

# Introduction to predicate Logic

- proposition is either ~~true~~ always true or always false.

Ex: 2 is even } proposition  
2 is odd }

n is even not a proposition

- predicates: predicate logic is a more general type of logic that allows us to write function like logical expressions called predicates.

- Informally, predicate is a property that a particular entity may or may not have.

Ex: Being a vowel is a property of some letters (A, E, I, O, U), some letters do not have this property (C, D, F, Q, ...)

- A proposition with a blank

ex: The integer \_\_\_\_\_ is a prime

\* Once the blanks of a predicate is filled, then it becomes a proposition.

The integer 57 is a prime. (false)

Def: A predicate  $P$  is a function that assigns value True or False to each element of a Set  $U$ . (predicate  $P$  is a function  $P: U \rightarrow \{\text{True}, \text{False}\}$ ).

The Set  $U$  is called the universe, or the domain of discourse, and we say that  $P$  is a predicate over  $U$ .

Ex:

$$1. \text{IsPrime}(n) = \begin{cases} \text{True} & n \text{ is a prime} \\ \text{False} & n \text{ is not a prime} \end{cases}$$

$$U = \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\text{isPrime} : \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \{\text{True}, \text{False}\}$$

Proposition

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \text{isPrime}(2) &= \text{True} \\ \rightarrow \text{isPrime}(4) &= \text{False} \end{aligned}$$

$$2. \text{IsEven}(n) = \begin{cases} \text{True}, & n \text{ is even} \\ \text{False}, & n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

$$U = \mathbb{Z}$$

$$3. \text{ Is Rational } (x) = \begin{cases} \text{True} & x \in \mathbb{Q} \\ \text{False} & x \notin \mathbb{Q} \end{cases}$$

$U = \mathbb{R}$

~~on its own  $P(x)$~~

$$P: U \rightarrow \{\text{True}, \text{False}\}$$

$x \in U$ , then  $P(x)$  has no value of its own, the reason is

$x$  is an arbitrary element.

How can we make a predicate a proposition?

1. Apply the predicate to a specific element of the universe.

Suppose we have the predicate is Even( $x$ ), then let  $x = 5$ ,

isEven(5) is a proposition.

let  $x = 6$

isEven(6) is a proposition.

For all integers  $n$   $\text{isEven}(n)$  is true.  
This is a proposition and it is false.

There exists an integer  $n$  such that  $\text{isEven}(n)$  is true.  
Proposition, and it is true.

## 2. Using quantifiers

a) Universal quantifier  $\forall$  "for all"

$[\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{isEven}(n)]$  ← proposition  
 $[\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} : \neg \text{isEven}(n)]$  ← proposition

$\forall x \in U : P(x)$  is true ←

"for all  $x$  in  $U$ ,  $P(x)$  is true"

"True if  $P(x)$  evaluates to True for all  $x \in U$ "

Remember the claim:

Given  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

If  $\underbrace{n^2 \text{ is even}}_P$  then  $\underbrace{n \text{ is even}}$

$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} : [\text{If } n^2 \text{ is even, then } n \text{ is even}]$



In natural languages, sometimes we omit the explicit mention of quantifiers.

But from here onwards, we will use quantifiers along with predicates to write logically sound propositions.

b) Existential quantifier  $\exists$  "there exists"

$$\exists x \in U : P(x)$$

"there exists an element  $x$  in  $U$ , such that  $P(x)$  is true."

"True if  $P(x)$  evaluates to true for some  $x \in U$ ."

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{isEven}(x)$$

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{Z} : \neg \text{isEven}(x)$$

1. for all integers  $n$ ,  $2n$  is Even

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{isEven}(2n) \quad \text{True}$$

2. for all integers  $n$ ,  $2n+1$  is not even.

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} : \neg \text{isEven}(2n+1) \quad \text{True}$$

3. for all integers  $n$ , If  $n^2$  is even, then  $n$  is even

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} : [\text{isEven}(n^2) \Rightarrow \text{isEven}(n)] \quad \text{True}$$

4. There exists real numbers  $x$ , ~~and~~  $y$  such that  $xy$  is rational and not (both  $x$  and  $y$  are rational.)

$$\exists x, y \in \mathbb{R} : xy \in \mathbb{Q} \wedge \neg(x \in \mathbb{Q} \wedge y \in \mathbb{Q})$$