

# Computability Assignment

## Year 2012/13 - Number 1

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### 1 Question

Define a binary property  $p(x, y)$  over natural numbers such that we have both

1.  $\forall x \in \mathbb{N}. \exists y \in \mathbb{N}. p(x, y)$
2.  $\neg \exists y \in \mathbb{N}. \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. p(x, y)$

Provide a definition for  $p$ , and a proof for the above claims.

#### 1.1 Answer

There are some possible way to define  $p(x, y)$ .

$$p(x, y) = \begin{cases} true & \text{if } x = y \\ false & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

In this case I have defined that the function returns *true* iff the two numbers are equal.

Proof:

1. The first statement says that for all  $x$ , exists a  $y$  such that the property is *true*. So, given the  $x$  value, always exists an element that is equal to it in  $\mathbb{N}$ , for instance  $x$ .

2. The second statement says that does not exist a  $y$  such that for all  $x$  the property is *true*. This is true because we cannot find an element in  $\mathbb{N}$  such that it is equal to every other elements in  $\mathbb{N}$ . In particular, if such  $y$  exists, it means that exists two (actually all but we can use only 2) different numbers that are equal to the same  $y$ , so take  $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $x_1 \neq x_2$ ,  $x_1 = y$ ,  $x_2 = y$  but in this case it must be that  $x_1 = x_2$  that is a contradiction.