

# Predicates & Quantifiers.

Goal: talk formally about logical statements involving "all" or "some".

Def'n If  $P(x)$  is a predicate (ie. a function that returns a proposition) and  $D$  is some "domain" (ie. a set of values, ie. a type), then

$$\forall x : D. P(x)$$

(pronounced "for all  $x$  in  $D$ ,  $P(x)$ ") is a proposition which is true iff  $P(x)$  is true for all  $x$  in the domain  $D$ .

(People often also use notation  $\forall x \in D. P(x)$ )  
( $D$  called "domain of discourse"; sometimes omitted)

Note, we can think of  $\forall$  as being like a giant "and".  
That is,

$$\forall x : D. P(x) \approx P(d_1) \wedge P(d_2) \wedge P(d_3) \wedge \dots$$

where  $d_1, d_2, d_3, \dots$  are all the values in domain  $D$ .  
This helps us understand properties of  $\forall$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{eg.} : \quad & \neg (\forall x : D. P(x)) \\ & \approx \neg (P(d_1) \wedge P(d_2) \wedge P(d_3) \wedge \dots) \\ & \equiv \neg P(d_1) \vee \neg P(d_2) \vee \neg P(d_3) \vee \dots \\ & \equiv \exists x : D. \neg P(x). \end{aligned}$$

Defn. If  $P(x)$  is a predicate and  $D$  is a domain, then

$$\exists x:D. P(x)$$

(pronounced "there exists  $x$  in  $D$  such that  $P(x)$ ")  
is a proposition which is true iff there is at least one value of  $x$  in domain  $D$  for which  $P(x)$  is true.

kind of like  $\exists x:D. P(x) \approx P(d_1) \vee P(d_2) \vee P(d_3) \vee \dots$

Hence

$$\neg(\forall x:D. P(x)) \equiv \exists x:D. \neg P(x)$$

$$\neg(\exists x:D. P(x)) \equiv \forall x:D. \neg P(x)$$