

# Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science

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## Lecture 4

# Interchanging quantifiers

In each universe  $U$ :

$$\forall x \forall y p(x, y) \iff \forall y \forall x p(x, y)$$

$$\exists x \exists y p(x, y) \iff \exists y \exists x p(x, y)$$

However, false is:

$$\forall x \exists y p(x, y) \iff \exists y \forall x p(x, y)$$

**Counterexample:**  $U = (0, \infty)$  and  $p(x, y): x \cdot y = 1$

## §2.5: Four additional rules of inference w.r.t. quantifiers (cf. formula sheet)

### Rule of Universal Specification

$$\text{U1} \quad \frac{\forall x p(x)}{\therefore p(c)} \quad \text{for } \underline{\text{any}} \ c \in U$$

# Rule of Existential Specification

$$\text{U2} \quad \frac{\exists x p(x)}{\therefore p(c)} \quad \text{for some } c \in U$$

# Rule of Universal Generalization

$$\text{U3} \frac{p(c)}{\therefore \forall x p(x)} \text{ for } \underline{\text{any}} c \in U$$

# Rule of Existential Generalization

$$\text{U4} \quad \frac{p(c)}{\therefore \exists x p(x)} \quad \text{for some } c \in U$$

# Example 1

Prove the validity of the following argument by using the “Laws of Logic”, the “Rules of Inference” and the supplement w.r.t. quantifiers.

$$\exists x(p(x) \wedge q(x)) \Rightarrow (\exists x p(x) \wedge \exists x q(x))$$

In tabular form:

$$\frac{\exists x(p(x) \wedge q(x))}{\therefore \exists x p(x) \wedge \exists x q(x)}$$

$$\frac{\exists x(p(x) \wedge q(x))}{\therefore \exists x p(x) \wedge \exists x q(x)}$$

## Solution

- (1)  $\exists x(p(x) \wedge q(x))$  Premise
- (2)  $p(c) \wedge q(c)$  for some  $c \in U$  (1), U2
- (3)  $p(c)$  (2), R7
- (4)  $\exists x p(x)$  (3), U4
- (5)  $q(c) \wedge p(c)$  (2), L3
- (6)  $q(c)$  (5), R7
- (7)  $\exists x q(x)$  (6), U4
- (8)  $\therefore \exists x p(x) \wedge \exists x q(x)$  (4),(7), R4

## Example 2

We just proved that in each universe  $U$ :

$$\exists x(p(x) \wedge q(x)) \Rightarrow (\exists x p(x) \wedge \exists x q(x))$$

**This implication cannot be reversed !!**

**Counterexample:  $U = \mathbb{Z}$ ;**

**$p(x)$ :  $x$  is even and**

**$q(x)$ :  $x$  is odd**

## Example 3

Prove the validity of the following argument by using the “Laws of Logic”, the “Rules of Inference” and the supplement w.r.t. quantifiers.

$$(\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)) \Leftrightarrow \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))$$

$$(\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)) \Leftrightarrow \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))$$

## Solution (1)

Use L11 to split the exercise into two parts:

$$(\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)) \Rightarrow \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))$$

and

$$\exists x(p(x) \vee q(x)) \Rightarrow (\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x))$$

In tabular form:

$$\frac{\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)}{\therefore \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))}$$

and

$$\frac{\exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))}{\therefore \exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)}$$

$$\frac{\exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))}{\therefore \exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)}$$

## Solution (2)

- (1)  $\exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))$  Premise
- (2)  $p(c) \vee q(c)$  for some  $c \in U$  (1), U2
- (3)  $(p(c) \text{ for some } c \in U) \rightarrow \exists x p(x)$  U4
- (4)  $(q(c) \text{ for some } c \in U) \rightarrow \exists x q(x)$  U4
- (5)  $\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)$  (3),(4),(2), R11

$$\frac{\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)}{\therefore \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))}$$

## Solution (3)

(1)  $\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)$  **Premise**

(2)  $\exists x p(x) \rightarrow (p(c) \text{ for some } c \in U)$  **U2**

(3)  $\exists x q(x) \rightarrow (q(d) \text{ for some } d \in U)$  **U2**

(4)  $(p(c) \text{ for some } c \in U) \vee (q(d) \text{ for some } d \in U)$

**(2),(3),(1), R11**

$$\frac{\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)}{\therefore \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))}$$

## Solution (4)

(4)  $(p(c) \text{ for some } c \in U) \vee (q(d) \text{ for some } d \in U)$

(5)  $(p(c) \text{ for some } c \in U) \rightarrow (p(c) \vee q(c) \text{ for some } c \in U)$  **R8**

(6)  $(q(d) \text{ for some } d \in U) \rightarrow (q(d) \vee p(d) \text{ for some } d \in U)$  **R8**

(7)  $(p(c) \vee q(c) \text{ for some } c \in U) \vee (q(d) \vee p(d) \text{ for some } d \in U)$

**(5),(6),(4), R11**

$$\frac{\exists x p(x) \vee \exists x q(x)}{\therefore \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x))}$$

## Solution (5)

$$(7) \quad (p(c) \vee q(c) \text{ for some } c \in U) \vee (q(d) \vee p(d) \text{ for some } d \in U)$$

$$(8) \quad (p(c) \vee q(c) \text{ for some } c \in U) \vee (p(d) \vee q(d) \text{ for some } d \in U)$$

(7), L3

$$(9) \quad (p(c) \vee q(c) \text{ for some } c \in U) \rightarrow \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x)) \quad \text{U4}$$

$$(10) \quad (p(d) \vee q(d) \text{ for some } d \in U) \rightarrow \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x)) \quad \text{U4}$$

$$(11) \quad \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x)) \vee \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x)) \quad (9),(10),(8), \text{R11}$$

$$(12) \quad \therefore \exists x(p(x) \vee q(x)) \quad (11), \text{L6}$$

## Example 4

Prove the validity of the following argument by using the “Laws of Logic”, the “Rules of Inference” and the supplement w.r.t. quantifiers.

$$\frac{\forall x ((q(x) \vee r(x)) \rightarrow \neg p(x)) \quad \exists x p(x)}{\therefore \neg \forall x r(x)}$$

$$\frac{\forall x((q(x) \vee r(x)) \rightarrow \neg p(x)) \quad \exists x p(x)}{\therefore \neg \forall x r(x)}$$

# Solution

(1)  $\exists x p(x)$  Premise

(2)  $p(c)$  for some  $c$  (1), U2

(3)  $\forall x((q(x) \vee r(x)) \rightarrow \neg p(x))$  Premise

(4)  $(q(c) \vee r(c)) \rightarrow \neg p(c)$  (3), U1 (same  $c$  as in (2))

(5)  $\neg \neg p(c)$  (2), L1

(10)  $\exists x \neg r(x)$  (9), U4

(6)  $\neg(q(c) \vee r(c))$  (4), (5), R3

(11)  $\neg \forall x r(x)$  (10), N1

(7)  $\neg q(c) \wedge \neg r(c)$  (6), L2

(8)  $\neg r(c) \wedge \neg q(c)$  (7), L3

(9)  $\neg r(c)$  (8), R7

## Example 5

Show that the following argument is invalid.

$$\frac{\forall x q(x) \quad \exists x (p(x) \wedge q(x))}{\therefore \forall x p(x)}$$

# Solution

$$\frac{\forall x q(x) \quad \exists x (p(x) \wedge q(x))}{\therefore \forall x p(x)}$$

E.g, take:  $U = N$

and

$p(x)$ :  $x$  is even

$q(x)$ :  $x \in N$

Then both premises are true,  
but the conclusion is false!

## Example 6

Show that the following argument is invalid.

$$\frac{\neg \exists x (p(x) \wedge \neg q(x)) \quad \exists x (q(x) \wedge r(x))}{\therefore \exists x (p(x) \wedge r(x))}$$

# Solution

$$\frac{\neg \exists x (p(x) \wedge \neg q(x)) \quad \exists x (q(x) \wedge r(x))}{\therefore \exists x (p(x) \wedge r(x))}$$

E.g, take:  $U = N$

and

$p(x): x = 1$

$q(x): x$  is odd

$r(x): x = 3$

Then both premises are true,  
but the conclusion is false!

# Hint for exercise 2.5.7b

Split the exercise

$$\forall x(p(x) \wedge q(x)) \Leftrightarrow (\forall x p(x) \wedge \forall x q(x))$$

into

$$\forall x(p(x) \wedge q(x)) \Rightarrow (\forall x p(x) \wedge \forall x q(x))$$

and

$$(\forall x p(x) \wedge \forall x q(x)) \Rightarrow \forall x(p(x) \wedge q(x))$$

**Cf. Example 3, slide 10.**