
INF1003 Tutorial 5

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Topic: Predicate Logic
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1. Let $\text{Prime}(n)$ be the predicate “ n is a prime number” and $\text{In}(n, a, b)$ be the predicate $a \leq n \leq b$, where n, a, b range over all integers. For each statement below, determine whether it is *True*, *False*, or *Neither*, and give a brief explanation.

- (a) $\neg\text{Prime}(10) \vee \text{In}(10, 5, 20)$.

Solution.

- 10 is not prime, so $\text{Prime}(10)$ is false and $\neg\text{Prime}(10)$ is true.
- 10 lies between 5 and 20, so $\text{In}(10, 5, 20)$ is also true.
- The whole statement is $T \vee T$, which is true.

Hence the statement is **True**.

- (b) $\exists n \text{Prime}(n)$.

Solution. There are many prime integers (for example, 2, 3, 5, ...). Choosing $n = 2$ gives $\text{Prime}(2)$ true, so the existential statement is satisfied. Therefore this statement is **True**.

- (c) $\exists n \neg\text{Prime}(n)$.

Solution. There are integers that are not prime, for example 1, 4, 6, Taking $n = 4$ gives $\neg\text{Prime}(4)$ true. So the existential statement holds and is **True**.

- (d) $\forall n \text{Prime}(n)$.

Solution. This says every integer is prime. But 4 (or 1, or 10, etc.) is not prime, so there is a counterexample. Because at least one n makes $\text{Prime}(n)$ false, the universal statement is false. Hence it is **False**.

- (e) $\forall n \neg\text{Prime}(n)$.

Solution. This says no integer is prime. However 2 is prime, so for $n = 2$ we have $\neg\text{Prime}(2)$ false. Thus the universal statement fails and is **False**.

- (f) $\neg\forall n \text{Prime}(n)$.

Solution. Using a standard equivalence:

$$\neg\forall n \text{Prime}(n) \equiv \exists n \neg\text{Prime}(n).$$

In part (c) we saw that $\exists n \neg\text{Prime}(n)$ is true (e.g. $n = 4$). Therefore this statement is **True**.

(g) $\forall n (\text{In}(n, 1, 3) \rightarrow \text{Prime}(n))$.

Solution. The antecedent $\text{In}(n, 1, 3)$ is true exactly when $n = 1, 2$, or 3 . We check these cases:

- $n = 1$: $\text{In}(1, 1, 3)$ is true, but 1 is not prime, so $\text{Prime}(1)$ is false. Hence the implication is $T \rightarrow F$, which is false.

Because the universal quantifier requires the implication to hold for *every* n , the single counterexample $n = 1$ makes the whole statement **False**.

(h) $\forall n (\text{In}(n, 8, 10) \rightarrow \text{Prime}(n))$.

Solution. Here $\text{In}(n, 8, 10)$ is true for $n = 8, 9, 10$.

- $n = 9$: $\text{In}(9, 8, 10)$ is true, but 9 is not prime ($9 = 3 \cdot 3$), so $\text{Prime}(9)$ is false. The implication is therefore $T \rightarrow F$, which is false.

Hence the universal statement is **False**.

(i) $\forall n (\text{In}(n, a, b) \rightarrow \neg \text{Prime}(n))$, where a and b are integers smaller than 10 .

Solution. Here a and b are fixed integers less than 10 , but we are *not* told which ones.

- If the interval $[a, b]$ happens to contain a prime (for example $[2, 4]$), then the statement is false (because some n in $[a, b]$ will have $\text{Prime}(n)$ true).
- If $[a, b]$ is chosen to contain no primes (for example $[1, 1]$ or $[8, 9]$), then the statement is true.

Since the truth value depends on the particular (unspecified) values of a and b , we cannot classify it as always true or always false. Therefore the answer is **Neither**.

(j) $\exists n (\text{Prime}(n) \rightarrow \text{In}(n, 30, 40))$.

Solution. First interpret the formula carefully:

$$\exists n (\text{Prime}(n) \rightarrow \text{In}(n, 30, 40)).$$

For a *fixed* integer n , the implication $\text{Prime}(n) \rightarrow \text{In}(n, 30, 40)$ is false only when $\text{Prime}(n)$ is true and $\text{In}(n, 30, 40)$ is false; in all other cases it is true.

- Take $n = 1$. Then $\text{Prime}(1)$ is false and so the implication is $F \rightarrow \text{In}(1, 30, 40)$, which is true regardless of the consequent.

Thus there exists at least one integer n (for example $n = 1$) making the implication true, so the existential statement holds. Therefore it is **True**.

2. Let $\text{BB}(x)$ be the statement “ x plays basketball every week”, where the domain of x is all ICT students. Express each logical formula in English.

(a) $\exists x \text{BB}(x)$.

Solution. There is at least one ICT student who plays basketball every week.

- (b) $\forall x \text{BB}(x)$.

Solution. Every ICT student plays basketball every week.

- (c) $\neg\forall x \text{BB}(x)$.

Solution. First note that

$$\neg\forall x \text{BB}(x) \equiv \exists x \neg\text{BB}(x).$$

So in English: Not every ICT student plays basketball every week.

- (d) $\exists x \neg\text{BB}(x)$.

Solution. There is an ICT student who does not play basketball every week.

3. For each statement, do the following:

- (I) Express it using quantified logical expressions.
 - (II) Form the negation, pushing all negations directly onto predicates (not onto quantifiers).
 - (III) Express the negated statement in English.
- (a) No rabbit knows calculus.

Solution. Let the domain be all rabbits, and let $K(x)$ mean “ x knows calculus”.

(I) Original statement:

$$\forall x \neg K(x)$$

(equivalently $\neg\exists x K(x)$).

(II) Negation:

$$\neg\forall x \neg K(x) \equiv \exists x \neg\neg K(x) \equiv \exists x K(x).$$

(III) English: There is a rabbit that knows calculus.

- (b) There is a bird that can talk.

Solution. Let the domain be all birds and $T(x)$ mean “ x can talk”.

(I) Original statement:

$$\exists x T(x).$$

(II) Negation:

$$\neg\exists x T(x) \equiv \forall x \neg T(x).$$

(III) English: No bird can talk (equivalently: all birds cannot talk).

- (c) There is no one in this class who knows French and Russian.

Solution. Let the domain be all people in this class. Let $F(x)$ mean “ x knows French” and $R(x)$ mean “ x knows Russian”.

(I) Original statement:

$$\neg \exists x (F(x) \wedge R(x)) \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \forall x \neg (F(x) \wedge R(x)).$$

(II) Negation:

$$\neg \neg \exists x (F(x) \wedge R(x)) \equiv \exists x (F(x) \wedge R(x)).$$

(III) English: There is someone in this class who knows both French and Russian.

(d) Everyone in this class is a Marvel fan.

Solution. Let the domain be all people in this class, and let $M(x)$ mean “ x is a Marvel fan”.

(I) Original statement:

$$\forall x M(x).$$

(II) Negation:

$$\neg \forall x M(x) \equiv \exists x \neg M(x).$$

(III) English: There is someone in this class who is not a Marvel fan.

4. Express each of the following statements using predicates and quantifiers. Clearly define all predicates and variables.

(a) There is a student who has taken more than 21 credit hours in a semester and received all A's.

Solution. Let the domain of x be all students, and the domain of y be all modules.

- $\text{Credits}(x, y)$: student x has taken more than y credit hours in a semester.
- $A(x, y)$: student x received grade A in module y .

The statement “received all A's” can be modelled as “for every module y , student x received A in y ”.

$$\exists x (\text{Credits}(x, 21) \wedge \forall y A(x, y)).$$

(b) A passenger on an airline qualifies as an “Elite Flyer” if the passenger flies more than 25000 miles in a year or takes more than 25 flights during that year.

Solution. Let the domain of x be all airline passengers.

- $\text{Miles}(x, y)$: passenger x flies more than y miles in a year.
- $\text{Flights}(x, y)$: passenger x takes more than y flights in a year.
- $\text{Elite}(x)$: passenger x qualifies as an Elite Flyer.

The rule “qualifies as an Elite Flyer if ...” becomes an implication for all passengers:

$$\forall x ((\text{Miles}(x, 25000) \vee \text{Flights}(x, 25)) \rightarrow \text{Elite}(x)).$$

- (c) A man qualifies for the marathon if his best previous time is less than 3 hours and a woman qualifies for the marathon if her best previous time is less than 3.5 hours.

Solution. Let the domain of x be all people.

- $M(x)$: x is a man.
- $W(x)$: x is a woman.
- $Q(x)$: x qualifies for the marathon.
- $\text{Best}(x, t)$: the best previous time of x is less than t hours.

We can encode both conditions in a single formula:

$$\forall x ((M(x) \wedge \text{Best}(x, 3)) \vee (W(x) \wedge \text{Best}(x, 3.5)) \rightarrow Q(x)).$$

(Equivalently, we could have written two separate implications, one for men and one for women.)

5. Use the following predicates:

$L(x)$: x has a laptop, $D(x)$: x has a desktop computer, $M(x)$: x uses macOS, $W(x)$: x is a woman

Domain 1 is “students in this class”. Domain 2 is “all people in the world”. You may also use an additional predicate

$S(x)$: x is a student in this class

when working in Domain 2.

For each statement, give an expression in both domains.

- (a) Some students have both a laptop and a desktop computer.

Solution.

- **Domain 1 (students in this class):**

$$\exists x (L(x) \wedge D(x)).$$

Here the domain already consists of students, so we do not need $S(x)$.

- **Domain 2 (all people in the world):** We must restrict to those who are students in this class:

$$\exists x (S(x) \wedge L(x) \wedge D(x)).$$

- (b) All students who use macOS have a laptop.

Solution.

- **Domain 1:**

$$\forall x (M(x) \rightarrow L(x)).$$

Every (class) student using macOS has a laptop.

- **Domain 2:** We again restrict to students in this class:

$$\forall x ((S(x) \wedge M(x)) \rightarrow L(x)).$$

- (c) Every student uses either macOS, Windows, or both.

Solution.

- **Domain 1:**

$$\forall x (M(x) \vee W(x)).$$

(All students in this class use macOS, Windows, or both.)

- **Domain 2:** We restrict the universal quantifier to students in this class:

$$\forall x (S(x) \rightarrow (M(x) \vee W(x))).$$

6. [OPTIONAL] Translate each logical statement into a clear English sentence. The domain of every variable is the set of all real numbers.

- (a) $\forall x \exists y (x < y)$.

Solution. For every real number x , there is a real number y that is larger than x . (Every real number has a larger real number.)

- (b) $\forall x \forall y (((x \geq 0) \wedge (y \geq 0)) \rightarrow (xy \geq 0))$.

Solution. For all real numbers x and y , if both x and y are non-negative, then their product xy is also non-negative.

- (c) $\forall x \forall y \exists z (x + y = z)$.

Solution. For any two real numbers x and y , there exists a real number z equal to their sum. (The sum of any two real numbers is a real number.)

7. [OPTIONAL] Let $F(x, y)$ be the predicate “ x and y are friends”, where x and y range over all students in SIT. Translate each statement into clear English (avoid using the symbols x and y in your English sentences).

- (a) $\forall x \exists y (F(x, y) \wedge \forall z ((y \neq z) \rightarrow \neg F(x, z)))$.

Solution. For every student, there is some student who is their friend, and they have no other friends. In words: *Every student in SIT has exactly one friend.*

- (b) $\exists x \forall y \forall z ((F(x, y) \wedge F(x, z) \wedge (y \neq z)) \rightarrow \neg F(y, z))$.

Solution. There is at least one student such that whenever two different students are both friends with that person, those two students are not friends with each other. In words: *There is a student whose friends are not friends with one another.*