

# Tutorial 2

## COMP 5361: Discrete Structures and Formal Languages

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1 Propositional Equivalences

2 Predicates and Quantifiers

# Contents of the section

## 1 Propositional Equivalences

## 2 Predicates and Quantifiers

# Definition

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- A compound proposition that is always false is called a **contradiction**.
- A compound proposition that is neither a tautology nor a contradiction is called a **contingency**.
- Compound propositions that have the same truth values in all possible cases are called **logically equivalent**. The compound propositions  $p$  and  $q$  are called logically equivalent if  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is a tautology.

# Examples

- 1 Show that  $[(p \vee q) \wedge (p \rightarrow r) \wedge (q \rightarrow r)] \rightarrow r$  is a tautology.
- 2 Show that  $p \wedge \neg p$  is a contradiction.
- 3 Show that  $\neg(p \vee q)$  and  $\neg p \wedge \neg q$  are logically equivalent by 2 different methods.
- 4 Show that  $\neg(p \rightarrow q)$  and  $p \wedge \neg q$  are logically equivalent using the logical equivalence tables.



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# Definition

- A compound proposition is **satisfiable** if there is an assignment of truth values to its variables that makes it true.
- If compound proposition is false for all assignments of truth values to its variables, the compound proposition is **unsatisfiable**. Unsatisfiable iff the negation is a tautology.

# Examples

- 1 Show that  $(p \vee \neg q) \wedge (q \vee \neg r) \wedge (r \vee \neg p)$  is satisfiable, i.e. find a solution.
- 2 Show that  $(p \vee \neg q) \wedge (q \vee \neg r) \wedge (r \vee \neg p) \wedge (p \vee q \vee r) \wedge (\neg p \vee \neg q \vee \neg r)$  is unsatisfiable.

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## Definition

Statements involving **variables** that their truth assignment depend on the value of the variable are **predicate**, they are a property of the variable. A function is dependent on a variable that verifies the value of the predicate is called **propositional function**. If the variables in a propositional function are assigned values the resulting statement becomes a **proposition**. becomes a proposition

## Example

Let  $Q(x, y)$  denote the statement  $x = y + 3$ . Identify:

- 1 The variables.
- 2 The predicate.
- 3 The propositional function.

What are the truth values of the  $Q(1, 2)$  and  $Q(3, 0)$ ?

## Definition

**Quantification** It expresses the extent to which a predicate is true over a range of elements.

- **Universal Quantifier**<sup>a</sup>  $\forall$ : Indicates that a predicate is true for **all** element **domain of discourse**<sup>b</sup>.
- **Existential Quantifier**  $\exists$ : Indicates that there exists **at least one** element in **domain of discourse** for which the predicate is true.
- **Uniqueness Quantifier**  $\exists!$ : Indicates that there exists **exactly one** element in **domain of discourse** for which the predicate is true.

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<sup>a</sup>Quantifiers have the highest order of operations

<sup>b</sup>Also called universe of discourse or domain

# Universal Quantifier

Key phrases that translate to  $\forall$ :

- for all
- for every
- all of
- for each
- given any
- for arbitrary
- for any



# Existential Quantifier

Key phrases that translate to  $\exists$ :

- there exists
- for some
- for at least one
- there is

# Uniqueness Quantifier

Key phrases that translate to  $\exists!$ :

- there exists exactly one
- for exactly one
- there is one and only one
- there is exactly one

# Watch out...

## Empty domains of discourse and universal quantifier

If the domain is empty, then  $\forall x P(x)$  is **true** for any propositional function  $P(x)$  because there are no elements  $x$  in the domain for which  $P(x)$  is false.

## Empty domains of discourse and existential quantifier

If the domain is empty, then  $\exists x Q(x)$  is **false** whenever  $Q(x)$  is a propositional function because when the domain is empty, there can be no element  $x$  in the domain for which  $Q(x)$  is true. In this case, by similar logic,  $\exists! x Q(x)$  is **false** whenever  $Q(x)$  is a propositional function.

# Quantifiers with Restricted Domains

## Definition

- Domains of quantifiers can be restricted by indicating a condition a variable must satisfy right after the quantifier.
- The restrictions can be replaced by logical statements.
  - In the case of universal quantifier it will be a conditional statement.
  - In the case of existential quantifier it will be conjunction.

# Examples

What do the following statements mean, where the domain in each case consists of the real numbers? Rewrite each case so they do not include any restrictions.

①  $\forall x, x < 0 (x^2 > 0)$

②  $\forall y, y = 0 (y^3 = 0)$

③  $\exists z, z > 0 (z^2 = 2)$

- **Bound Variable:** When a quantifier is used on the variable, we say that this occurrence of the variable is bound.
- **Free Variable:** An occurrence of a variable that is not bound by a quantifier or set equal to a particular value is said to be free.
- **Scope:** The part of a logical expression to which a quantifier is applied is called the scope of this quantifier

# Example

Identify the bound variable, free variable, and the scope of the bound variable in the following examples:

- ①  $\exists x(x + y = 1)$
- ②  $\exists x(x > 0 \wedge x \equiv 0(\text{mod}2)) \vee \forall x(x < 0)$
- ③  $\forall y(y = 0 \rightarrow y^3 = 0) \wedge \exists z(z > 0 \wedge z^2 = 2)$

# Negating Quantified Expressions

## Rules

- $\neg \forall x P(x) \equiv \exists x \neg P(x)$
- $\neg \exists x Q(x) \equiv \forall x \neg Q(x)$



# Examples

Negate the following statements:

- ① There is an honest politician.
- ② All Canadians love hockey.
- ③  $\forall x(x^2 > x)$
- ④  $\exists x(x^2 = 2)$

# Translating from English into Logical Expressions

## Example

Translate the following sentence into Logical expressions:

*Every student in this class has studied calculus.*

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Translate the following sentence into Logical expressions:

*Every student in this class has studied calculus.*

**Step.1:** For every student in this class, that student has studied calculus.

**Step.2:** For every student  $x$  in this class,  $x$  has studied calculus.

# Example Continues

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- Domain: All students in the classroom. We are done!
- Domain: All people. For every person  $x$ , if person  $x$  is a student in this class then  $x$  has studied calculus.

Lets generalize with a two variable quantifier!

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**Step.1:** There is a student  $x$  in this class with the property that  $x$  (the student) has visited Spain.

**Step.2:** Decide on the domain.

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Translate the following sentence into Logical expressions:

*“Every student in this class has visited either Canada or Mexico*

**Step.1:** For every  $x$  in this class,  $x$  has the property that  $x$  has visited Mexico or  $x$  has visited Canada.

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## Example

Translate the following sentence into Logical expressions:

*“Every student in this class has visited either Canada or Mexico*

**Step.1:** For every  $x$  in this class,  $x$  has the property that  $x$  has visited Mexico or  $x$  has visited Canada.

**Step.2:** Decide on the domain.