

# Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science

## Lecture 2: Propositional and Predicate Logic

Dr. Ming Tang

Department of Computer Science and Engineering  
Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech)  
Email: tangm3@sustech.edu.cn

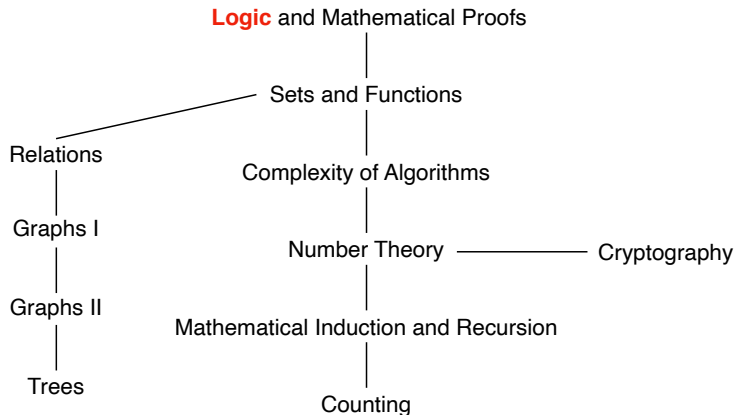
# Question from Students: Precedence of Logical Operators

- 1 negation  $\neg$
- 2 conjunction  $\wedge$
- 3 disjunction  $\vee$
- 4 implication  $\rightarrow$
- 5 biconditional  $\leftrightarrow$

How about exclusive or  $\oplus$ ?

- I did not find the answer.
- People usually do not use operator  $\oplus$
- $p \oplus q = (p \vee q) \wedge \neg(p \wedge q)$

# This Lecture



**Logic:** Propositional logic, applications of propositional logic, propositional equivalence, predicates and quantifiers, nested quantifiers



**SUSTech**

Southern University  
of Science and  
Technology

# Tautology and Contradiction

- **Tautology**: A compound proposition that is **always true**, no matter what the truth values of the propositional variables that occur in it.
- **Contradiction**: A compound proposition that is always false.
- **Contingency**: A compound proposition that is neither a tautology nor a contradiction.

$p$	$\neg p$	$p \vee \neg p$	$p \wedge \neg p$
T	F	T	F
F	T	T	F



# Logical Equivalences

The compound propositions  $p$  and  $q$  are called **logically equivalent**, denoted by  $p \equiv q$  or  $p \Leftrightarrow q$ , if  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is a tautology.

That is, two compound propositions are equivalent if they always have the same truth value.



# Logical Equivalences

The compound propositions  $p$  and  $q$  are called **logically equivalent**, denoted by  $p \equiv q$  or  $p \Leftrightarrow q$ , if  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is a tautology.

That is, two compound propositions are equivalent if they always have the same truth value.

Show that  $\neg(p \vee q)$  and  $\neg p \wedge \neg q$  are logically equivalent.



# Logical Equivalences

The compound propositions  $p$  and  $q$  are called **logically equivalent**, denoted by  $p \equiv q$  or  $p \Leftrightarrow q$ , if  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is a tautology.

That is, two compound propositions are equivalent if they always have the same truth value.

Show that  $\neg(p \vee q)$  and  $\neg p \wedge \neg q$  are logically equivalent.

$p$	$q$	$p \vee q$	$\neg(p \vee q)$	$\neg p$	$\neg q$	$\neg p \wedge \neg q$
T	T	T	F	F	F	F
T	F	T	F	F	T	F
F	T	T	F	T	F	F
F	F	F	T	T	T	T



# De Morgan's Laws

■  $\neg(p \vee q) \equiv \neg p \wedge \neg q$

$\neg(p \wedge q) \equiv \neg p \vee \neg q$

$p$	$q$	$\neg p$	$\neg q$	$(p \vee q)$	$\neg(p \vee q)$	$\neg p \wedge \neg q$
T	T	F	F	T	F	F
T	F	F	T	T	F	F
F	T	T	F	T	F	F
F	F	T	T	F	T	T





# Important Logical Equivalences

## ■ *Identity laws*

$$\diamond p \wedge T \equiv p$$

$$\diamond p \vee F \equiv p$$

## ■ *Domination laws*

$$\diamond p \vee T \equiv T$$

$$\diamond p \wedge F \equiv F$$

## ■ *Idempotent laws*

$$\diamond p \vee p \equiv p$$

$$\diamond p \wedge p \equiv p$$

# Important Logical Equivalences

## ■ *Double negation laws*

$$\diamond \neg(\neg p) \equiv p$$

## ■ *Commutative laws*

$$\diamond p \vee q \equiv q \vee p$$

$$\diamond p \wedge q \equiv q \wedge p$$

## ■ *Associative laws*

$$\diamond (p \vee q) \vee r \equiv p \vee (q \vee r)$$

$$\diamond (p \wedge q) \wedge r \equiv p \wedge (q \wedge r)$$



# Important Logical Equivalences

## ■ *Distributive laws*

$$\diamond p \vee (q \wedge r) \equiv (p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)$$

$$\diamond p \wedge (q \vee r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$$

## ■ *De Morgan's laws*

$$\diamond \neg(p \vee q) \equiv \neg p \wedge \neg q$$

$$\diamond \neg(p \wedge q) \equiv \neg p \vee \neg q$$

## ■ *Others*

$$\diamond p \vee (p \wedge q) \equiv p$$

$$\diamond p \wedge (p \vee q) \equiv p$$

*Absorption laws*

$$\diamond p \vee \neg p \equiv T$$

$$\diamond p \wedge \neg p \equiv F$$

*Negation laws*

$$\diamond p \rightarrow q \equiv \neg p \vee q$$

*Useful law*

# Using Logical Equivalences

Equivalences can be used in proofs. A proposition or its part can be transformed using equivalences.

**Example:** Show that  $(p \wedge q) \rightarrow p$  is a tautology.

# Using Logical Equivalences

Equivalences can be used in proofs. A proposition or its part can be transformed using equivalences.

**Example:** Show that  $(p \wedge q) \rightarrow p$  is a tautology.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Proof: } (p \wedge q) \rightarrow p &\equiv \neg(p \wedge q) \vee p \\ &\equiv (\neg p \vee \neg q) \vee p \\ &\equiv (\neg q \vee \neg p) \vee p \\ &\equiv \neg q \vee (\neg p \vee p) \\ &\equiv \neg q \vee T \\ &\equiv T\end{aligned}$$

Useful  
De Morgan's  
Commutative  
Associative  
Negation  
Domination

# Using Logical Equivalences

Equivalences can be used in proofs. A proposition or its part can be transformed using equivalences.

**Example:** Show that  $(p \wedge q) \rightarrow p$  is a tautology.

**Proof** (alternatively):

$p$	$q$	$p \wedge q$	$(p \wedge q) \rightarrow p$
T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T
F	T	F	T
F	F	F	T



# Using Logical Equivalences

Equivalences can be used in proofs. A proposition or its part can be transformed using equivalences.

**Example:** Show that  $p \rightarrow q \equiv \neg q \rightarrow \neg p$



# Using Logical Equivalences

Equivalences can be used in proofs. A proposition or its part can be transformed using equivalences.

**Example:** Show that  $p \rightarrow q \equiv \neg q \rightarrow \neg p$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned}\neg q \rightarrow \neg p &\equiv \neg(\neg q) \vee (\neg p) \\ &\equiv q \vee (\neg p) \\ &\equiv (\neg p) \vee q \\ &\equiv p \rightarrow q\end{aligned}$$

Useful  
Double negation  
Commutative  
Useful



# Limitations of Propositional Logic

Propositional logic: describe the world in terms of elementary propositions and their logical combinations.

# Limitations of Propositional Logic

Propositional logic: describe the world in terms of elementary propositions and their logical combinations.

**Example 1:**  $1^2 \geq 0$

# Limitations of Propositional Logic

Propositional logic: describe the world in terms of elementary propositions and their logical combinations.

**Example 1:**  $1^2 \geq 0$

However, we also have

- $2^2 \geq 0, 3^2 \geq 0, \dots$
- $(-1)^2 \geq 0, (-2)^2 \geq 0, \dots$

# Limitations of Propositional Logic

Propositional logic: describe the world in terms of elementary propositions and their logical combinations.

**Example 1:**  $1^2 \geq 0$

However, we also have

- $2^2 \geq 0, 3^2 \geq 0, \dots$
- $(-1)^2 \geq 0, (-2)^2 \geq 0, \dots$

**What is a more natural solution to express the knowledge?**

# Limitations of Propositional Logic

Propositional logic: describe the world in terms of elementary propositions and their logical combinations.

**Example 1:**  $1^2 \geq 0$

However, we also have

- $2^2 \geq 0, 3^2 \geq 0, \dots$
- $(-1)^2 \geq 0, (-2)^2 \geq 0, \dots$

**What is a more natural solution to express the knowledge?**

**Include variables!**

- **Predicates:**  $P(x): x^2 \geq 0$
- **Quantifiers:** For **all** integer  $x$ , we have  $x^2 \geq 0$ .

# Limitations of Propositional Logic

## Example 2:

- Every computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- MATH3 is a computer in Room 101.

Can we conclude “MATH3 is functioning properly” using the rules of propositional logic?



# Limitations of Propositional Logic

## Example 2:

- Every computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- MATH3 is a computer in Room 101.

Can we conclude “MATH3 is functioning properly” using the rules of propositional logic?

NO!

# Limitations of Propositional Logic

## Example 2:

- Every computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- MATH3 is a computer in Room 101.

Can we conclude “MATH3 is functioning properly” using the rules of propositional logic?

NO!

## Solution: Predicates and Quantifiers

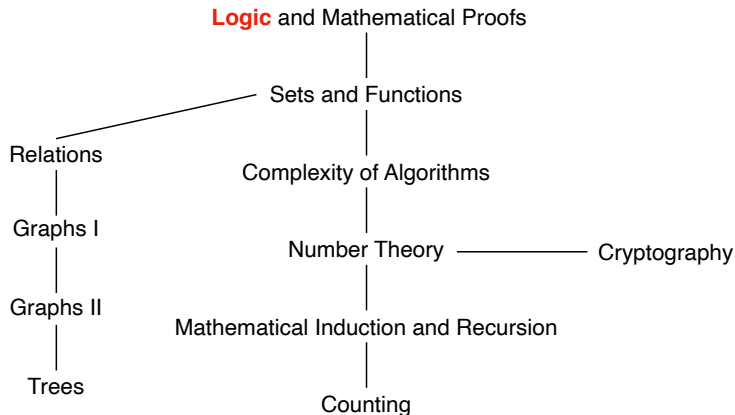
- $P(x)$ : Computer  $x$  is functioning properly.
- $\forall xP(x)$ :  $P(x)$  holds for all computer  $x$  in Room 101.
- Universal quantifier, existential quantifier



**SUSTech**  
Southern University  
of Science and  
Technology



# This Lecture



**Logic:** Propositional logic, applications of propositional logic, propositional equivalence, predicates and quantifiers, nested quantifiers



**SUSTech**

Southern University  
of Science and  
Technology

# Predicate Logic

Predicate Logic: make statements with **variables**

**Example:**  $x$  is greater than 3

- Variable  $x$
- **Predicate**  $P$ : “is greater than 3”
- **Propositional function**  $P(x)$ : the truth value of  $P$  at  $x$

# Predicate Logic

A propositional function  $P(x)$  assigns a value T or F to each  $x$  depending on whether the property holds or not for  $x$

# Predicate Logic

A propositional function  $P(x)$  assigns a value T or F to each  $x$  depending on whether the property holds or not for  $x$

**Example:**  $P(x)$  denote the statement “ $x > 3$ ”:

- $P(2)$  is F
- $P(4)$  is T

# Predicate Logic

A propositional function  $P(x)$  assigns a value T or F to each  $x$  depending on whether the property holds or not for  $x$

**Example:**  $P(x)$  denote the statement “ $x > 3$ ”:

- $P(2)$  is F
- $P(4)$  is T

Is  $P(x)$  a proposition?

# Predicate Logic

A propositional function  $P(x)$  assigns a value T or F to each  $x$  depending on whether the property holds or not for  $x$

**Example:**  $P(x)$  denote the statement “ $x > 3$ ”:

- $P(2)$  is F
- $P(4)$  is T

Is  $P(x)$  a proposition? No!

Is  $P(2)$  a proposition?



# Predicate Logic

A propositional function  $P(x)$  assigns a value T or F to each  $x$  depending on whether the property holds or not for  $x$

**Example:**  $P(x)$  denote the statement “ $x > 3$ ”:

- $P(2)$  is F
- $P(4)$  is T

Is  $P(x)$  a proposition? No!

Is  $P(2)$  a proposition? Yes!

# Predicates

- A **predicate** is a statement  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  that contains  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . It becomes a proposition when specific values are substituted for the variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .



# Predicates

- A **predicate** is a statement  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  that contains  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . It becomes a proposition when specific values are substituted for the variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .
- The **domain (universe)**  $D$  of the predicate variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is the set of all values that may be substituted in place of the variables.

# Predicates

- A **predicate** is a statement  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  that contains  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . It becomes a proposition when specific values are substituted for the variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .
- The **domain (universe)**  $D$  of the predicate variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is the set of all values that may be substituted in place of the variables.
- The **truth set** of  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is the set of all values of the predicate variables  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  such that the proposition  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is true.

# Predicates: Example 1

Let  $P(x)$  be the predicate “ $x^2 > x$ ” with domain of the real numbers.

- 1 What are the truth values of  $P(2)$  and  $P(1)$ ?
- 2 What is the truth set of  $P(x)$ ?



# Predicates: Example 1

Let  $P(x)$  be the predicate " $x^2 > x$ " with domain of the real numbers.

- 1 What are the truth values of  $P(2)$  and  $P(1)$ ?

$$P(2) = \text{T}, P(1) = \text{F}$$

- 2 What is the truth set of  $P(x)$ ?

# Predicates: Example 1

Let  $P(x)$  be the predicate " $x^2 > x$ " with domain of the real numbers.

- 1 What are the truth values of  $P(2)$  and  $P(1)$ ?

$$P(2) = \text{T}, P(1) = \text{F}$$

- 2 What is the truth set of  $P(x)$ ?

$$x > 1 \text{ or } x < 0$$

## Predicates: Example 2

Let  $Q(x, y)$  be the predicate " $x = y + 3$ " with domain of the real numbers.

- 1 What are the truth values of  $Q(1, 2)$  and  $Q(3, 0)$ ?
- 2 What is the truth set of  $Q(x, y)$ ?

## Predicates: Example 2

Let  $Q(x, y)$  be the predicate " $x = y + 3$ " with domain of the real numbers.

- 1 What are the truth values of  $Q(1, 2)$  and  $Q(3, 0)$ ?

$$Q(1, 2) = F, Q(3, 0) = T$$

- 2 What is the truth set of  $Q(x, y)$ ?

## Predicates: Example 2

Let  $Q(x, y)$  be the predicate " $x = y + 3$ " with domain of the real numbers.

- 1 What are the truth values of  $Q(1, 2)$  and  $Q(3, 0)$ ?

$$Q(1, 2) = F, Q(3, 0) = T$$

- 2 What is the truth set of  $Q(x, y)$ ?

$$(a, a - 3) \text{ for all real numbers } a$$



# Compound Statements in Predicate Logic

Compound statements are obtained via logical connectives.

$P(x)$ :  $x$  is a prime

$Q(x)$ :  $x$  is an integer

- $P(2) \wedge P(3)$ :
- $P(2) \wedge Q(2)$ :
- $Q(x) \rightarrow P(x)$ :

# Compound Statements in Predicate Logic

Compound statements are obtained via logical connectives.

$P(x)$ :  $x$  is a prime

$Q(x)$ :  $x$  is an integer

- $P(2) \wedge P(3)$ : Both 2 and 3 are primes.
- $P(2) \wedge Q(2)$ : 2 is a prime or an integer.
- $Q(x) \rightarrow P(x)$ : If  $x$  is an integer, then  $x$  is a prime.

# Compound Statements in Predicate Logic

Compound statements are obtained via logical connectives.

$P(x)$ :  $x$  is a prime

$Q(x)$ :  $x$  is an integer

- $P(2) \wedge P(3)$ : Both 2 and 3 are primes. (T)
- $P(2) \wedge Q(2)$ : 2 is a prime or an integer. (T)
- $Q(x) \rightarrow P(x)$ : If  $x$  is an integer, then  $x$  is a prime.

# Compound Statements in Predicate Logic

Compound statements are obtained via logical connectives.

$P(x)$ :  $x$  is a prime

$Q(x)$ :  $x$  is an integer

- $P(2) \wedge P(3)$ : Both 2 and 3 are primes. (T)
- $P(2) \wedge Q(2)$ : 2 is a prime or an integer. (T)
- $Q(x) \rightarrow P(x)$ : If  $x$  is an integer, then  $x$  is a prime. (Not a proposition!)

# Compound Statements in Predicate Logic

Compound statements are obtained via logical connectives.

$P(x)$ :  $x$  is a prime

$Q(x)$ :  $x$  is an integer

- $P(2) \wedge P(3)$ : Both 2 and 3 are primes. (T)
- $P(2) \wedge Q(2)$ : 2 is a prime or an integer. (T)
- $Q(x) \rightarrow P(x)$ : If  $x$  is an integer, then  $x$  is a prime. (Not a proposition!)

How to make it a proposition?

# Compound Statements in Predicate Logic

Compound statements are obtained via logical connectives.

$P(x)$ :  $x$  is a prime

$Q(x)$ :  $x$  is an integer

- $P(2) \wedge P(3)$ : Both 2 and 3 are primes. (T)
- $P(2) \wedge Q(2)$ : 2 is a prime or an integer. (T)
- $Q(x) \rightarrow P(x)$ : If  $x$  is an integer, then  $x$  is a prime. (Not a proposition!)

How to make it a proposition?

Note: Researchers may use  $\text{Prime}(x)$  to refer to “ $x$  is a prime”,  $\text{Integer}(x)$  to refer to “ $x$  is an integer”, and others. It is only a way of notation. If you use such notations, please define it clearly beforehand.



**SUSTech**

Southern University  
of Science and  
Technology

# Quantified Statements

Propositional function  $P(x) \xRightarrow{\text{specify } x} \text{Proposition}$

# Quantified Statements

Propositional function  $P(x)$   $\xRightarrow{\text{specify } x}$  Proposition

**An alternative way to obtain proposition:**

Propositional function  $P(x)$   $\xRightarrow{\text{for all/some } x \text{ in domain}}$  Proposition



# Quantified Statements

Propositional function  $P(x)$   $\xRightarrow{\text{specify } x}$  Proposition

**An alternative way to obtain proposition:**

Propositional function  $P(x)$   $\xRightarrow{\text{for all/some } x \text{ in domain}}$  Proposition

Predicate logic permits **quantified statement** where **variables** are **substituted** for statements about the **group of objects**.

# Quantified Statements

Two types of quantified statements:

- Universal quantifier  $\forall xP(x)$
- Existential quantifier  $\exists xP(x)$

# Quantified Statements

Two types of quantified statements:

- Universal quantifier  $\forall xP(x)$ 
  - ▶ **All** CS-major graduates have to pass CS201.
  - ▶ (This is **true** for **all** CS-major graduates.)
- Existential quantifier  $\exists xP(x)$ 
  - ▶ **Some** CS-major students graduate with honor.
  - ▶ (This is **true** for **some** students.)

# Universal Quantifier

The **universal quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the statement

$P(x)$  for all values of  $x$  in the **domain**.

The notation  $\forall x P(x)$  denotes the universal quantification of  $P(x)$ . We read  $\forall x P(x)$  as “for all  $x P(x)$ ” or “for every  $x P(x)$ .”

# Universal Quantifier: Example

$$P(x): |x| \leq x$$

**What is the truth value of  $\forall x P(x)$ ?**

# Universal Quantifier: Example

$$P(x): |x| \leq x$$

**What is the truth value of  $\forall x P(x)$ ?**

- Assuming the **domain** to be all positive real numbers?



# Universal Quantifier: Example

$$P(x): |x| \leq x$$

**What is the truth value of  $\forall x P(x)$ ?**

- Assuming the **domain** to be all positive real numbers? **True**



# Universal Quantifier: Example

$$P(x): |x| \leq x$$

**What is the truth value of  $\forall x P(x)$ ?**

- Assuming the **domain** to be all positive real numbers? **True**
- All real numbers?



# Universal Quantifier: Example

$$P(x): |x| \leq x$$

**What is the truth value of  $\forall x P(x)$ ?**

- Assuming the **domain** to be all positive real numbers? **True**
- All real numbers? **False**



# Universal Quantifier: Example

$$P(x): |x| \leq x$$

**What is the truth value of  $\forall x P(x)$ ?**

- Assuming the **domain** to be all positive real numbers? **True**
- All real numbers? **False**

**The domain must always be specified!**



# Universal Quantifier: Questions

The **universal quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the statement

$P(x)$  for all values of  $x$  in the **domain**.

**Question 1:** Is  $\forall x P(x)$  a proposition?

# Universal Quantifier: Questions

The **universal quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the statement

$P(x)$  for all values of  $x$  in the **domain**.

**Question 1:** Is  $\forall x P(x)$  a proposition?

Yes. Its truth value?

# Universal Quantifier: Questions

The **universal quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the statement

$P(x)$  for all values of  $x$  in the **domain**.

**Question 1:** Is  $\forall x P(x)$  a proposition?

Yes. Its truth value?

- True if  $P(x)$  is true for all  $x$  in the domain.
- False if there is an  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$  is false.  
(**counterexample**)



# Universal Quantifier: Questions

The **universal quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the statement

$P(x)$  for all values of  $x$  in the **domain**.

**Question 1:** Is  $\forall x P(x)$  a proposition?

Yes. Its truth value?

- True if  $P(x)$  is true for all  $x$  in the domain.
- False if there is an  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$  is false.  
(**counterexample**)

**Question 2:** What is the truth value of  $\forall x P(x)$  when the domain is empty?



# Universal Quantifier: Questions

The **universal quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the statement

$P(x)$  for all values of  $x$  in the **domain**.

**Question 1:** Is  $\forall x P(x)$  a proposition?

Yes. Its truth value?

- True if  $P(x)$  is true for all  $x$  in the domain.
- False if there is an  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$  is false.  
(**counterexample**)

**Question 2:** What is the truth value of  $\forall x P(x)$  when the domain is empty?

Proposition  $\forall x P(x)$  is **true** for every propositional function  $P(x)$ .

# 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  $P(x)$ .



# 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  $P(x)$ .

**Example:**  $P(x): x > 0$

What is the truth value of  $\exists x P(x)$ ?

# 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  $P(x)$ .

**Example:**  $P(x): x > 0$

What is the truth value of  $\exists x P(x)$ ?

- What if assuming the domain to be all real numbers? **True**

# 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  $P(x)$ .

**Example:**  $P(x): x > 0$

What is the truth value of  $\exists x P(x)$ ?

- What if assuming the domain to be all real numbers? **True**
- What if all negative real numbers? **False**

# 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  $P(x)$ .

**Example:**  $P(x): x > 0$

What is the truth value of  $\exists x P(x)$ ?

- What if assuming the domain to be all real numbers? **True**
- What if all negative real numbers? **False**

**The domain must always be specified!**



# Existential Quantifier: Questions

The **existential quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the proposition

“There **exists** an element  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$ .”

**Question 1:** Is  $\exists xP(x)$  a proposition?



# Existential Quantifier: Questions

The **existential quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the proposition

“There **exists** an element  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$ .”

**Question 1:** Is  $\exists x P(x)$  a proposition?

Yes. Its truth value?

# Existential Quantifier: Questions

The **existential quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the proposition

“There **exists** an element  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$ .”

**Question 1:** Is  $\exists xP(x)$  a proposition?

Yes. Its truth value?

- True if there is an  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$  is true. (an **example**)
- False if  $P(x)$  is false for all  $x$  in the domain.



# Existential Quantifier: Questions

The **existential quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the proposition

“There **exists** an element  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$ .”

**Question 1:** Is  $\exists x P(x)$  a proposition?

Yes. Its truth value?

- True if there is an  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$  is true. (an **example**)
- False if  $P(x)$  is false for all  $x$  in the domain.

**Question 2:** What is the truth value of  $\exists x P(x)$  when the domain is empty?





# Existential Quantifier: Questions

The **existential quantification** of  $P(x)$  is the proposition

“There **exists** an element  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$ .”

**Question 1:** Is  $\exists xP(x)$  a proposition?

Yes. Its truth value?

- True if there is an  $x$  in the domain such that  $P(x)$  is true. (**an example**)
- False if  $P(x)$  is false for all  $x$  in the domain.

**Question 2:** What is the truth value of  $\exists xP(x)$  when the domain is empty?

Proposition  $\exists xP(x)$  is **false** for every propositional function  $P(x)$ .

# Summary of Quantified Statements

Statement	When true?	When false?
$\forall x P(x)$	$P(x)$ true for all $x$	There is an $x$ where $P(x)$ is false.
$\exists x P(x)$	There is some $x$ for which $P(x)$ is true.	$P(x)$ is false for all $x$ .

Suppose that the elements in the domain can be enumerated as  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  then:

- $\forall x P(x)$  is true whenever  $P(x_1) \wedge P(x_2) \wedge \dots \wedge P(x_n)$  is true.
- $\exists x P(x)$  is true whenever  $P(x_1) \vee P(x_2) \vee \dots \vee P(x_n)$  is true.

# Properties of Quantifiers

The truth values of  $\forall xP(x)$  and  $\exists xP(x)$  depend on **both** the **propositional function**  $P(x)$  and the **domain**.

**Example:**  $P(x): x < 2$

- domain: the positive integers

$\forall xP(x):$  ,  $\exists xP(x):$

- domain: the negative integers

$\forall xP(x):$  ,  $\exists xP(x):$

- domain:  $\{3, 4, 5\}$

$\forall xP(x):$  ,  $\exists xP(x):$

# Properties of Quantifiers

The truth values of  $\forall xP(x)$  and  $\exists xP(x)$  depend on **both** the **propositional function**  $P(x)$  and the **domain**.

**Example:**  $P(x): x < 2$

- domain: the positive integers

$\forall xP(x)$ : F,  $\exists xP(x)$ : T

- domain: the negative integers

$\forall xP(x)$ : T,  $\exists xP(x)$ : T

- domain:  $\{3, 4, 5\}$

$\forall xP(x)$ : F,  $\exists xP(x)$ : F

# Precedence of Proposition and Quantifiers

<i>Operator</i>	<i>Precedence</i>
$\neg$	1
$\wedge$ $\vee$	2 3
$\rightarrow$ $\leftrightarrow$	4 5

- $\neg p \wedge q$  means  $(\neg p) \wedge q$  rather than  $\neg(p \wedge q)$
- $p \wedge q \vee r$  means  $(p \wedge q) \vee r$  rather than  $p \wedge (q \vee r)$

The quantifiers  $\forall$  and  $\exists$  have **higher precedence** than all the logical operators.

- $\forall x P(x) \vee Q(x)$  means  $(\forall x P(x)) \vee Q(x)$  rather than  $\forall x (P(x) \vee Q(x))$

# Translation with Quantifiers

Every student in this class has studied algebra.

# Translation with Quantifiers

Every student in this class has studied algebra.

## Logic Expression 1:

- $A(x)$ : “ $x$  has studied algebra”.
- Domain: the students in the class
- $\forall x A(x)$

# Translation with Quantifiers

Every student in this class has studied algebra.

## Logic Expression 2:

- $A(x)$ : “ $x$  has studied algebra”.
- $C(x)$ : “ $x$  is in this class”
- Domain: all students
-



# Translation with Quantifiers

Every student in this class has studied algebra.

## Logic Expression 2:

- $A(x)$ : “ $x$  has studied algebra”.
- $C(x)$ : “ $x$  is in this class”
- Domain: all students
- $\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow A(x))$

# Translation with Quantifiers

Every student in this class has studied algebra.

## Logic Expression 2:

- $A(x)$ : “ $x$  has studied algebra”.
- $C(x)$ : “ $x$  is in this class”
- Domain: all students
- $\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow A(x))$

Note: Implication  $p \rightarrow q$ .

# Translation with Quantifiers

Every student in this class has studied algebra.

## Logic Expression 2:

- $A(x)$ : “x has studied algebra”.
- $C(x)$ : “x is in this class”
- Domain: all students
- $\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow A(x))$

How about  $\forall x(C(x) \wedge A(x))$ ?

# Translation with Quantifiers

Every student in this class has studied algebra.

## Logic Expression 2:

- $A(x)$ : “ $x$  has studied algebra”.
- $C(x)$ : “ $x$  is in this class”
- Domain: all students
- $\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow A(x))$

How about  $\forall x(C(x) \wedge A(x))$ ? All students are in this class and has studied algebra.

# Translation with Quantifiers

Every student in this class has studied algebra.

## Logic Expression 3:

- $A(x)$ : “ $x$  has studied algebra”.
- $C(x)$ : “ $x$  is in this class”
- $S(x)$ : “ $x$  is a student”
- Domain: all people
- $\forall x(S(x) \wedge C(x) \rightarrow A(x))$

# Translation with Quantifiers

Some student in this class has visited Mexico.

# Translation with Quantifiers

Some student in this class has visited Mexico.

## Logic Expression 1:

- $M(x)$ : “ $x$  has visited Mexico”.
- Domain: the students in the class
- $\exists x M(x)$

# Translation with Quantifiers

Some student in this class has visited Mexico.

## Logic Expression 2:

- $M(x)$ : “ $x$  has visited Mexico”.
- $C(x)$ : “ $x$  is a student in this class.”
- Domain: all people
-



# Translation with Quantifiers

Some student in this class has visited Mexico.

## Logic Expression 2:

- $M(x)$ : “ $x$  has visited Mexico”.
- $C(x)$ : “ $x$  is a student in this class.”
- Domain: all people
- $\exists x(C(x) \wedge M(x))$

# Translation with Quantifiers

Some student in this class has visited Mexico.

## Logic Expression 2:

- $M(x)$ : “ $x$  has visited Mexico”.
- $C(x)$ : “ $x$  is a student in this class.”
- Domain: all people
- $\exists x(C(x) \wedge M(x))$

How about  $\exists x(C(x) \rightarrow A(x))$ ?

# Translation with Quantifiers

Some student in this class has visited Mexico.

## Logic Expression 2:

- $M(x)$ : “ $x$  has visited Mexico”.
- $C(x)$ : “ $x$  is a student in this class.”
- Domain: all people
- $\exists x(C(x) \wedge M(x))$

How about  $\exists x(C(x) \rightarrow A(x))$ ? **No!** This is even true when there is some people not in the class.

# Translation with Quantifiers

- $p$ : **Every** computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- $q$ : Computer MATH3 is in Room 101.

Can we conclude  $r$ : “MATH3 is functioning properly” using the rules of propositional logic? **NO!** Cannot infer  $r$  from  $p$  and  $q$ .

# Translation with Quantifiers

- $p$ : **Every** computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- $q$ : Computer MATH3 is in Room 101.

Can we conclude  $r$ : “MATH3 is functioning properly” using the rules of propositional logic? **NO!** Cannot infer  $r$  from  $p$  and  $q$ .

**With predicate and quantifier:**

# Translation with Quantifiers

- $p$ : **Every** computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- $q$ : Computer MATH3 is in Room 101.

Can we conclude  $r$ : “MATH3 is functioning properly” using the rules of propositional logic? **NO!** Cannot infer  $r$  from  $p$  and  $q$ .

## With predicate and quantifier:

- $C(x)$ : Computer  $x$  is in Room 101.
- $D(x)$ : Computer  $x$  is functioning properly.

# Translation with Quantifiers

- $p$ : **Every** computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- $q$ : Computer MATH3 is in Room 101.

Can we conclude  $r$ : “MATH3 is functioning properly” using the rules of propositional logic? **NO!** Cannot infer  $r$  from  $p$  and  $q$ .

## With predicate and quantifier:

- $C(x)$ : Computer  $x$  is in Room 101.
- $D(x)$ : Computer  $x$  is functioning properly.
- $\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow D(x))$  within the domain of computers: **Every** computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- $C(\text{MATH3})$ : Computer MATH3 is in Room 101.

# Translation with Quantifiers

- $p$ : **Every** computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- $q$ : Computer MATH3 is in Room 101.

Can we conclude  $r$ : “MATH3 is functioning properly” using the rules of propositional logic? **NO!** Cannot infer  $r$  from  $p$  and  $q$ .

## With predicate and quantifier:

- $C(x)$ : Computer  $x$  is in Room 101.
- $D(x)$ : Computer  $x$  is functioning properly.
- $\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow D(x))$  within the domain of computers: **Every** computer in Room 101 is functioning properly.
- $C(\text{MATH3})$ : Computer MATH3 is in Room 101.
- $D(\text{MATH3})$ : **MATH3 is functioning properly.**



# Negation of Quantifiers

Every student in this class has taken a course in calculus.

- $P(x)$ :  $x$  has taken a course in calculus
- Domain: All students in this class
- $\forall x P(x)$

# Negation of Quantifiers

Every student in this class has taken a course in calculus.

- $P(x)$ :  $x$  has taken a course in calculus
- Domain: All students in this class
- $\forall x P(x)$

**The negation of this statement:** It is not the case that every student in this class has taken a course in calculus.

- $\neg(\forall x P(x))$
- $\exists x(\neg P(x))$



# Negation of Quantifiers

Every student in this class has taken a course in calculus.

- $P(x)$ :  $x$  has taken a course in calculus
- Domain: All students in this class
- $\forall x P(x)$

**The negation of this statement:** It is not the case that every student in this class has taken a course in calculus.

- $\neg(\forall x P(x))$
- $\exists x(\neg P(x))$

$$\neg(\forall x P(x)) \equiv \exists x(\neg P(x))$$



# Negation of Quantifiers

There is a student in this class who has taken a course in calculus.”

- $P(x)$ :  $x$  has taken a course in calculus
- Domain: All students in this class
- $\exists x P(x)$

# Negation of Quantifiers

There is a student in this class who has taken a course in calculus.”

- $P(x)$ :  $x$  has taken a course in calculus
- Domain: All students in this class
- $\exists x P(x)$

**The negation of this statement:** It is not the case that there is a student in this class has taken a course in calculus.

- $\neg(\exists x P(x))$
- $\forall x (\neg P(x))$

# Negation of Quantifiers

There is a student in this class who has taken a course in calculus.”

- $P(x)$ :  $x$  has taken a course in calculus
- Domain: All students in this class
- $\exists x P(x)$

**The negation of this statement:** It is not the case that there is a student in this class has taken a course in calculus.

- $\neg(\exists x P(x))$
- $\forall x(\neg P(x))$

$$\neg(\exists x P(x)) \equiv \forall x(\neg P(x))$$



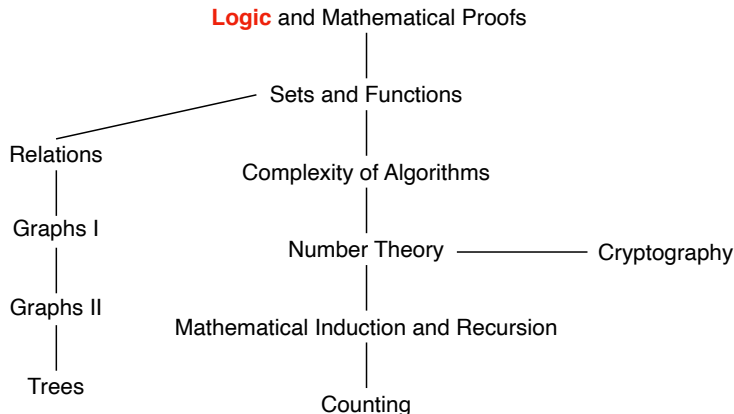
# Negation of Quantified Statements

A.k.a, De Morgan laws for quantifiers

Negation	Equivalent Statement	When Is Negation True?	When False?
$\neg \exists x P(x)$	$\forall x \neg P(x)$	For every $x$ , $P(x)$ is false.	There is an $x$ for which $P(x)$ is true.
$\neg \forall x P(x)$	$\exists x \neg P(x)$	There is an $x$ for which $P(x)$ is false.	$P(x)$ is true for every $x$ .



# This Lecture



**Logic:** Propositional logic, applications of propositional logic, propositional equivalence, predicates and quantifiers, nested quantifiers

**Mathematical Proofs:** Rules of inference, introduction to proofs



**SUSTech**

Southern University  
of Science and  
Technology



# Nested Quantifiers

More than one quantifier may be necessary to capture the meaning of a statement in the predicate logic.

# Nested Quantifiers

More than one quantifier may be necessary to capture the meaning of a statement in the predicate logic.

**Example 1:** For every real number, there is a real number such that their summation is equal to zero.

# Nested Quantifiers

More than one quantifier may be necessary to capture the meaning of a statement in the predicate logic.

**Example 1:** For every real number, there is a real number such that their summation is equal to zero.

- $P(x, y): x + y = 0$
- Domain of  $x$  and  $y$ : all real number

# Nested Quantifiers

More than one quantifier may be necessary to capture the meaning of a statement in the predicate logic.

**Example 1:** For every real number, there is a real number such that their summation is equal to zero.

- $P(x, y): x + y = 0$
- Domain of  $x$  and  $y$ : all real number
- $\forall x \exists y P(x, y)$

# Nested Quantifiers

More than one quantifier may be necessary to capture the meaning of a statement in the predicate logic.

**Example 2:** There is a real number such that it is larger than all negative real numbers.

# Nested Quantifiers

More than one quantifier may be necessary to capture the meaning of a statement in the predicate logic.

**Example 2:** There is a real number such that it is larger than all negative real numbers.

- $P(x, y): x > y$
- Domain of  $x$ : all real number
- Domain of  $y$ : all negative real numbers
- $\exists x \forall y P(x, y)$



# Nested Quantifiers

More than one quantifier may be necessary to capture the meaning of a statement in the predicate logic.

**Example 2:** There is a real number such that it is larger than all negative real numbers.

- $P(x, y): x > y$
- Domain of  $x$ : all real number
- Domain of  $y$ : all negative real numbers
- $\exists x \forall y P(x, y)$

Does the order matter?

# Order of Quantifiers

The order of nested quantifiers **matters** if quantifiers are of **different type**.

## Example:

- $P(x, y): x + y = 0$
- Domain of  $x$ : all real number
- Domain of  $y$ : all negative real numbers

$\forall x \exists y P(x, y)$  is not equivalent to  $\exists y \forall x P(x, y)$



# Order of Quantifiers

The order of nested quantifiers **matters** if quantifiers are of **different type**.

## Example:

- $P(x, y): x + y = 0$
- Domain of  $x$ : all real number
- Domain of  $y$ : all negative real numbers

$\forall x \exists y P(x, y)$  is not equivalent to  $\exists y \forall x P(x, y)$

- $\forall x \exists y P(x, y)$ : for every  $x$ , there exists a  $y$  such that ...
- $\exists y \forall x P(x, y)$ : exists a  $y$  such that for every  $x$  ...

# Order of Quantifiers

The order of nested quantifiers **does no matter** if quantifiers are of the same type.

## Example:

- $P(x, y): x + y = y + x$
- Domain of  $x$ : all real number
- Domain of  $y$ : all negative real numbers

$$\exists x \exists y P(x, y) \equiv \exists y \exists x P(x, y):$$

$$\forall x \forall y P(x, y) \equiv \forall y \forall x P(x, y):$$

# Order of Quantifiers

The order of nested quantifiers **does no matter** if quantifiers are of the same type.

## Example:

- $P(x, y): x + y = y + x$
- Domain of  $x$ : all real number
- Domain of  $y$ : all negative real numbers

$$\exists x \exists y P(x, y) \equiv \exists y \exists x P(x, y):$$

- $\exists x \exists y P(x, y)$ : exists an  $x$  such that there exists a  $y$  ...
- $\exists y \exists x P(x, y)$ : exists a  $y$  such that there exists an  $x$  ...

$$\forall x \forall y P(x, y) \equiv \forall y \forall x P(x, y):$$

# Order of Quantifiers

The order of nested quantifiers **does no matter** if quantifiers are of the same type.

## Example:

- $P(x, y): x + y = y + x$
- Domain of  $x$ : all real number
- Domain of  $y$ : all negative real numbers

$\exists x \exists y P(x, y) \equiv \exists y \exists x P(x, y)$ : Exist a pair  $x, y$  for which  $P(x, y)$  is true.

$\forall x \forall y P(x, y) \equiv \forall y \forall x P(x, y)$ :

# Order of Quantifiers

The order of nested quantifiers **does no matter** if quantifiers are of the same type.

## Example:

- $P(x, y): x + y = y + x$
- Domain of  $x$ : all real number
- Domain of  $y$ : all negative real numbers

$\exists x \exists y P(x, y) \equiv \exists y \exists x P(x, y)$ : Exist a pair  $x, y$  for which  $P(x, y)$  is true.

$\forall x \forall y P(x, y) \equiv \forall y \forall x P(x, y)$ :

- $\forall x \forall y P(x, y)$ : for every  $x$ , for every  $y$ , ...
- $\forall y \forall x P(x, y)$ : for every  $y$ , for every  $x$ , ...

# Order of Quantifiers

The order of nested quantifiers **does no matter** if quantifiers are of the same type.

## Example:

- $P(x, y): x + y = y + x$
- Domain of  $x$ : all real number
- Domain of  $y$ : all negative real numbers

$\exists x \exists y P(x, y) \equiv \exists y \exists x P(x, y)$ : Exist a pair  $x, y$  for which  $P(x, y)$  is true.

$\forall x \forall y P(x, y) \equiv \forall y \forall x P(x, y)$ : For every pair  $x, y$ ,  $P(x, y)$  is true.

# Nest Quantifier with Two Variables

<i>Statement</i>	<i>When True?</i>	<i>When False?</i>
$\forall x \forall y P(x, y)$ $\forall y \forall x P(x, y)$	$P(x, y)$ is true for every pair $x, y$ .	There is a pair $x, y$ for which $P(x, y)$ is false.
$\forall x \exists y P(x, y)$	For every $x$ there is a $y$ for which $P(x, y)$ is true.	There is an $x$ such that $P(x, y)$ is false for every $y$ .
$\exists x \forall y P(x, y)$	There is an $x$ for which $P(x, y)$ is true for every $y$ .	For every $x$ there is a $y$ for which $P(x, y)$ is false.
$\exists x \exists y P(x, y)$ $\exists y \exists x P(x, y)$	There is a pair $x, y$ for which $P(x, y)$ is true.	$P(x, y)$ is false for every pair $x, y$ .



# Try to Translate

- 1 The sum of two positive integers is always positive.
- 2 Every real number except zero has a multiplicative inverse.



# Try to Translate

- 1 The sum of two positive integers is always positive.
  - ▶ Domain of  $x$  and  $y$ : all integers
- 2 Every real number except zero has a multiplicative inverse.

# Try to Translate

- ① The sum of two positive integers is always positive.
  - ▶ Domain of  $x$  and  $y$ : all integers
  - ▶  $P(x, y): (x > 0) \wedge (y > 0)$
  - ▶  $Q(x, y): x + y > 0$
  - ▶  $\forall x \forall y (P(x, y) \rightarrow Q(x, y))$
  - ▶ Or, we can write it as  $\forall x \forall y ((x > 0) \wedge (y > 0) \rightarrow x + y > 0)$
- ② Every real number except zero has a multiplicative inverse.



# Try to Translate

- ① The sum of two positive integers is always positive.
  - ▶ Domain of  $x$  and  $y$ : all integers
  - ▶  $P(x, y): (x > 0) \wedge (y > 0)$
  - ▶  $Q(x, y): x + y > 0$
  - ▶  $\forall x \forall y (P(x, y) \rightarrow Q(x, y))$
  - ▶ Or, we can write it as  $\forall x \forall y ((x > 0) \wedge (y > 0) \rightarrow x + y > 0)$
- ② Every real number except zero has a multiplicative inverse.
  - ▶ Domain of  $x$  and  $y$ : all real numbers

# Try to Translate

- ① The sum of two positive integers is always positive.
  - ▶ Domain of  $x$  and  $y$ : all integers
  - ▶  $P(x, y): (x > 0) \wedge (y > 0)$
  - ▶  $Q(x, y): x + y > 0$
  - ▶  $\forall x \forall y (P(x, y) \rightarrow Q(x, y))$
  - ▶ Or, we can write it as  $\forall x \forall y ((x > 0) \wedge (y > 0) \rightarrow x + y > 0)$
- ② Every real number except zero has a multiplicative inverse.
  - ▶ Domain of  $x$  and  $y$ : all real numbers
  - ▶  $\forall x ((x \neq 0) \rightarrow \exists y (xy = 1))$



# Negating Nested Quantifiers

For every real number  $x$ , there exists a real number  $y$  such that  $xy = 1$ .

$$\forall x \exists y (xy = 1)$$

# Negating Nested Quantifiers

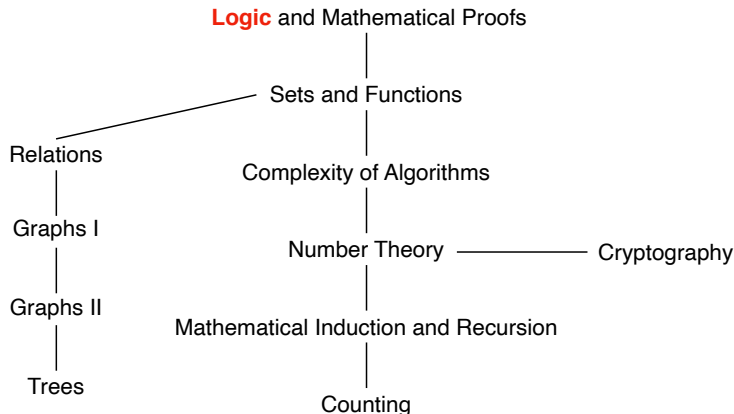
For every real number  $x$ , there exists a real number  $y$  such that  $xy = 1$ .

$$\forall x \exists y (xy = 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \neg \forall x \exists y (xy = 1) \\ \equiv & \exists x \neg \exists y (xy = 1) \\ \equiv & \exists x \forall y \neg (xy = 1) \\ \equiv & \exists x \forall y (xy \neq 1) \end{aligned}$$

Note:  $\neg(\forall x P(x)) \equiv \exists x(\neg P(x))$ ,  $\neg(\exists x P(x)) \equiv \forall x(\neg P(x))$

# This Lecture



**Logic:** Propositional logic, applications of propositional logic, propositional equivalence, predicates and quantifiers, nested quantifiers

**Mathematical Proofs:** Rules of inference, introduction to proofs



**SUSTech**

Southern University  
of Science and  
Technology

# Argument

**Argument:** A sequence of propositions that end with a conclusion.



# Argument

**Argument:** A sequence of propositions that end with a conclusion.

“If you have a current password, then you can log onto the network.”

“You have a current password.”

Therefore,

“You can log onto the network.”

# Argument

**Argument:** A sequence of propositions that end with a conclusion.

## **Premises:**

“If you have a current password, then you can log onto the network.”

“You have a current password.”

## **Conclusion:**

“You can log onto the network.”

An **argument** is **valid** if the truth of all its premises implies that the conclusion is true.

# Argument Form

## Premises:

“If you have a current password, then you can log onto the network.”

“You have a current password.”

**Conclusion:** “You can log onto the network.”

An **argument form** in propositional logic is a sequence of compound propositions involving **propositional variables**.

- $p$ : “You have a current password”
- $q$ : “You can log onto the network” or “You can change your grade”

$$\begin{array}{c} p \rightarrow q \\ p \\ \hline \therefore q \end{array}$$



**SUSTech**  
Southern University  
of Science and  
Technology

The validity of an **argument follows from** the validity of its argument form.

# Validity

**Validity of Argument Form:** The **argument form** with premises  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  and conclusion  $q$  is **valid**, if

$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) \rightarrow q$  is a **tautology**.

# Validity

**Validity of Argument Form:** The **argument form** with premises  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  and conclusion  $q$  is **valid**, if

$$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) \rightarrow q \text{ is a tautology.}$$

Note: According to the definition of  $p \rightarrow q$ , we do not worry about the case where  $p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n$  is false.

Thus, equivalently, **an argument form is valid** no matter which particular propositions are substituted for the propositional variables in its premises, **the conclusion is true if the premises are all true.**

# Validity

**Validity of Argument Form:** The **argument form** with premises  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  and conclusion  $q$  is **valid**, if

$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) \rightarrow q$  is a **tautology**.

Is the following **argument form** valid?

$$\begin{array}{c} p \rightarrow q \\ p \\ \hline \therefore q \end{array}$$



# Validity

**Validity of Argument Form:** The **argument form** with premises  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  and conclusion  $q$  is **valid**, if

$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) \rightarrow q$  is a **tautology**.

Is the following **argument form** valid?

$$\begin{array}{c} p \rightarrow q \\ p \\ \hline \therefore q \end{array}$$

Is  $(p \rightarrow q) \wedge p \rightarrow q$  a tautology?

# Validity

**Validity of Argument Form:** The **argument form** with premises  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  and conclusion  $q$  is **valid**, if

$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) \rightarrow q$  is a **tautology**.

**Validity of Argument:** The validity of an **argument** **follows from** the validity of the form of the argument.



# Validity

**Validity of Argument Form:** The **argument form** with premises  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  and conclusion  $q$  is **valid**, if

$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) \rightarrow q$  is a **tautology**.

**Validity of Argument:** The validity of an **argument follows from** the validity of the form of the argument.

Is the following **argument** valid?

“If you have access to the network, then you can change your grade.”  
“You have access to the network.”

---

$\therefore$  “You can change your grade.”

# Validity

**Validity of Argument Form:** The **argument form** with premises  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  and conclusion  $q$  is **valid**, if

$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) \rightarrow q$  is a **tautology**.

**Validity of Argument:** The validity of an **argument follows from** the validity of the form of the argument.

Is the following **argument** valid? **Yes**, because the argument form is valid.

“If you have access to the network, then you can change your grade.”  
“You have access to the network.”

---

$\therefore$  “You can change your grade.”

# Validity

Is the following argument valid?

- If you do every problem in this book, then you will learn discrete mathematics.
- You learned discrete mathematics.
- Therefore, you did every problem in this book.

# Validity

Is the following argument valid?

- If you do every problem in this book, then you will learn discrete mathematics.
- You learned discrete mathematics.
- Therefore, you did every problem in this book.

**No!**  $((p \rightarrow q) \wedge q) \rightarrow p$  is not a tautology.

# Validity

Is the following argument valid?

- If you do every problem in this book, then you will learn discrete mathematics.
- You did not do every problem in this book.
- Therefore, you did not learn discrete mathematics.

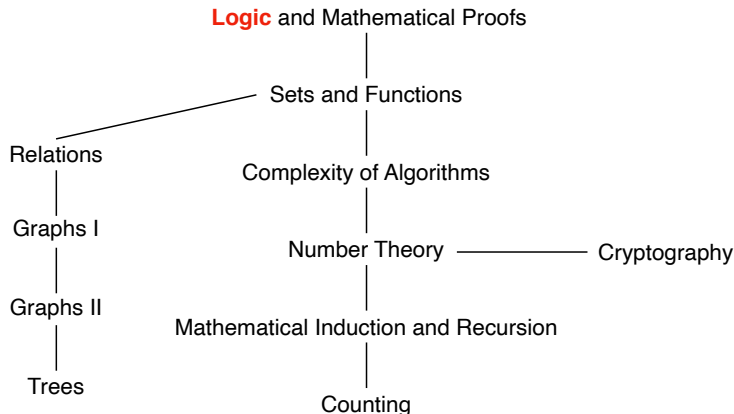
# Validity

Is the following argument valid?

- If you do every problem in this book, then you will learn discrete mathematics.
- You did not do every problem in this book.
- Therefore, you did not learn discrete mathematics.

**No!**  $((p \rightarrow q) \wedge \neg p) \rightarrow \neg p$  is not a tautology.

# Next Lecture



**Logic:** Propositional logic, applications of propositional logic, propositional equivalence, predicates and quantifiers, nested quantifiers

**Mathematical Proofs:** Rules of inference, introduction to proofs



**SUSTech**

Southern University  
of Science and  
Technology