

# Gödel's Incompleteness Theorem

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- ▶ How is this not a proof?
- ▶ How is this statement about the natural numbers?

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- ▶ We start with a list of initial theorems (“axioms”)
  - ▶ The only axiom is MI.

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► MI

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- ▶ MI
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▶ MII	$Mx \rightarrow Mxx$
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  - ▶ Answer: count the number of Is in a theorem, modulo 3.
  - ▶ This is not generalisable.

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- ▶ But incompleteness ruins this hope.

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  - ▶ 12 is an axiom
- ▶ So now we have derivations like:
  - ▶  $12 \rightarrow 122 \rightarrow 12222 \rightarrow 132 \rightarrow 1323 \rightarrow 1323323 \rightarrow 13223$

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# Gödel numbering (number theory)

- ▶ Can do the same thing to the number theory game, it's just a lot more complicated.
- ▶ For example, De Morgan's law:  $w(x \wedge y)z \rightarrow w(\neg x \vee \neg y)z$ .

$$w \ll^{l+m+n+3} + ( \ll^{l+m+n+2} + x \ll^{m+n+2} + \wedge \ll^{m+n+1} + y \ll^{n+1} + ) \ll^n + z$$

$\rightarrow$

$$w \ll^{l+m+n+6} + \neg ( \neg \ll^{l+m+n+3} + x \ll^{m+n+3} + \vee \neg \ll^{m+n+1} + y \ll^{n+1} + ) \ll^n + z$$

where  $z < 1 \ll^n$ ,  $y < 1 \ll^m$ ,  $x < 1 \ll^l$ .

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  - ▶ To be precise, iff  $x$  contains only the decimal digits 1, 2, 3.

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- ▶ Finite sequences are countable.
  - ▶ Can represent a sequence by a number, and use another number to extract elements from it.
- ▶ Instead of finding a number that satisfies  $P$ , just need to ask “does  $x$  satisfy  $P$ ?” Then use  $\exists$ .

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$$\exists b(\text{LOG}\{a, b\} \wedge \\ \exists(\text{sequence } x_1 \text{ to } x_b) \forall c(c < b \Rightarrow \text{NTH}\{a, c, x_c\} \wedge \text{GOOD}\{x_c\}))$$

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- ▶ Note that constructing a statement is much easier than determining its truth.

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  - ▶ Essentially,  $\text{QUINE}\{a, b\} \rightarrow b = a\{a\}$

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