

# EECS 1028 M: Discrete Mathematics for Engineers

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Course page: <http://www.eecs.yorku.ca/course/1028>

Also on Moodle

# Predicate Logic?

A predicate is a proposition that is a function of one or more variables  
E.g.: For an integer  $x$ ,  $Even(x)$  :  $x$  is an even number. So  $Even(1)$  is false,  $Even(2)$  is true, and so on.

Examples of predicates:

- Domain ASCII characters -  $IsAlpha(x)$  : TRUE iff  $x$  is an alphabetical character.
- Domain floating point numbers -  $IsInt(x)$ : TRUE iff  $x$  is an integer.
- Domain integers:  $Prime(x)$  - TRUE if  $x$  is prime, FALSE otherwise.

The domain of the variable(s) must ALWAYS be specified

# Predicates

- Ways of defining predicates:

Domain  $\mathbb{R}$

- Explicit:  $Positive(x)$  is True iff  $x$  is positive
  - Implicit:  $x > 0$
- Recall:  $Positive(2)$ ,  $Positive(-3)$  are predicates, but  $Positive(2/0)$ ,  $Positive(x)$  is not.  
Q: Is  $Positive(x^2)$  a predicate?
- The purpose of Predicate Logic is to make general statements like “all birds can fly”. Need some more constructs to make such statements

# Quantifiers

describes the values of a variable that make the predicate true.

- Existential quantifier:  $\exists x P(x)$  – “ $P(x)$  is true for some  $x$  in the domain” or “there exists  $x$  such that  $P(x)$  is TRUE”.
- Universal quantifier:  $\forall x P(x)$  – “ $P(x)$  is true for all  $x$  in the domain”
- Either is meaningless if the domain is not known/specified.
- Examples (domain  $\mathbb{R}$ , uses implicit predicates):
  - $\forall x (x^2 \geq 0)$
  - $\exists x (x > 1)$
  - Quantifiers with restricted domain  $(\forall x > 1)(x^2 > x)$

# Using Quantifiers

Domain integers:

- The cube of all negative integers is negative.

$$\forall x(x < 0) \rightarrow (x^3 < 0)$$

- Expressing sums :

$$\forall n \left( \sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)$$

# Scope of Quantifiers

- $\exists \forall$  have higher precedence than operators from Propositional Logic; so  $\forall x P(x) \vee Q(x)$  is not logically equivalent to  $\forall x (P(x) \vee Q(x))$
- $\exists x (P(x) \wedge Q(x)) \vee (\forall x R(x))$   
 Say  $P(x) : x$  is odd,  $Q(x) : x$  is divisible by 3,  
 $R(x) : (x = 0) \vee (2x > x)$

# Conditionals

Defined similarly as before. Examples:

- Domain: set of all birds.  $Parrots(x)$  is a predicate that is true iff  $x$  is a parrot.  $Fly(x)$  is a predicate that is true iff  $x$  can fly.  
All parrots can fly:  $(\forall x)Parrot(x) \rightarrow Fly(x)$
- Definition of injective functions:  $f : A \rightarrow B$ ,  
 $(\forall x_1)(\forall x_2)x_1 \neq x_2 \rightarrow f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ .
- Expressing “There are at exactly 2 real square roots of any natural number  $n$ , namely  $\sqrt{n}$ ,  $-\sqrt{n}$ .”  
Define the predicate  $Sqrt(a, b)$ : “ $b$  is a square root of  $a$ ”.  
Then the statement is (Domain of  $n$  is  $\mathbb{N}$ ,  $y_1, y_2, z$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ )  
 $\forall n \exists y_1 \exists y_2 Sqrt(n, y_1) \wedge Sqrt(n, y_2) \wedge (y_1 \neq y_2)$   
 $\wedge (\forall z) Sqrt(n, z) \rightarrow (z = y_1) \vee (z = y_2)$

# When to use Conditionals

- Suppose the domain is the set of all birds.  
 “All parrots can fly”:  $(\forall x)Parrot(x) \rightarrow Fly(x)$  is correct;  
 $(\forall x)Parrot(x) \wedge Fly(x)$  is incorrect
- More tricky: Domain: all York students.  $CySec(x)$  is a predicate that is true iff  $x$  is a Cybersecurity major.  $Takes1019(x)$  is a predicate that is true iff  $x$  takes EECS 1019.  
 “Some Cybersecurity major at York takes EECS 1019”:  
 $\exists x CySec(x) \rightarrow Takes1019(x)$  ?  
 $\exists x CySec(x) \wedge Takes1019(x)$  ?
- Related confusing usage:  
 $(\forall x \in S)P(x)$  – really means  $(\forall x)x \in S \rightarrow P(x)$   
 $(\exists x \in S)P(x)$  – really means  $(\exists x)x \in S \wedge P(x)$

# Mathematical Properties Stated using Conditionals

- A function is surjective. Consider  $f : A \rightarrow B$ .  
 $(\forall x)x \in B \rightarrow (\exists y)(y \in A) \wedge (f(y) = x)$
- A set  $S$  has a maximum (largest element). Let the domain be  $S$ .  
 $(\exists y)(\forall x)x \leq y$
- A set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  is finite. We need to use the following property of the natural numbers: a subset  $S$  is finite iff it has a maximum.  
Let the domain be  $S$ .  
 $(\exists y)(\forall x)x \leq y$
- A set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  is infinite. Negate the above (the domain is  $S$ ):  
 $(\forall y)(\exists x)x > y$

# Logical Equivalence

- Logical Equivalence:  $P \equiv Q$  iff they have same truth value no matter which domain is used and no matter which predicates are assigned to predicate variables

# Negating Predicate Logic Statements

Examples:

- “There is no student who can ...”
- “Not all professors are bad”
- “There is no Toronto Raptor that can dunk like Vince Carter”

Rules:

- $\neg \forall x P(x) \equiv \exists x \neg P(x)$  Why?
- $\neg \exists x P(x) \equiv \forall x \neg P(x)$  Why?

Careful: The negation of “Every Canadian loves Hockey” is NOT “No Canadian loves Hockey”!

Many, many students make this mistake!

# Nested Quantifiers

Allows simultaneous quantification of many variables

E.g. domain  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,

- $\exists x \exists y \exists z (x^2 + y^2 = z^2)$  (Pythagorean triples)
- $\forall n \exists x \exists y \exists z (x^n + y^n = z^n)$  (Fermat's Last Theorem implies this is false)

Domain  $\mathbb{R}$ :

- $\forall x \forall y \exists z (x < z < y) \vee (y < z < x)$  Is this true?
- $\forall x \forall y \exists z (x = y) \vee (x < z < y) \vee (y < z < x)$
- $\forall x \forall y \exists z (x \neq y) \rightarrow ((x < z < y) \vee (y < z < x))$

# Nested Quantifiers - Similarities with loops

Analogy: An inner quantified variable (inner loop limit) can depend on the outer quantified variable (outer loop index)

- E.g. in  $\forall x \exists y (x + y = 0)$  we chose  $y = -x$ , so for different  $x$  we need different  $y$  to satisfy the statement.
- $\forall p \exists j \text{Accept}(p, j)$  ( $p, j$  have different domains) does NOT say that there is a  $j$  that will accept all  $p$ .

CAUTION: In general, order MATTERS

- $\forall x \exists y (x < y)$ : “there is no maximum integer”
- $\exists y \forall x (x < y)$ : “there is a maximum integer”

# Negation of Nested Quantifiers

Use the same rule as before carefully.

- $\neg \exists x \forall y (x + y = 0)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \neg \exists x \forall y (x + y = 0) &\equiv \forall x \neg \forall y (x + y = 0) \\ &\equiv \forall x \exists y \neg (x + y = 0) \\ &\equiv \forall x \exists y (x + y \neq 0) \end{aligned}$$

- $\neg \forall x \exists y (x < y)$

$$\begin{aligned} \neg \forall x \exists y (x < y) &\equiv \exists x \neg \exists y (x < y) \\ &\equiv \exists x \forall y \neg (x < y) \\ &\equiv \exists x \forall y (x \geq y) \end{aligned}$$

# Exercises

Check that

- $\forall x \exists y (x + y = 0)$  is not true over the positive integers.
- $\exists x \forall y (x + y = 0)$  is not true over the integers.
- $\forall x \neq 0 \exists y (y = 1/x)$  is true over the real numbers.

Read 1.4-1.5.

Practice: Q2,8,16,30 (pg 65-67)

# Proofs vs Counterexamples

To prove quantified statements of the form

- $\forall x P(x)$ : an example (or 10)  $x$  for which  $P(x)$  is true is/are NOT enough; a proof is needed
- $\exists x P(x)$ : an example  $x$  for which  $P(x)$  is true is enough.

To DISPROVE quantified statements of the form

- $\forall x P(x)$ : a COUNTERexample  $x$  for which  $P(x)$  is false is enough
- $\exists x P(x)$ : an example  $x$  for which  $P(x)$  is false is NOT enough; a proof is needed

Intuition:

Disproving  $(\forall x)P(x)$  means proving  $\neg(\forall x)P(x) \equiv (\exists x)\neg P(x)$

# Inference in Predicate Logic

Most rules are very intuitive

- Universal instantiation If  $\forall xP(x)$  is true, we infer that  $P(a)$  is true for any given  $a$
- Universal Modus Ponens:  $\forall xP(x) \rightarrow Q(x)$  and  $P(a)$  imply  $Q(a)$   
Example: If  $x$  is odd then  $x^2$  is odd.  $a$  is odd. So  $a^2$  is odd.
- Many other rules, see page 76.
  - Again, understanding the rules is crucial, memorizing is not.
  - You should be able to see that the rules make sense and correspond to our intuition about formal reasoning.

# Inference Rules

**TABLE 2** Rules of Inference for Quantified Statements.

| <i>Rule of Inference</i>                                             | <i>Name</i>                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| $\frac{\forall x P(x)}{\therefore P(c)}$                             | Universal instantiation    |
| $\frac{P(c) \text{ for an arbitrary } c}{\therefore \forall x P(x)}$ | Universal generalization   |
| $\frac{\exists x P(x)}{\therefore P(c) \text{ for some element } c}$ | Existential instantiation  |
| $\frac{P(c) \text{ for some element } c}{\therefore \exists x P(x)}$ | Existential generalization |

# Commonly used technique: Universal generalization

## Examples

- Prove: If  $x$  is even,  $x + 2$  is even

- Prove: If  $x^2$  is even,  $x$  is even

[Note that the problem is to prove an implication.]

Proof: if  $x$  is not even,  $x$  is odd. Therefore  $x^2$  is odd. This is the contrapositive of the original assertion.

# Aside: Inference and Planning

- The steps in an inference are useful for planning an action.
  - Example: your professor has assigned reading from an out-of-print book. How do you do it?
  - Example 2: you are participating in the television show “Amazing race”. How do you play?
- The steps in an inference are useful for proving assertions from axioms and facts.

Q: Why is it important for computers to prove theorems?

  - Proving program-correctness
  - Hardware design
  - Data mining
  - Many more

## Aside: Inference and Planning - 2

- Sometimes the steps of an inference (proof) are useful. E.g. on Amazon book recommendations are made.
- You can ask why they recommended a certain book to you (reasoning).