

Predicate Logic

Lectures 2–3 (Chapters 8-10)

Valid Logical Reasoning

If Alfred is a duck, then Alfred can swim
Alfred is a duck

Alfred can swim

$a = \text{'Alfred is a duck'}$
 $b = \text{'Alfred can swim'}$

$$a \Rightarrow b \wedge a \stackrel{val}{=} b$$

Invalid Logical Reasoning

If Alfred is a duck, then Alfred can swim
Alfred can swim

Alfred is a duck

$a = \text{'Alfred is a duck'}$
 $b = \text{'Alfred can swim'}$

$$a \Rightarrow b \wedge b \not\stackrel{val}{=} a$$

Valid Logical Reasoning?

Every animal with feathers is a bird
Alfred is an animal with feathers

Alfred is a bird

$a = \text{'Every animal with feathers is a bird'}$
 $b = \text{'Alfred is an animal with feathers'}$
 $c = \text{'Alfred is a bird'}$

$$a \wedge b \not\stackrel{val}{=} c$$

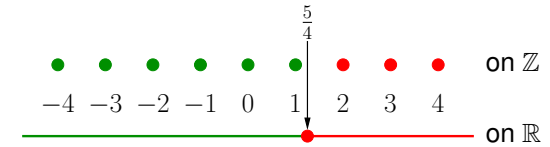
Propositional logic only describes how to reason about *complete statements* about things; it does not describe how to reason about things themselves.

Predicate logic will extend propositional logical with:

- ▶ names for **individuals**;
- ▶ **predicates** to express properties of individuals;
- ▶ **quantifiers** to quantify over individuals.

Consider the statement $4m < 5$.

Whether the statement is true or false depends on the value of m :



$4m < 5$ is a **unary predicate**

Predicates $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ are **equivalent** if

for all x we have that $P(x)$ evaluates to true if, and only if, $Q(x)$ evaluates to true.

Example

$$4m < 5 \stackrel{\text{val}}{\iff} m < \frac{5}{4} \quad (\text{on } \mathbb{R} \text{ and } \mathbb{Z})$$

$$\stackrel{\text{val}}{\iff} m \leq 1 \quad (\text{on } \mathbb{Z}, \text{ but not on } \mathbb{R}) .$$

We express the statement

“for all $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ it holds that $4m < 5$ ”

as

$$\forall_m [m \in \mathbb{Z} : 4m < 5]$$

Universal quantifier \forall_m turns the predicate $4m < 5$ into a proposition.

(This proposition is **false**; take, e.g., $m = 2, 3, \dots$)

In general, if $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ are predicates, then we write

$$\forall_x [\underbrace{P(x)}_{\text{domain}} : \underbrace{Q(x)}_{\text{predicate}}]$$

for

“all x satisfying P satisfy Q .”

We express the statement

“there exists $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $4m < 5$ ”

as

$$\exists_m [m \in \mathbb{Z} : 4m < 5]$$

Existential quantifier \exists_m turns the predicate $4m < 5$ into a proposition.

(This proposition is **true**; take $m = 1, 0, -1, \dots$)

In general, if $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ are predicates, then we write

$$\exists_x [\underbrace{P(x)}_{\text{domain}} : \underbrace{Q(x)}_{\text{predicate}}]$$

for

“there exists x satisfying P that also satisfies Q .”

What are the truth values associated with the following propositions?

- ▶ $\exists_x [x \in \mathbb{R} : x^2 = 1] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$
- ▶ $\exists_x [x \in \mathbb{R} \wedge x > 0 : x^2 = 1] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$
- ▶ $\exists_x [x \in \mathbb{R} \wedge x > 2 : x^2 = 1] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$
- ▶ $\forall_x [x \in \mathbb{R} : x^2 > 1] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$
- ▶ $\forall_x [x \in \mathbb{R} \wedge x > 0 : x^2 > 1] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$
- ▶ $\forall_x [x \in \mathbb{R} \wedge x > 2 : x^2 > 1] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$

Empty domain

$$\forall_x [\text{False} : P] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$$

$$\exists_x [\text{False} : P] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$$

“All gnomes are green!”

One-element domain

$$\forall_x [x = n : P] \stackrel{val}{=} P[n \text{ for } x]$$

$$\exists_x [x = n : P] \stackrel{val}{=} P[n \text{ for } x]$$

Example: $\forall_m [m = 3 : 4 \cdot m < 5] \stackrel{val}{=} 4 \cdot 3 < 5$.

NB: $P \wedge Q \stackrel{val}{=} P$ (all x satisfying $P \wedge Q$ also satisfy P).

Examples:

$$\exists_x [x \in \mathbb{R} \wedge x > 0 : x^2 = 1]$$

$$\stackrel{val}{=} \exists_x [x \in \mathbb{R} : x > 0 \wedge x^2 = 1]$$

$$\forall_x [x \in \mathbb{Z} \wedge x > 1 : x^2 > 1]$$

$$\stackrel{val}{=} \forall_x [x \in \mathbb{Z} : x > 1 \Rightarrow x^2 > 1]$$

Domain weakening

$$\forall_x [P \wedge Q : R] \stackrel{val}{=} \forall_x [P : Q \Rightarrow R]$$

$$\exists_x [P \wedge Q : R] \stackrel{val}{=} \exists_x [P : Q \wedge R]$$

$$\forall_x [x \leq -2 \vee x \geq 1 : x^2 > 1]$$

$$\stackrel{val}{=} \forall_x [x \leq -2 : x^2 > 1] \wedge \forall_x [x \geq 1 : x^2 > 1]$$

$$\exists_x [x \leq -2 \vee x \geq 1 : x^2 = 1]$$

$$\stackrel{val}{=} \exists_x [x \leq -2 : x^2 = 1] \vee \exists_x [x \geq 1 : x^2 = 1]$$

Domain Splitting

$$\forall_x [P \vee Q : R] \stackrel{val}{=} \forall_x [P : R] \wedge \forall_x [Q : R]$$

$$\exists_x [P \vee Q : R] \stackrel{val}{=} \exists_x [P : R] \vee \exists_x [Q : R]$$

\forall is generalised \wedge } see book
 \exists is generalised \vee }

De Morgan

$$\neg \forall_x [P : Q] \stackrel{val}{=} \exists_x [P : \neg Q]$$

$$\neg \exists_x [P : Q] \stackrel{val}{=} \forall_x [P : \neg Q]$$

not all = there exists one for which not
 not one = all not

So:

$$\neg \forall = \exists \neg; \text{ and}$$

$$\neg \exists = \forall \neg .$$

We also have:

$$\neg \forall \neg = \exists \neg \neg = \exists ; \text{ and}$$

$$\neg \exists \neg = \forall \neg \neg = \forall .$$

The Substitution Rule is valid for (quantified) predicates.

Example:

We have the following valid equivalence:

$$\forall_x [P \wedge Q : R] \stackrel{val}{=} \forall_x [P : Q \Rightarrow R]$$

and hence, by the Substitution Rule, if we substitute Q for P , $\neg P$ for Q , and $R \Rightarrow S$ for R , then we get another valid equivalence:

$$\forall_x [Q \wedge \neg P : R \Rightarrow S] \stackrel{val}{=} \forall_x [Q : \neg P \Rightarrow (R \Rightarrow S)] .$$

Leibniz's Rule is valid for (quantified) predicates.

Example

We have the following valid equivalence:

$$\exists_y [y = 2 : x \geq y] \stackrel{val}{=} x \geq 2 ,$$

and hence, by Leibniz's Rule, we make another valid equivalence by applying it in a bigger context:

$$\forall_x [x \in \mathbf{D} : \exists_y [y = 2 : x \geq y]] \stackrel{val}{=} \forall_x [x \in \mathbf{D} : x \geq 2] .$$

Calculation with quantifiers (example)

We show with a calculation that

$$\forall_x [P \wedge R : S] \wedge \forall_x [Q \wedge R : S] \stackrel{val}{=} \neg \exists_x [P \vee Q : \neg(R \Rightarrow S)]:$$

$$\neg \exists_x [P \vee Q : \neg(R \Rightarrow S)]$$

$$\stackrel{val}{=} \{ \text{De Morgan} \}$$

$$\forall_x [P \vee Q : \neg \neg(R \Rightarrow S)]$$

$$\stackrel{val}{=} \{ \text{Double Negation} \}$$

$$\forall_x [P \vee Q : R \Rightarrow S]$$

$$\stackrel{val}{=} \{ \text{Domain Splitting} \}$$

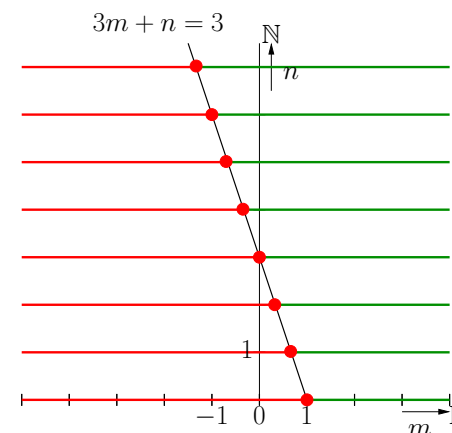
$$\forall_x [P : R \Rightarrow S] \wedge \forall_x [Q : R \Rightarrow S]$$

$$\stackrel{val}{=} \{ \text{Domain Weakening (2x)} \}$$

$$\forall_x [P \wedge R : S] \wedge \forall_x [Q \wedge R : S] .$$

Binary predicates (example)

The statement $3m + n > 3$ is a binary predicate.



Equivalence of binary predicates

22/41

Predicates $P(x, y)$ and $Q(x, y)$ are **equivalent** if

for all x, y we have that $P(x, y)$ evaluates to true **if, and only if**, $Q(x, y)$ evaluates to true.

Example

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$.

The predicates

$$\neg(x = 0 \Rightarrow y > 2)$$

and

$$x = 0 \wedge y \leq 2$$

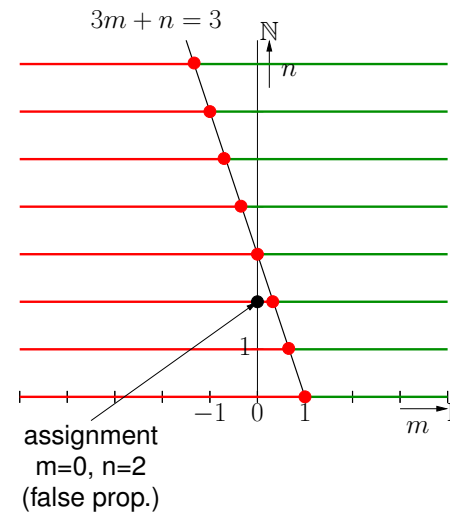
are equivalent.

$$\begin{aligned} &\neg(x = 0 \Rightarrow y > 2) \\ \stackrel{val}{=} &\{ \text{Implication} \} \\ &\neg(\neg(x = 0) \vee y > 2) \\ \stackrel{val}{=} &\{ \text{De Morgan} \} \\ &\neg\neg(x = 0) \wedge \neg(y > 2) \\ \stackrel{val}{=} &\{ \text{Double Negation, Mathematics} \} \\ &x = 0 \wedge y \leq 2 \end{aligned}$$

Binary predicates (example)

23/41

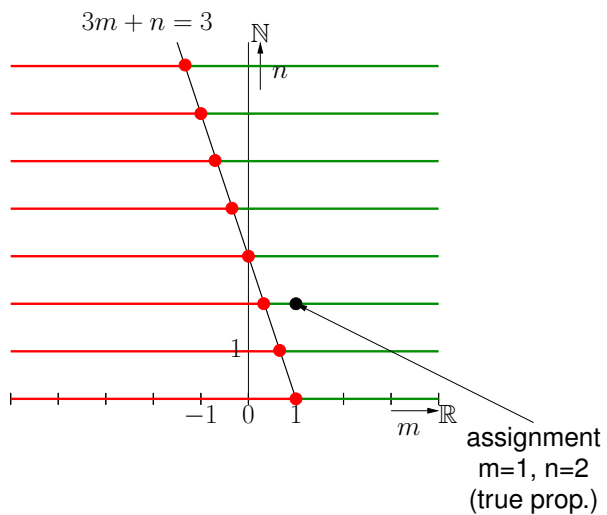
The statement $3m + n > 3$ is a **binary predicate**.



Binary predicates (example)

24/41

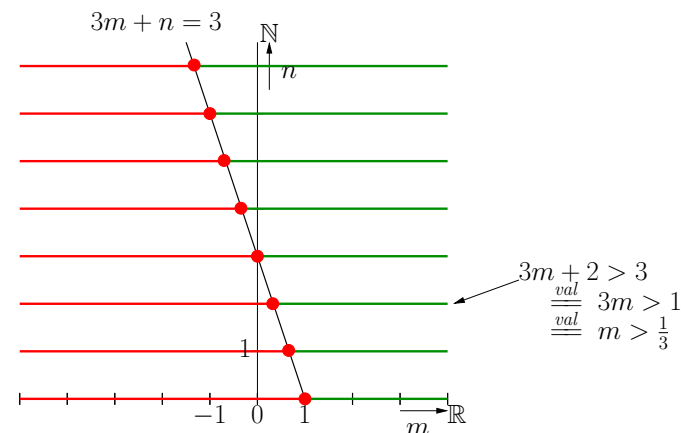
The statement $3m + n > 3$ is a **binary predicate**.



Binary predicates (example)

25/41

The statement $3m + n > 3$ is a **binary predicate**.



Renaming bound variables

26/41

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall_m [m \in \mathbb{N} : m + n > 6] & \quad (\text{true if } n > 6; \text{ false if } n \leq 6) \\ \stackrel{val}{=} \forall_k [k \in \mathbb{N} : k + n > 6] & \quad (\text{true if } n > 6; \text{ false if } n \leq 6) \\ \stackrel{val}{\neq} \forall_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : n + n > 6] & \quad (\text{always false}) \end{aligned}$$

Bound variables may be renamed,
but the binding structure may not change!

Bound variable

$$\forall_x [P : Q] \stackrel{val}{=} \forall_y [P[y \text{ for } x] : Q[y \text{ for } x]]$$

$$\exists_x [P : Q] \stackrel{val}{=} \exists_y [P[y \text{ for } x] : Q[y \text{ for } x]]$$

provided that y does not occur in P or Q

(not even as part of \forall_y or \exists_y)

Quantifying many-place predicates

27/41

We can turn the binary predicate $3m + n > 3$ into a proposition by quantification:

$$\forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \underbrace{\exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : \underbrace{3m + n > 3}_{\text{binary predicate}}]}_{\text{unary predicate}}]$$

proposition

This proposition is true! Informal argument:

1. Consider an arbitrary $m_0 \in \mathbb{R}$.
2. Does there exist $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $3m_0 + n > 3$?
3. Yes! We can, for instance, take $n_0 = \lceil 3 - 3m_0 \rceil + 1$.

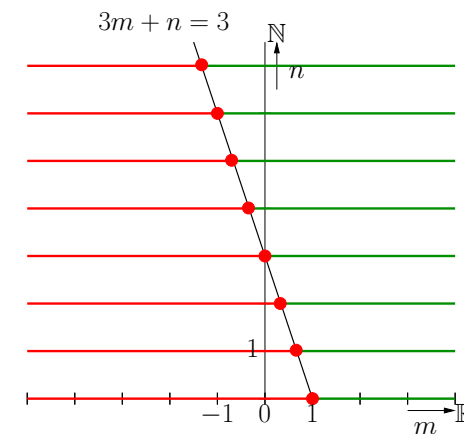
Quantifying many-place predicates

28/41

1. $\forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \forall_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$
2. $\forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$
3. $\exists_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \forall_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$
4. $\exists_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$
5. $\forall_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : \forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$
6. $\forall_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : \exists_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$
7. $\exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : \forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$
8. $\exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : \exists_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$

$$\forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \forall_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$$

29/41

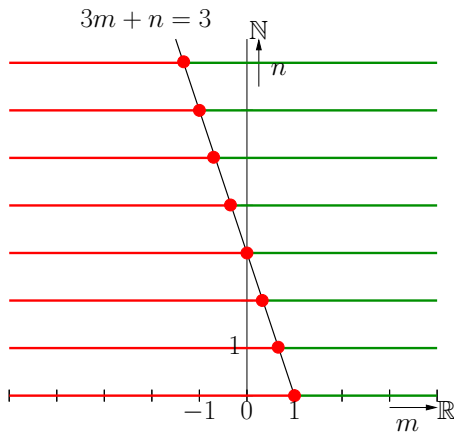


Explanation:

“Not all vertical lines through the m -axis are entirely green.”

$$\forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$$

30/41

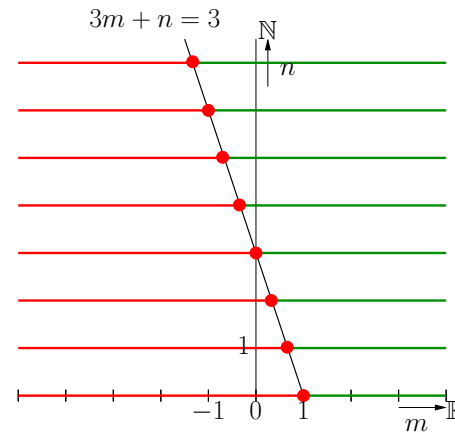


Explanation:

“On every vertical line through the m -axis at least one point is green.”

$$\exists_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \forall_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$$

31/41



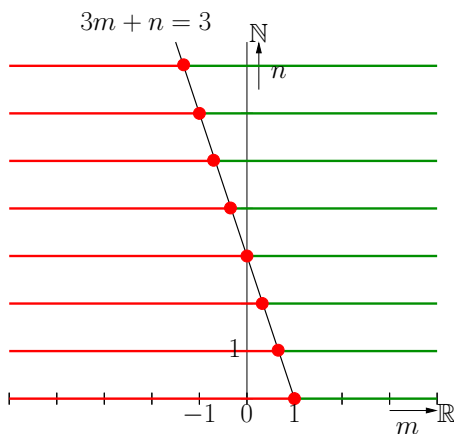
Explanation:

“There exists a vertical line through the m -axis (e.g., the line $m = 2$) such that all points are green.”

NB: we only consider points whose n -coordinate is in \mathbb{N}

$$\exists_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$$

32/41



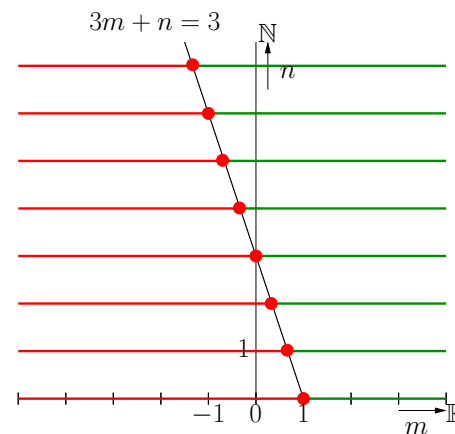
Explanation:

“There exists a vertical line through the m -axis with a green point.”

(In fact, we have already seen that *all* vertical lines have this property.)

$$\forall_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : \forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$$

33/41

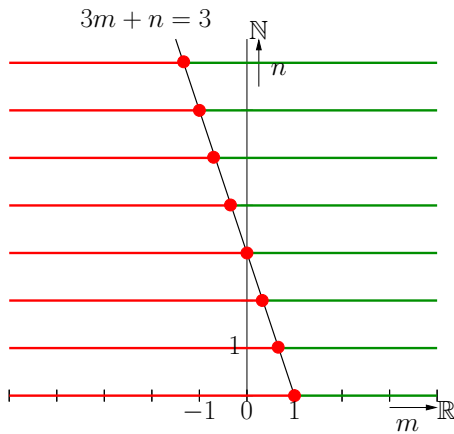


Explanation:

“Not all horizontal lines through the n -axis are entirely green.”

$$\forall_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : \exists_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$$

34/41

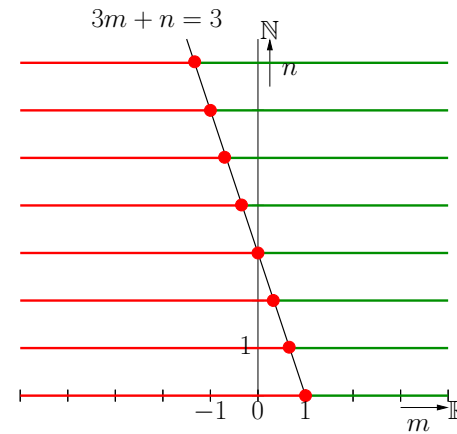


Explanation:

“All horizontal lines through the n -axis have a green point.”

$$\exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : \forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{False}$$

35/41

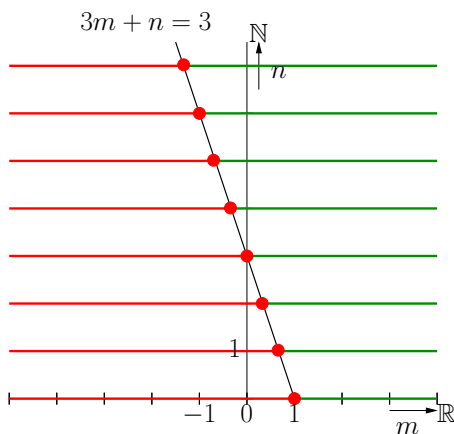


Explanation:

“There is no horizontal line through the n -axis that is entirely green.”

$$\exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : \exists_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : 3m + n > 3]] \stackrel{val}{=} \text{True}$$

36/41



Explanation:

“There exists a horizontal line through the n -axis with a green point.”

A word on notation

37/41

We often write

$$\forall_x [P] \quad \text{for} \quad \forall_x [\text{True} : P]$$

(i.e., we omit the domain when it is True).

Furthermore, we will often write

$$\begin{aligned} \forall_m \exists_n [(m, n) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3] \\ \text{instead of } \forall_m [m \in \mathbb{R} : \exists_n [n \in \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3]] \\ \forall_{m,n} [(m, n) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3] \\ \text{instead of } \forall_m \forall_n [(m, n) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N} : 3m + n > 3] \end{aligned}$$

NB: we only contract multiple occurrences of *the same* quantifier (i.e., $\forall_m \forall_n$ becomes $\forall_{m,n}$, but $\forall_m \exists_n$ is not contracted).