

Discrete Mathematics

Tutorial sheet

Predicate Logic

Question 1.

Let $P(x)$ be the predicate “ $x^2 > x$ ” with the domain the set \mathbb{R} of all real numbers. Write $P(2)$, $P(\frac{1}{2})$, and $P(-\frac{1}{2})$ and indicate which of these statements are true and which are false.

[Solution:](#)

- $P(2)$: $2^2 > 2$ or $4 > 2$ is true
- $P(\frac{1}{2})$: $(\frac{1}{2})^2 > \frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4} > \frac{1}{2}$ is false
- $P(-\frac{1}{2})$: $(-\frac{1}{2})^2 > -\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4} > -\frac{1}{2}$ is true

Question 2.

Let $P(x)$ be the predicate “ $x^2 > x$ ” with the domain the set \mathbb{R} of all real numbers. What are the values $P(2) \wedge P(\frac{1}{2})$, and $P(2) \vee P(\frac{1}{2})$?

[Solution:](#)

- $P(2) \wedge P(\frac{1}{2})$: $(2^2 > 2) \wedge ((\frac{1}{2})^2 > \frac{1}{2}) = (4 > 2) \wedge (\frac{1}{4} > \frac{1}{2}) = T \wedge F = F$
- $P(2) \vee P(\frac{1}{2})$: $(2^2 > 2) \vee ((\frac{1}{2})^2 > \frac{1}{2}) = (4 > 2) \vee (\frac{1}{4} > \frac{1}{2}) = T \vee F = T$

Question 3.

1. Let $D = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, and consider the following statement:

$$\forall x \in D, x^2 \geq x.$$

Write one way to read this statement, and show that it is true.

2. Show that the following statement is false.

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 \geq x$$

[Solution:](#)

1. “For every x in the set D , x^2 is greater than or equal to x ”. The inequalities below show that that “ $x^2 \geq x$ ” is true for each individual x in D .

$$1^2 \geq 1, 2^2 \geq 2, 3^2 \geq 3, 4^2 \geq 4$$

Hence, “ $\forall x \in D, x^2 \geq x$ ” is true.

- the statement claims that $x^2 \geq x$ for every real number x , however, this is not true as for $x = \frac{1}{2}$ for example $(\frac{1}{2})^2 = \frac{1}{4} \not\geq \frac{1}{2}$.

Hence, " $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 \geq x$ " is false.

Question 4.

- Consider the following statement:

$$\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \text{ such that } n^2 = n$$

Write one way to read this statement, and show that it is true.

- Let $E = \{5, 6, 7, 8\}$, and consider the following statement:

$$\exists n \in E, n^2 = n.$$

Show that this statement is false.

Solution:

- There exists at least one positive integer n such that $n^2 = n$. 1 is positive integer and $1^2 = 1$. Thus $n^2 = n$ is true for a positive integer. Hence, " $\exists n \in E, n^2 = n$ " is true.
- $5^2 = 25 \neq 5, 6^2 = 36 \neq 6, 7^2 = 49 \neq 7, 8^2 = 64 \neq 8$. Thus " $\exists n \in E, n^2 = n$ " is false.

Question 5.

Rewrite each of the following statements formally, Use quantifiers and variables.

- All triangles have three sides.
- No dogs have wings.
- Some programs are structured.

Solution:

- All triangles have three sides: \forall triangle t, t has three sides.
Or, $\forall t \in T, t$ has three sides (where T is set of all triangles)
- No dogs have wings: \forall dog d, d does not have wings.
Or, $\forall d \in D, d$ does not have wings (where D is set of all dogs).
- Some programs are structured: \exists a program p such that p is structured
Or: $\exists p \in P, p$ is structured (where P is the set of all programs).

Question 6.

Rewrite the following statements in form of \forall _____ if _____ then _____

1. If a real number is an integer, then it is a rational number
2. All bytes have eight bits
3. No fire trucks are green

Solution:

1. If a real number is an integer, then it is a rational number: \forall real number x , if x is an integer, then x is a rational number
Or: $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$, if $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ then $x \in \mathbb{Q}$.
 2. All bytes have eight bits: $\forall x$, if x is a byte, then x has eight bits.
 3. No fire trucks are green: $\forall x$, if x is a fire truck, then x is not green.
- it is common for (1) and (2) above, to omit explicit identification of the domain of the predicate variables in universal conditional statements.

Question 7.

A **prime number** is an integer greater than 1 whose only positive integer factors are itself and 1. Consider the following predicate **Prime**(n): “ n is prime ” and **Even**(n): “ n is even”. Use the notation **Prime**(n) and **Even**(n) to rewrite the following statement:

“There is an integer that is both prime and even ”

Solution:

The statement “There is an integer that is both prime and even ” can be written in two ways

$\exists n$ such that $\text{Prime}(n) \wedge \text{Even}(n)$

or

\exists an even number n such that $\text{Prime}(n)$

Question 8.

Determine the truth value each of the following where $P(x, y) : y < x^2$, where x and y are real numbers:

1. $(\forall x)(\forall y)P(x, y)$
2. $(\exists x)(\exists y)P(x, y)$
3. $(\forall y)(\exists x)P(x, y)$
4. $(\exists x)(\forall y)P(x, y)$

Solution:

1. $(\forall x)(\forall y)P(x, y)$: this is false as there exists, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ where $x = 2$, and $y = 5$ such that $P(2, 5)$ is false.
2. $(\exists x)(\exists y)P(x, y)$: this true as there exists $x=2$ and $y = 3$ for example such that $P(2, 3) = 3 < 2^2$ is true.
3. $(\forall y)(\exists x)P(x, y)$ for all $y \in \mathbb{R}$ there is exists $x = 2\sqrt{|y|}$ with $x^2 = 4|y| > y$. this is true.
4. $(\exists x)(\forall y)P(x, y)$ this is false as there exists $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ where $x = 1$ and $y = 5$ such that $P(1, 5)$ is false as $5 > 1^2$

Question 9.

Let $P(x)$ denote the statement x is taking discrete mathematics course. The domain of discourse is the set of all students. Write each of the following statements in words.

$$\forall xP(x), \quad \forall x\neg P(x), \quad \neg(\forall xP(x)), \quad \exists xP(x), \quad \exists x\neg P(x), \quad \neg(\exists xP(x)).$$

Solution:

$\forall xP(x)$: every students is taking discrete mathematics course.

$\forall x\neg P(x)$ every student is not taking discrete mathematics course.

$\neg(\forall xP(x))$ some student is not taking discrete mathematics course.

$\exists xP(x)$ some student is taking discrete mathematics course.

$\exists x\neg P(x)$ some student is not taking discrete mathematics course.

$\neg(\exists xP(x))$ every student is not taking mathematics course.

Question 10.

Let $P(x)$ denote the statement ' x is a professional athlete', and let $Q(x)$ denote the statement ' x plays football'. The domain of discourse is the set of all people. Write each of the following in words.

$$1. \forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

$$2. \exists x(Q(x) \rightarrow P(x))$$

$$3. \forall x(P(x) \wedge Q(x))$$

Solution:

1. $\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$: every professional athlete plays football.

2. $\exists x(Q(x) \rightarrow P(x))$: either someone does not play football or some football player is a professional athlete.

3. $\forall x(P(x) \wedge Q(x))$: everyone is a professional athlete and plays football.

Question 11.

Let $P(x)$ denote the statement ‘ x is a professional athlete’, and let $Q(x)$ denote the statement ‘ x plays football’. The domain of discourse is the set of all people. Write the negation of each proposition symbolically and in words.

1. $\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$
2. $\exists x(Q(x) \rightarrow P(x))$
3. $\forall x(P(x) \wedge Q(x))$

Solution:

1. $\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$: its negation is $\exists x \neg(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) = \exists x(P(x) \wedge \neg Q(x))$:
2. $\exists x(Q(x) \rightarrow P(x))$: its negation is $\forall x \neg(Q(x) \rightarrow P(x)) = \forall x(Q(x) \wedge \neg P(x))$:
3. $\forall x(P(x) \wedge Q(x))$: its negation is $\exists x \neg(P(x) \wedge Q(x)) = \exists x(\neg P(x) \vee \neg Q(x))$:

Question 12.

Let P and Q denote the following propositional functions:

- $P(x)$: “ x is greater than 2”
- $Q(x)$: “ x^2 is greater than 4 ”

where, the universe of discourse for both $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ is the set of real number, \mathbb{R} .

1. Use quantifiers and logical operators to write the following statement formally
“ if a real number is greater 2, then its square is greater than 4.”
2. Write a formal and informal contrapositive, converse and inverse of the statement above in (1).

Solution:

1. “ if a real number is greater 2, then its square is greater than 4” can be written formally as $\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$.
2. The contrapositive of “if a real number is greater 2, then its square is greater than 4” is the statement “if the square of a real number is less or equal to 4 then the number is less or equal to 2” . this can be written using quantifiers as $\forall x(\neg Q(x)) \rightarrow \neg P(x)$.

3. The converse of “ if a real number is greater 2, then its square is greater than 4” is the statement ” if the square of a real number is greater than 4, then the number is greater than 2” is the statement $\forall x(Q(x) \rightarrow P(x))$.

The inverse of “ if a real number is greater 2, then its square is greater than 4” is the statement ” if a real number is less or equal to 2 , then its square is less or equal 4” is the statement $\forall x(\neg(P) \rightarrow \neg Q(x))$.

Question 13.

1. Rewrite each of the following statements in English as simply as possible without using the symbols \forall or \exists or variables.
 - (a) \forall color c , \exists an animal a such that a is colored c .
 - (b) \exists a book b such that \forall person p , p has read b .
 - (c) \forall odd integer n , \exists an integer k such that $n = 2k + 1$.
 - (d) . $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$, \exists a real number y such that $x + y = 0$.
2. Write a negation for each of the statements above.

Solution:

1.
 - (a) \forall color c , \exists an animal a such that a is colored c . This can written as “For every color, there is an animal of that color”.
 - (b) \exists a book b such that \forall person p , p has read b . This can written as “There is a book that every person has read”.
 - (c) \forall odd integer n , \exists an integer k such that $n = 2k + 1$. This can be written as “For every odd number n , we can find an integer k with $n = 2k + 1$ ”.
 - (d) $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$, \exists a real number y such that $x + y = 0$. This can be written as “ Given any real, we can find another real number (possibly the same) such that the sum of both numbers is equal to 0”.
2.
 - (a) \exists a color c , \forall animal a , a is **NOT** colored c .
 - (b) \forall book b , \forall a person p , p has **NOT** read b .
 - (c) \exists an odd integer n , such that \forall integer k , $n \neq 2k + 1$.
 - (d) . $\exists x \in \mathbb{R}$, such that \forall real number y , $x + y \neq 0$.

Question 14.

Rewrite the statement “No good cars are cheap ” in the form “ $\forall x$,if $P(x)$ then $\neg Q(x)$ ”. Indicate whether each of the following arguments is valid or invalid, and justify your answers.

1. No good care are cheap
 A Ferrari is a good car
 \therefore A Ferrari is not cheap

2. No good cars are cheap
 A BMW is not cheap
 \therefore A BMW is no a good car

Solution:

$\forall x$, if x is a good car, then x is **NOT** cheap.

1. No good cars are cheap
 A Ferrari is a good car
 \therefore A Ferrari is not cheap
 This is a valid argument, universal modus or universal instantiation.
2. No good cars are cheap
 A BMW is not cheap
 \therefore A BMW is not a good car
 This is invalid, converse error.

Question 15.

Let x be any student and $C(x)$, $B(x)$ and $P(x)$ be the following statements:

$C(x)$: “ x is in this class”.

$B(x)$: “ x has read the book”.

$P(x)$: “ x has passed the first exam”.

Rewrite the following symbolically and state whether it a valid argument.

A student in this class has not read the book

Everyone in this class passed the first exam

\therefore Someone who passed the first exam has not read the book

Solution:

(1) $\exists x(C(x) \wedge \neg B(x))$

(2) $\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow P(x))$

$\therefore \exists x(C(x) \rightarrow \neg B(x))$

This a valid argument!.

End of questions