

# A Recap of Predicate Logic (Part 3)

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## Interpretations: A First Example

Some interpretations that make  $\forall x \in U, (p(x) \rightarrow q(x))$  true:

- ①  $U = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $p(x)$  is " $x \geq 0$ ",  $q(x)$  is " $x \leq x * 10$ "

For every integer  $n$ , if  $p(n)$  is true (i.e.,  $n$  is non-negative), then  $q(n)$  is true (i.e.,  $n \leq n * 10$ ). Thus,  $\forall x \in U, (p(x) \rightarrow q(x))$  is true.

- ②  $U = \{\text{red}, \text{blue}\}$ ,  $p(\text{red}) = q(\text{red}) = q(\text{blue}) = T$ ,  $p(\text{blue}) = F$

Under this interpretation, both of the following are true:

$$p(\text{red}) \rightarrow q(\text{red})$$

$$p(\text{blue}) \rightarrow q(\text{blue})$$

Therefore,  $\forall x \in U, (p(x) \rightarrow q(x))$  is true.

- ③  $U = \emptyset$ ,  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  can be anything

$\forall x \in \emptyset, (p(x) \rightarrow q(x))$  is vacuously true.

Some interpretations that make  $\forall x \in U, (p(x) \rightarrow q(x))$  false:

- ①  $U = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $p(x)$  is “ $x$  is even”,  $q(x)$  is “ $x \leq x * 10$ ”

$-2$  is even, but it's not the case that  $-2 \leq -20$ , which means  $p(-2) \rightarrow q(-2)$  is false. Hence  $\forall x \in U, (p(x) \rightarrow q(x))$  is false.

- ②  $U = \{\text{red}, \text{blue}\}$ ,  $p(\text{red}) = q(\text{red}) = q(\text{blue}) = F$ ,  $p(\text{blue}) = T$

Under this interpretation,  $p(\text{blue}) \rightarrow q(\text{blue})$  is false. Therefore,  $\forall x \in U, (p(x) \rightarrow q(x))$  is false.

## Logical Equivalence for Predicate Logic

### Definition

Two predicate-logic formulas  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  are **logically equivalent** (written  $\varphi_1 \equiv \varphi_2$ ) exactly when:

*Each has the same truth values as the other, regardless of the choice of quantified sets or the interpretations of the predicates.*

### Examples we've seen before:

- $\neg(\exists y \in U \text{ such that } Q(y)) \equiv \forall y \in U, \neg Q(y)$
- $\forall x \in U, (p(x) \wedge q(x)) \equiv (\forall x \in U, p(x)) \wedge (\forall x \in U, q(x))$

# How to Show Two Formulas are Not Logically Equivalent

To show that  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  are not logically equivalent:

It suffices to come up with one specific set of interpretation(s) for which the formulas have different truth values.

## Example

Consider the following two formulas:

$$\exists y \in U \text{ such that } \forall z \in W, Q(y, z)$$

$$\forall z \in W, (\exists y \in U \text{ such that } Q(y, z))$$

One way to show they're not logically equivalent:

Take  $U = W = \mathbb{Z}$ , and let  $Q(x, w)$  be " $x \leq w$ ".

- $\exists y \in U \text{ such that } \forall z \in W, Q(y, z)$  is false: no integer is less than or equal to every integer.
- $\forall z \in W, (\exists y \in U \text{ such that } Q(y, z))$  is true: for each integer  $z$ , there is some integer that is less than or equal to  $z$ .

# How to Show that an Argument Form is Not Valid

The following argument form is not valid:

$$\exists x \in U \text{ such that } (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

$$\exists y \in U \text{ such that } P(y)$$

$$\therefore \exists w \in U \text{ such that } Q(w)$$

How do we show that it's not valid?

Find a specific set  $U$  and interpretations for  $P$  and  $Q$  such that:

- 1  $\exists x \in U$  such that  $(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$  is true, and
- 2  $\exists y \in U$  such that  $P(y)$  is true, and
- 3  $\exists w \in U$  such that  $Q(w)$  is false.

## How to Show that an Argument Form is Not Valid (2)

### How do we show that it's not valid?

Find a specific set  $U$  and interpretations for  $P$  and  $Q$  such that:

- ①  $\exists x \in U$  such that  $(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$  is true, and
- ②  $\exists y \in U$  such that  $P(y)$  is true, and
- ③  $\exists w \in U$  such that  $Q(w)$  is false.

### Example

Let  $U = \{1, 2\}$ , and let  $P(1), Q(1), Q(2)$  be false and  $P(2)$  be true. Then:

- $P(1) \rightarrow Q(1)$  is true; thus  $\exists x \in U$  such that  $(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$  is true.
- $P(2)$  is true, and thus  $\exists y \in U$  such that  $P(y)$  is true.
- However, both  $Q(1)$  and  $Q(2)$  are false, which means  $\exists w \in U$  such that  $Q(w)$  is false.

## How to Show that an Argument Form is Not Valid (3)

### How do we show that it's not valid?

Find a specific set  $U$  and interpretations for  $P$  and  $Q$  such that:

- $\exists x \in U$  such that  $(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$  is true
- $\exists y \in U$  such that  $P(y)$  is true
- $\exists w \in U$  such that  $Q(w)$  is false

### Another Example

Let  $U = \mathbb{Z}$ , let  $P(x)$  be “ $x$  is odd”, and let  $Q(x)$  be “ $x = x + 1$ ”. Then:

- Since  $P(2)$  is false,  $P(2) \rightarrow Q(2)$  is vacuously true. Thus,  $\exists x \in U$  such that  $(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$  is true.
- $P(1)$  is true, and thus  $\exists y \in U$  such that  $P(y)$  is true.
- However, there is no integer  $w$  such that  $w = w + 1$ . Therefore,  $\exists w \in U$  such that  $Q(w)$  is false.

## Recap: Universal Instantiation

### Principle of Specification (aka Universal Instantiation)

If the premises

$$\forall x \in U, p(x)$$

$$a \in U$$

both hold true, then the conclusion

$$p(a)$$

also holds true.

### Example

Let  $C$  be set of people in CIS 275; let  $A(x)$  be “ $x$  will get an  $A$ ”.  
Suppose these premises are both true:

$$\forall x \in C, A(x) \quad \text{and} \quad Zeke \in C.$$

Then  $A(Zeke)$  must also be true.

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## Recap: Using Universal Instantiation in a Formal Proof

Show that the following is a valid argument:

$$\forall n \in W, (p(n) \rightarrow q(n))$$

$$5 \in W$$

$$p(5)$$

$$\therefore q(5)$$

1.  $\forall n \in W, p(n) \rightarrow q(n)$     Given
2.  $5 \in W$     Given
3.  $p(5)$     Given
4.  $p(5) \rightarrow q(5)$     1,2 Universal Instantiation
5.  $q(5)$     3,4 Modus Ponens

## Recap: Universal Generalization

### Principle of Generalization (aka Universal Generalization)

From the following steps:

- (i) Take an arbitrary element  $a \in U$
- (ii) Establish that  $p(a)$  holds

the conclusion

$$\forall x \in U, p(x)$$

can be obtained.

### What do we mean by arbitrary?

We are introducing a name (e.g.,  $a$ ) to represent a **generic** element of  $U$ : we assume nothing about  $a$  except that it possesses the general properties of elements of  $U$ .

## Recap: Using Universal Generalization in a Formal Proof

Show that the following is a valid argument:

$$\begin{aligned} &\forall x \in U, p(x) \rightarrow q(x) \\ &\forall x \in U, p(x) \\ &\therefore \forall x \in U, q(x) \end{aligned}$$

- |    |  |                               |
|----|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. | $\forall x \in U, p(x) \rightarrow q(x)$ | Given                         |
| 2. | $\forall x \in U, p(x)$                  | Given                         |
| 3. | Let $v \in U$ be arbitrary.              | Assumption                    |
| 4. | $p(v) \rightarrow q(v)$                  | 1,3 Universal Instantiation   |
| 5. | $p(v)$                                   | 2,3 Universal Instantiation   |
| 6. | $q(v)$                                   | 4,5 Modus Ponens              |
| 7. | $\forall x \in U, q(x)$                  | 3, 6 Universal Generalization |

## Recap: A Bogus Use of Universal Generalization

Here's a bogus proof:

1.  $5 < 17$  Given
2.  $5 \in \mathbb{Z}$  Fact
3.  $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}, x < 17$  1, 2 Universal Generalization

Note:

- Step 3 is not allowed: 5 is a **specific** element of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , not **arbitrary**.

The problem does not disappear by renaming:

1.  $b < 17$  Given
2.  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$  Given
3.  $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}, x < 17$  1, 2 Universal Generalization

## Existential Generalization (Not in textbook)

### Existential Generalization

If the premises  $p(a)$  and  $a \in U$  both hold true, then the conclusion

$$\exists x \in U \text{ such that } p(x)$$

can be obtained.

### Example

Suppose we know that  $Q(17)$  and  $17 \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We can therefore deduce that

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } Q(x)$$

## Existential Instantiation

If the premise

$$\exists x \in U \text{ such that } p(x)$$

holds and  $a$  is a fresh name (i.e., not previously used in the proof),  
then the conclusion

$$p(a)$$

can be deduced.

## What is the idea here?

We are introducing the name  $a$  as a way to refer to the specific value of  $U$  for which  $p(a)$  holds.

IMPORTANT: the name  $a$  is not considered to be arbitrary.

## Using Existential Instantiation in a Formal Proof

Show that the following is a valid argument:

$$\begin{aligned} &\forall x \in U, P(x) \rightarrow Q(x) \\ &\exists y \in U \text{ such that } P(y) \\ &\therefore \exists w \in U \text{ such that } Q(w) \end{aligned}$$

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | $\forall x \in U, P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)$  | Given  |
| 2. | $\exists y \in U \text{ such that } P(y)$ | Given  |
| 3. | $P(c)$                                    | 2, Existential Instantiation (fresh $c \in U$ )  |
| 4. | $P(c) \rightarrow Q(c)$                   | 1, Universal Instantiation (since $c \in U$ )    |
| 5. | $Q(c)$                                    | 3,4 Modus Ponens                                 |
| 6. | $\exists w \in U \text{ such that } Q(w)$ | 5, Existential Generalization (since $c \in U$ ) |



## Example of a Bogus Proof

Consider an attempt to prove the following (which is not valid):

$$\begin{aligned} &\exists x \in U \text{ such that } (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \\ &\exists y \in U \text{ such that } P(y) \\ \therefore &\exists w \in U \text{ such that } Q(w) \end{aligned}$$

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. $\exists x \in U$ such that $(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$ | Given                                  |
| 2. $\exists y \in U$ such that $P(y)$                    | Given                                  |
| 3. $P(k)$  | 2, Existential inst (fresh $k \in U$ ) |
| 4. $P(k) \rightarrow Q(k)$                               | 1, Existential instantiation           |
| 5. $Q(k)$  | 3,4 Modus ponens                       |
| 6. $\exists w \in U$ such that $Q(w)$                    | 5, Existential generalization          |

Notes:

- Step 4 is not allowed: we can not use  $k$  for this EI step, because  $k$  is no longer fresh.

## Another Bogus Proof

Consider an attempt to prove the following (which is not valid):

$$\begin{aligned} &\exists x \in U \text{ such that } P(x) \\ \therefore &\forall x \in U, P(x) \end{aligned}$$

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. $\exists x \in U$ such that $P(x)$ | Given   |
| 2. $P(k)$                             | 1, Existential instantiation (fresh $k \in U$ ) |
| 3. $\forall x \in U, P(x)$            | 2, Universal generalization                     |

Notes:

- Step 3 is not allowed: UG does not allow us to generalize from an element that was introduced through EI.