

Theorem:

- ▶ $\sim(\forall x \in D, Q(x)) \equiv \exists x \in D \text{ s.t. } \sim Q(x)$
- ▶ $\sim(\exists x \in D, Q(x)) \equiv \forall x \in D, \sim Q(x)$

Example. Negate the following. Start by writing them formally.

1. Every math class meets at 9am.

Rewrite: $\forall x \in \{\text{math classes}\}, x \text{ meets at 9am.}$

Negate: $\exists x \in \{\text{math classes}\} \text{ s.t. } x \text{ does not meet at 9am.}$

Informally: Some math classes do not meet at 9am.

2. Some students take Discrete Math.

Rewrite: $\exists x \in \{\text{students}\} \text{ s.t. } x \text{ takes DM.}$

Negate: $\forall x \in \{\text{students}\}, x \text{ does not take DM.}$

Informally: No students take DM.

All students do not take DM.

Notes:

1. When we say two *quantified* statements are logically equivalent, we mean they have the same truth value for **every possible substitution of predicate, predicate variables, and choice of domain.**
2. Say it with me now:
 - ▶ The negation of a universal statement is an
existential statement
 - ▶ The negation of an existential statement is a
universal statement

More examples: Negate the following.

1. Every integer has a multiplicative inverse.

Rewrite: $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$, n has a multiplicative inverse.

Negate: $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. n does not have a multiplicative inverse.

2. There is a prime number greater than 1 million.

Rewrite: $\exists n \in \{\text{primes}\}$ s.t. $n > 1,000,000$

Negate: $\forall n \in \{\text{primes}\}$, $n \leq 1,000,000$.

Negating Universal Conditional Statements

How can we rewrite $\sim(\forall x \in D, P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$?

universal \Rightarrow existential, negate predicate

$$\exists x \in D \text{ s.t. } \sim(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

\Downarrow

becomes \wedge

$$P(x) \wedge \sim Q(x)$$

Answer: $\sim(\forall x \in D, P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \equiv \exists x \in D \text{ s.t. } P(x) \wedge \sim Q(x)$

Example. Negate the following.

1. For every integer n , if n is even, then $n/2$ is an integer.

Rewrite: $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \text{ even} \Rightarrow \frac{n}{2} \in \mathbb{Z}$

Negate: $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. n even and $\frac{n}{2} \notin \mathbb{Z}$.

2. For every real number x , if x is not rational, then $2x$ is not rational.

Rewrite: $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x \notin \mathbb{Q} \Rightarrow 2x \notin \mathbb{Q}$

Negate: $\exists x \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $x \notin \mathbb{Q}$ and $2x \in \mathbb{Q}$.

Vacuous truth of universal conditional statements

Example. Negate: "All positive integers less than -5 are divisible by 3."

Rewrite: $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, if $x < -5$ then x is divisible by 3.

Negate: $\exists x \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ s.t. $x < -5$ and x is divisible by 3.

Notice: Exactly one of these statements must be true, since a statement and its negation have opposite truth values.

The negation can't be true - there are no positive integers less than -5 - so the original must be true.