

# Formal Logic

**Discrete Math, Fall 2025**

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## **Set Theory**

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- Operations & laws
- Power sets
- Russell's paradox
- ZFC axioms
- Cartesian products
- Cardinality

## **Binary Relations**

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- Relation properties
- Equivalence relations
- Functions
- Partial orders
- Lattices
- Well-orders

## **Boolean Algebra**

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- Truth tables & laws
- Logic circuits
- Normal forms
- Karnaugh maps
- Binary Decision  
Diagrams (BDDs)

## **Formal Logic**

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- Syntax & semantics
- Natural deduction
- Soundness &  
completeness
- Categorical logic
- First-order logic

# Formal Logic

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*“Logic is the anatomy of thought.”*

— *John Locke*



Kurt Gödel



Alfred Tarski



TODO

# Propositional Logic

**Definition 1:** Logic is the study of valid reasoning.

**Definition 2:** Formal logic is the study of deductively valid inferences or logical truths.

*Example:* *Modus ponens* inference rule:

$$\frac{P \quad P \rightarrow Q}{\therefore Q}$$

**Definition 3** (Propositional Logic): The simplest form of logic, dealing with whole statements (*propositions*) that can be either **true** or **false**.

Also known as *sentential logic* or *zeroth-order logic*.

# Syntax: The Language of Logic

**Syntax** concerns the formal *structure* of logical expressions — how symbols are arranged according to grammatical rules, *independent of meaning*.

**Definition 4:** A propositional *language* consists of:

- *Propositional variables*:  $P, Q, R, \dots$  (atomic propositions)
- *Logical connectives*:  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \iff$
- *Punctuation*: parentheses for grouping

**Definition 5:** A *well-formed formula* (WFF) in propositional logic is defined recursively:

- Every propositional variable is a WFF.
- If  $\alpha$  is a WFF, then  $\neg\alpha$  is a WFF.
- If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are WFFs, then  $(\alpha \wedge \beta)$ ,  $(\alpha \vee \beta)$ ,  $(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$ ,  $(\alpha \iff \beta)$  are WFFs.
- Nothing else is a WFF.

# Semantics: The Meaning of Logic

**Semantics** concerns the *meaning* (or *interpretation*) of logical expressions – how they relate to *truth* values and the world.

- Each propositional variable is assigned a truth value: **true** or **false**.
- More formally, an *interpretation*  $\nu : V \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$  assigns truth values ( $\mathbb{B} = \{0, 1\}$ ) to variables (atoms)  $V$ .

**Definition 6:** The truth value (*evaluation*) of complex formulas is determined recursively:

$$\begin{aligned}\llbracket \neg \alpha \rrbracket_{\nu} &= \text{true} \quad \text{iff } \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_{\nu} = \text{false} \\ \llbracket \alpha \wedge \beta \rrbracket_{\nu} &= \text{true} \quad \text{iff } \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_{\nu} = \text{true} \text{ and } \llbracket \beta \rrbracket_{\nu} = \text{true} \\ \llbracket \alpha \vee \beta \rrbracket_{\nu} &= \text{true} \quad \text{iff } \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_{\nu} = \text{true} \text{ or } \llbracket \beta \rrbracket_{\nu} = \text{true} \text{ (or both)} \\ \llbracket \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rrbracket_{\nu} &= \text{false} \quad \text{iff } \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_{\nu} = \text{true} \text{ and } \llbracket \beta \rrbracket_{\nu} = \text{false} \\ \llbracket \alpha \iff \beta \rrbracket_{\nu} &= \text{true} \quad \text{iff } \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_{\nu} = \llbracket \beta \rrbracket_{\nu}\end{aligned}$$

# Truth Tables

**Definition 7:** A *truth table* systematically lists all possible truth value assignments to propositional variables and shows the resulting truth values of complex formulas.

*Example (Truth Tables for Basic Connectives):*

| $P$   | $\neg P$ |
|-------|----------|
| true  | false    |
| false | true     |

| $P$   | $Q$   | $P \wedge Q$ | $P \vee Q$ |
|-------|-------|--------------|------------|
| true  | true  | true         | true       |
| true  | false | false        | true       |
| false | true  | false        | true       |
| false | false | false        | false      |

| $P$   | $Q$   | $P \rightarrow Q$ | $P \Leftrightarrow Q$ |
|-------|-------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| true  | true  | true              | true                  |
| true  | false | false             | false                 |
| false | true  | true              | false                 |
| false | false | true              | true                  |

## Semantic Concepts

**Definition 8:** A formula  $\varphi$  is *satisfiable* if there exists an interpretation  $\nu$  such that  $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu = \text{true}$ .

A formula is *unsatisfiable* if no such interpretation exists.

**Definition 9:** A formula  $\varphi$  is a *tautology* (or *valid*) if  $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu = \text{true}$  for every interpretation  $\nu$ .

Notation:  $\models \varphi$  (read: “ $\varphi$  is valid”).

**Definition 10:** A formula  $\varphi$  is a *contradiction* if  $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_\nu = \text{false}$  for every interpretation  $\nu$ .

*Example:*

- $P \vee \neg P$  is a tautology (Law of Excluded Middle)
- $P \wedge \neg P$  is a contradiction
- $P \vee Q$  is satisfiable but not a tautology



# Logical Equivalence

**Definition 11:** Two formulas  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are *logically equivalent*, written  $\alpha \equiv \beta$ , if they have the same truth value under every interpretation:

$$\alpha \equiv \beta \quad \text{iff} \quad \forall \nu. \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_\nu = \llbracket \beta \rrbracket_\nu$$

*Example (Important Equivalences):*

**De Morgan's Laws:**

- $\neg(P \wedge Q) \equiv \neg P \vee \neg Q$
- $\neg(P \vee Q) \equiv \neg P \wedge \neg Q$

**Double Negation:**

- $\neg\neg P \equiv P$

**Implication:**

- $P \rightarrow Q \equiv (\neg P) \vee Q$

**Associativity:**

- $(P \wedge Q) \wedge R \equiv P \wedge (Q \wedge R)$
- $(P \vee Q) \vee R \equiv P \vee (Q \vee R)$

**Commutativity:**

- $P \wedge Q \equiv Q \wedge P$
- $P \vee Q \equiv Q \vee P$

**Distributivity:**

- $P \wedge (Q \vee R) \equiv (P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge R)$

## Semantic Entailment

**Definition 12:** A set of formulas  $\Gamma$  *semantically entails* a formula  $\alpha$ , written  $\Gamma \models \alpha$ , if every interpretation that makes all formulas in  $\Gamma$  true also makes  $\alpha$  true:

$$\Gamma \models \alpha \quad \text{iff} \quad \forall \nu. (\forall \beta \in \Gamma. \llbracket \beta \rrbracket_\nu = \text{true}) \rightarrow \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_\nu = \text{true}$$

*Example:*  $\{P \rightarrow Q, P\} \models Q$  (this captures modus ponens semantically)

**Theorem 1** (Semantic Deduction Theorem): For any formulas  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ :

$$\{\alpha\} \models \beta \quad \text{iff} \quad \models \alpha \rightarrow \beta$$

## Normal Forms

**Definition 13:** A *literal* is either a propositional variable  $P$  or its negation  $\neg P$ .

**Definition 14:** A formula is in *conjunctive normal form* (CNF) if it is a conjunction of disjunctions of literals:

$$(L_{1,1} \vee \dots \vee L_{1,k_1}) \wedge \dots \wedge (L_{n,1} \vee \dots \vee L_{n,k_n})$$

Each disjunction  $(L_{i,1} \vee \dots \vee L_{i,k_i})$  is called a *clause*.

**Definition 15:** A formula is in *disjunctive normal form* (DNF) if it is a disjunction of conjunctions of literals:

$$(L_{1,1} \wedge \dots \wedge L_{1,k_1}) \vee \dots \vee (L_{n,1} \wedge \dots \wedge L_{n,k_n})$$

## Normal Forms [2]

**Theorem 2** (Normal Form Existence): Every propositional formula is logically equivalent to a formula in CNF and to a formula in DNF.

*Example:*  $(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge R$

Converting to CNF:

1. Eliminate implications:  $(\neg P \vee Q) \wedge R$
2. Already in CNF:  $(\neg P \vee Q) \wedge R$

Converting to DNF:

1. Distribute:  $(\neg P \wedge R) \vee (Q \wedge R)$

## Boolean Satisfiability Problem (SAT)

**Definition 16** (SAT Problem): Given a propositional formula  $\varphi$ , determine whether  $\varphi$  is satisfiable.

**Theorem 3** (Cook-Levin Theorem): SAT is NP-complete.

## From Semantics to Syntax

So far we've studied *semantics* — what formulas *mean* in terms of truth values.

Now we turn to *syntax* — how to *prove* formulas using purely symbolic manipulation, without reference to truth values.

**Definition 17:** A *proof system* consists of:

- *Axioms*: formulas assumed to be true
- *Inference rules*: patterns for deriving new formulas from existing ones

A *proof* of  $\varphi$  is a sequence of formulas ending with  $\varphi$ , where each formula is either an axiom or follows from previous formulas by an inference rule.

**Definition 18** (Syntactic Derivability): We write  $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$  (read: “ $\Gamma$  proves  $\varphi$ ”) if there exists a proof of  $\varphi$  using axioms and formulas from  $\Gamma$  as premises.

## Natural Deduction

**Definition 19** (Natural Deduction): A proof system where formulas are derived using *introduction* and *elimination* rules for each logical connective.

Proofs are typically presented in *Fitch notation* — a structured format showing the logical dependencies.

## Fitch Notation

Fitch notation uses vertical lines and indentation to show proof structure:

- Vertical lines indicate scope of assumptions
- Horizontal lines separate assumptions from conclusions
- Each step is numbered and justified

*Example (Fitch Proof Structure):*

|   |  |                   |                  |
|---|--|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 |  | $P \rightarrow Q$ | Premise          |
| 2 |  | $P$               | Premise          |
|   |  | _____             |                  |
| 3 |  | $Q$               | Modus Ponens 1,2 |



# Inference Rules for Conjunction

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**Conjunction Introduction ( $\wedge$ I):**

$$\frac{\alpha \quad \beta}{\alpha \wedge \beta}$$

If we have both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , we can conclude  $\alpha \wedge \beta$ .

**Conjunction Elimination ( $\wedge$ E):**

$$\frac{\alpha \wedge \beta}{\alpha} \quad \frac{\alpha \wedge \beta}{\beta}$$

From  $\alpha \wedge \beta$ , we can conclude either  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ .

# Inference Rules for Disjunction

**Disjunction Introduction ( $\vee$ I):**

$$\frac{\alpha}{\alpha \vee \beta} \quad \frac{\beta}{\alpha \vee \beta}$$

From either  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ , we can conclude  $\alpha \vee \beta$ .

**Disjunction Elimination ( $\vee$ E):**

$$\alpha \vee \beta$$

$$[\alpha] \dots \gamma$$

$$[\beta] \dots \gamma$$

$$\gamma$$

To use  $\alpha \vee \beta$ , assume each disjunct and show that both lead to the same conclusion  $\gamma$ .

# Inference Rules for Implication

## Implication Introduction ( $\rightarrow$ I):

$$\frac{[\alpha] \dots \beta}{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}$$

To prove  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ , assume  $\alpha$  and derive  $\beta$ .

This *discharges* the assumption  $\alpha$ .

## Implication Elimination ( $\rightarrow$ E):

$$\frac{\alpha \rightarrow \beta \quad \alpha}{\beta}$$

This is *modus ponens* — the fundamental rule of reasoning.

## Inference Rules for Negation

**Negation Introduction ( $\neg$ I):**

$$\frac{[\varphi] \dots \perp}{\neg \varphi}$$

To prove  $\neg \varphi$ , assume  $\varphi$  and derive a contradiction  $\perp$ .

**Negation Elimination ( $\neg$ E):**

$$\frac{\varphi \quad \neg \varphi}{\perp}$$

From  $\varphi$  and  $\neg \varphi$ , derive contradiction.

**Definition 20:** *Contradiction* ( $\perp$ ) is special formula that represents logical inconsistency.

From  $\perp$ , anything can be derived (*ex falso quodlibet*).

## Additional Rules

**Ex Falso Quodlibet ( $\perp$ E):**

$$\frac{\perp}{\varphi}$$

From contradiction, anything follows.

**Double Negation Elimination:**

$$\frac{\neg\neg\varphi}{\varphi}$$

(Classical logic only)

## Example: Fitch Proof

Example (*Proving Contrapositive*):  $(P \rightarrow Q) \therefore ((\neg Q) \rightarrow (\neg P))$

|   |  |   |                     |
|---|--|---|---------------------|
| 1 |  | $P \rightarrow Q$   | Premise             |
|   |  | _____   |                     |
| 2 |  | $\neg Q$  | Assumption          |
|   |  | _____   |                     |
| 3 |  | $P$   | Assumption          |
| 4 |  | $Q$   | $\rightarrow E$ 1,3 |
| 5 |  | $\perp$   | $\neg E$ 2,4        |
|   |  | _____   |                     |
| 6 |  | $\neg P$  | $\neg I$ 3-5        |
|   |  | _____   |                     |
| 7 |  | $\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$                                 | $\rightarrow I$ 2-6 |
|   |  | _____   |                     |
| 8 |  | $(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow (\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P)$ | $\rightarrow I$ 1-7 |

## Derived Rules

**Definition 21:** *Derived rules* are complex inference patterns that can be proven from basic rules, used as *shortcuts* in proofs.

*Example (Useful derived rules):*

**Modus Tollens:**    **Hypothetical Syllogism:**    **Proof by Contradiction (Reductio ad Absurdum):**

$$\frac{\alpha \rightarrow \beta \quad \neg \beta}{\neg \alpha}$$

$$\frac{\alpha \rightarrow \beta \quad \beta \rightarrow \gamma}{\alpha \rightarrow \gamma}$$

$$\frac{[\neg \varphi] \dots \perp}{\varphi}$$

# **Soundness and Completeness**

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## Soundness of Natural Deduction

**Definition 22** (Soundness): A proof system is *sound* if every syntactically derivable formula is semantically valid.

$$\text{If } \Gamma \vdash \varphi \text{ then } \Gamma \models \varphi$$

**Theorem 4:** Natural deduction for propositional logic is sound.

**Proof** (*sketch*): By induction on proof structure:

**Base case:** Axioms and premises are semantically valid by assumption.

**Inductive step:** Show each inference rule preserves semantic validity:

- If premises are true under interpretation  $\nu$ , then conclusion is also true under  $\nu$
- For example, for  $\wedge$ I: if  $\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_\nu = \text{true}$  and  $\llbracket \beta \rrbracket_\nu = \text{true}$ , then  $\llbracket \alpha \wedge \beta \rrbracket_\nu = \text{true}$

The proof requires checking all inference rules systematically. □

## Completeness Preview

**Definition 23** (Completeness): A proof system is *complete* if every semantically valid formula is syntactically derivable.

If  $\Gamma \models \varphi$  then  $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$

**Theorem 5** (Gödel): Natural deduction for propositional logic is complete.

**Soundness + Completeness** = syntactic derivability ( $\vdash$ ) exactly matches semantic entailment ( $\models$ ).

$\Gamma \vdash \varphi$  iff  $\Gamma \models \varphi$

## Proof of Completeness

**Proof:** We prove the contrapositive: if  $\Gamma \not\models \alpha$ , then  $\Gamma \not\vdash \alpha$ .

The *strategy* is to construct a model (interpretation) that satisfies all formulas in  $\Gamma$ , but falsifies  $\alpha$ .

**Step 1:** If  $\Gamma \not\models \alpha$ , then  $\Gamma \cup \{\neg\alpha\}$  is consistent (cannot derive  $\perp$ ).

**Step 2:** Extend  $\Gamma \cup \{\neg\alpha\}$  to a *maximal consistent set*  $\Delta$ :

- $\Delta$  is consistent (cannot derive  $\perp$ )
- For every formula  $\beta$ , either  $\beta \in \Delta$  or  $\neg\beta \in \Delta$

**Step 3:** Define interpretation  $\nu$  for atomic propositions  $P$  by:

$$\nu(P) = \text{true} \iff P \in \Delta$$

**Step 4:** Show by induction that for all formulas  $\beta$ :

$$\llbracket \beta \rrbracket_\nu = \text{true} \iff \beta \in \Delta$$

**Step 5:** Since  $\neg\alpha \in \Delta$ , we have  $\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_\nu = \text{false}$ . Since  $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$ , we have  $\llbracket \gamma \rrbracket_\nu = \text{true}$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .

Therefore  $\Gamma \not\models \alpha$ . □

# The Completeness Result

**Theorem 6:** For any set of formulas  $\Gamma$  and formula  $\varphi$ :

$$\Gamma \models \varphi \quad \text{iff} \quad \Gamma \vdash \varphi$$

This establishes the *harmony* between semantics and syntax in propositional logic.

**Practical implications:**

- Automated theorem provers are theoretically sound.
- Truth table methods and proof methods are equivalent.
- Proof search is as hard as SAT.

# Categorical Logic

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*“All men are mortal. Socrates is a man. Therefore, Socrates is mortal.”*

*— Classical syllogism*

A

Aristotle

S

Socrates

GB

George Boole

## From Propositional to Categorical

Classical propositional logic treats statements as atomic units.

But human reasoning often involves *relationships between classes* of objects:

- “All birds can fly”
- “Some mammals are aquatic”
- “No reptiles are warm-blooded”

*Traditional logic* studies these patterns, providing a bridge to modern predicate logic.

# Categorical Propositions

**Definition 24:** A *categorical proposition* is a statement that asserts or denies a relationship between two *categories* (classes) of objects.

Every categorical proposition has:

- *Subject term* (S): the category being described
- *Predicate term* (P): the category used in the description
- *Quantifier*: indicates how much of the subject is included
- *Quality*: affirmative or negative

*Example:* “All *politicians* are *corrupt*.”

- Subject: politicians
- Predicate: corrupt people
- Quantifier: all (universal)
- Quality: affirmative

## The Four Standard Forms

**Definition 25:** Traditional logic recognizes *four standard forms* of categorical propositions:

| Form | Quantifier | Quality     | Structure        | Example                            |
|------|------------|-------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| A    | Universal  | Affirmative | All S are P      | “All cats are mammals”             |
| E    | Universal  | Negative    | No S are P       | “No fish are mammals”              |
| I    | Particular | Affirmative | Some S are P     | “Some birds are flightless”        |
| O    | Particular | Negative    | Some S are not P | “Some animals are not vertebrates” |



## Examples of Categorical Propositions

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### **A (Universal Affirmative):**

- All students are hardworking
- Every theorem has a proof
- All prime numbers except 2 are odd

### **I (Particular Affirmative):**

- Some politicians are honest
- Some functions are continuous
- Some equations have multiple solutions

### **E (Universal Negative):**

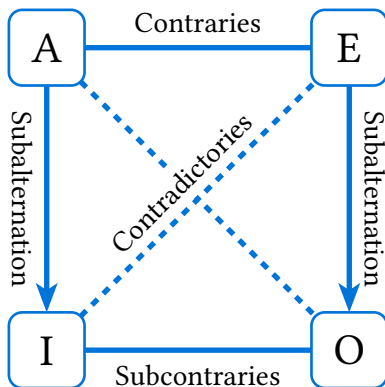
- No circles are squares
- No valid argument has false premises and true conclusion
- No even number greater than 2 is prime

### **O (Particular Negative):**

- Some students are not prepared
- Some triangles are not right triangles
- Some numbers are not rational

## The Square of Opposition

**Definition 26:** A *square of opposition* is a diagram showing the logical relationships between A, E, I, and O propositions with the same subject and predicate terms.



# Logical Relationships in the Square

**Definition 27** (The Four Relationships):

**Contradictories** (A–O, E–I):    **Subcontraries** (I–O):

- Cannot both be true
  - Cannot both be false
  - Exactly one must be true
- Cannot both be false
  - Can both be true
  - At least one is true

**Contraries** (A–E):

- Cannot both be true
- Can both be false
- At most one is true

**Subalternation** ( $A \rightarrow I$ ,  $E \rightarrow O$ ):

- If universal is true, particular is true
- If particular is false, universal is false

## Logical Relationships in the Square [2]

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*Example:* Given: “All roses are flowers” (A-form, **true**)

By the square of opposition:

- “No roses are flowers” (E-form) is **false** (contraries)
- “Some roses are flowers” (I-form) is **true** (subalternation)
- “Some roses are not flowers” (O-form) is **false** (contradictories)

## Translation Between Traditional and Modern Logic

**Definition 28:** Categorical propositions can be translated into first-order logic:

| Traditional      | Modern Logic                            | Reading  |
|------------------|---|--|
| All S are P      | $\forall x(S(x) \rightarrow P(x))$      | “For all x, if x is S then x is P”               |
| No S are P       | $\forall x(S(x) \rightarrow \neg P(x))$ | “For all x, if x is S then x is not P”           |
| Some S are P     | $\exists x(S(x) \wedge P(x))$           | “There exists x such that x is S and x is P”     |
| Some S are not P | $\exists x(S(x) \wedge \neg P(x))$      | “There exists x such that x is S and x is not P” |

*Example:* “All students are hardworking” becomes:  $\forall x(\text{Student}(x) \rightarrow \text{Hardworking}(x))$

“Some politicians are not honest” becomes:  $\exists x(\text{Politician}(x) \wedge \neg \text{Honest}(x))$

# The Existential Import Problem

**Definition 29:** A proposition “ $S$  is  $P$ ” has *existential import* if it implies the existence of objects (at least one) in its subject class  $S$ .

## **The Problem:**

Traditional logic (Aristotle) assumes all categorical propositions have existential import.

Modern logic questions this assumption.

Consider: “All unicorns are magical”

- Traditional: Implies unicorns exist (so the statement is false)
- Modern: True vacuously (if there are no unicorns, the implication holds trivially)

## The Existential Import Problem [2]

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*Example (Impact on the Square):* In modern logic with empty domains:

- A and E can both be true (if subject class is empty)
- I and O can both be false (if subject class is empty)
- Subalternation fails (A can be true while I is false)

The traditional square of opposition only works when we assume non-empty subject classes.

# Syllogisms: Reasoning with Categories

**Definition 30:** *Categorical syllogism* is a form of reasoning with three categorical propositions:

- *Major premise*: contains the predicate of the conclusion
- *Minor premise*: contains the subject of the conclusion
- *Conclusion*: derived from the premises

Uses exactly three terms: major, minor, and middle.

*Example (Classic syllogism):*

All humans are mortal      (*Major premise*)

Socrates is human      (*Minor premise*)

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Therefore, Socrates is mortal      (*Conclusion*)

Terms:

- Major term: mortal (P)
- Minor term: Socrates (S)
- Middle term: human (M)

All M are P      (**A**)

All S are M      (**A**)

---

All S are P      (**A**)



## Figures and Moods of Syllogisms

**Definition 31:** The *figure* of a syllogism is determined by the position of the middle term:

| Figure 1 | Figure 2 | Figure 3 | Figure 4 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| $M - P$  | $P - M$  | $M - P$  | $P - M$  |
| $S - M$  | $S - M$  | $M - S$  | $M - S$  |
| $S - P$  | $S - P$  | $S - P$  | $S - P$  |

**Definition 32:** The *mood* of a syllogism is the 3-letter sequence of categorical forms (A, E, I, O) of its three propositions, in order: major premise, minor premise, conclusion.

*Example (Barbara (AAA-1)):*

All M are P (A)

## Figures and Moods of Syllogisms [2]

All S are M (A)

All S are P (A)

This argument has mood AAA in figure 1, called “Barbara” — a valid syllogistic form.

## Valid Syllogistic Forms

Traditional logic identified 24 valid syllogistic forms across the four figures.

Each valid form has a traditional Latin name that encodes its mood:

- Vowels indicate the categorical forms (A, E, I, O)
- Some consonants indicate required operations for reduction

*Example (Famous Valid Forms):*

| Figure 1       | Figure 2        | Figure 3       | Figure 4        |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Barbara (AAA)  | Cesare (EAE)    | Darapti (AAI)  | Bramantip (AAI) |
| Celarent (EAE) | Camestres (AEE) | Disamis (IAI)  | Camenes (AEE)   |
| Darii (AII)    | Festino (EIO)   | Datisi (AII)   | Dimaris (IAI)   |
| Ferio (EIO)    | Baroco (AOO)    | Felapton (EAO) | Fesapo (EAO)    |
|                |                 | Bocardo (OAO)  | Fresison (EIO)  |
|                |                 | Ferison (EIO)  |                 |

# Syllogistic Fallacies

## **Common syllogistic fallacies:**

### **Fallacy of Four Terms:**

Using more than three distinct terms

*Example:*

- All banks are financial institutions
- The river bank is muddy
- Therefore, some financial institutions are muddy

(Equivocates on “bank”)

### **Undistributed Middle:**

Middle term not distributed in either premise

*Example:*

- All cats are mammals
- All dogs are mammals
- Therefore, all cats are dogs

(“Mammals” not distributed)

## Syllogistic Fallacies [2]

**Definition 33** (More Fallacies):

**Illicit Major:** Major term distributed in conclusion but not in major premise

**Illicit Minor:** Minor term distributed in conclusion but not in minor premise

**Fallacy of Exclusive Premises:** Both premises negative

**Existential Fallacy:** Particular conclusion from universal premises (when subject class may be empty)

## Distribution of Terms

**Definition 34:** A term is *distributed* in a proposition if the proposition says something about *all* members of the class denoted by that term.

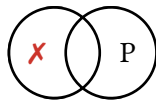
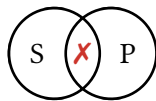
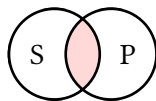
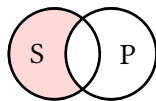
- Only *universal* propositions (A, E) distribute their *subject* term.
- Only *negative* propositions (E, O) distribute their *predicate* term.

| Form                | Distribution |           |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------|
|                     | Subject      | Predicate |
| A: All S are P      | ✓            | ✗         |
| E: No S are P       | ✓            | ✓         |
| I: Some S are P     | ✗            | ✗         |
| O: Some S are not P | ✗            | ✓         |

## Why Distribution Matters

*Example:* Consider the terms in these propositions:

- “All cats are mammals” (*A-form*)
  - Says something about ALL cats (subject distributed)
  - Says nothing about ALL mammals (predicate not distributed)
- “No reptiles are mammals” (*E-form*)
  - Says something about ALL reptiles (subject distributed)
  - Says something about ALL mammals (predicate distributed)
- “Some birds are flightless” (*I-form*)
  - Says something about SOME birds (subject not distributed)
  - Says something about SOME flightless creatures (predicate not distributed)
- “Some animals are not vertebrates” (*O-form*)
  - Says something about SOME animals (subject not distributed)
  - Says something about ALL vertebrates (predicate distributed)



## Rules for Valid Syllogisms

**Definition 35** (Validity Rules): A categorical syllogism is valid if and only if it satisfies all these rules:

1. **Exactly three terms** (no equivocation)
2. **Middle term distributed at least once**
3. **No term distributed in conclusion unless distributed in premise**
4. **No conclusion from two negative premises**
5. **Negative conclusion if and only if exactly one negative premise**
6. **No particular conclusion from two universal premises** (if existential import assumed)



## Venn Diagrams for Categorical Logic

**Definition 36** (Venn Diagram Method): Categorical propositions can be represented using Venn diagrams with two or three circles.

- Shaded regions represent empty classes
- **X** marks represent existing individuals
- Overlap patterns show relationships between categories

*Example (Venn Diagram for Syllogism):* Testing Barbara (AAA-1):

- All M are P: Shade M outside P
- All S are M: Shade S outside M
- Conclusion: All S are P

The diagrams show that S must be entirely within P, validating the syllogism.

## Modern Developments

Traditional categorical logic has evolved in several directions:

- **Set theory:** Categories become sets, relations become set operations
- **Formal semantics:** Precise treatment of quantification and scope
- **Knowledge representation:** Description logics in AI and semantic web
- **Natural language processing:** Computational linguistics and parsing
- **Database theory:** Query languages and constraint systems

## Limitations of Traditional Logic

Traditional categorical logic has important *limitations*:

1. Only handles simple quantification (all, some, no)
2. Cannot express complex relationships (between more than two categories)
3. Limited to categorical structure (subject–predicate form)
4. Struggles with relational statements (“John is taller than Mary”)
5. No systematic treatment of compound statements
6. Existential import controversies

*Example (What traditional logic cannot express):*

- “Every student likes some professor” (multiple quantifiers)
- “If John is happy, then Mary is happy” (conditional with individuals)
- “All numbers between 5 and 10 are prime” (complex domain restrictions)
- “Most birds can fly” (non-standard quantifiers)
- “Students who study hard usually succeed” (statistical generalizations)

# The Legacy of Traditional Logic

## **Enduring Contributions:**

- Systematic study of quantification and categorical reasoning
- Recognition of logical form vs. content
- Analysis of validity in natural language arguments
- Foundation for formal semantics and knowledge representation
- Critical thinking tools for evaluating everyday reasoning

**Modern Relevance:** Traditional logic remains important for understanding human reasoning patterns, developing AI systems that interact naturally with humans, and teaching critical thinking skills.

# **First-Order Logic**

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## Transition to First-Order Logic

Propositional logic can only reason about *whole statements*.

To reason about *objects* and their *properties*, we need *first-order logic* (FOL).

*Example (Limitations of Propositional Logic):* Cannot express:

- “All humans are mortal”
- “Socrates is human”
- “Therefore, Socrates is mortal”

In propositional logic, these would be *unrelated* atomic propositions  $P$ ,  $Q$ ,  $R$ , without any structure connecting them.

## Transition to First-Order Logic [2]

**Definition 37:** First-order logic extends propositional logic with:

- *Variables*:  $x, y, z, \dots$
- *Predicates*:  $P(x), R(x, y), \dots$
- *Quantifiers*:  $\forall x$  (for all),  $\exists x$  (there exists)
- *Functions*:  $f(x), g(x, y), \dots$
- *Constants*:  $a, b, c, \dots$

# First-Order Syntax

**Definition 38** (Terms): *Terms* are expressions denoting objects:

- Variables:  $x, y, z$
- Constants:  $a, b, c$
- Function applications:  $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  where  $t_i$  are terms

**Definition 39** (Atomic Formulas): *Atomic formulas* are basic statements:

- Predicate applications:  $P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  where  $t_i$  are terms
- Equality:  $t_1 = t_2$  where  $t_1, t_2$  are terms

**Definition 40** (First-Order Formulas): Built recursively from atomic formulas using:

- Propositional connectives:  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \iff$
- Quantifiers:  $\forall x.\varphi, \exists x.\varphi$



## First-Order Syntax [2]

*Examples:*

- $\forall x. (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$  – “For all  $x$ , if  $P(x)$  then  $Q(x)$ ”
- $\exists x. (P(x) \wedge \neg Q(x))$  – “There exists an  $x$  such that  $P(x)$  and not  $Q(x)$ ”
- $\forall x. \exists y. R(x, y)$  – “For every  $x$ , there exists a  $y$  such that  $R(x, y)$ ”

# First-Order Semantics

**Definition 41:** A *structure*  $\mathcal{M} = \langle D, \mathcal{I} \rangle$  consists of:

- *Domain*  $D$ : non-empty set of objects
- *Interpretation function*  $\mathcal{I}$ :
  - Maps constants to elements of  $D$
  - Maps  $n$ -ary predicates to  $n$ -ary relations on  $D$
  - Maps  $n$ -ary functions to  $n$ -ary functions on  $D$

**Definition 42:** A *variable assignment*  $\sigma : V \rightarrow D$  maps variables to domain elements.

**Definition 43** (Truth in a Structure): For structure  $\mathcal{M}$  and assignment  $\sigma$ :

- $\mathcal{M}, \sigma \models P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  iff  $\langle \mathcal{I}(t_1)^\sigma, \dots, \mathcal{I}(t_n)^\sigma \rangle \in \mathcal{I}(P)$
- $\mathcal{M}, \sigma \models \forall x. \varphi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}, \sigma' \models \varphi$  for all  $\sigma'$  that differ from  $\sigma$  at most on  $x$
- $\mathcal{M}, \sigma \models \exists x. \varphi$  iff  $\mathcal{M}, \sigma' \models \varphi$  for some  $\sigma'$  that differs from  $\sigma$  at most on  $x$

# Theories and Models

**Definition 44:** A *theory*  $T$  is a set of first-order formulas (axioms).

**Definition 45:** A structure  $\mathcal{M}$  is a *model* of theory  $T$  if  $\mathcal{M} \models \varphi$  for every formula  $\varphi \in T$ .

*Example (Group Theory):* The theory of groups has axioms:

- (Associativity)  $\forall x, y, z. (x \cdot (y \cdot z)) = ((x \cdot y) \cdot z)$
- (Identity)  $\exists e. \forall x. (x \cdot e = x) \wedge (e \cdot x = x)$
- (Inverses)  $\forall x. \exists y. (x \cdot y = e) \wedge (y \cdot x = e)$

Models include  $\langle \mathbb{Z}, + \rangle$ ,  $\langle \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, \cdot \rangle$ , *etc.*

# First-Order Natural Deduction

**Definition 46:** Additional rules for quantifiers:

**Universal Introduction ( $\forall I$ ):**

$$\frac{\varphi(a)}{\forall x. \varphi(x)}$$

Where  $a$  is arbitrary (fresh).

**Universal Elimination ( $\forall E$ ):**

$$\frac{\forall x. \varphi(x)}{\varphi(t)}$$

**Existential Introduction ( $\exists I$ ):**

$$\frac{\varphi(t)}{\exists x. \varphi(x)}$$

**Existential Elimination ( $\exists E$ ):**

$$\frac{\exists x. \varphi(x) \quad [\varphi(a)] \dots \psi}{\psi}$$

Where  $a$  is fresh and doesn't occur in  $\psi$ .

# Interactive Theorem Provers

Modern mathematics increasingly uses *interactive theorem provers* — computer systems that assist in constructing and verifying formal proofs.

*Examples (Major Systems):*

## **Lean 4:**

- Functional programming
- Dependent types
- Growing math library

## **Coq:**

- Constructive logic
- Curry-Howard correspondence
- Machine-checked proofs

## **Isabelle/HOL:**

- Higher-order logic
- Automated tactics
- Large formalizations

*Example:* Major theorems *proven* in interactive systems:

- Four Color Theorem (Coq)
- Odd Order Theorem (Coq)
- Kepler Conjecture (Isabelle/HOL)
- Liquid Tensor Experiment (Lean)

# Completeness and Decidability

**Theorem 7** (Gödel): First-order logic is complete: every semantically valid formula is provable.

**Theorem 8** (Church): First-order logic is undecidable: there is no algorithm that determines whether an arbitrary first-order formula is valid.

## **The trade-off:**

- Propositional logic: decidable (SAT-solvable) but has *limited expressiveness*
- First-order logic: highly expressive but *undecidable*
- Higher-order logic: even more expressive but *incomplete*

# Applications and Connections

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*Example (Logic in Computer Science):*

## **Verification:**

- Program correctness
- Hardware verification
- Protocol analysis
- Security properties

## **Databases:**

- Query languages (SQL)
- Integrity constraints
- Deductive databases

## **AI and Knowledge Representation:**

- Expert systems
- Automated planning
- Semantic web (RDF, OWL)
- Natural language processing

## **Programming Languages:**

- Type systems
- Specification languages
- Logic programming (Prolog)

## Summary: The Logical Landscape

| Logic         | Expressiveness | Decidability | Completeness |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Propositional | Basic          | ✓            | ✓            |
| First-Order   | High           | ✗            | ✓            |
| Second-Order  | Very High      | ✗            | ✗            |
| Higher-Order  | Maximum        | ✗            | ✗            |

### Key insights:

- Syntax and semantics can be perfectly aligned (completeness)
- Expressiveness comes at the cost of decidability
- Formal logic provides foundations for mathematical reasoning and computation
- Interactive theorem provers make formal logic practically useful



## Looking Forward

### **Next topics in advanced logic:**

- Modal logic (necessity, possibility, knowledge, belief)
- Temporal logic (time, concurrency, reactive systems)
- Intuitionistic logic (constructive mathematics)
- Linear logic (resource-aware reasoning)
- Description logics (knowledge representation, semantic web)

### **Connections to other areas:**

- Computability theory and complexity
- Category theory and type theory
- Model theory and set theory
- Philosophical logic and foundations of mathematics

# TODO

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- ...