

Discrete Math

Lecture 7

Translating

Example 7.1. Consider the English and logical versions of statement P :

P : Every integer is either odd or even, but not both.

P : $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}, x = 2a$ (for some $a \in \mathbb{Z}$) \oplus $x = 2b + 1$ (for some $b \in \mathbb{Z}$).

(note: isn't 0 neither even nor odd?
no! 0 is even)

Def. an integer x is even if ✓

$$\exists a \in \mathbb{Z}, x = 2a$$

an integer x is odd if ✓

$$\exists b \in \mathbb{Z}, x = 2b + 1$$

Note: there are LOTS of ways to
define "even" & "odd"

Example 7.2. Consider the English and logical versions of statement Q :

Q : Whenever a real number is squared the result is a non-negative real number.

$$Q: x \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow x^2 \geq 0.$$

note: $Q: \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 \geq 0$

Example 7.3. Consider the statement

$$P: \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \exists y \in \mathbb{R}, y + x = 2.$$

This is an example of a statement with **nested quantifiers**, and the order of these quantifiers matters (see the next example)! To see that P is true we carefully take apart the statement, step-by-step. We can also rewrite P in a natural language:

P : Given any real number, x , we can find another one, y , so that $y + x = 2$.

tip for understanding complicated statements

try examples:

$P: \forall x \in \mathbb{R},$

pick an x

$$x = \pi$$

$\exists y \in \mathbb{R},$

find a y
so that

$y + x = 2$

this is true

Scratch paper

$$y + \pi = 2$$
$$\begin{array}{cc} -\pi & -\pi \end{array}$$
$$y = 2 - \pi$$

$$x = \pi$$

$$y = 2 - \pi$$

makes $y + x = 2$ T

$$x = 13$$

$$y = -11$$

makes $y + x = 2$ T

if I pick any x , I can always
choose $y = \frac{2-x}{1}$ so that $y+x=2$ is \top

Example 7.4. Consider the statement

$$Q : \exists y \in \mathbb{R}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, y+x=2.$$

This complicated-looking sentence claims that there exists a special real number (named y) that, when added with any other real number results in 2. Your familiarity with real numbers should tell you that Q is false.

try examples

$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, y+x=2$$

$$x=2 \longrightarrow y+2=2 \longrightarrow y=0$$

$$x=3 \longrightarrow y+3=2 \longrightarrow y=-1$$

no single y can work!

slightly diff. version

$$\exists! y \in \mathbb{R}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, y + x = x$$

this statement is true!

Calc I ex.

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0,$$

$$0 < |x - 2| < \delta \Rightarrow |x^2 - 4| < \varepsilon$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x^2 = 4$$