

Problem.

Write the theorem: "Every integer is either even or odd" in symbolic logic using only the '=' predicate.

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} (n \text{ is even} \vee n \text{ is odd}).$$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z} [(\exists m \in \mathbb{Z} n = 2m) \vee (\exists l \in \mathbb{Z} n = 2l + 1)].$$

Multiple Quantifiers

If you have a ' \forall ' and an ' \exists ', the order matters.

Examples:

$$(1) \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \exists y \in \mathbb{R} x + y = 0.$$

True. Set $y = -x$.

$$(2) \exists y \in \mathbb{R} \forall x \in \mathbb{R} x + y = 0.$$

False. There is no fixed y for any x .

$$(3) \exists y \in \mathbb{R} \forall x \in \mathbb{R} xy = 0.$$

True, since for $y = 0$, for any x , $x(0) = 0$.

$$(4) \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \exists y \in \mathbb{R} xy = 0.$$

True. You can always set $y = 0$.

If you have several ' \forall ' or ' \exists ', order doesn't matter.

ex. $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \forall y \in \mathbb{R} x^2 + y^2 \geq 0$ is the same as:

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

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R} x^2 + y^2 \geq 0$$

def. Let $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$. We say m divides n (m is a factor of n) if $m \neq 0$ and $n = ml$ for some $l \in \mathbb{Z}$. Denoted as $m|n$.

ex. $2|10$ since $10 = 2 \cdot 5$ and $2 \neq 0$.

We can define the predicate " $m|n$ " as follows:

$$\forall m, n \in \mathbb{Z} [m|n \Leftrightarrow (\neg(m=0) \wedge \exists l \in \mathbb{Z} n = ml)].$$

def. $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is prime if $n \geq 2$ and only divisors of n are 1 and n .

Problem.

Define predicate $P(n)$, " n is prime", in symbolic logic.

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} [P(n) \Leftrightarrow (n \geq 2 \wedge (\text{if } m|n \text{ then } m=1 \text{ or } m=n))]$$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} [P(n) \Leftrightarrow (n \geq 2 \wedge (\forall m \in \mathbb{N} (m|n \Rightarrow m=1 \vee m=n)))]$$

Negating Quantifiers

Let $Q(x)$ be any predicate. Then,

$$\neg \forall n Q(n) \equiv \exists n \neg Q(n).$$

$$\neg \exists n Q(n) \equiv \forall n \neg Q(n).$$

ex. Negate $\exists x \in \mathbb{R} \forall y \in \mathbb{R} x+y=0$.

Formally,

$$\begin{aligned}\neg(\exists x \forall y x+y=0) &\equiv \forall x \neg \forall y x+y=0 \\ &\equiv \forall x \exists y \neg(x+y=0) \\ &\equiv \forall x \exists y x+y \neq 0.\end{aligned}$$

ex. Define "n is not prime" by negating definition of prime.

$$\forall n \in (\neg P(n) \Leftrightarrow \neg(n \geq 2 \wedge (\forall m \in \mathbb{N} (m|n \Rightarrow m=1 \vee m=n)))$$

Simplify:

$$\begin{aligned}\neg(n \geq 2 \wedge (\forall m \in \mathbb{N} (m|n \Rightarrow m=1 \vee m=n))) \\ \equiv \neg(n \geq 2) \vee \neg(\forall m (m|n \Rightarrow m=1 \vee m=n)) \quad \text{by de Morgan} \\ \equiv (n < 2) \vee (\exists m \neg(m|n \Rightarrow m=1 \vee m=n)) \\ \equiv (n < 2) \vee (\exists m \neg(\neg(m|n) \vee m=1 \vee m=n)) \\ \equiv (n < 2) \vee (\exists m (m|n) \wedge m \neq 1 \wedge m \neq n)\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\forall n [\neg P(n) \Leftrightarrow (n < 2 \vee \exists m (m|n) \wedge m \neq 1 \wedge m \neq n)].$$

Proofs

To prove $\exists x Q(x)$: Find a specific x that works, i.e. for which $Q(x)$ is true.

ex. Prove $\exists m, n \in \mathbb{N} (m^2 + n^2 = 25 \wedge m \neq 0 \wedge n \neq 0)$.

proof. Set $m=3, n=4$. Then, $m \neq 0, n \neq 0$, and $3^2 + 4^2 = 25$. \square

To prove $\forall x \in U Q(x)$: You need to prove $Q(x)$ true for an arbitrary element of U . Say "let $x \in U$ ", then show $Q(x)$ true for this x .

ex. Set $A = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid \exists m \in \mathbb{N} n = 2m+1\}$ (odd natural numbers).

Prove $\forall n \in A, 2 \mid (n+1)$.

proof.

Let $n \in A$. Since $n \in A$, we know $\exists m n = 2m+1$.

Then, $n+1 = (2m+1)+1 = 2m+2 = 2(m+1)$.

So, since $2 \neq 0$ and $n+1 = 2l$ for $l = m+1 \in \mathbb{Z}$, $2 \mid (n+1)$.

Hence, $\forall n \in A, 2 \mid (n+1)$. \square

To prove $P \Rightarrow Q$: Assume P is true, then use this information to prove Q is true.

ex. Prove $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z} (a \mid b \wedge b \mid c) \Rightarrow (a \mid c)$.

proof.

Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$. Assume $a \mid b$ and $b \mid c$.

Since $a \mid b$, $a \neq 0$ and $b = an$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Since $b \mid c$, $b \neq 0$ and $c = bm$ for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Then, $c = bm = (an)m = a(nm) = al$, where $l = nm$.

So, $a \neq 0$ and $c = ad$, where $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ since $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$.
Hence, $a|c$. \square