

Discrete Math

Lecture 6

Quantifiers

ex) Every dog is a mammal.

(This is true, so it should be a statement.)

~~~~~> For every creature that is a dog, it is true that that creature is a mammal.

$\forall x \in \{\text{all creatures}\}, x \in \{\text{all mammals}\}$

new symbol                      sets

### Another preview of sets

a set is a collection of objects.

(think of it as a box that contains "elements")

ex]  $\emptyset = \text{"the empty set"} = \{ \}$

ex]  $S = \{ \text{☺}, 1, \pi \}$

notation:  $\text{☺} \in S, 1 \in S, \pi \in S$   
 $\uparrow$   
"is in"

$\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{back to } \emptyset : 1 \in \emptyset \text{ is false} \\ 1 \notin \emptyset \text{ is true} \end{array} \right)$

## Famous Sets

$\emptyset$

$\mathbb{N} = \text{"natural numbers"} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$

$\mathbb{Z} = \text{"integers"} = \{\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$

$\mathbb{Q} = \text{"rationals"} = \{ \text{all fractions of integers} \}$

$$-2 = -\frac{2}{1} \in \mathbb{Q}$$

$\mathbb{R}$  = "real numbers" =  $\{ \text{all numbers on the number line} \}$

$$5 \in \mathbb{N} \text{ true } \checkmark$$

$$5 \in \mathbb{Z} \checkmark$$

$$-7 \notin \mathbb{N} \text{ true } \checkmark$$

$$-7 \in \mathbb{Z} \checkmark$$

$$-7 \in \mathbb{Q}, -7 \in \mathbb{R} \checkmark$$

$$\pi \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ is false}$$

$$e \in \mathbb{R} \checkmark$$

$$\pi \in \mathbb{R} \checkmark$$

Universal Quantifier  $\forall$

"for all, for every, every, all"

$$\boxed{\forall x \in \mathcal{U}, P(x)}$$

$\mathcal{U}$  = "universal set"

ex]  $\forall x \in \mathbb{N}, x+1 > x$

this is true!

ex]  $\forall x \in \{1, 2\}, x^2 - x > 0$

when  $x=2$ ,  $2^2 - 2 = 4 - 2 = 2 > 0$  is T

when  $x=1$ ,  $1^2 - 1 = 1 - 1 = 0 > 0$  is F



"counter-example"

the entire statement is false!

note our conditional statements used a  
"hidden" or "implied" quantifier

$$P(x) \Rightarrow Q(x)$$

math folks read this as universally quantified!

$$\boxed{\forall x \in \mathcal{U}, P(x) \Rightarrow Q(x)}$$

ex  $x$  is even  $\Rightarrow x+1$  is odd 

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}, x \text{ is even} \Rightarrow x+1 \text{ is odd}$$

ex differentiability implies continuity

$\left( \forall f \in \{ \text{functions} \}, f \text{ being diff'ble} \Rightarrow f \text{ is contin.} \right)$

**Example 6.4.** Determine the truth values of the following universally-quantified statements.

(1)  $\forall x \in \{1, \pi, 1/2\}, x > 1/4.$

(2)  $\forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}, \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1.$

this is true

(3)  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, a^2 + b \leq 0.$

this is false

$a=0, b=1$

(4)  $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}, a^2 + a \text{ is even.}$

this is true

(5)  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, 1/x^2 > 0.$

## The Existential Quantifier $\exists$

allows us to make statements about

## Some elements in a set

ex] Some dogs have three legs.

$\exists x \in \{ \text{all dogs} \}, \quad x \text{ has 3 legs.}$

↑  
"such that"

$$\exists x \in \mathcal{U}, P(x)$$

$\exists$  is pronounced "there exists, there exist, some"

ex  $\exists y \in \{1, 2\}, \quad y^2 - y > 0$

this is true because  $y=2$  satisfies  $y^2 - y > 0 \checkmark$

**Example 6.8.** Several existentially-quantified statements are written below along with their truth values. Make sure you understand what each statement is claiming and why each truth value is assigned.

(1)  $\exists x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 = 2$  is true.

(2)  $\exists x \in \mathbb{N}, x^2 = 2$  is false.

(3)  $\exists t \in \mathbb{Z}, 1/t = t$  is true.

(4) "Some real numbers are negative" is true.

(5) "There exist students who hate math" is false.

(6)  $\exists a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, a + b = 0$  is true.

(1) is true.  $x = \sqrt{2}$  and  $x = -\sqrt{2}$  make this true.

(2) is false! notice:  $x = 0, 0^2 = 2$  is false

$x = 1, 1^2 = 2$  is false

$x = 2, 2^2 = 2$  is false

and all other choices square  $> 2$   
they all make this false!

(6) is true. choose  $a = 5, b = -5$   $a + b = 5 + (-5) = 0$  ✓

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$\exists!$  "there exists a (unique)"

ex)  $\exists! t \in \{-1, 0, 1\}, t^2 = 1$

this is false; more than one element makes this true!

ex  $\exists ! n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad n^2 = 1$

this is true. only  $n=1$  works.

ex  $\exists ! x \in \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8, \dots\}, \quad x^2 = 1$

this is false because only  $x = \pm 1$  work,  
and neither are in this set!

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