

# Languages and Algorithms for Artificial Intelligence (Module 2)

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# 1 Propositional logic

## 1.1 Syntax

**Syntax** Rules and symbols to define well-formed sentences.

Syntax

The symbols of propositional logic are:

**Proposition symbols**  $p_0, p_1, \dots$

**Connectives**  $\wedge \vee \rightarrow \leftrightarrow \neg \perp ( )$

**Well-formed formula** The definition of a well-formed formula is recursive:

Well-formed formula

- An atomic proposition is a well-formed formula.
- If  $S$  is well-formed,  $\neg S$  is well-formed.
- If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are well-formed,  $S_1 \wedge S_2$  is well-formed.
- If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are well-formed,  $S_1 \vee S_2$  is well-formed.

Note that the implication  $S_1 \rightarrow S_2$  can be written as  $\neg S_1 \vee S_2$ .

The BNF definition of a formula is:

$$F := \text{atomic\_proposition} \mid F \wedge F \mid F \vee F \mid F \rightarrow F \mid F \leftrightarrow F \mid \neg F \mid (F)$$

## 1.2 Semantics

**Semantics** Rules to associate a meaning to well-formed sentences.

Semantics

**Model theory** What is true.

**Proof theory** What is provable.

**Interpretation** Given a propositional formula  $F$  of  $n$  atoms  $\{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$ , an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $F$  is a pair  $(D, I)$  where:

Interpretation

- $D$  is the domain. Truth values in the case of propositional logic.
- $I$  is the interpretation mapping that assigns to the atoms  $\{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$  an element of  $D$ .

Note: given a formula  $F$  of  $n$  distinct atoms, there are  $2^n$  distinct interpretations.

**Model** If  $F$  is true under the interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$ , we say that  $\mathcal{I}$  is a model of  $F$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models F$ ).

Model

**Valid formula** A formula  $F$  is valid (tautology) iff it is true in all the possible interpretations. It is denoted as  $\models F$ .

Valid formula

**Invalid formula** A formula  $F$  is invalid iff it is not valid ( $\not\models$ ).

Invalid formula

In other words, there is at least an interpretation where  $F$  is false.

**Inconsistent formula** A formula  $F$  is inconsistent (unsatisfiable) iff it is false in all the possible interpretations. Inconsistent formula

**Consistent formula** A formula  $F$  is consistent (satisfiable) iff it is not inconsistent. Consistent formula  
In other words, there is at least an interpretation where  $F$  is true.

**Decidability** A logic is decidable if there is a terminating method to decide if a formula is valid. Decidability  
Propositional logic is decidable.

**Truth table** Useful to define the semantics of connectives. Truth table

- $\neg S$  is true iff  $S$  is false.
- $S_1 \wedge S_2$  is true iff  $S_1$  is true and  $S_2$  is true.
- $S_1 \vee S_2$  is true iff  $S_1$  is true or  $S_2$  is true.
- $S_1 \rightarrow S_2$  is true iff  $S_1$  is false or  $S_2$  is true.
- $S_1 \leftrightarrow S_2$  is true iff  $S_1 \rightarrow S_2$  is true and  $S_1 \leftarrow S_2$  is true.

**Evaluation** The connectives of a propositional formula are evaluated in the order: Evaluation order

$$\leftrightarrow, \rightarrow, \vee, \wedge, \neg$$

Formulas in parenthesis have higher priority.

**Logical consequence** Let  $\Gamma = \{F_1, \dots, F_n\}$  be a set of formulas (premises) and  $G$  a formula (conclusion).  $G$  is a logical consequence of  $\Gamma$  ( $\Gamma \models G$ ) if in all the possible interpretations  $\mathcal{I}$ , if  $F_1 \wedge \dots \wedge F_n$  is true,  $G$  is true. Logical consequence

**Logical equivalence** Two formulas  $F$  and  $G$  are logically equivalent ( $F \equiv G$ ) iff the truth values of  $F$  and  $G$  are the same under the same interpretation. In other words,  $F \equiv G \iff F \models G \wedge G \models F$ . Logical equivalence

Common equivalences are:

**Commutativity** :  $(P \wedge Q) \equiv (Q \wedge P)$  and  $(P \vee Q) \equiv (Q \vee P)$

**Associativity** :  $((P \wedge Q) \wedge R) \equiv (P \wedge (Q \wedge R))$  and  $((P \vee Q) \vee R) \equiv (P \vee (Q \vee R))$

**Double negation elimination** :  $\neg(\neg P) \equiv P$

**Contraposition** :  $(P \rightarrow Q) \equiv (\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P)$

**Implication elimination** :  $(P \rightarrow Q) \equiv (\neg P \vee Q)$

**Biconditional elimination** :  $(P \leftrightarrow Q) \equiv ((P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P))$

**De Morgan** :  $\neg(P \wedge Q) \equiv (\neg P \vee \neg Q)$  and  $\neg(P \vee Q) \equiv (\neg P \wedge \neg Q)$

**Distributivity of  $\wedge$  over  $\vee$**  :  $(P \wedge (Q \vee R)) \equiv ((P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge R))$

**Distributivity of  $\vee$  over  $\wedge$**  :  $(P \vee (Q \wedge R)) \equiv ((P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R))$

### 1.2.1 Normal forms

**Negation normal form (NNF)** A formula is in negation normal form iff negations appear only in front of atoms (i.e. not parenthesis). Negation normal form

**Conjunctive normal form (CNF)** A formula  $F$  is in conjunctive normal form iff: Conjunctive normal form

- it is in negation normal form;

- it has the form  $F := F_1 \wedge F_2 \cdots \wedge F_n$ , where each  $F_i$  (clause) is a disjunction of literals.

**Example.**

$(\neg P \vee Q) \wedge (\neg P \vee R)$  is in CNF.

$\neg(P \vee Q) \wedge (\neg P \vee R)$  is not in CNF (not in NNF).

**Disjunctive normal form (DNF)** A formula  $F$  is in disjunctive normal form iff:

Disjunctive normal form

- it is in negation normal form;
- it has the form  $F := F_1 \vee F_2 \cdots \vee F_n$ , where each  $F_i$  is a conjunction of literals.

## 1.3 Reasoning

**Reasoning method** Systems to work with symbols.

Reasoning method

Given a set of formulas  $\Gamma$ , a formula  $F$  and a reasoning method  $E$ , we denote with  $\Gamma \vdash^E F$  the fact that  $F$  can be deduced from  $\Gamma$  using the reasoning method  $E$ .

**Sound** A reasoning method  $E$  is sound iff:

Soundness

$$(\Gamma \vdash^E F) \rightarrow (\Gamma \models F)$$

**Complete** A reasoning method  $E$  is complete iff:

Completeness

$$(\Gamma \models F) \rightarrow (\Gamma \vdash^E F)$$

**Deduction theorem** Given a set of formulas  $\{F_1, \dots, F_n\}$  and a formula  $G$ :

Deduction theorem

$$(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \models G \iff \models (F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \rightarrow G$$

*Proof.*

$\rightarrow$  ) By hypothesis  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \models G$ .

So, for each interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  in which  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n)$  is true,  $G$  is also true. Therefore,  $\mathcal{I} \models (F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \rightarrow G$ .

Moreover, for each interpretation  $\mathcal{I}'$  in which  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n)$  is false,  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \rightarrow G$  is true. Therefore,  $\mathcal{I}' \models (F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \rightarrow G$ .

In conclusion,  $\models (F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \rightarrow G$ .

$\leftarrow$  ) By hypothesis  $\models (F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \rightarrow G$ . Therefore, for each interpretation where  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n)$  is true,  $G$  is also true.

In conclusion,  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \models G$ .

□

**Refutation theorem** Given a set of formulas  $\{F_1, \dots, F_n\}$  and a formula  $G$ :

Refutation theorem

$$(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \models G \iff F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n \wedge \neg G \text{ is inconsistent}$$

Note: this theorem is not accepted in intuitionistic logic.

*Proof.* By definition,  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n) \models G$  iff for every interpretation where  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n)$  is true,  $G$  is also true. This requires that there are no interpretations where  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n)$  is true and  $G$  false. In other words, it requires that  $(F_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge F_n \wedge \neg G)$  is inconsistent. □

### 1.3.1 Natural deduction

**Proof theory** Set of rules that allows to derive conclusions from premises by exploiting syntactic manipulations. Proof theory

**Natural deduction** Set of rules to introduce or eliminate connectives. We consider a subset  $\{\wedge, \rightarrow, \perp\}$  of functionally complete connectives. Natural deduction for propositional logic

Natural deduction can be represented using a tree like structure:

$$\begin{array}{c} [\text{hypothesis}] \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\text{premise}}{\text{conclusion}} \text{ rule name} \end{array}$$

The conclusion is true when the hypothesis are able to prove the premise. Another tree can be built on top of premises to prove them.

**Introduction** Usually used to prove the conclusion by splitting it. Introduction rules

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\psi \quad \varphi}{\varphi \wedge \psi} \wedge\text{I} \\ \frac{[\varphi] \quad \vdots \quad \frac{\psi}{\varphi \rightarrow \psi} \rightarrow\text{I}}{\varphi \rightarrow \psi} \rightarrow\text{I} \end{array}$$

**Elimination** Usually used to exploit hypothesis and derive a conclusion. Elimination rules

$$\frac{\varphi \wedge \psi}{\varphi} \wedge\text{E} \quad \frac{\varphi \wedge \psi}{\psi} \wedge\text{E} \quad \frac{\varphi \quad \varphi \rightarrow \psi}{\psi} \rightarrow\text{E}$$

**Ex falso sequitur quodlibet** From contradiction, anything follows. This can be used when we have two contradicting hypothesis. Ex falso sequitur quodlibet

$$\frac{\perp}{\varphi} \perp$$

**Reductio ad absurdum** Assume the opposite and prove a contradiction (not accepted in intuitionistic logic). Reductio ad absurdum

$$\begin{array}{c} [\neg\varphi] \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\perp}{\varphi} \text{ RAA} \end{array}$$

## 2 First order logic

### 2.1 Syntax

The symbols of propositional logic are:

Syntax

**Constants** Known elements of the domain. Do not represent truth values.

**Variables** Unknown elements of the domain. Do not represent truth values.

**Function symbols** Function  $f^{(n)}$  applied on  $n$  constants to obtain another constant.

**Predicate symbols** Function  $P^{(n)}$  applied on  $n$  constants to obtain a truth value.

**Connectives**  $\forall \exists \wedge \vee \rightarrow \neg \leftrightarrow \top \perp ( )$

Using the basic syntax, the following constructs can be defined:

**Term** Denotes elements of the domain.

$$t := \text{constant} \mid \text{variable} \mid f^{(n)}(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

**Proposition** Denotes truth values.

$$P := \top \mid \perp \mid P \wedge P \mid P \vee P \mid P \rightarrow P \mid P \leftrightarrow P \mid \neg P \mid \forall x.P \mid \exists x.P \mid (P) \mid P^{(n)}(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

**Well-formed formula** The definition of well-formed formula in first order logic extends the one of propositional logic by adding the following conditions:

Well-formed formula

- If  $S$  is well-formed,  $\exists X.S$  is well-formed. Where  $X$  is a variable.
- If  $S$  is well-formed,  $\forall X.S$  is well-formed. Where  $X$  is a variable.

**Free variables** The universal and existential quantifiers bind their variable within the scope of the formula. Let  $F_v(F)$  be the set of free variables in a formula  $F$ ,  $F_v$  is defined as follows:

Free variables

- $F_v(p(t)) = \bigcup \text{vars}(t)$
- $F_v(\top) = F_v(\perp) = \emptyset$
- $F_v(\neg F) = F_v(F)$
- $F_v(F_1 \wedge F_2) = F_v(F_1 \vee F_2) = F_v(F_1 \rightarrow F_2) = F_v(F_1) \cup F_v(F_2)$
- $F_v(\forall X.F) = F_v(\exists X.F) = F_v(F) \setminus \{X\}$

**Closed formula/Sentence** Proposition without free variables.

Sentence

**Theory** Set of sentences.

Theory

**Ground term/Formula** Proposition without variables.

Formula

## 2.2 Semantics

**Interpretation** An interpretation in first order logic  $\mathcal{I}$  is a pair  $(D, I)$ :

Interpretation

- $D$  is the domain of the terms.
- $I$  is the interpretation function such that:
  - $I(f) : D^n \rightarrow D$  for every  $n$ -ary function symbol.
  - $I(p) \subseteq D^n$  for every  $n$ -ary predicate symbol.

**Variable evaluation** Given an interpretation  $\mathcal{I} = (D, I)$  and a set of variables  $\mathcal{V}$ , a variable is evaluated through  $\eta : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow D$ .

Variable evaluation

**Model** Given an interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  and a formula  $F$ ,  $\mathcal{I}$  models  $F$  ( $\mathcal{I} \models F$ ) when  $\mathcal{I}, \eta \models F$  for every variable evaluation  $\eta$ .

Model

A sentence  $S$  is:

**Valid**  $S$  is satisfied by every interpretation ( $\forall \mathcal{I} : \mathcal{I} \models S$ ).

**Satisfiable**  $S$  is satisfied by some interpretations ( $\exists \mathcal{I} : \mathcal{I} \models S$ ).

**Falsifiable**  $S$  is not satisfied by some interpretations ( $\exists \mathcal{I} : \mathcal{I} \not\models S$ ).

**Unsatisfiable**  $S$  is not satisfied by any interpretation ( $\forall \mathcal{I} : \mathcal{I} \not\models S$ ).

**Logical consequence** A sentence  $T_1$  is a logical consequence of  $T_2$  ( $T_2 \models T_1$ ) if every model of  $T_2$  is also model of  $T_1$ :

Logical consequence

$$\mathcal{I} \models T_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{I} \models T_1$$

**Theorem 2.2.1.** It is undecidable to determine if a first order logic formula is a tautology.

**Equivalence** A sentence  $T_1$  is equivalent to  $T_2$  if  $T_1 \models T_2$  and  $T_2 \models T_1$ .

Equivalence

**Theorem 2.2.2.** The following statements are equivalent:

1.  $F_1, \dots, F_n \models G$ .
2.  $(\bigwedge_{i=1}^n F_i) \rightarrow G$  is valid.
3.  $(\bigwedge_{i=1}^n F_i) \wedge \neg G$  is unsatisfiable.

## 2.3 Substitution

**Substitution** A substitution  $\sigma : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$  is a mapping from variables to terms. It is written as  $\{X_1 \mapsto t_1, \dots, X_n \mapsto t_n\}$ .

Substitution

The application of a substitution is the following:

- $p(t_1, \dots, t_n)\sigma = p(t_1\sigma, \dots, t_n\sigma)$
- $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)\sigma = fp(t_1\sigma, \dots, t_n\sigma)$
- $\perp\sigma = \perp$  and  $\top\sigma = \top$
- $(\neg F)\sigma = (\neg F\sigma)$
- $(F_1 \star F_2)\sigma = (F_1\sigma \star F_2\sigma)$  for  $\star \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow\}$

- $(\forall X.F)\sigma = \forall X'(F\sigma[X \mapsto X'])$  where  $X'$  is a fresh variable (i.e. does not appear in  $F$ ).
- $(\exists X.F)\sigma = \exists X'(F\sigma[X \mapsto X'])$  where  $X'$  is a fresh variable.

**Unifier** A substitution  $\sigma$  is a unifier for  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  if  $e_1\sigma = \dots = e_n\sigma$ .

Unifier

**Most general unifier** A unifier  $\sigma$  is the most general unifier (MGU) for  $\bar{e} = e_1, \dots, e_n$  if every unifier  $\tau$  for  $\bar{e}$  is an instance of  $\sigma$  ( $\tau = \sigma\rho$  for some substitution  $\rho$ ). In other words,  $\sigma$  is the smallest substitution to unify  $\bar{e}$ .

Most general unifier

## 3 Logic programming

### 3.1 Syntax

A logic program has the following components (defined using BNF):

**Atom**  $A := p(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  for  $n \geq 0$

Atom

**Goal**  $G := \top \mid \perp \mid A \mid G_1 \wedge G_2$

Goal

**Horn clause** A clause with at most one positive literal.

Horn clause

$$K := A \leftarrow G$$

In other words,  $A$  and all the literals in  $G$  are positive as  $A \leftarrow G = A \vee \neg G$ .

**Program**  $P := K_1 \dots K_m$  for  $m \geq 0$

Program

### 3.2 Semantics

#### 3.2.1 State transition system

**State** Pair  $\langle G, \theta \rangle$  where  $G$  is a goal and  $\theta$  is a substitution.

State

**Initial state**  $\langle G, \varepsilon \rangle$

**Successful final state**  $\langle \top, \theta \rangle$

**Failed final state**  $\langle \perp, \varepsilon \rangle$

**Derivation** A sequence of states. A derivation can be:

Derivation

**Successful** If the final state is successful.

**Failed** If the final state is failed.

**Infinite** If there is an infinite sequence of states.

Given a derivation, a goal  $G$  can be:

**Successful** There is a successful derivation starting from  $\langle G, \varepsilon \rangle$ .

**Finitely failed** All the derivations starting from  $\langle G, \varepsilon \rangle$  are failed.

**Computed answer substitution** Given a goal  $G$  and a program  $P$ , if there exists a successful derivation  $\langle G, \varepsilon \rangle \mapsto^* \langle \top, \theta \rangle$ , then the substitution  $\theta$  is the computed answer substitution of  $G$ .

Computed answer substitution

**Transition** Starting from the state  $\langle A \wedge G, \theta \rangle$  of a program  $P$ , a transition on the atom  $A$  can result in:

Transition

**Unfold** If there exists a clause  $(B \leftarrow H)$  in  $P$  and a (most general) unifier  $\beta$  for  $A\theta$  and  $B$ , then we have a transition:  $\langle A \wedge G, \theta \rangle \mapsto \langle H \wedge G, \theta\beta \rangle$ .

In other words, we want to prove that  $A\theta$  holds. To do this, we search for a clause that has as conclusion  $A\theta$  and add its premise to the things to prove. If a unification is needed to match  $A\theta$ , we add it to the substitutions of the state.

**Failure** If there are no clauses  $(B \leftarrow H)$  in  $P$  with a unifier for  $A\theta$  and  $B$ , then we have a transition:  $\langle A \wedge G, \theta \rangle \mapsto \langle \perp, \varepsilon \rangle$ .

**Non-determinism** A transition has two types of non-determinism:

**Don't-care** Any atom in  $(A \wedge G)$  can be chosen to determine the next state. Don't-care  
This affects the length of the derivation (infinite in the worst case).

**Don't-know** Any clause  $(B \rightarrow H)$  in  $P$  with an unifier for  $A\theta$  and  $B$  can be chosen. This determines the output of the derivation. Don't-know

**Selective linear definite resolution** Approach to avoid non-determinism when constructing a derivation. SLD resolution

**Selection rule** Method to select the atom in the goal to unfold (eliminates don't-care non-determinism). Selection rule

**SLD tree** Search tree constructed using all the possible clauses according to a selection rule and visited following a search strategy (eliminates don't know non-determinism). SLD tree

**Theorem 3.2.1** (Soundness). Given a program  $P$ , a goal  $G$  and a substitution  $\theta$ , if  $\theta$  is a computed answer substitution, then  $P \models G\theta$ .

**Theorem 3.2.2** (Completeness). Given a program  $P$ , a goal  $G$  and a substitution  $\theta$ , if  $P \models G\theta$ , then it exists a computed answer substitution  $\sigma$  such that  $G\theta = G\sigma\beta$ .

**Theorem 3.2.3.** If a computed answer substitution can be obtained using a selection rule  $r$ , it can be obtained also using a different selection rule  $r'$ .

**Prolog SLD** Prolog SLD

**Selection rule** Select the leftmost atom.

**Tree search strategy** Search following the order of definition of the clauses.

This results in a left-to-right, depth-first search of the SLD tree. Note that this may end up in a loop.