

$\forall a \in \mathbb{R}, \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0$  such that  $|x - a| < \delta \implies |f(x) - f(a)| < \epsilon$

Note that  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

**Well-defined mathematical statement:** something that is clearly true or false, e.g.,  $1 + 1 = 3, 1 + 1 < 3, 1 = 5$ .

Something like  $x + 1 > 3$  is a well-defined statement for any particular choice of  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Generally, suppose  $P(x)$  is a statement which has a well-defined truth value for all choices of  $x \in S$ .

Then we define

- $\exists x, P(x)$  to mean  $P(x)$  is true for at least one  $x \in S$ .
- $\forall x, P(x)$  to mean  $P(x)$  is true for all  $x \in S$ .
- $\exists x, (x + 1 > 3)$  – TRUE
- $\forall x, (x + 1 > 3)$  – FALSE

More generally, if you have a statement with many free variables, you can get well-defined mathematical statements by **quantifying** all the free variables.

$$P(x, y) := (y = x^3), x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

- $\forall y, \exists x(y = x^3)$  means every real number has a cube root. (TRUE)
- $\exists x, \forall y(y = x^3)$ . It's asserting the existence of a single real number  $x$  which is the cube root of all real numbers at once. (FALSE)

In English,

$\forall y, \exists x, y = x^3$  is true for some real number  $x$ . (TRUE)

$\exists x$ , such that  $y = x^3$  is true for all  $y$ . (FALSE)

$\exists y, \forall x(y = x^3)$  – (FALSE) for the same reason

$\forall, \exists y(Y = x^3)$  – (TRUE) Every real number has a cube.

$\exists x, \exists y(y = x^3)$  – (TRUE)

$\forall x, \forall y(y = x^3)$  – (FALSE)

**Problem:** Let  $a, b$  be real numbers. ( $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ) Prove that the equation  $ax^2 + bx = a$  has a real solution.

1. Translate this statement into formal logic.
2. Prove it.

### Solution

1.  $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}, \forall b \in \mathbb{R}, \exists x \in \mathbb{R}(ax^2 + bx = a)$

2. Want to solve  $ax^2 + bx - a = 0$ .

Case 1:

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4a(-a)}}{2a} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 + 4a^2}}{2a}$$

Case 2: If  $a = 0$ , then this equation is  $bx = 0$ , so  $x = 0$  is a solution.

What did a strawberry say to another strawberry? HOW DID WE GET INTO HIS JAM?

What did a wall say to a ceiling? I'LL MEET YOU AT THE CORNER.

What does  $\forall\forall\exists\exists$  mean? For all upside-down A, there exists a backward E.

**Logical Connectives:** Suppose  $P, Q$  well-defined mathematical statements,

- $\neg P$  means not  $P$ .
- $P \wedge Q$  means  $P$  and  $Q$ .
- $P \vee Q$  means  $P$  or  $Q$ .
- $P \implies Q$  means  $P$  implies  $Q$ .
- $P \iff Q$  means  $P$  if and only if  $Q$ .

$P$	$Q$	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$P \implies Q$	$P \iff Q$
T	T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	F	F
F	T	F	T	T	F
F	F	F	F	T	T

**Claim:**  $\neg(P \wedge Q)$  is logically equivalent to  $(\neg P) \vee (\neg Q)$ .

For observation  $P \implies Q$  is not logically equivalent to  $Q \implies P$  which is the converse, but equivalent to  $\neg Q \implies \neg P$  which is the contrapositive.