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quantifier free

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Defines quantifier free formula Defines quantifier elimination

Defines elimination set

Let L be a first order language. A formula ψ is *quantifier free* iff it contains no quantifiers.

Let T be a complete L-theory. Let $S \subseteq L$. Then S is an elimination set for T iff for every $\psi(\bar{x}) \in L$ there is some $\phi(\bar{x}) \in S$ so that $T \vdash \forall \bar{x}(\psi(\bar{x})) \leftrightarrow \phi(\bar{x})$.

In particular, T has quantifier elimination iff the set of quantifier free formulas is an elimination set for T. In other T has quantifier elimination iff for every $\psi(\bar{x}) \in L$ there is some quantifier free $\phi(\bar{x}) \in L$ so that $T \vdash \forall \bar{x}(\psi(\bar{x})) \leftrightarrow \phi(\bar{x})$.