

A hand is shown placing a blue L-shaped block on top of a colorful cube constructed from various other blocks. The background is a solid light blue, and the surface is a light-colored wooden table. Several other blocks are scattered on the table in the foreground.

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 $\exists xP(x)$ 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 $\exists xP(x)$, 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 $\exists xP(x)$, is **true**.

Existential Quantifier

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