

# Predicates (Textbook §3.6)

A *predicate* is a *proposition* whose truth depends on the values of variables

P

$P(n) ::=$  " $n$  is a perfect square"

$P(n)$  holds for  $n=0, 1, 4, 9, 16, \dots$

1 is a perfect square  $\leftarrow$  true prop.

3 is a perfect square  $\leftarrow$  false prop

## Predicates (Textbook §3.6)

A *predicate* is a *proposition* whose truth depends on the values of variables

one  
↓

$P(n)$  ::= “ $n$  is a perfect square”

- If  $P$  is a unary predicate,  $P(n)$ , being a proposition, is either true or false.

# Predicates (Textbook §3.6)

A *predicate* is a *proposition* whose truth depends on the values of variables

$P(n) ::=$  “ $n$  is a perfect square”

$P_y(3, 4, 5) \quad T$   
 $P_y(2, 3, 4) \quad F$

- If  $P$  is a unary predicate,  $P(n)$ , being a proposition, is either true or false.
- A  $k$ -ary predicate takes  $k$  variables, e.g.,

$P_y(x, y, z) ::=$  “ $x^2 + y^2 = z^2$  for integers  $x, y$  and  $z$ ”

is a ternary predicate that characterizes Pythagorean triples.  $x, y$  and  $z$  are said to be free variables in the formula defining  $P_y$ .

$Q(x, y) ::=$   $x \geq y \vee y > x$

# Satisfiability and Validity

These terms have the same high level meaning as in the propositional case.

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- Related to *existential* quantification
- Example: Are there values of  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  such that  $P_y(x, y, z)$ ?

$$R(x) ::= x > x$$

# Satisfiability and Validity

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- Related to *existential* quantification
- Example: Are there values of  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  such that  $P_y(x, y, z)$ ?

**Valid:** The formula is true for all possible values of variables

- Related to *universal* quantification.

Example:  $Q(x, y) ::= \text{“if } y > 0 \text{ then } x + y > x\text{”}$

Is this always true?

# Quantifiers

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{N} \forall y \in \mathbb{N} \quad x \geq y \vee y > x$$

→ **Universal Quantifier:**  $\forall$  “for all”

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad x^2 \geq 0$$

$$x = \sqrt{\frac{7}{5}}$$

→ **Existential Quantifier:**  $\exists$  “there exists”

Valid →  $\exists x \in \mathbb{R} \quad 5x^2 - 7 = 0$

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{N} \quad 5x^2 - 7 = 0$$

The sets may not be explicitly specified if they are obvious from context.

↑  
Unsat

If multiple variables belong to the same domain, we may abbreviate:

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N} \quad x \geq y \vee y > x$$

# Free Vs Bound Variables

- A quantifier “captures” or “binds” a variable. It is no longer free to take any possible value

$$\underline{P(n)} ::= \exists x \in \mathbb{N}, \underline{n} = \underline{x^2}$$

- This formula has two variables  $n$  and  $x$ , but  $x$  has been bound by the quantifier.
- $n$  continues to be *free*: It can take any value.
  - Some values of  $n$  make  $P(n)$  true, while others render it false.



# Examples of Quantified Statements

“Every American has a dream.”

set of dreams:  $D$

set of Americans:  $A$

$\forall x \in A \exists d \in D$

$x$  dreams of  $d$

$\exists d \in D \forall x \in A$

$x$  dreams of  $d$

# Examples of Quantified Statements

Every even integer greater than 2 is the sum of two primes

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Every even integer greater than 2 is the sum of two primes

- For every even integer  $n$  greater than 2, there exist primes  $p$  and  $q$  s.t.  $n = p + q$

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  ( $n > 2$  and even( $n$ ))  $\rightarrow$  ( $\exists p, q \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $p$  and  $q$  are prime and  $n = p + q$ )

$\exists$  ( $p, q$ )  $\nexists n$  ( $n > 2$  and  $n$  is even)  $\rightarrow$   $p$  and  $q$  are prime and  $n = p + q$

# Order of Quantifiers

- Sometimes the order does not matter
  - e.g., when two universal quantifiers are nested

$$\forall y \forall x \quad x > y \quad \vee \quad y \geq x$$

- But other times, they mean a lot! One order will make sense but the other will not.
  - Often, you cannot change the order of existential operators

# Negating Quantifiers

- Not everyone likes ice cream.
- There is someone who does not like ice cream
- There is no one who likes being mocked
- Everyone dislikes being mocked

set  $P$  of persons  
pred.  $L(x)$  to say " $x$  likes ice cream"

$$\exists n \in P \neg L(n)$$

$$\neg (\forall n \in P L(n))$$

$$\neg \exists n \in P M(n)$$

$$\forall n \in P \neg M(n)$$

$\exists$

# Negating Quantifiers

- Not everyone likes ice cream.

$$\neg (\forall n \in P \ L(n))$$
$$\equiv \exists n \in P \ \neg L(n)$$

- There is someone who does not like ice cream

$$\exists n \in P \ \neg L(n)$$

- There is no one who likes being mocked

$$\neg (\exists n \in P \ M(n))$$

- Everyone dislikes being mocked

$$\forall n \in P \ \neg M(n)$$

- $\forall$  is equivalent to  $\neg \exists \neg$

- $\exists$  is equivalent to  $\neg \forall \neg$

# Unit Summary

- Predicate Vs Proposition
- Satisfiability and Validity
- Quantifiers
  - Free and Bound variables
  - Conversion between English and Logical Formulas
- Order of quantifiers
- Negating quantifiers