

MTH-684 Logic
Assignment (6): Inference in First-Order
Predicate Logic (FOPL)

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6-1

Using the FOPL system of natural deduction introduced in class, prove the following.

$$\vdash \exists x [P(x) \vee Q(x)] \iff \exists x P(x) \vee \exists x Q(x)$$

Proof.

\implies :

- * 1. $\exists x [P(x) \vee Q(x)]$ (Assumption)
- * 2. $P(c) \vee Q(c)$ (1, \exists -elim)
- * 3. $\exists x P(x) \vee Q(c)$ (2, \exists -intro)
- * 4. $\exists x P(x) \vee \exists x Q(x)$ (3, \exists -intro)
- 5. $\exists x [P(x) \vee Q(x)] \implies \exists x P(x) \vee \exists x Q(x)$ (1, 4, \implies -intro).

\Leftarrow :

- * *i*. $\exists x P(x) \vee \exists x Q(x)$ (Assumption)
- * **ii*. $\neg [\exists x [P(x) \vee Q(x)]]$ (Assumption)
- * **iii*. $\neg [P(c) \vee Q(c)]$ (*ii*, \exists -elim)
- * **iv*. $\neg [\exists x P(x) \vee Q(c)]$ (*iii*, \exists -intro)
- * **v*. $\neg [\exists x P(x) \vee \exists x Q(x)]$ (*iv*, \exists -intro)
- * **vi*. $\neg \neg [\exists x [P(x) \vee Q(x)]]$ (*i*, *ii*, *v*, \neg -intro)
- * **vii*. $\exists x [P(x) \vee Q(x)]$ (*vi*, \neg -elim)
- **viii*. $\exists x P(x) \vee \exists x Q(x) \implies \exists x [P(x) \vee Q(x)]$ (*i*, *vii*, \implies -intro).

\iff :

- $\exists x [P(x) \vee Q(x)] \iff \exists x P(x) \vee \exists x Q(x)$ (5, *viii*, \iff -intro).

□