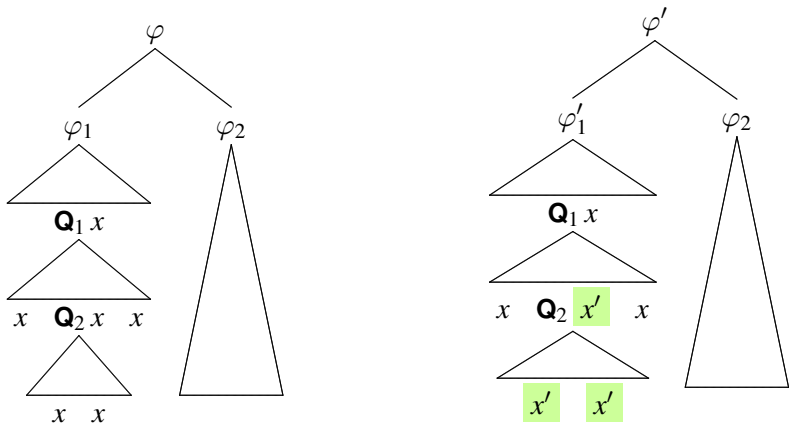
free and bound variables (continued)

renaming binding occurrences “ $Q_1 x$ ” and “ $Q_2 x$ ” in **disjoint** scopes



free and bound variables (continued)

renaming binding occurrences " $\mathbf{Q}_1 x$ " and " $\mathbf{Q}_2 x$ " in **nested** scopes



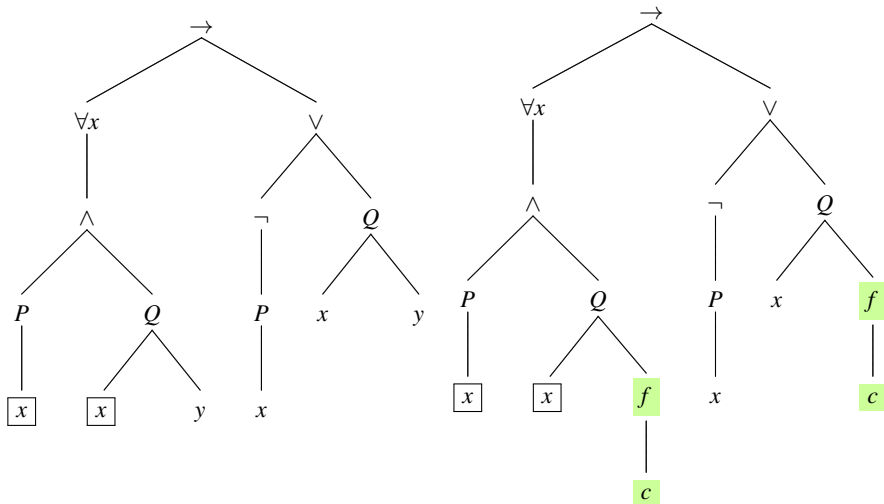
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substitute $f(c)$ for y in φ : $\varphi[f(c)/y]$ (also $\varphi[y/f(c)]$ or $\varphi[y := f(c)]$)

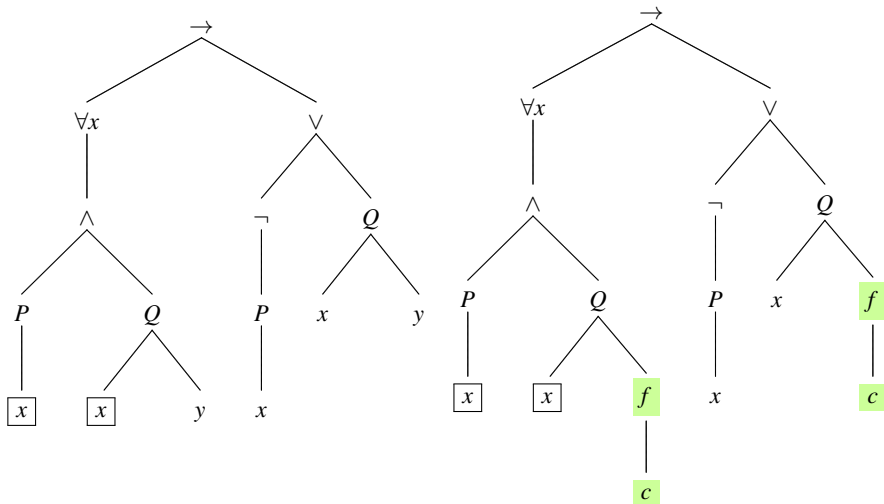
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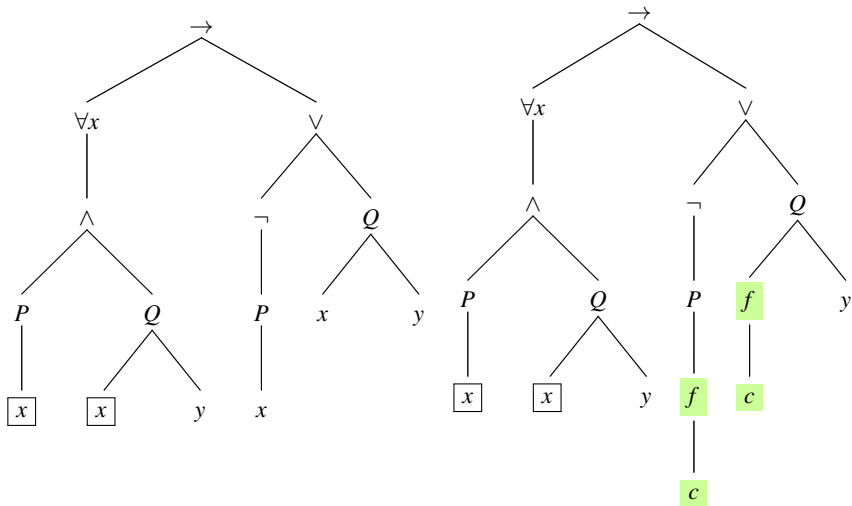
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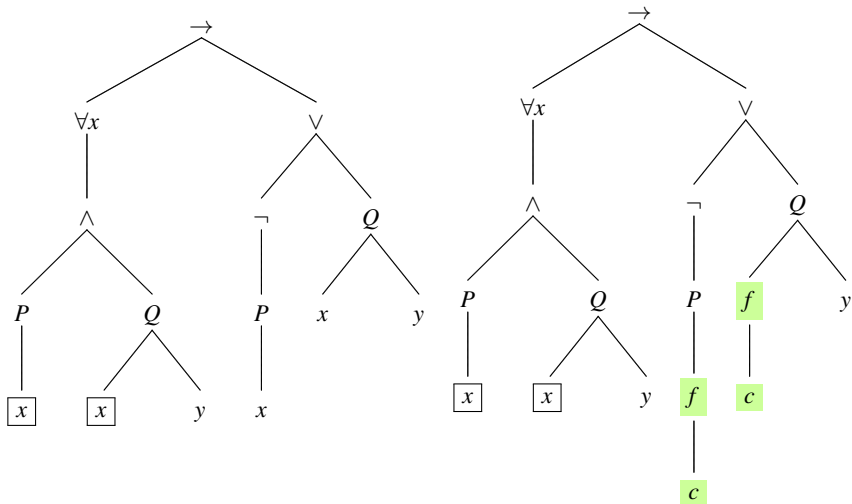
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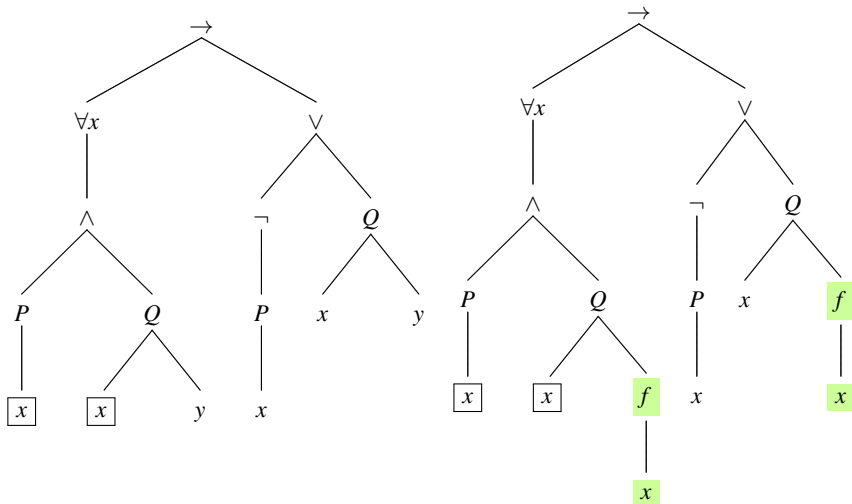
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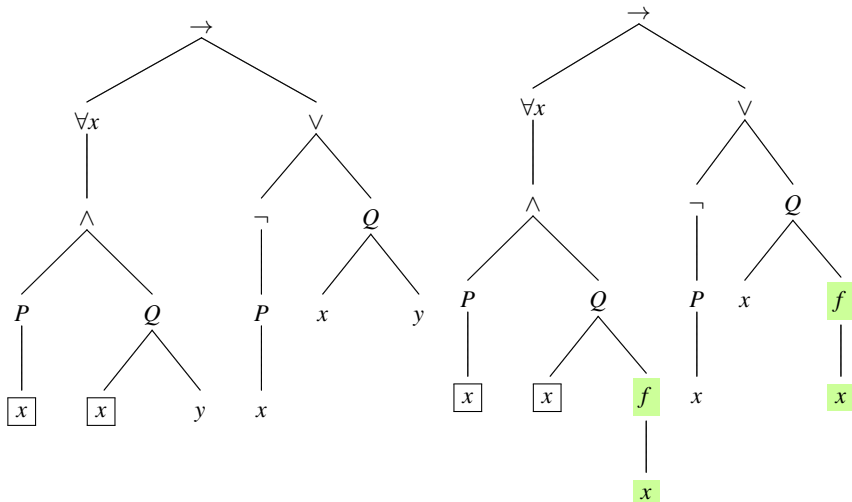
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$$t[u/x] = \begin{cases} c & \text{if } t = c \\ u & \text{if } t = x \\ y & \text{if } t = y \text{ and } y \neq x \\ f(t_1[u/x], \dots, t_n[u/x]) & \text{if } t = f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \end{cases}$$

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$$\varphi[u/x] = \begin{cases} P(t_1[u/x], \dots, t_n[u/x]) & \text{if } \varphi = P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \\ (t_1[u/x] \doteq t_2[u/x]) & \text{if } \varphi = (t_2 \doteq t_2) \\ \neg(\varphi'[u/x]) & \text{if } \varphi = \neg\varphi' \\ \varphi_1[u/x] \star \varphi_2[u/x] & \text{if } \varphi = \varphi_1 \star \varphi_2 \text{ and} \\ & \star \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow\} \\ \mathbf{Q}y (\varphi'[u/x]) & \text{if } \varphi = \mathbf{Q}y \varphi', \\ & \mathbf{Q} \in \{\forall, \exists\}, x \neq y, \text{ and} \\ & u \text{ is } \mathbf{substitutable} \text{ for } x \text{ in } \varphi \\ \mathbf{Q}y \varphi' & \text{if } \varphi = \mathbf{Q}y \varphi', \\ & \mathbf{Q} \in \{\forall, \exists\}, x = y \end{cases}$$

