

# MATHEMATICAL FOUNDATION FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE

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**PREDICATE LOGIC**

**2.NESTED QUANTIFIERS**

**3.TRANSLATION FROM ENGLISH**

# 1. NESTED QUANTIFIERS:

I. Consider the following :

“The sum of any two positive real number is positive”

This assertion can be restated as:

“for ever  $x$  and for every  $y$  , If  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , then  $x + y > 0$ ”

Let,

$$p(x, y) : “(x > 0) \wedge (y > 0) \rightarrow (x + y) > 0”$$

The given statement says that the sum of any two positive real number is positive, so we need two Universal quantifiers.

The Quantification is:

$$\forall_x \forall_y [p(x, y)]$$

# 1. NESTED QUANTIFIERS:

3. Consider the following :

“Some student in your class has taken some computer training course”

Restating above statement as:

“For some student  $x$  ,there exist a computer training course  $y$  such that  $x$  has taken  $y$ ”

let,  $Q(x, y)$  : “Student  $x$  has taken training  $y$ ”

The Quantification is:

$$\exists x \exists y [Q(x, y)]$$

# 1. NESTED QUANTIFIERS:

4. Consider the following :

“If a person is female and is a parent , then this person is someone’s mother”

Restating above statement as:

“For every person x, if x is a female and person x is a parent , then there exist a person y such that person x is the mother of y.

let,  $F(x)$  : “x is female”  
 $P(x)$  : “ x is parent”  
 $M(x, y)$  : “x is the mother of y”

The Quantification is:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \forall_x [(F(x) \wedge P(x)) \rightarrow \exists_y M(x, y)] \\ &= \forall_x \exists_y [(F(x) \wedge P(x)) \rightarrow M(x, y)] \end{aligned}$$

# 1. NESTED QUANTIFIERS:

5. Consider the following :

“There is a man that has taken a flight on every airline in the world”

Restating above statement as:

“There is a man x, for all airlines a ,there exist a flight f such that x has taken flight f”

let,  $P(x, f)$  : “x has taken flight f”

$Q(f, a)$  : “ f is a flight on airline a”

The Quantification is:

$$= \exists_x \forall_a \exists_f [ (P(x, f) \wedge Q(f, a)) ]$$

# 1. NESTED QUANTIFIERS:

Let,

$L(x, y)$ : “x loves y”

a) “Everyone Loves Somebody”

=For every person x, there exist person y such that x loves y

$$=\forall_x \exists_y L(x, y)$$

b) “Someone Loves Somebody”

=There exist some person x and some person y such that x loves y

$$=\exists_x \exists_y L(x, y)$$

c) “Someone is loved by everyone”

=There exist some person y for all x such that x loves y.

$$=\exists_y \forall_x L(x, y)$$

d) “Everybody Loves Everybody”

$$= \forall_x \forall_y L(x, y)$$

**Q. Let  $Q(x, y)$  denote “ $x + y = 0$ .”**

**What are the truth values of the quantifications**

**a)  $\exists_y \forall_x Q(x, y)$  and b)  $\forall_x \exists_y Q(x, y)$ , where the domain for all variables consists of all real numbers?**

**Solution:**

a) The quantification  $\exists_y \forall_x Q(x, y)$  denotes the proposition “There is a real number  $y$  such that for every real number  $x$ ,  $Q(x, y)$ .” No matter what value of  $y$  is chosen, there is only one value of  $x$  for which  $x + y = 0$ .

Because there is no real number  $y$  such that  $x + y = 0$  for all real numbers  $x$ , the statement  $\exists_y \forall_x Q(x, y)$  is false.

b) The quantification  $\forall_x \exists_y Q(x, y)$  denotes the proposition “For every real number  $x$  there is a real number  $y$  such that  $Q(x, y)$ .” Given a real number  $x$ , there is a real number  $y$  such that  $x + y = 0$ ; namely,  $y = -x$ . Hence, the statement  $\forall_x \exists_y Q(x, y)$  is true.

**Q. Let  $P(x, y)$  be the statement “ $x + y = y + x$ .”**

**What are the truth values of the quantifications a)  $\forall_x \forall_y P(x, y)$  and b)  $\forall_y \forall_x P(x, y)$  where the domain for all variables consists of all real numbers?**

**Solution:**

a) The quantification  $\forall_x \forall_y P(x, y)$  denotes the proposition “For all real numbers  $x$ , for all real numbers  $y$ ,  $x + y = y + x$ .” Because  $P(x, y)$  is true for all real numbers  $x$  and  $y$  the proposition  $\forall_x \forall_y P(x, y)$  is true.

b) The quantification  $\forall_y \forall_x P(x, y)$  says “For all real numbers  $y$ , for all real numbers  $x$ ,  $x + y = y + x$ .” Because  $P(x, y)$  is true for all real numbers  $x$  and  $y$  the proposition  $\forall_y \forall_x P(x, y)$  is true.



**Q. Let  $Q(x, y)$  denote “ $x + y = xy$ .”**

**What are the truth values of the quantifications**

**a)  $\exists_x \exists_y Q(x, y)$  and b)  $\exists_y \exists_x Q(x, y)$ , domain for all variables consists of all positive real numbers?**

**Solution:**

- a) The quantification  $\exists_x \exists_y Q(x, y)$  denotes the proposition “There is exist a number  $x$  such that for some number  $y$ ,  $Q(x, y)$ .”  $Q(x, y)$  is true for  $x=(0,2)$  and  $y= (0, 2)$ . **Hence,  $\exists_x \exists_y Q(x, y)$  is TRUE**
- b) The quantification  $\exists_y \exists_x Q(x, y)$  denotes the proposition “There is exist a number  $y$  such that for some number  $x$ ,  $Q(x, y)$ .”  $Q(x, y)$  is true for  $y=(0,2)$  and  $x= (0, 2)$ . **Hence,  $\exists_y \exists_x Q(x, y)$  is TRUE**

$$\exists_y \forall_x Q(x, y) \neq \forall_x \exists_y Q(x, y)$$

$$\forall_x \forall_y P(x, y) = \forall_y \forall_x P(x, y)$$

$$\exists_x \exists_y P(x, y) = \exists_y \exists_x P(x, y)$$

## 2. NEGATING NESTED QUANTIFIERS:

- Statements involving nested quantifiers can be negated by successively applying the De-Morgan's rules for negating statements involving a single quantifier.

a) Express the negation of the statement  $\forall_x \exists_y (xy = 1)$ .

$$= \neg [\forall_x \exists_y (xy = 1)]$$

$$= \exists_x \neg [\exists_y (xy = 1)]$$

$$= \exists_x \forall_y \neg (xy = 1)$$

$$= \exists_x \forall_y (xy \neq 1)$$

b)  $\exists_x \exists_y P(x, y) \wedge \forall_x \forall_y Q(x, y)$

$$= \neg [\exists_x \exists_y P(x, y) \wedge \forall_x \forall_y Q(x, y)]$$

$$= \neg [\exists_x \exists_y P(x, y)] \vee \neg [\forall_x \forall_y Q(x, y)]$$

$$= \forall_x \neg \exists_y P(x, y) \vee \exists_x \neg \forall_y Q(x, y)$$

$$= \forall_x \forall_y \neg P(x, y) \vee \exists_x \exists_y \neg Q(x, y)$$

Statement	When True?	When False?
$\forall x \forall y P(x,y)$ $\forall y \forall x P(x,y)$	$P(x,y)$ is true for every pair $x,y$	There is a pair $x,y$ for which $P(x,y)$ is false
$\forall x \exists y P(x,y)$	For every $x$ there is a $y$ for which $P(x,y)$ is true	There is an $x$ such that $P(x,y)$ is false for every $y$
$\exists x \forall y P(x,y)$	There is an $x$ for which $P(x,y)$ is true for every $y$	For every $x$ there is a $y$ for which $P(x,y)$ is false
$\exists x \exists y P(x,y)$ $\exists y \exists x P(x,y)$	There is a pair $x,y$ for which $P(x,y)$ is true	$P(x,y)$ is false for every pair $x,y$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\forall x \exists y P(x, y) \\
 &= \neg [\forall x \neg \exists y P(x, y)] \\
 &= \exists x \neg \forall y P(x, y) \\
 &= \exists x \forall y \neg P(x, y)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\exists x \forall y P(x, y) \\
 &= \neg [\exists x \neg \forall y P(x, y)] \\
 &= \forall x \neg \exists y \neg P(x, y) \\
 &= \forall x \exists y \neg P(x, y)
 \end{aligned}$$

### 3. TRANSLATING FROM NESTED QUANTIFIERS INTO ENGLISH:

Q. Translate the statement:

$\forall_x [C(x) \vee \exists_y (C(y) \wedge F(x, y))]$  into English, where

$C(x)$  is “ $x$  has a computer,”

$F(x, y)$  is “ $x$  and  $y$  are friends,” and the domain for both  $x$  and  $y$  consists of all students in your school.

Solution:

The statement says that “for every student  $x$  in your school,  $x$  has a computer or there is a student  $y$  such that  $y$  has a computer and  $x$  and  $y$  are friends.”

In other words, “*Every student in your school has a computer or has a friend who has a computer*”

### 3. TRANSLATING FROM NESTED QUANTIFIERS INTO ENGLISH:

Q. Translate the statement:

$\forall_x [S(x) \vee \exists_y (S(y) \wedge F(x, y))]$  into English, where

$S(x)$  is “ $x$  uses snapchat”

$F(x, y)$  is “ $x$  and  $y$  are friends,” and the domain for both  $x$  and  $y$  consists of all students in your school.

Solution:

The statement says that “for every student  $x$  in your school,  $x$  either uses snapchat or there is a student  $y$  such that  $y$  uses snapchat and  $y$  and  $x$  are friends.”

In other words, “*Every student in your school either uses snapchat or are friends with a student who uses snapchat*”

### 3. TRANSLATING FROM NESTED QUANTIFIERS INTO ENGLISH:

Q. Translate the statement

$$\exists_x \forall_y \forall_z ((F(x, y) \wedge F(x, z) \wedge (y \neq z)) \rightarrow \neg F(y, z))$$

into English, where  $F(a, b)$  means  $a$  and  $b$  are friends and the domain for  $x, y$ , and  $z$  consists of all students in your school.

Solution:

We first examine the expression  $(F(x, y) \wedge F(x, z) \wedge (y \neq z)) \rightarrow \neg F(y, z)$ . This expression says that if students  $x$  and  $y$  are friends, and students  $x$  and  $z$  are friends, and furthermore, if  $y$  and  $z$  are not the same student, then  $y$  and  $z$  are not friends.

It follows that the original statement, which is triply quantified, says that “there is a student  $x$  such that for all students  $y$  and all students  $z$  other than  $y$ , if  $x$  and  $y$  are friends and  $x$  and  $z$  are friends, then  $y$  and  $z$  are not friends. In other words,

*“There is a student none of whose friends are also friends with each other.”*