
Propositional Logic

1.1

Proposition

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

- *Remember that a declarative sentence is a sentence that declares a fact!*

Determine which sentences are propositions:

1. $7 - 4 = 3$

Yes

5. $x + y = 3$

No. B/c x & y are unknown,
cant determine True/False

1. Odin is on our side.

Yes (T or F)

~~6. $x = 7$~~

1. What is a Viking's favorite food?

No (questions are

never propositions)

7. Obey the Viking Code!

No (Declaration)

1. Every Saxon is under attack.

Yes

8. $8/2 = 5$

Yes

Propositional Variables

Propositional Variables are variables used to denote propositions.

- conventional letters for propositional variables are p, q, r, s
- sometimes other letters are used but capital letters should never be used as they will be reserved for propositional functions.

Example: "Thor's hammer is named Mjölnir" could be denoted as **p** .

- At this point, anytime you see **p** , you know it means "Thor's hammer is named Mjölnir"

Negation of p

Consider a proposition, p . The negation of p is denoted by $\neg p$.

- In English, it is read as "It is not the case that p ."

" \neg " means "logical not"

Let's Negate!

1. Ronnie likes Taco Bell.

r : Ronnie likes taco bell

$\neg r$: it is not the case that ronnie likes taco bell

(aka: Ronnie doesn't like taco bell)

1. "Thor's hammer is not named Mjölnir"



let this be $\neg m$

m : Thor's hammer is named Mjölnir

$\neg(\neg m) \equiv m$

The 3 lines here means logically
equivalent to

Truth Values and Truth Tables

A **proposition** can be either **True (T)** or **False(F)**.

1. Suppose we have a proposition p . Create a truth table for p and $\neg p$

p	$\neg p$
T	F
F	T

Conjunctions and Disjunctions

Let p and q be propositions:

- A **conjunction** of p and q is the statement " p and q "
 - it is denoted as $p \wedge q$
 - **Both** p and q must be true for $p \wedge q$ to be true.

$$p \wedge q \equiv p \text{ and } q$$

- A **disjunction** of p and q is the statement " p or q "
 - it is denoted as $p \vee q$
 - $p \vee q$ is true whenever p is true, q is true, or both p, q are true

■ inclusive or *in apcs, regular or*

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

Examples

Let p be the statement "Ronnie has 3 cats"

Let q be the statement "Ronnie does crossfit"

1. Find $p \vee q$ *Ronnie has 3 cats or Ronnie does crossfit*
2. Find $\neg p \wedge q$ *Ronnie doesn't have 3 cats and does crossfit*

Translate into propositional logic

Always define propositional statement!

1. My first cat is Hazelnut and my second cat is Pistachio.

h

p

1. Thor is a deceiver or Loki is a deceiver.

\dagger

\downarrow

Exclusive Or (XOR)

Let p and q be propositions:

- The **exclusive or** of p and q is the statement $p \text{ XOR } q$
 - sometimes abbreviated as $p \oplus q$
 - Note that $p \oplus q$ is true only when exactly one of p, q is true. It is false otherwise.
 - Also note that $p \oplus q$ can be written as $(p \vee q) \wedge \neg(p \wedge q)$

1. Let p and q be the propositions that state "A student can have a salad with dinner" and "A student can have soup with dinner," respectively. What is $p \oplus q$, the exclusive or of p and q ?

Student can have salad w/ dinner or student can have soup w/ dinner, but not both

1. Why is the statement "I will use all my savings to travel to Europe or to buy an electric car" an example of **exclusive or**?

Infer xor b/c you can only use "all my savings" on 1 thing.