

CS21201 Discrete Structures
Solutions to Practice Problems

Predicate Logic

1. Coding of the statements is as under ($x \in \text{Creatures}$)

S1: $\forall x [Lion(x) \rightarrow Fierce(x)]$

S2: $\exists x [Lion(x) \wedge \neg DrinksC(x)]$

- a. $\exists x Fierce(x)$

This statement is true if there is at least one lion. We cannot say that this directly follows from S1. This statement is **False**.

- b. From S2, we notice that $\exists x [Lion(x) \wedge \neg DrinksC(x)]$. So let that creature be p . We know that p is a lion. From S1, any creature who is a lion is fierce. Therefore p is fierce. By existential generalization, $\exists x Fierce(x)$. Hence this statement is **True**.

- c. $\exists x [Fierce(x) \wedge \neg DrinksC(x)]$: Notice that similar to (b), we derive that p is a lion and p does not drink coffee. From S1, all lions are fierce. Therefore p is fierce. This implies that $Fierce(p) \wedge \neg DrinksC(p)$, by existential generalization, $\exists x [Fierce(x) \wedge \neg DrinksC(x)]$. The statement is **True**.

2. Predicates used are $Respect(x, y)$: person x respects person y and $Hire(x, y)$: person x hires person y .

S1 : $\forall x (\neg Respect(x, x) \rightarrow \neg \exists y (Respect(y, x)))$

S2 : $\forall x \forall y (\neg Respect(x, y) \rightarrow \neg Hire(x, y)) \equiv \forall x \forall y (Hire(x, y) \rightarrow Respect(x, y))$

G : $\forall x [(\neg \exists y Respect(x, y)) \rightarrow (\neg \exists z Hire(z, x))]$

Simplification of G:

$\forall x [(\neg \exists y Respect(x, y)) \rightarrow (\neg \exists z Hire(z, x))]$ (1)

$\forall x [(\exists z Hire(z, x)) \rightarrow (\exists y Respect(x, y))]$ (2) Contrapositive (1)

Proof by contradiction, assume that $\neg G$ is true.

$\neg \forall x [(\exists z Hire(z, x)) \rightarrow (\exists y Respect(x, y))]$ (3)

$\exists x \neg [(\exists z Hire(z, x)) \vee (\exists y Respect(x, y))]$ (4) Properties of \neg and \rightarrow

$\exists x [(\exists z Hire(z, x)) \wedge \neg (\exists y Respect(x, y))]$ (5) De Morgan's Laws

Instantiate (5), by $x = A$ and $z = B$

$Hire(B, A)$ (6)
 $\neg(\exists y \text{Respect}(A, y))$ (7)
 Instantiate S2 by $x = B$ and $z = A$ (8)
 $Hire(B, A) \rightarrow \text{Respect}(B, A)$
 $\text{Respect}(B, A)$ (9) Modus Ponens (7, 8)

$\forall x(\exists y(\text{Respect}(y, x)) \rightarrow \text{Respect}(x, x))$ (10) Contrapositive (S1)
 Instantiate by $x = A$ and $y = B$
 $\text{Respect}(B, A) \rightarrow \text{Respect}(A, A)$ (11)
 $\text{Respect}(A, A)$ (12) Modus Ponens(9, 11)

But from (7), $\neg(\exists y \text{Respect}(A, y)) \Rightarrow \forall y \neg \text{Respect}(A, y) \Rightarrow \neg \text{Respect}(A, A)$
 Hence we have a contradiction

3. Predicates:

$a(x)$: Person x belongs to the Alpine Club
 $s(x)$: Person x is a skier
 $m(x)$: Person x is a mountain climber
 $l(x, y)$: Person x likes weather event y

Statements:

S1 : $a(\text{Tony}) \wedge a(\text{Mike}) \wedge A(\text{John})$
S2 : $\forall x [a(x) \rightarrow (s(x) \vee m(x))]$
S3 : $\neg \exists x [m(x) \wedge l(x, \text{Rain})]$
S4 : $\forall x [s(x) \rightarrow l(x, \text{Snow})]$
S5 : $\forall y [l(\text{Mike}, y) \leftrightarrow \neg l(\text{Tony}, y)]$
S6 : $l(\text{Tony}, \text{Rain}) \wedge l(\text{Tony}, \text{Snow})$

Since Tony likes both Rain and Snow and Mike dislikes whatever Tony likes and likes whatever Tony dislikes

Mike does not like Rain and Mike does not like Snow

$\neg l(\text{Mike}, \text{Rain})$ (1)
 $\neg l(\text{Mike}, \text{Snow})$ (2)

From S4, instantiating $x = \text{Mike}$, we get

$s(\text{Mike}) \rightarrow l(\text{Mike}, \text{Snow})$ (3)
 $\neg s(\text{Mike})$ (4) Modus Tollens(2, 3)

From S2, instantiating $x = \text{Mike}$, we get

$a(\text{Mike}) \rightarrow (s(\text{Mike}) \vee m(\text{Mike}))$ (5)
 $s(\text{Mike}) \vee m(\text{Mike})$ (6) Modus Ponens(S1, 5)
 $m(\text{Mike})$ (7) (4, 6)

Clearly **Mike** is a Mountain Climber and not a skier, from (4) and (7).

Proof Techniques

1.

Let $P(n)$ be $n! < n^n$.

Base case : We show that $P(n)$ holds for $n = 2$.

$$n! = 2! = 2$$

$$n^n = 2^2 = 4$$

$$2 < 4 \rightarrow n! < n^n \text{ when } n = 2.$$

Induction hypothesis : Assume that $P(n)$ holds for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. That is, $n! < n^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Induction step : We show that $P(n+1)$ holds. Consider $(n+1)!$.

$$(n+1)!$$

$$= (n+1)n! \text{ by definition of factorial}$$

$$< (n+1)n^n \text{ by the induction hypothesis}$$

$$< (n+1)(n+1)^n \text{ by Lemma 1}$$

$$< (n+1)^{n+1}$$

We have shown that $(n+1)! < (n+1)^{n+1}$, thus $P(n+1)$ holds, completing the induction.

Lemma 1⁴

We show that $n^n < (n+1)^n$ for $n > 1$.

Binomial theorem : $(a+b)^k = a^k + ka(k-1)b + \dots + b^k$

$$(n+1)^n$$

$$= n^n + n \cdot n^{n-1} + \dots \text{ using the Binomial Theorem}$$

$$> n^n$$

⁴This is a higher level of detail than we required for full credit.

2.

Solution [Induction basis] For $n = 4$, we have $2^4 = 16 < 4! = 24 < 2^{4 \log_2 4} = 256$.

[Induction] Suppose that $2^n < n! < 2^{n \log_2 n}$ for some $n \geq 4$. We then have

$$(n+1)! = (n+1) \times n! > (n+1) \times 2^n > 2 \times 2^n = 2^{n+1},$$

and

$$(n+1)! = (n+1) \times n! < (n+1) \times 2^{n \log_2 n} = (n+1) \times n^n \leq (n+1)^{n+1} = 2^{(n+1) \log_2(n+1)}.$$

3.

Solution By the extended gcd, we always have a representation of the form $1 = u\left(\frac{a}{d}\right) + v\left(\frac{b}{d}\right)$ for some integers u, v . Write $u = q\left(\frac{b}{d}\right) + r$ with $0 \leq r < \frac{b}{d}$ (Euclidean division). We then have $1 = \left(q\left(\frac{b}{d}\right) + r\right)\left(\frac{a}{d}\right) + v\left(\frac{b}{d}\right) = r\left(\frac{a}{d}\right) + s\left(\frac{b}{d}\right)$, where $s = v + q\left(\frac{a}{d}\right)$. If $r = 0$, then $s = \frac{d}{b} \leq 1 \leq \frac{a}{d}$. If $r > 0$, then $|s| = \frac{d}{b} \left(r\left(\frac{a}{d}\right) - 1\right) < \left(r\left(\frac{d}{b}\right)\right) \frac{a}{d} < \frac{a}{d}$.

4: Proof very similar to the problem done in the class

5. **Hint:** Let $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_k^{e_k}$. If n is not a perfect square, at least one of the e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k will be odd (Note though that more than one such e_i 's can be odd too). Use this fact to prove.

6.

a.

Base Case: $n = 1$. In this case, we have that $1 + \dots + 2^n = 1 + 2 = 2^2 - 1$, and the statement is therefore true.

Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose that for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$.

Inductive Step: Consider

$$\begin{aligned}1 + 2 + 4 + \cdots + 2^{n+1} &= 1 + 2 + 4 + \cdots + 2^n + 2^{n+1} \\ &= (2^{n+1} - 1) + 2^{n+1} \quad (\text{by the Inductive Hypothesis}) \\ &= 2 \cdot 2^{n+1} - 1 \\ &= 2^{(n+1)+1} - 1.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have that if the statement holds for n , it also holds for $n + 1$.
By induction, then, the statement holds for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

b.

Base Case: $n = 1$. In this case, we have $\sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1) = 1(2) = 2 = \frac{1(2)(3)}{3}$, so the result holds.

Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose, for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $\sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$.

Inductive Step: Consider the case of $n + 1$. In this case, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} k(k+1) &= \sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1) + (n+1)(n+2) \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3} + (n+1)(n+2) \quad (\text{by the Inductive Hypothesis}) \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)(n+2) + 3(n+1)(n+2)}{3} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{3} \quad (\text{by factoring out } (n+1)(n+2)).\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have that if the statement holds for n , it also holds for $n + 1$.

Hence, by induction, $\sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. □

c.

Base Case: $n = 5$. Then $4n = 20 < 32 = 2^n$, and the result is true.

Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose, for some $n \geq 5$, that $4n < 2^n$.

Inductive Step: Consider $n + 1$. We have

$$\begin{aligned}4(n + 1) &= 4n + 4 \\ &< 2^n + 4 \quad (\text{by the Inductive Hypothesis}) \\ &< 2^n + 2^n \quad (\text{since } 2^n > 4 \text{ for all } n \geq 5) \\ &= 2^{n+1}.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if the result holds for n , it also holds for $n + 1$.

Thus, by induction, we have that $4n < 2^n$ for all $n \geq 5$.

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Solutions to Tutorial Problems

Predicate Logic and Proof Techniques

1. Notice that the domain of x and y have been restricted to Candidates and Questions respectively, this is to minimize the predicates to be used. Any other method which involves predicates like $C(x)$: x is a candidate, $Q(y)$: y is a question and $A(x, y)$: x answers y is also fine.

Q1 a) $A(x, y)$: candidate x answers Question y

b) $S1 : \exists y \forall x \left[\left(\exists z A(x, z) \right) \rightarrow A(x, y) \right]$

$S2 : \forall x \exists y A(x, y)$

$G : \exists y \forall x A(x, y)$

c) $S1$ $\exists y \forall x \left[\left(\exists z A(x, z) \right) \rightarrow A(x, y) \right]$

Let $y = P$ (instantiation)

Then, $S1$: $\forall x \left[\left(\exists z A(x, z) \right) \rightarrow A(x, P) \right]$

$S2$: $\forall x \left[\exists z A(x, z) \right]$

Do universal instantiation for every x [i.e. Every candidate]

$S1$: $\exists z A(c, z) \rightarrow A(c, P)$

$S2$: $\exists z A(c, z)$

$A(c, P)$

[Modus Ponens]

$A(c, P)$

$\therefore \forall x A(x, P)$ [Universal generalization]

$\therefore \exists y \forall x A(x, y) \equiv G$ [Existential generalization]

2. (a) Bob imitates Alice.
 (b) Alice forces Bob to the situation $m = n$.

3. (b)

Solution [Base] For $n = 1$, we have $H_1 = 1 \leq 1 + 0 = 1 + \ln 1$.

[Induction] Take $n \geq 1$, and assume that $H_n \leq 1 + \ln n$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{n+1} &= H_n + \frac{1}{n+1} \\
 &\leq 1 + \ln n + \frac{1}{n+1} \\
 &= 1 + \ln(n+1) + \frac{1}{n+1} + (\ln n - \ln(n+1)) \\
 &= 1 + \ln(n+1) + \frac{1}{n+1} + \ln\left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right) \\
 &= 1 + \ln(n+1) + \frac{1}{n+1} + \ln\left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right) \\
 &= 1 + \ln(n+1) + \frac{1}{n+1} - \frac{1}{n+1} - \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{3}\left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right)^3 - \frac{1}{4}\left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right)^4 - \dots \\
 &= 1 + \ln(n+1) - \left[\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{3}\left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right)^3 + \frac{1}{4}\left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right)^4 + \dots\right] \\
 &\leq 1 + \ln(n+1).
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $n \geq 1$, we have $0 < \frac{1}{n+1} \leq \frac{1}{2} < 1$, and so we can use the above expansion of $\ln\left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right)$.