



Lecture 1

Course Overview

Chapter 1. The Foundations

1.1 Propositional Logic

What is Mathematics, really?

- It's *not* just about numbers!
- Mathematics is *much* more than that:

Mathematics is, most generally, the study of any and all *absolutely certain* truths about any and all *perfectly well-defined* concepts.

- These concepts can be *about* numbers, symbols, objects, images, sounds, *anything*!
- It is a way to interpret the world around you.

So, what's *this* class about?

What are “discrete structures” anyway?

- “**Discrete**” - Composed of distinct, separable parts. (Opposite of *continuous*.)
discrete:continuous :: digital:analog
- “**Structures**” - Objects built up from simpler objects according to some definite pattern.
- “**Discrete Mathematics**” - The study of discrete, mathematical (i.e. well-defined conceptual) objects and structures.

Discrete Objects/Concepts and Structures We Study

- **DM PART I**
 - Propositions
 - Predicates
 - Proofs
 - Sets
 - Functions
 - Orders of Growth
 - Algorithms
 - Integers
 - Summations
 - Sequences
 - Strings
 - Permutations
 - Combinations
 - Probability
- **DM PART II**
 - Relations
 - Graphs
 - Trees
 - Boolean Functions / Logic Circuits
 - Automata

Why Study Discrete Math?

- The basis of all of digital information processing is: *Discrete manipulations of discrete structures represented in memory.*
- It's the basic language and conceptual foundation for all of computer science.
- Discrete math concepts are also widely used throughout math, science, engineering, economics, biology, etc., ...
- A generally useful tool for rational thought!

Uses for Discrete Math in Computer Science

- Advanced algorithms & data structures
- Programming language compilers & interpreters
- Computer networks
- Operating systems
- Computer architecture
- Database management systems
- Cryptography
- Error correction codes
- Graphics & animation algorithms, game engines,
etc....
- *i.e.*, the whole field!

1.1 Propositional Logic

- Logic
 - Study of reasoning.
 - Specifically concerned with whether reasoning is correct.
 - Focuses on the relationship among statements, not on the content of any particular statement.
 - Gives precise meaning to mathematical statements.
- ***Propositional Logic*** is the logic that deals with statements (propositions) and compound statements built from simpler statements using so-called *Boolean connectives*.
- Some applications in computer science:
 - Design of digital electronic circuits.
 - Expressing conditions in programs.
 - Queries to databases & search engines.

Definition of a *Proposition*

Definition: A *proposition* (denoted p, q, r, \dots) is simply:

- a *statement* (i.e., a declarative sentence)
 - *with some definite meaning,*
(not vague or ambiguous)
- having a *truth value* that's either *true* (**T**) or *false* (**F**)
 - it is **never** both, neither, or somewhere “in between!”
 - However, you might not *know* the actual truth value,
 - and, the truth value might *depend* on the situation or context.
- Later, we will study *probability theory*, in which we assign *degrees of certainty* (“between” **T** and **F**) to propositions.
 - But for now: think True/False only! (or in terms of **1** and **0**)

Examples of Propositions

- It is raining. (In a given situation)
- Beijing is the capital of China. (T)
- $2 + 2 = 5$. (F)
- $1 + 2 = 3$. (T)
- A fact-based declaration is a proposition, even if no one knows whether it is true
 - 11213 is prime.
 - There exists an odd perfect number.

Examples of Non-Proposition

The following are **NOT** propositions:

- Who's there? (interrogative, question)
- Just do it! (imperative, command)
- La la la la la. (meaningless interjection)
- Yeah, I sorta dunno, whatever... (vague)
- 1 + 2 (expression with a non-true/false value)
- $x + 2 = 5$ (declaration about semantic tokens of non-constant value)

Truth Tables

- An *operator* or *connective* combines one or more *operand* expressions into a larger expression. (e.g., “+” in numeric expressions.)
- **Unary** operators take *one* operand (e.g., -3); **Binary** operators take *two* operands (e.g. 3×4).
- **Propositional** or **Boolean operators** operate on propositions (or their truth values) instead of on numbers.
- The **Boolean domain** is the set $\{T, F\}$. Either of its elements is called a **Boolean value**.
An n -tuple (p_1, \dots, p_n) of Boolean values is called a **Boolean n -tuple**.
- An n -operand truth table is a table that assigns a Boolean value to the set of all Boolean n -tuples.

Some Popular Boolean Operators

<u>Formal Name</u>	<u>Nickname</u>	<u>Arity</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
Negation operator	NOT	Unary	\neg
Conjunction operator	AND	Binary	\wedge
Disjunction operator	OR	Binary	\vee
Exclusive-OR operator	XOR	Binary	\oplus
Implication operator	IMPLIES	Binary	\rightarrow
Biconditional operator	IFF	Binary	\leftrightarrow

The Negation Operator

- The unary *negation operator* “ \neg ” (NOT) transforms a proposition into its logical *negation*.
- *E.g.* If p = “I have brown hair.”
then $\neg p$ = “It is not the case that I have brown hair” or “I do **not** have brown hair.”
- The *truth table* for NOT:

p	$\neg p$
T	F
F	T

Operand column

Result column

The Conjunction Operator

- The binary ***conjunction operator*** “ \wedge ” (AND) combines two propositions to form their logical *conjunction*.
- *E.g.* If p = “I will have salad for lunch.” and q = “I will have steak for dinner.”
then, $p \wedge q$ = “I will have salad for lunch **and**
I will have steak for dinner.”

Conjunction Truth Table

Operand columns

p	q	$p \wedge q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

- Note that a conjunction $p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n$ of n propositions will have 2^n rows in its truth table

The Disjunction Operator

- The binary ***disjunction operator*** “ \vee ” (**OR**) combines two propositions to form their logical *disjunction*.
- *E.g.* If p = “My car has a bad engine.” and q = “My car has a bad carburetor.” then, $p \vee q$ = “My car has a bad engine, **or** my car has a bad carburetor.”

Meaning is like “and/or” in informal English.

Disjunction Truth Table

p	q	$p \vee q$
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

Note difference
from AND

- Note that $p \vee q$ means that p is true, or q is true, **or both** are true!
- So, this operation is also called ***inclusive or***, because it **includes** the possibility that both p and q are true.

The Exclusive-Or Operator

- The binary **exclusive-or operator** “ \oplus ” (XOR) combines two propositions to form their logical “exclusive or”
- *E.g.* If p = “I will earn an A in this course.” and q = “I will drop this course.”, then
 $p \oplus q$ = “I will **either** earn an A in this course, **or** I will drop it (**but not both!**)”

Exclusive-Or Truth Table

p	q	$p \oplus q$
T	T	F
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

Note difference
from OR.

- Note that $p \oplus q$ means that p is true, or q is true, but **not both!**
- This operation is called ***exclusive or***, because it **excludes** the possibility that both p and q are true.

Natural Language is Ambiguous

- Note that the English “or” can be ambiguous regarding the “both” case!
- “Pat is a singer or
Pat is a writer.” - \vee
- “Pat is a man or
Pat is a woman.” - \oplus
- Need context to disambiguate the meaning!
- For this class, assume “or” means inclusive (\vee).

p	q	p "or" q
T	T	?
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

The Implication Operator

- The conditional statement (aka *implication*)
 $p \rightarrow q$ states that p implies q .
- *I.e.*, If p is true, then q is true; but if p is not true, then q could be either true or false.
- *E.g.*, let p = “You study hard.”
 q = “You will get a good grade.”
 $p \rightarrow q$ = “If you study hard, then you will get a good grade.” (else, it could go either way)
- p : *hypothesis* or *antecedent* or *premise*
- q : *conclusion* or *consequence*

Implication Truth Table

p	q	$p \rightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

The only
False case!

- $p \rightarrow q$ is **false** only when p is true but q is **not** true.
- $p \rightarrow q$ does **not** require that p or q are ever true!
- E.g. “ $(1=0) \rightarrow$ pigs can fly” is TRUE!