



# EMTH403

## Mathematical Foundation for Computer Science

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# Lecture Outcomes



**After this lecture, you will be able to**

- understand what truth value of the existential quantification.
- express the compound proposition with existential quantification in English.
- understand how to write compound proposition with existential quantification using disjunctions, conjunctions, and negations

# Quantifiers

Many mathematical statements assert that there is an element with a certain property.

Such statements are expressed using **existential quantification**.

With existential quantification, we form a proposition that is true if and only if  $P(x)$  is true for at least one value of  $x$  in the domain.

# Existential Quantifier

The existential quantification of  $P(x)$  is the proposition. “There exists an element  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$ .”

We use the notation  $\exists x P(x)$  for the existential quantification of  $P(x)$ . Here  $\exists$  is called the existential quantifier.

# Quantifiers

- A domain must always be specified when a statement  $\exists xP(x)$  is used.
- Furthermore, the meaning of  $\exists xP(x)$  changes when the domain changes.
- Without specifying the domain, the statement  $\exists xP(x)$  has no meaning.

# Existential Quantifier

- Besides the phrase “there exists,” we can also express existential quantification in many other ways, such as by using the words **“for some,” “for at least one,” or “there is.”**
- The existential quantification  $\exists xP(x)$  is read as
  - “**There is an  $x$  such that  $P(x)$ ,**”
  - “**There is at least one  $x$  such that  $P(x)$ ,**”
  - or
  - “**For some  $xP(x)$ .**”

# Existential Quantifier

The meaning of the existential quantifier is summarized in the second row of Table. We illustrate the use of the existential quantifier in following examples.

<i>Statement</i>	<i>When True?</i>	<i>When False?</i>
$\forall x P(x)$	$P(x)$ is true for every $x$ .	There is an $x$ for which $P(x)$ is false.
$\exists x P(x)$	There is an $x$ for which $P(x)$ is true.	$P(x)$ is false for every $x$ .

# Existential Quantifier – Example - 1

Ques:- Let  $P(x)$  denote the statement “ $x > 3$ .” What is the truth value of the quantification  $\exists x P(x)$ , where the domain consists of all real numbers?

Ans:- Because “ $x > 3$ ” is sometimes true—for instance, when  $x = 4$ —the existential quantification of  $P(x)$ , which is  $\exists x P(x)$ , is **true**.

# Existential Quantifier

- Observe that the statement  $\exists x P(x)$  is false if and only if there is no element  $x$  in the domain for which  $P(x)$  is true.
- That is,  $\exists x P(x)$  is false if and only if  $P(x)$  is false for every element of the domain.

# Existential Quantifier – Example - 2

Ques:- Let  $Q(x)$  denote the statement " $x = x + 1$ ." What is the truth value of the quantification  $\exists x Q(x)$ , where the domain consists of all real numbers?

Ans:- Because  $Q(x)$  is false for every real number  $x$ , the existential quantification of  $Q(x)$ , which is  $\exists x Q(x)$ , is **false**.

# Existential Quantifier

## Remark:

Generally, an implicit assumption is made that all domains of discourse for quantifiers are non-empty.

# Existential Quantifier

If the domain is empty, then  $\exists x Q(x)$  is false whenever  $Q(x)$  is a propositional function because when the domain is empty, **there can be no element  $x$  in the domain for which  $Q(x)$  is true.**

# Existential Quantifier

Remark: When all elements in the domain can be listed—say,  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ —the existential quantification  $\exists x P(x)$  is the same as the disjunction

$$P(x_1) \vee P(x_2) \vee \dots \vee P(x_n),$$

because this disjunction is true if and only if **at least one** of  $P(x_1), P(x_2), \dots, P(x_n)$  is true

# Existential Quantifier – Example – 3

Ques:- What is the truth value of  $\exists xP(x)$ , where  $P(x)$  is the statement " $x^2 > 10$ " and the universe of discourse consists of the positive integers not exceeding 4?

Ans:- Because the domain is {1, 2, 3, 4}, the proposition  $\exists xP(x)$  is the same as the disjunction  $P(1) \vee P(2) \vee P(3) \vee P(4)$ .

Because  $P(4)$ , which is the statement " $4^2 > 10$ ," is true, it follows that  $\exists xP(x)$  is true.

# Existential Quantifier - Example - 4

Ques:- Determine the truth value of each of the statement  $\exists n(n = -n)$  if the domain consists of all integers.

Ans:- This statement is true, since  $0 = -0$ .

# Existential Quantifier - Example - 5

Ques:- Determine the truth value of the statement  
 $\exists n(2n = 3n)$  if the domain consists of all integers.

Ans:- Since  $2 \cdot 0 = 3 \cdot 0$ , this is true.

# Existential Quantifier – Example – 6

Ques:- Determine the truth value of statement  $\exists n(n^2 = 2)$  if the domain for all variables consists of all integers.

Ans:- There are two real numbers that satisfy  $n^2 = 2$ , namely  $\pm\sqrt{2}$ , but there do not exist any integers with this property, so the statement is **false**.

# Existential Quantifier - Example - 7

Ques:- Let  $P(x)$  be the statement " $x = x^2$ ." If the domain consists of the integers, what is the truth value of  $\exists x P(x)$ ?

Ans:- T (let  $x = 1$ )

# Existential Quantifier - Example - 8

Ques:- Determine the truth value of the statement  
 $\exists n(n^2 < 0)$  if the domain for all variables consists of all integers.

Ans:- Squares can never be negative; therefore this statement is false.

# Existential Quantifier – Example - 1

Ques:- Let  $P(x)$  be the statement “ $x$  spends more than five hours every weekday in class,” where the domain for  $x$  consists of all students. Express the quantification  $\exists x P(x)$  in English.

Ans:- There is a student who spends more than five hours every weekday in class.

# Existential Quantifier – Example - 2

Ques:- Let  $P(x)$  be the statement “ $x$  spends more than five hours every weekday in class,” where the domain for  $x$  consists of all students. Express the quantifications  $\exists x \neg P(x)$  in English.

Ans:- There is a student who does not spend more than five hours every weekday in class.

# Existential Quantifier – Example – 3

Ques:- Translate the statement  $\exists x(C(x) \rightarrow F(x))$  into English, where  $C(x)$  is “ $x$  is a comedian” and  $F(x)$  is “ $x$  is funny” and the domain consists of all people.

Ans:- This statement is that there exists an  $x$  in the domain such that if  $x$  is a comedian then  $x$  is funny. In English, this might be rendered, **"There exists a person such that if s/he is a comedian, then s/he is funny."**

# Existential Quantifier – Example – 4

Ques:- Translate the statement  $\exists x(C(x) \wedge F(x))$  into English, where  $C(x)$  is “ $x$  is a comedian” and  $F(x)$  is “ $x$  is funny” and the domain consists of all people.

Ans:- This statement is that there exists an  $x$  in the domain such that  $x$  is a comedian and  $x$  is funny. In English, this might be rendered, "There exists a funny comedian" or "Some comedians are funny" or "Some funny people are comedians."

# Existential Quantifier – Example – 1

Ques:- Let  $P(x)$  be the statement “ $x$  can speak Russian” and let  $Q(x)$  be the statement “ $x$  knows the computer language C++.” Express the sentence “There is a student at your school who can speak Russian and who knows C++.” in terms of  $P(x)$ ,  $Q(x)$ , quantifiers, and logical connectives. The domain for quantifiers consists of all students at your school.

Ans:- We assume that this sentence is asserting that the same person has both talents. Therefore, we can write  $\exists x(P(x) \wedge Q(x))$ .

# Existential Quantifier - Example - 2

Ques:- Let  $P(x)$  be the statement “ $x$  can speak Russian” and let  $Q(x)$  be the statement “ $x$  knows the computer language C++.” “There is a student at your school who can speak Russian but who doesn’t know C++.” in terms of  $P(x)$ ,  $Q(x)$ , quantifiers, and logical connectives. The domain for quantifiers consists of all students at your school.

Ans:- Since “but” really means the same thing as “and” logically, this is  $\exists x(P(x) \wedge \neg Q(x))$

# Existential Quantifier – Example – 3

Ques:- Suppose that the **domain** of the propositional function  $P(x)$  consists of the integers 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4. Write out each of the proposition  $\exists x P(x)$  using disjunctions, conjunctions, and negations.

Ans:- We want to assert that  $P(x)$  is true for some  $x$  in the universe, so either  $P(0)$  is true or  $P(1)$  is true or  $P(2)$  is true or  $P(3)$  is true or  $P(4)$  is true. Thus the answer is  $P(0) \vee P(1) \vee P(2) \vee P(3) \vee P(4)$ .

# Existential Quantifier – Example – 4

Ques:- Suppose that the **domain** of the propositional function  $P(x)$  consists of the integers 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4. Write out the proposition  $\exists x \neg P(x)$  using disjunctions, conjunctions, and negations.

Ans:-  $\neg P(0) \vee \neg P(1) \vee \neg P(2) \vee \neg P(3) \vee \neg P(4)$

# Existential Quantifier – Example – 5

**Ques:-** Suppose that the **domain** of the propositional function  $P(x)$  consists of the integers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Express the statement  $\exists x P(x)$  without using quantifiers, instead using only negations, disjunctions, and conjunctions.

**Ans:-** We want to assert that  $P(x)$  is true for some  $x$  in the universe, so either  $P(1)$  is true, or  $P(2)$  is true, or  $P(3)$  is true, or  $P(4)$  is true, or  $P(5)$  is true. Thus, the answer is  $P(1) \vee P(2) \vee P(3) \vee P(4) \vee P(5)$ .

# Existential Quantifier – Example – 6

Ques:- Suppose that the **domain** of the propositional function  $P(x)$  consists of the integers 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4. Write out the proposition  $\neg\forall x P(x)$  using disjunctions, conjunctions, and negations.

Ans:-  $\neg(P(0) \wedge P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge P(3) \wedge P(4))$

# Existential Quantifier - Example - 7

Ques:- Suppose that the **domain** of the propositional function  $P(x)$  consists of the integers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Express the statement  $\neg\exists xP(x)$  without using quantifiers, instead using only negations, disjunctions, and conjunctions.

Ans:- This is just the negation of part  
 $\neg(P(1) \vee P(2) \vee P(3) \vee P(4) \vee P(5))$

That's all for now...