

Implications and open sentences

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Consider the statement:

For all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$, if x is divisible by 6 then x is even.

- ▶ “ x is divisible by 6” is an open sentence $P(x)$ ✓
- ▶ “ x is even” is an open sentence $Q(x)$ ✓
- ▶ “if x is divisible by 6 then x is even” is an open sentence
 $P(x) \implies Q(x)$.

Analysis of quantified implication

“For all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$, if x is divisible by 6 then x is even”

is a statement that “ands” together $\underline{P(x) \implies Q(x)}$ as x runs over the integers:

$$\dots (P(-5) \implies Q(-5)) \wedge (P(-4) \implies Q(-4)) \wedge \dots \wedge (P(3) \implies Q(3)) \dots$$

$\begin{array}{ccc} P & Q & P \implies Q \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \neg & \neg & \neg \\ \neg & \neg & \neg \\ \neg & \neg & \neg \\ \neg & \neg & \neg \\ \neg & \neg & \neg \end{array}$

$\underbrace{-5 \text{ div by } 6 \Rightarrow -5 \text{ even}}_{\text{TRUE}} \quad \underbrace{-4 \text{ div by } 6 \Rightarrow -4 \text{ even}} \quad \underbrace{P(6) \Rightarrow Q(6)}$

This will be true if every one is true, meaning one of the following is true:

- ▶ x is not divisible by 6, so $P(x)$ is false for that x
- ▶ x is divisible by 6 and x is even meaning $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ are true for that x .

It will be false if there is at least one x that is divisible by 6 but not even.

Conventional interpretation

It is a common convention to read a statement like

“If x is an integer divisible by 6, then x is even” — For all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$,
if x is divisible by 6
then x is even.
as including an implicit quantifier “for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$.”

- ▶ If $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a differentiable function, then it is continuous.
- ▶ If $x \in \mathbb{R}$, then $x^2 = x$ implies $x = 0$ or $x = 1$.

For all functions $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, if f is differentiable
then f is continuous.

If $x \in \mathbb{R}$, then $x^2 = x$ implies $x = 0$ or $x = 1$.
 $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, [x^2 = x \Rightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } x = 1.]$