

Let  $f(x)$  be a logical proposition which depend only on  $x$ . A sentence  $\forall x f(x)$  is true if and only if  $f(x)$  is true no matter what value (from the universe of discourse) is substituted for  $x$ .

### Example 1.8.3.

$\forall x : (x^2 \geq 0)$ , i.e., "the square of any number is not negative."

$\forall x$  and  $\forall y, (x + y = y + x)$ , i.e., the commutative law of addition.

$\forall x, \forall y$  and  $\forall z, ((x + y) + z = x + (y + z))$ , i.e. the associative law of addition.

**Remark .1.8.4.** The "all" form, the universal quantifier, is frequently encountered in the following context:

$$\forall x (f(x) \Rightarrow Q(x)),$$

which may be read, "For all  $x$  satisfying  $f(x)$  also satisfy  $Q(x)$ . " Parentheses are crucial here; be sure you understand the difference between the "all" form and  $\forall x f(x) \Rightarrow \forall x Q(x)$  and  $(\forall x f(x)) \Rightarrow Q(x)$ .

### Definition 1.8.5. (The Existential Quantifier)

A sentence  $\exists x f(x)$  is true if and only if there is at least one value of  $x$  (from the universe discourse of) that makes  $f(x)$  is true.

### Example 1.8.6.

$\exists x : (x \geq x^2)$  is true since  $x = 0$  is a solution. There are many others.

$\exists x \exists y : (x^2 + y^2 = 2xy)$  is true since  $x = y = 1$  is one of many solutions

**Negation Rules 1.8.7.** When we negate a quantified statement, we negate all the quantifiers first, from left to right (keeping the same order), then we negative the statement.

### Definition 1.8.8.

(i)  $\forall x f(x) = \sim \exists x \sim f(x)$ .

(ii)  $\exists x f(x) = \sim \forall x \sim f(x)$ .

**Example 1.8.9.** Express each of the following sentences in symbolic form and then give its negation.

(i)  $r$ : The square of every real number is non-negative.

**Solution.** Symbolically,  $r$  can be expressed as  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 \geq 0$ .

$\sim r$ :  $\sim (\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 \geq 0) \equiv \exists x \in \mathbb{R}, \sim (x^2 \geq 0) \equiv \exists x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 < 0$ .