

Syntax & Semantics (Simple)

Topic 1 Section 1

Propositions & Basic
Set Theoretic Symbols

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1 What Are Propositions?

A *proposition* is a declarative statement that is either true or false, but not both.

Propositional logic focuses on the relationships between these propositions and how they can be combined using logical operators.

2 Logical Operators

Symbol	What it Means	Notes
$\neg P$	Not P	
$P \wedge Q$	P and Q	\wedge looks like a capital A for ‘and’.
$P \vee Q$	P or Q (inclusive)	If either one or both of are true, the statement $P \vee Q$ is true.
$P \rightarrow Q$	P implies Q	
$P \longleftrightarrow Q$	P is true if, and only if, Q is true. $(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P)$ $(P \wedge Q) \vee (\neg P \wedge \neg Q)$	‘If and only if’ is commonly shortened to ‘iff’.

This table will be expanded and improved overtime.

3 Set-theoretic Symbols

Symbol	Meaning	Example
\forall	For all values of x	$\forall x(x \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow x^2 \in \mathbb{R})$
\exists	There exists at least one value	$\exists x(x \in \mathbb{R} \wedge x^2 = 4)$
\in	Is an element of	$5 \in \{3, 5, 7\}$
\notin	Is not an element of.	$4 \notin \{3, 5, 7\}$
\subseteq	Is a subset of $S \subseteq T \longleftrightarrow \forall x(x \in S \rightarrow x \in T)$	$\{3, 7\} \subseteq \{3, 5, 7\}$ $\{3, 5, 7\} \subseteq \{3, 5, 7\}$
$\not\subseteq$	Is not a subset of $S \not\subseteq T \longleftrightarrow \exists x(x \in S \wedge x \notin T)$	$\{1, 2, 3\} \not\subseteq \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$
\subset	Is a strict subset of $S \subset T \longleftrightarrow (S \subseteq T \wedge S \neq T)$	$\{1, 3, 5\} \subset \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$
$\not\subset$	Is not a strict subset of $S \not\subset T \longleftrightarrow (S \not\subseteq T \vee S = T)$	$\{3, 5, 7\} \not\subset \{3, 5, 7\}$
\cup	Union $S \cup T = \{x : x \in S \vee x \in T\}$	$\{1, 3\} \cup \{5, 7\} = \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$
\cap	Intersection $S \cap T = \{x : x \in S \wedge x \in T\}$	$\{1, 2, 3\} \cap \{2, 3, 4\} = \{2, 3\}$ $\{1, 2, 3\} \cap \{4, 5, 6\} = \emptyset$
\setminus	Set difference $S \setminus T = \{x : x \in S \wedge x \notin T\}$	$\{1, 2, 3, 4\} \setminus \{2, 3\} = \{1, 4\}$

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