

# Chapters 21, 22: The Language of QL ("Quantifier Logic")

Motivation:

- (1) Fido is a cat.
- (2) All cats are scary.      *Valid argument!*
- (3) Fido is scary.

In PL:      Let  $P$  = Fido is a cat.

$Q$  = All cats are scary.

$P, Q \therefore R$       *Not tautologically valid!*

$R$  = Fido is scary.

## Informal Introduction to Alphabet & Grammar of QL

### 1. Names and Predicates

- (a) Use lower-case letters  $m, n, o, \dots$ , to represent the names of individuals. Call these letters "*individual constants*".

<p><u>ex.</u>    "<math>m</math>" = "Socrates"          "<math>n</math>" = "Plato"          "<math>o</math>" = "Aristotle"</p>
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(b) Use capital letters to represent properties attributed to individuals. Call them "*predicate letters*".

Convention:

F, G, H, ... one-place predicates

L, M, ... two-place predicates

R, S ... three-place predicates

ex. "F" means "\_\_\_ is wise"  
"L" means "\_\_\_ loves \_\_\_"  
"R" means "\_\_\_ prefers \_\_\_ to \_\_\_"

First Grammatical rule for **QL**

An  $n$ -place predicate combines with  $n$  names to form an atomic *wff*.

ex. "Fn" means "Plato is wise."  
"Fo" means "Aristotle is wise."  
"Romo" means "Aristotle prefers Socrates to himself."  
"Lmm" means "Socrates loves himself."

## 2. Connectives

Use **PLC** connectives  $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \supset, \equiv$  to form *wffs* from atomic *wffs*.

<u>ex:</u>	$(Fm \vee Fn)$	means	"Either Socrates or Plato is wise."
	and not $F(m \vee n)$		
	$\neg(Lnm \wedge Lmn)$		"It's not the case that Plato loves Socrates and Socrates loves Plato."
	$(Rnmo \supset (Lnm \wedge \neg Lno))$		"If Plato prefers Socrates to Aristotle, then he loves Socrates and doesn't love Aristotle."
	$(Fn \wedge Lnn)$		"Plato is wise and loves himself."

### 3. Quantifiers

- (a) Use lower-case letters ..., **x**, **y**, **z** to represent pronouns. Call these letters "*individual variables*".
- (b) Use the symbols  $\forall$ ,  $\exists$  to represent universal and existential quantifiers.

<u>ex.</u>	" $\forall x$ "	means	"For all $x$ " or "Everyone" or "Everything"
	" $\exists x$ "	means	"There exists an $x$ " or "Someone" or "Something"

#### Grammatical rule for wffs involving quantifiers

If  $C(\dots c \dots c \dots)$  is a **QL** wff containing at least one occurrence of the individual constant  $c$ , then the expression obtained by replacing all occurrences of  $c$  with some individual variable  $v$ , new to  $C$ , and prefixing the result with  $\forall v$  or  $\exists v$ , is a wff.

So if  $C(\dots c \dots c \dots)$  is a **QL** wff containing at least one occurrence of the individual constant  $c$ , then  $\forall v C(\dots v \dots v \dots)$  and  $\exists v C(\dots v \dots v \dots)$  are both **QL** wffs.

Rmno is a **QL** *wff*

"Socrates prefers Plato to Aristotle."

Thus so are:

$\forall xRxno$

"For all  $x$ ,  $x$  prefers Plato to Aristotle."

*or*

"Everyone prefers Plato to Aristotle."

$\exists zRzno$

"There exists a  $z$  such that  $z$  prefers Plato to Aristotle."

*or*

"Someone prefers Plato to Aristotle."

$\forall x\exists zRznx$

"For all  $x$ , there exists a  $z$  such that  $z$  prefers Plato to  $x$ ."

*or*

"Everyone is such that someone prefers Plato to them."

$\forall y\forall x\exists zRzyx$

"Anyone is preferred to everyone by someone."

And so are:

$\forall x R x n o$

$\forall x \forall x R x n x$

$\forall x \forall x \forall x R x x x$

As well as:

$F n$

$R m n o$

$(F n \wedge R m n o)$

$\exists x (F n \wedge R m n x)$

$\forall y \exists x (F n \wedge R y n x)$

$(F n \supset \neg \forall y \exists x (F n \wedge R y n x))$

$\forall z (F z \supset \neg \forall y \exists x (F z \wedge R y z x))$

The *domain of discourse* of a quantifier expression is the collection of individuals that expression quantifies over.

$\forall v C(\dots v \dots v \dots)$  means "Everything in the domain of discourse has the property that  $C(\dots c \dots c \dots)$  attributes to the individual named by  $c$ ".

$\exists v C(\dots v \dots v \dots)$  means "At least one thing in the domain of discourse has the property that  $C(\dots c \dots c \dots)$  attributes to the individual named by  $c$ ".

*So again:*

Let the domain of discourse be people.

$\exists x Fx$  "Someone is wise."

$\neg \exists x Fx$  "No one is wise."

$\exists x \neg Fx$  "Someone isn't wise."

$\forall x (Fx \supset Lmx)$  "For all people, if they are wise, then Socrates loves them."

*or*

"All wise people are loved by Socrates."

*or*

"Socrates loves anyone wise."

## Named versus Nameless Individuals

Suppose: The following **QL** wff is true:  $\mathbf{Fn}$

Then: Is the following **QL** wff true as well?  $\exists x\mathbf{Fx}$

- $\exists x\mathbf{Fx}$  says "Something in the domain of discourse is an **F**".
- This will be true if the thing named by **n** is in fact in the domain of discourse.

So: Given that everything named by some individual constant is in the domain, then any wff of the form  $C(\dots c\dots c\dots)$  entails a wff of the form  $\exists vC(\dots v\dots v\dots)$ .

But:  $\exists vC(\dots v\dots v\dots)$  does not necessarily imply  $C(\dots c\dots c\dots)$ .

- There can be domains with *nameless* individuals in which
  - (a) No *named* individual has the property  $C$ .
  - (b) At least one *nameless* individual has the property  $C$ .
- In such a domain,  $\exists vC(\dots v\dots v\dots)$  is true, but  $C(\dots c\dots c\dots)$  is false, for *any* named individual  $c$ .

Similarly: Given that everything named by some individual constant is in the domain, then any *wff* of the form  $\neg C(\dots c \dots c \dots)$  entails a *wff* of the form  $\neg \forall v C(\dots v \dots v \dots)$ .

But:  $\neg \forall v C(\dots v \dots v \dots)$  does not necessarily imply  $\neg C(\dots c \dots c \dots)$ .

- There can be a domain in which all named things have the property  $C$ , but some nameless things *don't*.

So: It's *not* the case that

- (a) An existential quantifier *wff* is true if and only if one of its instances is true.
- (b) A universal quantifier *wff* is true if and only if all of its instances are true.