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MATHIOS Numbers and Sets

Basic propositional logic is simply a shorthand used in writing mathematics. The basic symbols are

$\vee$  or

$\wedge$  and

$\Rightarrow$  "If... then", that is  $A \Rightarrow B$  means "If A then B"

$\Rightarrow$  can be interpreted as "implies" or "only if"

$\Leftarrow$  "if" or "is implied by"  $A \Leftarrow B$  means "A if B"

Examples If  $x$  is a real number,  $x > 0 \vee x < 0 \vee x = 0$  True  
 " " " "  $x > 0$  or  $x < 0$  or  $x = 0$

" " " "  $x \geq 0 \vee x \leq 0$  True

" " " "  $x \geq 0$  or  $x \leq 0$

$(1 < 2) \wedge (2 < 3)$   $1 < 2$  and  $2 < 3$  True

If  $x, y, z$  are real numbers,  $(x < y) \wedge (y < z) \Rightarrow x < z$  True

" " " " and  $x < y$  and  $y < z$ , then  $x < z$

In all the following statements,  $x$  is a real number

$x^2 = 1 \Leftrightarrow (x = 1 \vee x = -1)$  True  
 $x^2 = 1$  if and only if  $x = 1$  or  $x = -1$

$x = 1 \Rightarrow x^2 = 1$  True

If  $x = 1$  then  $x^2 = 1$

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Which of the following statements are true?

Once again,  $x$  is a real number.

$x^2 = 4 \Rightarrow x = 2$  False

$(2 < 3) \vee (3 < 2)$  True

$x^2 = x \Leftrightarrow x^2 - x = 0$  True

$x = 1 \Rightarrow x^2 = x$  True

$x^2 = x \Rightarrow x = 1$  False

$x^2 = x \Rightarrow (x = 0 \vee x = 1)$  ~~False~~ True

$(x = 0 \vee x = 1) \Rightarrow x^2 = x$  True

$x > 1 \Rightarrow x > 0$  True

$x > 1 \Leftrightarrow -x > -1$  False.

Negation

If  $A$  is a statement then  $\neg A$  is the statement "not  $A$ "

Examples If  $A$  is "It will rain today" then  $\neg A$  is "It will not rain today"

In the following examples,  $x, y$  and  $z$  are real numbers

$\neg(x < y)$  is  $x \geq y$  - which can also be written as  $y \leq x$

$\neg(x \leq y)$  is  $y < x$  - which can also be written as

$x > y$

What about  $\neg(x < y < z)$  ?

$x < y < z$  is the same as  $(x < y) \wedge (y < z)$

For this to be not true, either  $x \geq y$  or  $y \geq z$  or both

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$$\text{So } \neg(x < y < z) \text{ is } \underbrace{(x \geq y)}_{\neg A} \vee \underbrace{(y \geq z)}_{\neg B}$$

In general  $\neg(A \wedge B)$  is  $\neg A \vee \neg B$

What about  $\neg(x > 3 \vee x < -1)$  ?

It is not true that  ~~$x < 3$  or  $x < -1$~~  if and only if

$$-1 \leq x \leq 3$$

So  $\neg(x > 3 \vee x < -1)$  is  $-1 \leq x \leq 3$ , which can

also be written as  $x \leq 3 \wedge -1 \leq x$

In general  $\neg(A \wedge B)$  is  $\neg A \vee \neg B$

### Theorems

A Theorem is a statement which is true.

Example  $2 < 3$  is a theorem.  ~~$2 < 1$  is~~  $2 < 1$  is not a theorem.

$x^2 > 4 \iff (x > 2 \vee x < -2)$  is a theorem.

If we want to prove a theorem C, we might start with a theorem A which we know to be true and try to deduce C from it.

If A is true and  $A \implies C$  then C is true

If A is true and  $A \implies B$  and  $B \implies C$  ~~is true~~ then C is true

We could have a longer chain of implications.

e.g. if  $A \implies B_1$ ,  $B_1 \implies B_2$ ,  $B_2 \implies C$  and A is true, then C is true.

It is a good idea to use  $\Leftrightarrow$  whenever possible

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### Examples

Theorem  $x^2 > 4 \Leftrightarrow x > 2 \vee x < -2$

Proof  $x^2 > 4 \Leftrightarrow x^2 - 4 > 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-2)(x+2) > 0$

$\Leftrightarrow (x-2 > 0 \wedge x+2 > 0) \vee (x-2 < 0 \wedge x+2 < 0)$

(This is because a product of 2 real numbers is  $> 0$  if and only if both numbers are  $> 0$  or both  $< 0$ )

$\Leftrightarrow (x > 2 \wedge x > -2) \vee (x < 2 \wedge x < -2)$

$\Leftrightarrow x > 2 \vee x < -2. \quad \square$

Theorem  $x^2 - 3x + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1 \vee x = 2$

Proof  $x^2 - 3x + 2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-1)(x-2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow$

$x-1=0 \vee x-2=0 \Leftrightarrow x=1 \vee x=2 \quad \square$

We used  $\Leftrightarrow$  throughout which is stronger than  $\Rightarrow$ .

Theorem If  $x$  is a real number

$x^2 - 3x + 2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow 1 \leq x \leq 2$

Proof  $x^2 - 3x + 2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-1)(x-2) \leq 0$

$\Leftrightarrow ((x-1 \geq 0 \wedge x-2 \leq 0) \vee (x-1 \leq 0 \wedge x-2 \geq 0))$

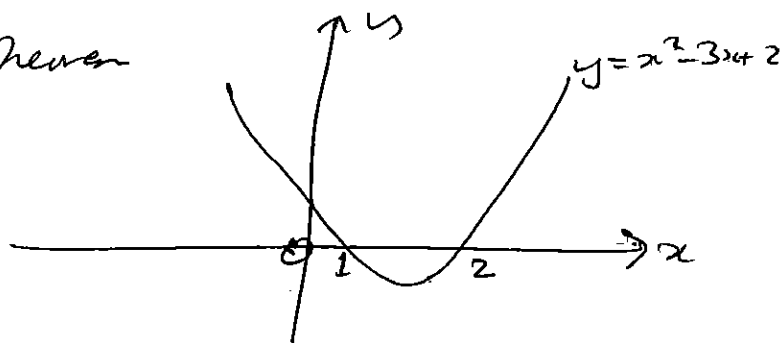
(the product of 2 real numbers  $\leq 0 \Leftrightarrow$  one of them is  $\geq 0$  and one  $\leq 0$ )

$\Leftrightarrow ((x \geq 1 \wedge x \leq 2) \vee (x \leq 1 \wedge x \geq 2))$

$\Leftrightarrow 1 \leq x \leq 2$  because no real number  $x$  satisfies  $x \leq 1 \wedge x \geq 2 \quad \square$

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A graph confirms this theorem



Theorem If  $x$  is a real number,

$$x^2 - 3x + 2 > 12 \iff (x < -2 \vee x > 5)$$

Proof  $x^2 - 3x + 2 > 12 \iff x^2 - 3x - 10 > 0$

$$\iff (x+2)(x-5) > 0$$

$$\iff (x+2 > 0 \wedge x-5 > 0) \vee (x+2 < 0 \wedge x-5 < 0)$$

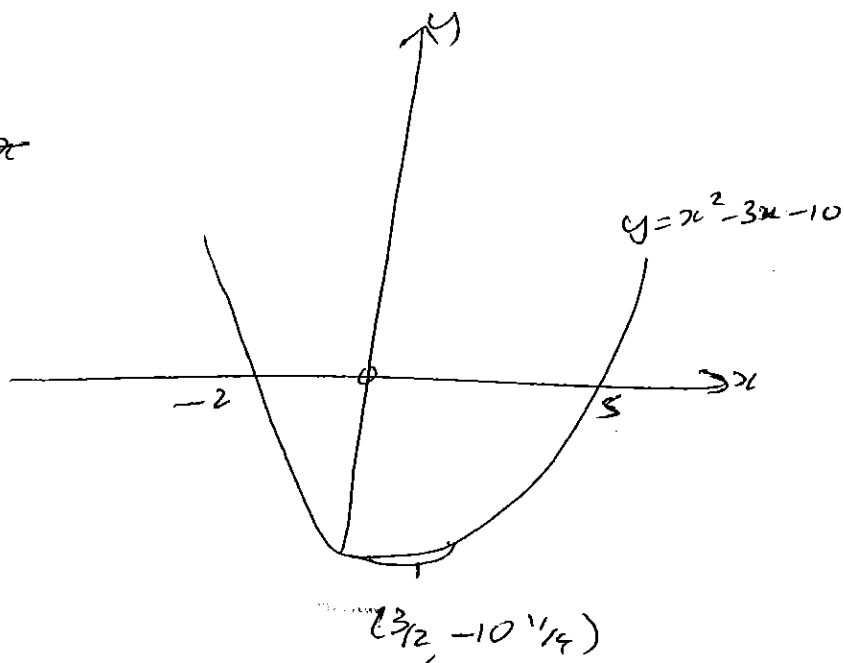
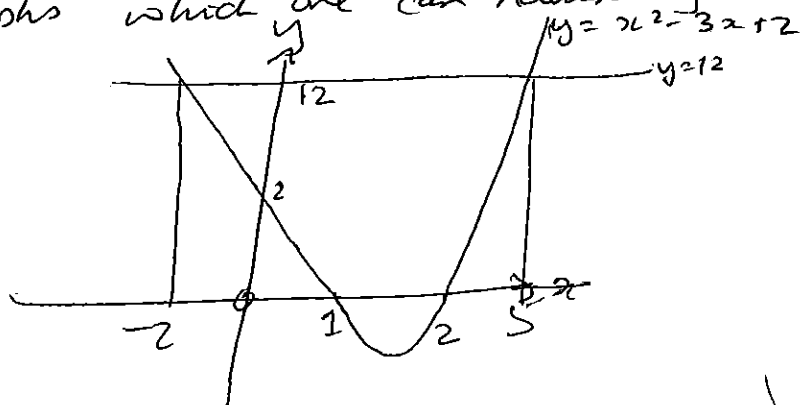
$$\iff (x > -2 \wedge x > 5) \wedge (x < -2 \wedge x < 5)$$

$$\iff x > 5 \vee x < -2$$

$$\iff x < -2 \vee x > 5 \quad \square$$

A graph confirms this theorem. Actually, there are two

graphs which one can naturally draw





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Theorem If  $x$  is a real number,  $x \neq -1$ ,  $\left| \frac{1}{x+1} \right| < 1 \Leftrightarrow (x > 0 \vee x < -2)$

Proof  $\left| \frac{1}{x+1} \right| < 1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{(x+1)^2} < 1$

(Modulus is always  $\geq 0$   
The square of a number  $\geq 0$   
 $\frac{1}{x+1} < 1 \Leftrightarrow$  the number itself is  $< 1$   
Also  $y^2 = (-y)^2$  for all real numbers  $y$ .

$\Leftrightarrow 1 < (x+1)^2$

(Inequalities are preserved when multiplying through by numbers  $> 0$  and  $(x+1)^2 > 0$  because we know  $(x+1)^2 \neq 0$  only if  $x \neq -1$ )

$\Leftrightarrow 1 < x^2 + 2x + 1 \Leftrightarrow 0 < x^2 + 2x \Leftrightarrow 0 < x(x+2)$

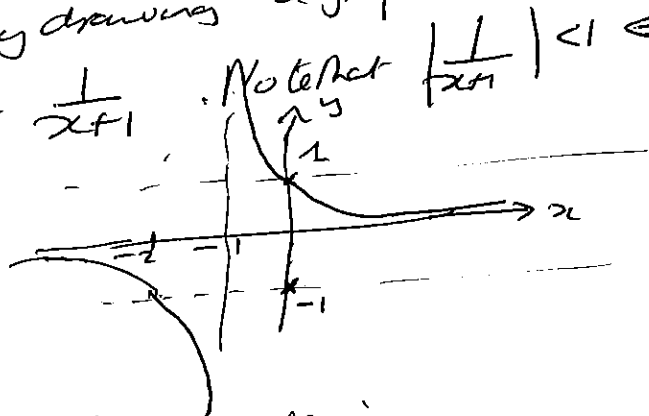
$\Leftrightarrow (0 < x \wedge 0 < x+2) \vee (x < 0 \wedge x+2 < 0)$

$\Leftrightarrow (0 < x \wedge -2 < x) \vee (x < 0 \wedge x < -2)$

$\Leftrightarrow 0 < x \vee x < -2 \quad \square$

Again, this is confirmed by drawing a graph. The easiest graph to draw is probably  $y = \frac{1}{x+1}$ . Note that  $\left| \frac{1}{x+1} \right| < 1 \Leftrightarrow$

$-1 < \frac{1}{x+1} < 1.$



Theorem If  $x$  and  $y$  are real numbers then

$x^2 + xy + y^2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y = 0$

Proof  $x^2 + xy + y^2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (x + \frac{1}{2}y)^2 + \frac{3}{4}y^2 \leq 0$

$\Leftrightarrow (x + \frac{1}{2}y)^2 + \frac{3}{4}y^2 = 0$

$\Leftrightarrow x + \frac{1}{2}y = 0 \wedge y = 0$

(A square or any real number is  $\geq 0$  and  $= 0 \Leftrightarrow$  number  $= 0$ )

$\Leftrightarrow x = 0 \wedge y = 0 \quad \square$

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Equivalent

Negating implications

If  $A$  and  $B$  are statements, then  $A \Rightarrow B$  is equivalent to  $\neg B \Rightarrow \neg A$ .

Example Suppose  $x$  is a real number. Let  $A$  be the statement  $x < 2$  and let  $B$  be the statement  $x < 3$

$A \Rightarrow B$ , that is  $x < 2 \Rightarrow x < 3$  is a true statement

$\neg A$  is  $x \geq 2$        $\neg B$  is  $x \geq 3$

$x \geq 3 \Rightarrow x \geq 2$       So we see in this example that  $\neg B \Rightarrow \neg A$   
 $\neg B \Rightarrow \neg A$

But  $(A \Rightarrow B) \Leftrightarrow (\neg B \Rightarrow \neg A)$  holds whatever the statements  $A$  and  $B$  are.

Example Again, suppose  $x$  is a real number.

Let  $A$  be the statement  $x^2 < 4$       Let  $B$  be  $x < 2$

$x^2 < 4 \Rightarrow x < 2$  is a true statement  
 $A \Rightarrow B$

$\neg A$  is  $x^2 \geq 4$        $\neg B$  is  $x \geq 2$

$\neg B \Rightarrow \neg A$        $x \geq 2 \Rightarrow x^2 \geq 4$  is true.

Note that  $\neg A$  does not imply  $\neg B$

$x^2 \geq 4$  does not imply  $x \geq 2$

e.g.  $x = -3$  satisfies  $(-3)^2 \geq 4$  and ~~but~~  $\neg(-3 \geq 2)$   
 $-3 < 2$

Example Let  $x$  and  $y$  be real numbers.

Let  $A$  be  $x > 0 \wedge y > 0$       Let  $B$  be  $xy > 0$

$A \Rightarrow B$ ,  $(x > 0 \wedge y > 0) \Rightarrow xy > 0$

$\neg B$  is  $xy \leq 0$        $\neg A$  is  $(x \leq 0) \vee (y \leq 0)$

$\neg B \Rightarrow \neg A$        $xy \leq 0 \Rightarrow (x \leq 0 \vee y \leq 0)$

But it is not true that  $\neg A \Rightarrow \neg B$ .