Natural Deduction for Predicate Logic

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Outline

- Predicate logic as a formal language
 - Terms
 - Formulae
 - Free and bound variables
 - Substitution
- 2 Proof theory of predicate logic
- Quantifier equivalences

Syntax

- In our examples, there are two sorts of things:
 - ▶ B(x), M(x,y), $B(x) \land \neg F(x)$ are formulae. They denote truth values;
 - y, paul, m(x) are terms. They denote objects.
- Hence a predicate vocabulary has three sets.
- \mathcal{P} is a set of predicate symbols (B(x), M(x, y)) etc).
- \mathcal{F} is a set of function symbols (m(x)) etc).
- C is a set of constant symbols (andy, paul etc).
- A function symbol $f \in \mathcal{F}$ with arity n (or n-arity) takes n arguments.
- Observe that a 0-arity (or <u>nullary</u>) function is in fact a constant.
- Hence $C \subseteq \mathcal{F}$. We can ignore C for convenience.

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Terms

Definition

Terms are defined as follows.

- Any variable is a term;
- If $c \in \mathcal{F}$ is a nullary function symbol, c is a term;
- If $t_1, t_2, ..., t_n$ are terms and $f \in \mathcal{F}$ has arity n > 0, then $f(t_1, t_2, ..., t_n)$ is a term;
- Nothing else is a term.
- In Backus Naur form, we have

$$t := x \mid c \mid f(t, \ldots, t)$$

where $x \in \text{var}$ is a variable, $c \in \mathcal{F}$ a nullary function symbol, and $f \in \mathcal{F}$ a function symbol with arity > 0.



Terms

- Let $n, f, g \in \mathcal{F}$ be function symbols with arity 0, 1, and 2 respectively.
- g(f(n), n), f(f(n)), f(g(n, g(f(n), n))) are terms.
- g(n), f(n,n), n(g) are not terms.
- Let 0,1,... be nullary function symbols, and $+,-,\times$ binary function symbols.
- $+(\times(3,x),1)$, $+(\times(x,x),+(\times(2,\times(x,y))),\times(y,y))$ are terms.
- In infix notation, they are $(3 \times x) + 1$, $(x \times x) + ((2 \times (x \times y)) + (y \times y))$.

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Formulae

Definition

Formulae are defined as follows.

- If $P \in \mathcal{P}$ is a predicate symbol with arity $n \geq 1$, and $t_1, t_2, \ldots t_n$ are terms over \mathcal{F} , then $P(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n)$ is a formula;
- If ϕ is a formula, so is $(\neg \phi)$;
- If ϕ and ψ are formulae, so are $(\phi \land \psi)$, $(\phi \lor \psi)$, and $(\phi \Longrightarrow \psi)$.
- If ϕ is a formula and x is a variable, then $(\forall x \phi)$ and $(\exists x \phi)$ are formulae:
- Nothing else is a formula.
- In Backus Naur form, we have

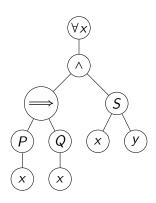
$$\phi \coloneqq P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \,|\, (\neg \phi) \,|\, (\phi \land \phi) \,|\, (\phi \lor \phi) \,|\, (\phi \Longrightarrow \phi) \,|\, (\forall x \phi) \,|\, (\exists x \phi)$$

where $P \in \mathcal{P}$ is a predicate symbol of arity n, t_1, \ldots, t_n terms over \mathcal{F} , and $x \in \text{var}$ a variable.

Convention

- It is very tedious to write parentheses.
- We will assume the following binding priorities.
 - \rightarrow ¬, $\forall x$ and $\exists x$ (tightest)
 - ▶ ∨, ∧
 - ▶ ⇒ (right-associative and loosest)

Parse Tree



- A predicate logic formula can be represented as a parse tree.
 - $\forall x, \exists y \text{ are nodes};$
 - arguments of function symbols are also nodes.
- The above figure gives the parse tree of $\forall x ((P(x) \Longrightarrow Q(x)) \land S(x,y)).$



Example

Example

Write "every son of my father is my brother" in predicate logic.

Proof.

Let *me* denote 'me', S(x,y) (x is a son of y), F(x,y) (x is the father of y), and B(x,y) (x is a brother of y) be predicate symbols of arity 2. Consider

$$\forall x \forall y (F(x, me) \land S(y, x) \implies B(y, me)).$$

Alternatively, let f(f(x)) is the father of x) be a unary function symbol. Consider

$$\forall x(S(x, f(me)) \Longrightarrow B(x, me)).$$

- Translating an English sentence into predicate logic can be tricky.
- Can you identify problem(s) in the example?



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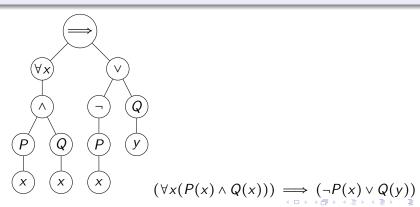
Constants and Variables

- Let c, d be constants (nullary functions).
- Consider $\forall x (P(x) \Longrightarrow Q(x)) \land P(c) \Longrightarrow Q(c)$.
 - If P(x) implies Q(x) for all x and P(c) is true, then Q(c) is true.
- Intuitively, $\forall y (P(y) \Longrightarrow Q(y)) \land P(c) \Longrightarrow Q(c)$ should have the same meaning.
- $\forall y (P(y) \Longrightarrow Q(y)) \land P(d) \Longrightarrow Q(d)$ is different.
 - We do not know if Q(c) is true.
- Things can get very complicated when there are several variables.
 - $\rightarrow \forall x((P(x) \Longrightarrow Q(x)) \land S(x,y))$
 - $\forall z ((P(z) \Longrightarrow Q(z)) \land S(z,y))$
 - $\forall y((P(y) \Longrightarrow Q(y)) \land S(y,x))$

Free and Bound Variables

Definition

Let ϕ be a predicate logic formula. An occurrence of x in ϕ is $\underline{\text{free}}$ in ϕ if it is a leaf node without ancestor nodes $\forall x$ or $\exists x$ in the parse tree of ϕ . Otherwise, the occurrence of x is $\underline{\text{bound}}$. The $\underline{\text{scope}}$ of $\forall x$ in $\forall x \phi$ is the formula ϕ minus any subformula in ϕ of the form $\forall x \psi$ or $\exists x \psi$.



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Subsitution

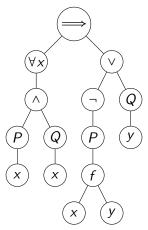
- Variables denote objects in predicate logic.
- Hence variables can be replaced by terms (but not formulae).
 - Replace x in $x \neq x + 1$ by 2 to get $2 \neq 2 + 1$.
 - What if we replace x by 2 = 2?
- However, bound variables should not be replaced.
- The variables x and y in $\forall x\phi$ and $\exists y\psi$ denote <u>all</u> or <u>some</u> objects respectively.
 - ▶ What if we replace x in $\exists x(x=0)$ by 1?

Definition

Given a variable x, a term t and a formula ϕ , define $\phi[t/x]$ to be the formula obtained by replacing each free occurrence of x in ϕ with t.

Example

• Let $\phi = (\forall x (P(x) \land Q(x))) \implies (\neg P(x) \lor Q(y))$. Consider $\phi[f(x,y)/x]$.



$$(\forall x (P(x) \land Q(x))) \implies (\neg P(x) \lor Q(y))[f(x,y)/x]$$

Variable Capture in Substitution

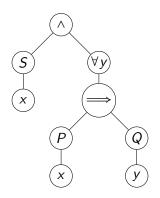
- Let $\phi = \exists y (y < x)$ and $\psi = \exists z (z < x)$.
 - ${\bf \triangleright}$ Since ϕ and ψ only differ in bound variables, they should have the same meaning.
- Consider $\phi[(y-1)/x] = \exists y(y < y-1).$
- The variable y in y-1 is caught by the bound variable in ϕ .
- Consider $\psi[(y-1)/x] = \exists z(z < y-1).$
- The variable y in y-1 is not caught in the substitution $\psi[(y-1)/x]$.

Definition

Let t be a term, x a variable, and ϕ a formula. t is $\underline{\text{free for }} x$ in ϕ if no free x leaf in ϕ occurs in the scope of $\forall y$ or $\exists y$ for any variable y occurring in t.

• Examples: y - 1 is free for x in $\exists z(z < x)$; y - 1 is not free for x in $\exists y(y < x)$.

Example



- Consider $\phi = S(x) \land \forall y (P(x) \implies Q(y))$ and t = f(y, y).
- \bullet The two occurrences of x in ϕ are free.
- The right occurrence of x in ϕ is in the scope of $\forall y$ and y occurs in t.
- t is not free for x in ϕ .



Substitution and Variable Capture

- When t is not free for x in ϕ , the substitution $\phi[t/x]$ is not desirable.
- However, we can always rename bound variables for substitution.
- When we write $\phi[t/x]$, we mean all bound variables in ϕ are renamed so that t is free for x in ϕ .
- Examples.
 - $\phi = \exists y (y < x)$ and t = y 1. t is not free for x in ϕ . Rename the bound variable y to z and obtain $\psi = \exists z (z < x)$. t is free for x in ψ .
 - $\phi = S(x) \land \forall y (P(x) \Longrightarrow Q(y))$ and t = f(y,y). t is not free for x in ϕ . Rename the bound variable y to z and obtain $\psi = S(x) \land \forall z (P(x) \Longrightarrow Q(z))$. t is free for x in ψ .

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Natural Deduction for Predicate Logic

- Similar to propositional logic, predicate logic has its natural deduction proof system.
- Naturally, the natural deduction proof rules for contradiction (⊥), negation (¬), and Boolean connectives (∨, ∧, ⇒) are the same as those in propositional logic.
- Additionally, there are proof rules for equality (=) and quantification (\forall and \exists).
- Again, these additional rules have two types: introduction and elimination rules.

Equality

- Let s and t be terms.
- What do we mean by s = t?
- Shall we say 2 + 1 = 2 + 1?
- What about $2^{61} 1 = 2305843009213693951$?
- Apparently, if two terms are syntactically equal, they are equal.
 - This is called intensional equality.
- In practice, if two terms denote the same object, they are equal.
 - This is called <u>extensional equality</u>.

Natural Deduction Proof Rules for Equality

The introduction rule for equality is as follows.

$$\frac{1}{t=t}=i$$

The elimination rule for equality is as follows.

$$\frac{t_1 = t_2 \quad \phi[t_1/x]}{\phi[t_2/x]} = e$$

 $(t_1 \text{ and } t_2 \text{ are free for } x \text{ in } \phi).$

- ▶ The requirement " t_1 and t_2 are free for x in ϕ " is called the side condition of the proof rule.
- By convention, we assume the side condition holds in all substitutions.

Example

Example

Show

$$x + 1 = 1 + x, (x + 1) > 1 \implies (x + 1) > 0 \vdash (1 + x) > 1 \implies (1 + x) > 0.$$

Proof.

1
$$x + 1 = 1 + x$$
 premise

2
$$(x+1) > 1 \implies (x+1) > 0$$
 premise

$$3 (1+x) > 1 \implies (1+x) > 0 = 1, 2$$

In step 3, take
$$\phi = x > 1 \Longrightarrow x > 0$$
, $t_1 = x + 1$, and $t_2 = 1 + x$. Then $\phi[t_1/x] = (x+1) > 1 \Longrightarrow (x+1) > 0$, $\phi[t_2/x] = (1+x) > 0 \Longrightarrow (1+x) > 0$.



Symmetry of Equality

Example

Show $t_1 = t_2 \vdash t_2 = t_1$.

Proof.

- 1 $t_1 = t_2$ premise
- $2 \quad t_1 = t_1 \quad = \mathsf{i}$
- 3 $t_2 = t_1 = e, 1, 2$

Take
$$\phi = (x = t_1)$$
. $\phi[t_1/x] = (t_1 = t_1)$ and $\phi[t_2/x] = (t_2 = t_1)$.



Transitivity of Equality

Example

Show $t_1 = t_2, t_2 = t_3 \vdash t_1 = t_3$.

Proof.

1
$$t_2 = t_3$$
 premise

2
$$t_1 = t_2$$
 premise

3
$$t_1 = t_3 = e, 1, 2$$

Take
$$\phi = (t_1 = x)$$
. $\phi[t_2/x] = (t_1 = t_2)$ and $\phi[t_3/x] = (t_1 = t_3)$.

 Thus, the rules =i and =e give us the reflexity, symmetry, and transitivity of equality.

Natural Deduction Proof Rules for Universal Quantification

• The elimination rule for universal quantification is the following:

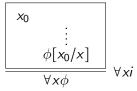
$$\frac{\forall x \phi}{\phi[t/x]} \ \forall x e$$

when t is free for x in ϕ .

- To see why t must be free for x in ϕ , let ϕ be $\exists y(x < y)$. For natural numbers, $\forall x \exists y(x < y)$ is clearly true ("for any number, there is a larger number"). But if we take t = y, $\phi[t/x] = \exists y(y < y)$. This is wrong. Hence t must be free for x in ϕ .
 - If we really need to replace x by y in this case, we should rewrite $\exists y(x < y)$ to $\exists z(x < z)$ and obtain $\exists z(x < z)[x/y] = \exists z(y < z)$.

Natural Deduction Proof Rules for Universal Quantification

• The introduction rule for universal quantification opens a new box for a fresh variable x_0 :



(By "fresh," we mean x_0 does not occur outside of the box.)

- Informally, the rule $\forall x$ is says "if we can establish $\phi[x_0/x]$ for a fresh x_0 , then we can derive $\forall x \phi$."
 - Intuitively, x_0 can be an arbitrary term since it is fresh and assumes nothing. If we can show $\phi[x_0/x]$, we have $\forall x \phi$.
 - Another way to see this is to replace x_0 by a term t in the box. We would have a proof for $\phi[t/x]$. That is, we have shown $\forall x \phi$.

Example

Example

Show $\forall x (P(x) \implies Q(x)), \forall x P(x) \vdash \forall x Q(x).$

Proof.



Example

Example

Show $P(t), \forall x (P(x) \Longrightarrow \neg Q(x)) \vdash \neg Q(t)$ for any term t.

Proof.

- P(t) premise
- 2 $\forall x (P(x) \Longrightarrow \neg Q(x))$ premise
- $P(t) \Longrightarrow \neg Q(t) \quad \forall xe 2$
- 4 $\neg Q(t)$ \Longrightarrow e 1, 3
 - In step 3, we apply $\forall x$ e by replacing x with t. We could apply the same rule with a different term, say, a. Hence the rule $\forall x$ e is in fact a scheme of rules; one for each term t (free of x in ϕ).
 - Also, we have different introduction and elimination rule. for different variables. That is, we have ∀xi, ∀xe, ∀yi, ∀ye, and so on. We will simply write ∀i and ∀ e when bound variables are clear.

Universal Quantification and Conjunction

- It is helpful to compare proof rules for universal quantification and conjunction.
- Introduction rules:
 - ▶ To establish $\forall x \phi$, we need to show $\phi[t/x]$ for any term t. This is accomplished by proving $\phi[x_0/x]$ with the box for a fresh variable x_0 ;
 - To establish $\phi \wedge \psi$, we need to show ϕ and ψ .
- Elimination rules:
 - ▶ To eliminate $\forall x \phi$, we pick a term (free for x in ϕ) and deduce $\phi[t/x]$;
 - ▶ To eliminate $\phi \wedge \psi$, we deduce ϕ (or ψ).

Natural Deduction Proof Rule for Existential Quantification

• The introduction rule for existential quantification is as follows.

$$\frac{\phi[t/x]}{\exists x \phi} \ \exists x i$$

when t is free for x in ϕ .

- To see why t must be free for x in ϕ , consider $\exists x \forall y (x = y)$. This is clearly wrong for, say, natural numbers. Let $\phi = \forall y (x = y)$ and t = y. Since $\phi[t/x] = \forall y (y = y)$ is deducible (=i, $\forall y$ i), we would have $\exists x \forall y (x = y)$.
- Recall the elimination rule for universal quantification:

$$\frac{\forall x \phi}{\phi[t/x]} \ \forall x e$$

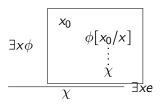
when t is free for x in ϕ .

- $\forall x e$ is the "dual" of $\exists x i$.
 - Recall the duality of ∧e and ∨i.



Natural Deduction Proof Rule for Existential Quantification

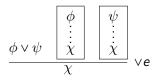
The elimination rule for existential quantification is as follows.



- Informally, the rule $\exists x$ e says: to show χ from $\exists x \phi$, we show χ by assuming $\phi[x_0/x]$ for a fresh variable x_0 .
 - Intuitively, x_0 stands for an unknown term t such that $\phi[t/x]$ holds. If we can deduce χ by assuming $\phi[t/x]$, then χ is deducible from $\exists x \phi$.
- Note that x_0 must not occur in χ .

Existential Quantification and Disjunction

- It is helpful to compare the elimination rules for existential quantification and disjunction.
- Recall



- To eliminate $\phi \lor \psi$, we show that χ is deducible by assuming ϕ or assuming ψ .
- To eliminate $\exists x \phi$, we show that χ is deducible by assuming $\phi[x_0/x]$.

Subformula Property I

- An elimination rule has <u>subformula property</u> if it must conclude with a subformula of the eliminated formula.
- For example, both $\wedge e_1$ and $\neg e$ have the subformula property.

$$\frac{\phi \wedge \psi}{\phi} \wedge e_1 \quad \frac{\neg \neg \phi}{\phi} \neg \neg e$$

• Since the conclusion of $\forall xe$ has the same logical structure as the eliminated formula, we also say $\forall xe$ has the subformula property.

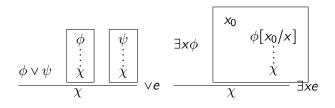
$$\frac{\forall x \phi}{\phi[t/x]} \ \forall xe$$

• Strictly speaking, $\phi[t/x]$ may not be a subformula of $\forall x \phi$.



Subformula Property II

- The subformula property helps proof search.
 - We need not invent a formula for rules with the property.
 - Such rules are good for automated proof search.
- \vee e and $\exists x$ e however do not have the subformula property.



• The conclusion χ must be chosen carefully.

Examples I

Example

Show $\forall x \phi \vdash \exists x \phi$.

Proof.

```
\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & \forall x \phi & \text{premise} \\ 2 & \phi[x/x] & \forall x \in 1 \\ 3 & \exists x \phi & \exists x \text{i} \ 2 \\ \text{(Is } x \text{ free for } x \text{ in } \phi[x/x]?) \end{array}
```

Is it correct?



Examples II

Example

Show
$$\forall x (P(x) \Longrightarrow Q(x)), \exists x P(x) \vdash \exists x Q(x).$$

Proof.

```
\forall x (P(x) \Longrightarrow Q(x))
                                    premise
        \exists x P(x)
                                  premise
3
  x_0 P(x_0)
                               assumption
4
  P(x_0) \Longrightarrow Q(x_0) \quad \forall x \in 1
5 Q(x_0)
                    ⇒ e 3, 4
6
  \exists x Q(x)
                                ∃xi 5
         \exists x Q(x)
                                   \exists xe 2, 3-6
```

(Can we close the box at line 5 instead of 6? Why not?)

Examples III

Example

Show $\exists x P(x), \forall x \forall y (P(x) \implies Q(y)) \vdash \forall y Q(y).$

Proof.

```
\exists x P(x)
                                                premise
           \forall x \forall y (P(x) \implies Q(y))
                                                premise
3
   y<sub>0</sub>
    x_0 P(x_0)
                                                assumption
5
           \forall y (P(x_0) \implies Q(y))
                                             ∀xe 2
6
           P(x_0) \Longrightarrow Q(y_0)
                                            ∀ve 5
           Q(y_0)
                                                \implies e 4. 6
8
           Q(y_0)
                                                \exists xe 1, 4-7
9
           \forall y Q(y)
                                                ∀vi 3–8
```

Box Box Box I

- Fresh variables in box must not appear outside!
- If not, we could show $\exists x P(x), \forall x (P(x) \Longrightarrow Q(x)) \vdash \forall y Q(y)!$

```
\exists x P(x)
                  premise
        \forall x (P(x) \Longrightarrow Q(x)) premise
3
   x_0
   x_0 P(x_0)
                                 assumption ]
        P(x_0) \Longrightarrow Q(x_0) \quad \forall x \in 2
5
6
                     ⇒ e 4, 5 |
   Q(x_0)
      Q(x_0)
                              ∃xe 1, 4–6
        \forall y Q(y)
8
                                 ∀yi 3–7
```

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Equivalent Predicate Logic Formulae I

- Let ϕ and ψ be predicate logic formulae.
- $\phi \dashv \vdash \psi$ denotes tha $\phi \vdash \psi$ and $\psi \vdash \phi$.

Equivalent Predicate Logic Formulae II

Theorem

Let ϕ and ψ be predicate logic formulae. We have

- **2** When x is not free in ψ :
 - (a) $\forall x \phi \land \psi \dashv \vdash \forall x (\phi \land \psi);$ (b) $\forall x \phi \lor \psi \dashv \vdash \forall x (\phi \lor \psi);$
 - (c) $\exists x \phi \land \psi \dashv \vdash \exists x (\phi \land \psi);$ (d) $\exists x \phi \lor \psi \dashv \vdash \exists x (\phi \lor \psi);$
 - (e) $\forall x(\psi \Longrightarrow \phi) \dashv \psi \Longrightarrow \forall x\phi;$
 - (f) $\exists x(\phi \Longrightarrow \psi) \dashv \vdash \forall x\phi \Longrightarrow \psi;$
 - (g) $\forall x(\phi \Longrightarrow \psi) \dashv \vdash \exists x\phi \Longrightarrow \psi;$
 - $(h) \quad \exists x(\psi \Longrightarrow \phi) \dashv \vdash \psi \Longrightarrow \exists x \phi$

$\exists x \neg \phi \vdash \neg \forall x \phi$

1		$\exists x \neg \phi$	premise		
2		$\forall x \phi$	assumption		1
3	x_0	$\neg \phi[x_0/x]$	assumption]	
4		$\phi[x_0/x]$	∀e 2		
5		\perp	¬e 4, 3		
6		\perp	∃ <i>x</i> e 1, 3–5		
7		$\neg \forall x \phi$	¬i 2 − 6		

$\neg \forall x \phi \vdash \exists x \neg \phi$

• The proof structure is similar to $\neg(p_1 \land p_2) \vdash \neg p_1 \lor \neg p_2$.



$\neg(p_1 \land p_2) \vdash \neg p_1 \lor \neg p_2$

$\forall x \phi \land \psi \vdash \forall x (\phi \land \psi)$ and $\forall x (\phi \land \psi) \vdash \forall x \phi \land \psi$ (x not free in ψ)

1		$(\forall x \phi) \wedge \psi$	premise	
2		$\forall x \phi$	∧e ₁ 1	
3		ψ	∧e ₂ 2	
4	<i>x</i> ₀]
5		$\phi[x_0/x]$	∀ <i>x</i> e 2	ĺ
6		$\phi[x_0/x] \wedge \psi$	∧i 5, 3	
7		$(\phi \wedge \psi)[x_0/x]$	${\it x}$ not free in ψ	
8		$\forall x (\phi \wedge \psi)$	∀ <i>x</i> i 4–7	
1		$\forall x (\phi \wedge \psi)$	premise	
1 2	<i>x</i> ₀	$\forall x (\phi \wedge \psi)$	premise	1
	<i>x</i> ₀	$\forall x (\phi \wedge \psi)$ $(\phi \wedge \psi)[x_0/x]$	premise ∀xe 1]
2	<i>x</i> ₀]
2	<i>x</i> ₀	$(\phi \wedge \psi)[x_0/x]$	∀ <i>x</i> e 1]
2 3 4	<i>x</i> ₀	$(\phi \wedge \psi)[x_0/x]$ $\phi[x_0/x] \wedge \psi$	$\forall x \in 1$ $x \text{ not free in } \psi$]
2 3 4 5	<i>x</i> ₀	$(\phi \wedge \psi)[x_0/x]$ $\phi[x_0/x] \wedge \psi$ ψ	$\forall x \in 1$ $x \text{ not free in } \psi$ $\land e_2 \notin 4$]

$(\exists x \phi) \lor (\exists x \psi) \vdash \exists x (\phi \lor \psi)$

1		$(\exists x \phi) \lor (\exists x \psi)$	premise		
2		$\exists x \phi$	assumption]
3	<i>x</i> ₀	$\phi[x_0/x]$	assumption]	
4		$\phi[x_0/x] \vee \psi[x_0/x]$	∨i ₁ 3		
5		$(\phi \lor \psi)[x_0/x]$	same as 4		
6		$\exists x (\phi \lor \psi)$	∃ <i>x</i> i 5		
7		$\exists x (\phi \lor \psi)$	∃xe 2, 3–6		
2'		$\exists x \psi$	assumption]
3'	<i>y</i> 0	$\psi[y_0/x]$	assumption]	
4'		$\phi[y_0/x] \vee \psi[y_0/x]$	√i ₂ 3′		
5'		$(\phi \lor \psi)[y_0/x]$	same as 4'		
6'		$\exists x (\phi \lor \psi)$	∃ <i>x</i> i 5'		
7'		$\exists x (\phi \lor \psi)$	∃xe 2', 3'-6'		
8		$\exists x (\phi \lor \psi)$	∨e 1, 2–7, 2'–7'		

$\exists x \exists y \phi \vdash \exists y \exists x \phi$

```
\exists x \exists y \phi
                                      premise
     x_0 \quad (\exists y \phi)[x_0/x]
                                      assumption
        \exists y(\phi[x_0/x])
                                      x and y different
     y_0 \quad \phi[x_0/x][y_0/y]
                                     assumption
5
            \phi[y_0/y][x_0/x]
                                     x, y, x_0, y_0 different
6
             \exists x \phi [y_0/y]
                                      ∃xi 5
             \exists y \exists x \phi
                                      ∃yi 6
8
             \exists y \exists x \phi
                                     ∃ye 3, 4–7
9
             \exists y \exists x \phi
                                      \exists xe 1, 2-8
```