

**Axiom 1.1.1 : Properties of Equivalence**

The following is assumed to be true for all sets  $S$ , for all  $\alpha, \beta$ , and  $\gamma$  in  $S$ .

$$\forall S, S \text{ is a set}, \forall \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in S$$

An element  $\alpha$  is equal to itself, this property is called reflexivity. If an element  $\alpha$  is equal to an element  $\beta$  then  $\beta$  is also equal to  $\alpha$ , this property is called symmetry. If an element  $\alpha$  is equivalent to an element  $\beta$ , and  $\beta$  is also equivalent to  $\gamma$  then  $\alpha$  is equivalent to  $\gamma$ , this property is called transitivity.

- (i)  $\alpha = \alpha$ , (reflexivity)
- (ii)  $\alpha = \beta \Rightarrow \beta = \alpha$ , (symmetry)
- (iii)  $\alpha = \beta \wedge \beta = \gamma \Rightarrow \alpha = \gamma$ , (transitivity)

**Remark 1.1.2 : Well Defined Operation**

An operation is said to be well defined if given the same inputs, the operation will always give the same outputs. Or symbolically,

$$\forall \alpha, \beta \in S, f \text{ is an operation}, \alpha = \beta \Rightarrow f[\alpha] = f[\beta]$$

at the moment we will take for granted the fact that the normal operations of numbers is well defined, that is addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of 2 numbers.

**Example 1.1.3 : Isolate  $x$** 

We can apply the remark about well defined operations to manipulate our equations in the following manner.

$$x + 2 = 3 \tag{1}$$

$$x + 2 - 2 = 3 - 2 \tag{2}$$

$$x = 1 \tag{3}$$

**Remark 1.1.4 : Interpretation of Well Defined Operation in Terms of Equation Manipulation**

For those that are not convinced by the manipulation above, or how the definition of a well defined operation is related to it. Another way to interpret a well defined operation is as an operation where if you apply the operation to a single number, you should always get the same result.

In step (1) we know that we have two equivalent objects  $x + 2$  and  $3$ , the well defined operation that we apply to the two equivalent objects is "minus 2". Since minus is well defined, we conclude that  $x + 2 - 2$  is equivalent to  $3 - 2$ , we collect the terms and conclude that  $x$  is equivalent to  $1$ .

**Example 1.1.5 :** Isolate  $x$

$$\begin{aligned} 2x &= 6 \\ \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2x &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot 6 \\ x &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 1.1.6 :** Isolate  $x$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x}{3} &= 4 \\ \frac{x}{3} \cdot 3 &= 4 \cdot 3 \\ x &= 12 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 1.1.7 :** Isolate  $y$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{y+2}{3} &= 4x \\ 3 \cdot \frac{y+2}{3} &= 3 \cdot 4x \\ y+2 &= 12x \\ y &= 12x - 2 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 1.1.8 :** Isolate  $y$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3-2y}{5} - y &= x \\ \frac{3-2y}{5} &= x + y \\ 3-2y &= 5x + 5y \\ 3-5x &= 7y \\ y &= \frac{3-5x}{7} \end{aligned}$$

**Remark 1.1.9 :** Simplest Form

When we are dealing with equations with more than one variable, isolating one variable will result creating an equation in the form of a variable written in terms of another variable. However that form is not simple like a single number, there is nothing wrong with that. It just happens that the simpler form cannot contain all of the information of the original equation.

**Remark 1.1.10 :** lorem ipsum tater tots