First-Order Predicate Logic Basics

Syntax of predicate logic: terms

A variable is a symbol of the form x_i where $i = 1, 2, 3 \dots$

A function symbol is of the form f_i^k where i = 1, 2, 3... and k = 0, 1, 2...

A predicate symbol is of the form P_i^k where i = 1, 2, 3... and k = 0, 1, 2...

We call i the index and k the arity of the symbol. Function

symbols of arity 0 are called constant symbols. Instead of $f_i^0()$ we write f_i^0 .

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Terms are inductively defined as follows:

- 1. Variables are terms.
- 2. If f is a function symbol of arity k and t_1, \ldots, t_k are terms then $f(t_1, \ldots, t_k)$ is a term.

Syntax of predicate logic: formulas

If *P* is a predicate symbol of arity *k* and t_1, \ldots, t_k are terms then $P(t_1, \ldots, t_k)$ is an atomic formula. If k = 0 we write *P* instead of P().

Formulas (of predicate logic) are inductively defined as follows:

- Every atomic formula is a formula.
- If F is a formula, then $\neg F$ is also a formula.
- ▶ If *F* and *G* are formulas, then $F \land G$, $F \lor G$ and $F \to G$ are also formulas.
- If x is a variable and F is a formula, then ∀x F and ∃x F are also formulas. The symbols ∀ and ∃ are called the universal and the existential quantifier.

Syntax trees are defined as before, extended with the following trees for $\forall xF$ and $\exists xF$:



Subformulas again correspond to subtrees.

Sructural induction of formulas

Like for propositional logic but

• Different base case: $\mathcal{P}(P(t_1, \ldots, t_k))$

► Two new induction steps: prove P(∀x F) under the induction hypothesis P(F) prove P(∃x F) under the induction hypothesis P(F)

Naming conventions

 x, y, z, \ldots instead of x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots a, b, c, \ldots forconstant symbols f, g, h, \ldots forfunction symbols of arity > 0 P, Q, R, \ldots instead of P_i^k

Precedence of quantifiers

Quantifiers have the same precedence as \neg

Example

 $\begin{array}{ll} \forall x \ P(x) \land Q(x) & \text{abbreviates} & (\forall x \ P(x)) \land Q(x) \\ & \text{not} & \forall x \ (P(x) \land Q(x)) \\ \\ \text{Similarly for } \lor \text{ etc.} \end{array}$

[This convention is not universal]

Free and bound variables, closed formulas

A variable x occurs in a formula F if it occurs in some atomic subformula of F.

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An occurrence of a variable in a formula is either free or bound.

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Otherwise the occurrence is free.

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A formula without any free occurrence of any variable is closed.

Example $\forall x \ P(x) \rightarrow \exists y \ Q(a, x, y)$

	Closed?
$\forall x \ P(a)$	

 Formula?

	Closed?
$\forall x \ P(a)$	Y

 Formula?

	Closed?
$\forall x \ P(a)$	Y
$\forall x \exists y \ (Q(x,y) \lor R(x,y))$	

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 Formula?

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$\forall x \ P(a)$	Y
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 Formula?

	Closed?
$\forall x \ P(a)$	Y
$\forall x \exists y \ (Q(x,y) \lor R(x,y))$	Y
$\forall x \ Q(x,x) \rightarrow \exists x \ Q(x,y)$	N
$\forall x \ P(x) \lor \forall x \ Q(x,x)$	

 Formula?	

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$\forall x \ P(x) \lor \forall x \ Q(x,x)$	Y
$\forall x \ (P(y) \land \forall y \ P(x))$	

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$P(x) \rightarrow \exists x \ Q(x, f(x))$	

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$\exists x \ P(f(x))$	

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$\exists f \ P(f(x))$	

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Semantics of predicate logic: structures

A structure is a pair $\mathcal{A} = (U_{\mathcal{A}}, I_{\mathcal{A}})$

where U_A is an arbitrary, nonempty set called the universe of A, and the interpretation I_A is a partial function that maps

- variables to elements of the universe U_A ,
- function symbols of arity k to functions of type $U_{\mathcal{A}}^k \to U_{\mathcal{A}}$,
- predicate symbols of arity k to functions of type U^k_A → {0,1} (predicates) [or equivalently to subsets of U^k_A (relations)]

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 I_A maps syntax (variables, functions and predicate symbols) to their meaning (elements, functions and predicates)

The special case of arity 0 can be written more simply:

- constant symbols are mapped to elements of U_A ,
- predicate symbols of arity 0 are mapped to {0,1}.

Abbreviations:

$x^{\mathcal{A}}$	abbreviates	$I_{\mathcal{A}}(x)$
$f^{\mathcal{A}}$	abbreviates	$I_{\mathcal{A}}(f)$
$P^{\mathcal{A}}$	abbreviates	$I_{\mathcal{A}}(P)$

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Example

 $U_{\mathcal{A}} = \mathbb{N}$ $I_{\mathcal{A}}(P) = P^{\mathcal{A}} = \{(m, n) \mid m, n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } m < n\}$ $I_{\mathcal{A}}(Q) = Q^{\mathcal{A}} = \{m \mid m \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } m \text{ is prime}\}$ $I_{\mathcal{A}}(f) \text{ is the successor function: } f^{\mathcal{A}}(n) = n + 1$ $I_{\mathcal{A}}(g) \text{ is the addition function: } g^{\mathcal{A}}(m, n) = m + n$ $I_{\mathcal{A}}(a) = a^{\mathcal{A}} = 2$ $I_{\mathcal{A}}(z) = z^{\mathcal{A}} = 3$

Intuition: is $\forall x \ P(x, f(x)) \land Q(g(a, z))$ true in this structure?

Evaluation of a term in a structure

Definition

Let t be a term and let $\mathcal{A} = (U_{\mathcal{A}}, I_{\mathcal{A}})$ be a structure.

 \mathcal{A} is suitable for t if $I_{\mathcal{A}}$ is defined for all variables and function symbols occurring in t.

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structure A, denoted by A(t), is defined recursively:

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{A}(x) = & x^{\mathcal{A}} \ \mathcal{A}(c) = & c^{\mathcal{A}} \ \mathcal{A}(f(t_1,\ldots,t_k)) = & f^{\mathcal{A}}(\mathcal{A}(t_1),\ldots,\mathcal{A}(t_k)) \end{aligned}$$

Definition

Let *F* be a formula and let $\mathcal{A} = (U_{\mathcal{A}}, I_{\mathcal{A}})$ be a structure. \mathcal{A} is suitable for *F* if $I_{\mathcal{A}}$ is defined for all predicate and function symbols occurring in *F* and for all variables occurring free in *F*.

Evaluation of a formula in a structure

Suitable structures for $\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow \exists y Q(x, y))$

Evaluation of a formula in a structure

Let \mathcal{A} be suitable for F. The (truth) value of F in \mathcal{A} , denoted by $\mathcal{A}(F)$, is defined recursively:

$$\mathcal{A}(\neg F)$$
, $\mathcal{A}(F \land G)$, $\mathcal{A}(F \lor G)$, $\mathcal{A}(F \to G)$
as for propositional logic.
Evaluation of a formula in a structure

Let \mathcal{A} be suitable for F. The (truth) value of F in \mathcal{A} , denoted by $\mathcal{A}(F)$, is defined recursively:

Recall: $\mathcal{A}[d/x]$ coincides with \mathcal{A} except $x^{\mathcal{A}[d/x]} = d$.

Notes

- During the evaluation of a formulas in a structure, the structure stays unchanged except for the interpretation of the variables.
- If the formula is closed, the initial interpretation of the variables is irrelevant.

Coincidence Lemma

Lemma

Let A and A' be two structures that coincide on all free variables, on all function symbols and all predicate symbols that occur in F. Then A(F) = A'(F).

Proof.

Exercise.

Every propositional formula can be seen as a formula of predicate logic where the atom A_i is replaced by the atom P⁰_i.

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Example

$$F = Q(a) \vee \neg P(f(b), b) \wedge P(b, f(b))$$

can be viewed as the propositional formula

$$F' = A_1 \vee \neg A_2 \wedge A_3$$
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Predicate logic with equality

Predicate logic + distinguished predicate symbol "=" of arity 2

Semantics: A structure A of predicate logic with equality always maps the predicate symbol = to the identity relation:

 $\mathcal{A}(\texttt{=}) = \{(d,d) \mid d \in U_{\mathcal{A}}\}$

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We give different formalizations of the statement

There are infinitely many prime numbers

Formalization I

If the meanings of "prime" and "greater-than" are known, then we can take:

 $F_1: \forall x \exists y (Pr(y) \land y > x)$

 $\mathcal{A}_{1}: \quad \mathcal{U}^{\mathcal{A}_{1}} = \mathbb{N}$ $Pr^{\mathcal{A}_{1}} = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n \text{ is prime}\}$ $>^{\mathcal{A}_{1}} = \{(n, m) \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > m\}$

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What if the meaning of "prime" is not known?

Formalization II

If the meaning of "divides" and "one" are known, then we can take:

$$F_{2}: \quad \forall x \left(Pr(x) \leftrightarrow \forall y \left(Dv(y, x) \rightarrow (y = x \lor y = one) \right) \right) \\ \rightarrow \quad \forall x \exists y \left(Pr(y) \land y > x \right)$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathcal{A}_2 \colon & \mathcal{U}^{\mathcal{A}_2} &=& \mathbb{N} \\ & \mathcal{D}v^{\mathcal{A}_2} &=& \{(n,m) \in \mathbb{N} \mid n \text{ divides } m\} \\ & >^{\mathcal{A}_2} &=& \{(n,m) \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > m\} \\ & \textit{one}^{\mathcal{A}_2} &=& 1 \end{array}$$

We are now stating " if we define prime numbers as . . . then there are infinitely many prime numbers".

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Formalization III

If the meaning of "product" is known , then we can take

$$F_{3}: \qquad \forall x \forall y (Dv(x, y) \leftrightarrow \exists z \ prod(x, z) = y) \\ \land \qquad \forall x (Pr(x) \leftrightarrow (\forall y \ Dv(y, x) \rightarrow (y = x \lor y = one))) \\ \rightarrow \qquad \forall x \exists y (Pr(y) \land y > x)$$

(the conjunction of the first two formulas implies the third)

$$\mathcal{A}_{3}: \qquad U^{\mathcal{A}_{3}} = \mathbb{N}$$

$$>^{\mathcal{A}_{3}} = \{(n,m) \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > m\}$$

$$one^{\mathcal{A}_{3}} = 1$$

$$prod^{\mathcal{A}_{3}}(n,m) = n \cdot m$$

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What if the meaning of "product" is not known ?

Formalization IV

If the meaning of "sum", "successor", "one" and "zero" is known, then we can take

 $F_4: \qquad \forall x \ prod(x, zero) = zero$

 $\land \quad \forall x \,\forall y \, prod(x, succ(y)) = sum(prod(x, y), y)$

 $\land \quad \forall x \, \forall y \, (Dv(x,y) \leftrightarrow \exists z \, prod(x,z) = y)$

 $\land \quad \forall x (Pr(x) \leftrightarrow (\forall y Dv(y, x) \rightarrow (y = x \lor y = one)))$

 $\rightarrow \quad \forall x \,\exists y \, (\Pr(y) \land y > x)$

 \mathcal{A}_4 only defines >, sum, succ, one, zero.

Observe: *prod* is defined *inductively*. The definition is no longer a macro, in the sense that we cannot produce an "equivalent" formula without the symbol *prod*.

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Observe: *prod* is defined *inductively*. The definition is no longer a macro, in the sense that we cannot produce an "equivalent" formula without the symbol *prod*.

What if the meaning of "sum" is not known?

Formalization V

 F_5 : $\forall x sum(x, zero) = x$

- $\land \quad \forall x \, \forall y \, sum(x, succ(y)) = succ(sum(x, y))$
- $\land \quad \forall x \, prod(x, zero) = zero$
- $\land \quad \forall x \,\forall y \, prod(x, succ(y)) = sum(prod(x, y), y)$

 $\land \quad \forall x \,\forall y \, (Div(x,y) \leftrightarrow \exists z \, prod(x,z) = y)$

- $\land \quad \forall x \left(\mathsf{Pr}(x) \leftrightarrow (\forall y \; \mathsf{Div}(y, x) \rightarrow (y = x \lor y = \mathsf{one}) \right) \right)$
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- $\rightarrow \quad \forall x \, \exists y \, (\Pr(y) \land y > x)$

 \mathcal{A}_5 only defines >, *succ*, *one*, *zero*.

What if the meaning of 'greater than" and "one" is not known?

Formalization VI

 F_6 : one = succ(zero)

- $\land \quad \forall x \, \forall y \, (x > y \leftrightarrow \exists z \, \neg (z = \textit{zero}) \land \textit{sum}(y, z) = x)$
- $\land \quad \forall x \, sum(x, zero) = x$
- $\land \quad \forall x \,\forall y \, sum(x, succ(y)) = succ(sum(x, y))$
- $\land \quad \forall x \textit{ prod}(x, \textit{zero}) = \textit{zero}$
- $\land \quad \forall x \,\forall y \, prod(x, succ(y)) = sum(prod(x, y), y)$
- $\land \quad \forall x \,\forall y \,(\textit{Div}(x,y) \leftrightarrow \exists z \,\textit{prod}(x,z) = y)$
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- $\rightarrow \quad \forall x \, \exists y \, (\Pr(y) \land y > x)$

 \mathcal{A}_6 only defines *succ*, *zero*.

Model, validity, satisfiability

Like in propositional logic

Definition

We write $\mathcal{A} \models F$ to denote that the structure \mathcal{A} is suitable for the formula F and that $\mathcal{A}(F) = 1$. Then we say that F is true in \mathcal{A} or that \mathcal{A} is a model of F.

If every structure suitable for F is a model of F, then we write $\models F$ and say that F is valid.

If F has at least one model then we say that F is satisfiable.
























Consequence and equivalence

Like in propositional logic

Definition

A formula G is a consequence of a set of formulas M

if every structure that is a model of all $F \in M$ and suitable for G is also a model of G. Then we write $M \models G$.

Two formulas F and G are (semantically) equivalent if every structure A suitable for both F and G satisfies A(F) = A(G). Then we write $F \equiv G$.

- 1. $\forall x P(x) \lor \forall x Q(x,x)$
- 2. $\forall x (P(x) \lor Q(x,x))$
- 3. $\forall x (\forall z P(z) \lor \forall y Q(x, y))$

	Y	Ν
1 = 2		

- 1. $\forall x P(x) \lor \forall x Q(x,x)$
- 2. $\forall x (P(x) \lor Q(x,x))$
- 3. $\forall x (\forall z P(z) \lor \forall y Q(x, y))$

	Y	Ν
1 = 2	х	

- 1. $\forall x P(x) \lor \forall x Q(x,x)$
- 2. $\forall x (P(x) \lor Q(x,x))$
- 3. $\forall x (\forall z P(z) \lor \forall y Q(x, y))$

	Y	Ν
$1 \models 2$	х	
2 = 3		

- 1. $\forall x P(x) \lor \forall x Q(x,x)$
- 2. $\forall x (P(x) \lor Q(x,x))$
- 3. $\forall x (\forall z P(z) \lor \forall y Q(x, y))$

	Υ	Ν
$1 \models 2$	х	
2 = 3		х

- 1. $\forall x P(x) \lor \forall x Q(x,x)$
- 2. $\forall x (P(x) \lor Q(x,x))$
- 3. $\forall x (\forall z P(z) \lor \forall y Q(x, y))$

	Υ	Ν
$1 \models 2$	х	
2 = 3		х
$3 \models 1$		

- 1. $\forall x P(x) \lor \forall x Q(x,x)$
- 2. $\forall x (P(x) \lor Q(x,x))$
- 3. $\forall x (\forall z P(z) \lor \forall y Q(x, y))$

	Υ	Ν
$1 \models 2$	х	
2 = 3		х
$3 \models 1$	х	



	Y	Ν
$1 \models 2$		



	Y	Ν
$1 \models 2$	х	



	Υ	Ν
$1 \models 2$	х	
$2 \models 1$		



	Y	Ν
$1 \models 2$	х	
$2 \models 1$		х

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$		

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	x	

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	x	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		

	Y	N
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	x	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		x

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	x	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		x
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$		

	Y	N
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	x	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		x
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$	x	

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	х	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		x
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$	х	
$\forall x F \lor \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \lor G)$		

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	х	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		x
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$	х	
$\forall x F \lor \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \lor G)$		x

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	х	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		х
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$	x	
$\forall x F \lor \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \lor G)$		x
$\forall x \ F \land \forall x \ G \equiv \forall x \ (F \land G)$		

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	x	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		х
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$	x	
$\forall x F \lor \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \lor G)$		x
$\forall x \ F \land \forall x \ G \equiv \forall x \ (F \land G)$	x	

	Y	N
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	х	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		x
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$	x	
$\forall x F \lor \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \lor G)$		x
$\forall x F \land \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \land G)$	х	
$\exists x F \lor \exists x G \equiv \exists x (F \lor G)$		

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	x	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		х
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$	x	
$\forall x F \lor \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \lor G)$		x
$\forall x F \land \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \land G)$	x	
$\exists x F \lor \exists x G \equiv \exists x (F \lor G)$	x	

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	х	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		x
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$	х	
$\forall x F \lor \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \lor G)$		x
$\forall x F \land \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \land G)$	х	
$\exists x F \lor \exists x G \equiv \exists x (F \lor G)$	х	
$\exists x F \land \exists x G \equiv \exists x (F \land G)$		

	Y	Ν
$\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$	х	
$\forall x \exists y F \equiv \exists x \forall y F$		х
$\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$	х	
$\forall x F \lor \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \lor G)$		х
$\forall x F \land \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \land G)$	х	
$\exists x F \lor \exists x G \equiv \exists x (F \lor G)$	х	
$\exists x F \land \exists x G \equiv \exists x (F \land G)$		x

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		x

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		x
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		x
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		x

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		x
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		x
$P(a) \equiv P(x)$		

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		х
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		x
$P(a) \equiv P(x)$		x

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		x
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		x
$P(a) \equiv P(x)$		x
$P(x) \equiv P(y)$		

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		х
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		x
$P(a) \equiv P(x)$		x
$P(x) \equiv P(y)$		x

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		х
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		х
$P(a) \equiv P(x)$		х
$P(x) \equiv P(y)$		х
$\forall x \forall y P(y) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		х
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		х
$P(a) \equiv P(x)$		x
$P(x) \equiv P(y)$		x
$\forall x \forall y P(y) \equiv \forall x P(x)$	х	

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		х
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		х
$P(a) \equiv P(x)$		х
$P(x) \equiv P(y)$		х
$\forall x \forall y P(y) \equiv \forall x P(x)$	х	
$\exists x \forall y P(y) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		
Exercise

	Y	Ν
$P(x) \equiv \exists x P(x)$		х
$P(x) \equiv \forall x P(x)$		х
$P(a) \equiv P(x)$		х
$P(x) \equiv P(y)$		х
$\forall x \forall y P(y) \equiv \forall x P(x)$	х	
$\exists x \forall y P(y) \equiv \forall x P(x)$	x	

Equivalences

Theorem

- 1. $\neg \forall x F \equiv \exists x \neg F$ $\neg \exists x F \equiv \forall x \neg F$
- 2. If x does not occur free in G then: $\forall x F \land G \equiv \forall x (F \land G)$ $\forall x F \lor G \equiv \forall x (F \lor G)$ $\exists x F \land G \equiv \exists x (F \land G)$ $\exists x F \lor G \equiv \exists x (F \lor G)$
- 3. $\forall x F \land \forall x G \equiv \forall x (F \land G)$ $\exists xF \lor \exists xG \equiv \exists x (F \lor G)$
- 4. $\forall x \forall y F \equiv \forall y \forall x F$ $\exists x \exists y F \equiv \exists y \exists x F$

Just like for propositional logic it can be proved:

Theorem

Let $F \equiv G$. Let H be a formula with an occurrence of F as a subformula. Then $H \equiv H'$, where H' is the result of replacing an arbitrary occurrence of F in H by G.