

# Zeroth-order logic

Text: Melvin Fitting, *FOLATP*, Sections 5.1,4.1,8.3  
Homework: Read these sections, attempt exercises

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# Predicate logic with and without quantifiers

- In math, we use names like *Odd* and *Even* that are called **predicates** (in one variable). That is,  $Odd(x)$  has a truth value if the variable  $x$  is assigned a number value.
- Over integers,  $Odd(x)$  is *true* if  $x$  is assigned an odd value. Otherwise  $x$  is assigned an even value, so  $Odd(x)$  is *false*.

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- So we are saying what the language of our logic stands for, using our knowledge of numbers.
- Also want to say  $Odd(2)$  is *false* and  $Odd(-3)$  is *true*.
- In our syntax there are two kinds of symbols, predicates like *Odd*, *Even* and other things like  $2$ ,  $-3$ .

# Syntax of predicate logic

$t ::= x \in V \mid c \in C \mid f(t_1, \dots, t_n), f \in F_n$

$A ::= P(t_1, \dots, t_n), P \in R_n$

$\mid (\neg A) \mid (A \vee B) \mid (A \wedge B) \mid (A \supset B) \mid (A \equiv B)$

- Can construct parse tree for any well-formed formula (wff).
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- $2 - 3$ ? Short for  $add(2, minus(3))$ , is binary function  $add$  applied to the trees for  $2$  and for  $-3$ .
- $x^2$  is short for  $exp(x, 2)$  using a binary function symbol  $exp$  for exponentiation.
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- Use standard math abbreviations, point them out first time.
- **Terms** are built up from variables and constant symbols using function symbols (eg, numbers with  $add, mul$ ). The value of a term is in a **domain of discourse** such as  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
- A **closed** term is one without variables. Otherwise **open**.

## Syntax of predicate logic (continued)

$$\begin{aligned} t ::= & x \in V \mid c \in C \mid f(t_1, \dots, t_n), f \in F_n \\ A ::= & P(t_1, \dots, t_n), P \in R_n \mid t_1 \approx t_2 \mid \text{True} \mid \text{False} \\ & \mid (\neg A) \mid (A \vee B) \mid (A \wedge B) \mid (A \supset B) \mid (A \equiv B) \\ & \mid \exists x A \mid \forall x A \end{aligned}$$

- **Atomic formulas** are built up from terms by applying an  $n$ -ary predicate symbol to  $n$  terms.
- For example, the binary predicates  $<, \leq, >, \geq, =, \neq$  return boolean value.  
 $2 < -3$  is short for  $Lt(2, \text{minus}(3))$ . Over  $\mathbb{Z}$  returns *false*.



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 $2 < -3$  is short for  $Lt(2, \text{minus}(3))$ . Over  $\mathbb{Z}$  returns *false*.
- $\approx$  is the equality symbol. For example,  
 $(x + y)^2 \approx x^2 + 2xy + y^2$  is an abbreviated atomic formula.  
As usual,  $2xy$  abbreviates  $\text{mul}(2, \text{mul}(x, y))$ .

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- **Formulas** are built up from atomic formulas using the boolean operations  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \supset, \equiv$  and quantifiers  $(\forall x), (\exists x)$ . A formula can only take a boolean value in  $\{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$ .
- For example,  $(\text{sqrt}(2) < 0) \vee (\text{sqrt}(2) > 0)$  is a formula in our logic, so is  $\neg(\text{sqrt}(2) < 0)$ .  
Which of these formulas will be valid, evaluate to true?

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Which of these formulas will be valid, evaluate to true?
- Is  $x > y \supset \sqrt{x} > \sqrt{y}$  true? Jargon:  $x > y$  is the **antecedent** of the implication,  $\sqrt{x} > \sqrt{y}$  is the **conclusion**.
- A **closed** formula (or **sentence**) is one without variables. Otherwise it is an **open** formula.

# Quantifiers or not? (Jacques Herbrand 1930)

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- Assume  $V$ ,  $C$ , each  $F_n$ , each  $R_n$ , are finite or countable sets.
- Let  $F = \bigcup_n F_n$ ,  $R = \bigcup_n R_n$ . These are countable sets.
- The **signature** of the logic is  $(R, F, C)$ . For our examples,  $R_1 = \{\text{Nat}, \text{Int}, \text{Real}\}$ ,  $R_2 = \{<, \leq, >, \geq, =, \neq\}$ ,  $F_1 = \{\text{minus}, \text{sqrt}\}$ ,  $F_2 = \{+, -, \times, /\}$ ,  $C = \mathbb{Z}$ .
- Quantifiers are not allowed in **zeroth-order** predicate logic (ZOL). Defined in text of **Peter Andrews 1986**.
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## Exercise

*Are the set of terms and the set of formulas countable?*

# Types (Bertrand Russell 1908)

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- Going beyond our textbook, assume every term is **typed**. For example, constant **2** is in  $\mathbb{N}$ , constant **-3** is in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , and term  $\sqrt{5}$  is in  $\mathbb{R}$ .  $\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}$  are called **sorts** or type symbols.
- Variables also come typed.
- Can think of sorts as unary predicate symbols *Nat, Int, Real*. *Nat(x)* is *true* whenever  $x$  is in  $\mathbb{N}$ .

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- More specifically, *sqrt* is a unary function from *NonNegReal* to *NonNegReal*.  
For the moment, assume *NonNegReal* is a sort of ZOL. Later we can see how it is enforced as a signature.

## Exercise

How does one type  $(-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$  in our term syntax?  
(Brahmagupta, Bhinmal, Jalore, Rajasthan, 7th century CE)

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- Yes. Proofs can be written in ZOL.
- A **proof** is a sequence of sentences.
- Case 1: It is a sentence and an **axiom**, which we accept as valid. For example, we accept  $7 > 5$  as an axiom of the **theory** of natural numbers (or integers or reals) in the arithmetic signature defined earlier.

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- Case 2: Such a sentence follows from earlier sentences in the sequence by application of an **inference rule**, which we accept as validity-preserving. (Square Root Monotonicity) is an inference rule for numbers of type *NonNegReal* in a theory, call it *Rplus*. It says that if  $x > y$ , then  $\sqrt{x} > \sqrt{y}$ .
- So here is a proof of a **theorem** (last line in a proof).

1  $7 > 5$       *Axiom*  
2  $\sqrt{7} > \sqrt{5}$     1, *SqrtMon*

# Derivations in a theory of nonnegative reals

- A **derivation**  $Th \vdash A$  of a **consequence**  $A$  from a **theory** (set of sentences)  $Th$  also allows members of  $Th$  to appear in the proof sequence.

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- A derivation, using inference rule (Addition Monotonicity). It says that if  $x > y$ , then  $x + z > y + z$ .

1	$3 > 2$	$Rplus$
2	$\sqrt{3} > \sqrt{2}$	1, $SqrtMon$
3	$\sqrt{7} > \sqrt{5}$	$Rplus$
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## Question

Is  $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{7} > \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5}$  a consequence of  $Rplus$ ? What about  $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{11} < \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{7}$ ?

Question (George Pólya 1965)

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1, *SqrtMon*



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*1, SqrtMon*

$$3 \quad 4\sqrt{14} \approx \sqrt{224}, \quad 3 \approx \sqrt{9}$$

*Rplus*

$$4 \quad 4\sqrt{14} > 3$$

*2, 3, Repl, MP*

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| 1 | $224 > 9$   | <i>Rplus</i>              |
| 2 | $\sqrt{224} > \sqrt{9}$                             | 1, <i>SqrtMon</i>         |
| 3 | $4\sqrt{14} \approx \sqrt{224}, 3 \approx \sqrt{9}$ | <i>Rplus</i>              |
| 4 | $4\sqrt{14} > 3$                                    | 2, 3, <i>Repl, MP</i>     |
| 5 | $57 + 4\sqrt{14} > 57 + 3$                          | 4, <i>AddMon</i>          |
| 6 | $1 + 56 + 4\sqrt{14} > 60$                          | 5, <i>Rplus, Repl, MP</i> |

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| 6 | $1 + 56 + 4\sqrt{14} > 60$                          | 5, <i>Rplus, Repl, MP</i>     |
| 7 | $\sqrt{1 + 56 + 4\sqrt{14}} > \sqrt{60}$            | 6, <i>SqrtMon</i>             |
| 8 | $1 + 2\sqrt{14} > 2\sqrt{15}$                       | 7, <i>SE, Repl, Rplus, MP</i> |

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| 9  | $8 + 1 + 2\sqrt{14} > 8 + 2\sqrt{15}$               | 8, <i>AddMon</i>              |
| 10 | $2 + 7 + 2\sqrt{14} > 3 + 5 + 2\sqrt{15}$           | 9, <i>Rplus, Repl, MP</i>     |

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12	$\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{7} > \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5}$	11, <i>SE, Repl, MP</i>

- The **Square Equation (SE)** is the axiom scheme  $(t + u)^2 \approx t^2 + 2tu + u^2$  in the arithmetic signature. It is a **scheme** because any terms  $t, u$  can be used. It is valid in *Rplus*, in fact over all reals.

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- The axiom schemes of **Replacement (Repl)** are  $(t_1 \approx u_1) \wedge \dots \wedge (t_n \approx u_n) \supset f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \approx f(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  and  $(t_1 \approx u_1) \wedge \dots \wedge (t_n \approx u_n) \supset (A(t_1, \dots, t_n) \supset A(u_1, \dots, u_n))$ . They are schemes because any terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n, u_1, \dots, u_n$ , function symbol  $f$  and formula  $A$  can be used. Valid in all theories over all signatures, so they are ZOL axiom schemes.



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- The inference rule **Modus Ponens** (affirming the antecedent) says that if the premisses  $A$  and  $A \supset B$  both hold, then so does the conclusion  $B$ . Preserves validity in all theories over all signatures, so a ZOL inference rule.

# Theory of numbers (Brahmagupta, Dedekind 1888)

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## Exercise

Give a proof of the Square Equation  $(x + y)^2 \approx x^2 + 2xy + y^2$ , and Difference of Squares Equation  $x^2 - y^2 \approx (x + y)(x - y)$ , using Brahmagupta-Dedekind axioms.

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Characterize for natural numbers  $a < b < c < d$ , exactly when  $\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{d} > \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c}$ .

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- Obvious, left imprecise:  
When is a formula or sentence **valid**?  
When does a formula or sentence evaluate to **true**?