

# Cheatsheet - (First-order) Predicate & Propositional Logic

Fabio Lama – fabio.lama@pm.me

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## 1. Intro

**Predicates** describe properties of objects.

For example:

$$\text{odd}(3)$$

$\text{odd}(3)$  means 3 is an odd number.  $\text{odd}$  is a predicate, 3 is an object. Predicates take arguments and become **propositions**. A proposition is a statement that can be either *true* or *false*. It must be one or the other, and it cannot be both.

Connectives can be applied:

$$\text{odd}(3) \wedge \text{prime}(3)$$

This means that 3 is odd but also prime.

## 2. Syntax

Propositions are denoted by capital letters, such as  $P, Q, \dots$ . General statements are denoted by lowercase letters, such as  $p, q, \dots$

## 3. Connectives

**Logical NOT:**  $\neg p$  is true if and only if  $p$  is false (also called *negation*).

**Logical OR:**  $p \vee q$  is true if and only if at least one of  $p$  or  $q$  is true or if both  $p$  and  $q$  are true (also called *disjunction*).

**Logical AND:**  $p \wedge q$  is true if and only if both  $p$  and  $q$  are true (also called *conjunction*).

**Logical IF...THEN:**  $p \rightarrow q$  is true if and only if either  $p$  is false or  $q$  is true (also called *conditional* or *implication*).  $p$  is the premise,  $q$  is the conclusion.

**Logical IF and only IF:**  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is true if and only if both  $p$  and  $q$  are true (also called *bi-conditional*).

**Exclusive OR: XOR:**  $p \oplus q$  is true if  $p$  or  $q$  is true but not both.

### 3.1. Translation to Connectives

As an example, let's consider the propositions:

- $P$  = I study 20 hours a week
- $R$  = I will pass the exam
- $S$  = I will be happy
- $Q$  = I attend all the lectures

And the following connectives:

$$(P \vee Q) \rightarrow (R \wedge S)$$

which is a translation of: "If I study 20 hours a week **or** attend all the lectures, **then** I will pass the exam **and** I will be happy."

## 4. Truth Tables

### 4.1. Negation: $\neg$

$$\text{true} = \neg \text{false}$$

$$\text{false} = \neg \text{true}$$

### 4.2. Conjunction: $\wedge$

$$\text{true} \wedge \text{true} = \text{true}$$

$$\text{true} \wedge \text{false} = \text{false}$$

$$\text{false} \wedge \text{true} = \text{false}$$

$$\text{false} \wedge \text{false} = \text{false}$$

### 4.3. Disjunction: $\vee$

$$\text{true} \vee \text{true} = \text{true}$$

$$\text{true} \vee \text{false} = \text{true}$$

$$\text{false} \vee \text{true} = \text{true}$$

$$\text{false} \vee \text{false} = \text{false}$$

#### 4.4. Implication: $\rightarrow$

$$\text{true} \rightarrow \text{true} = \text{true}$$

$$\text{true} \rightarrow \text{false} = \text{false}$$

$$\text{false} \rightarrow \text{true} = \text{true}$$

$$\text{false} \rightarrow \text{false} = \text{true}$$

##### NOTE

This can seem weird at first, this answer helps: <https://math.stackexchange.com/a/100288>

“If you start out with a false premise, then, as far as implication is concerned, you are free to conclude anything. (This corresponds to the fact that, when  $p$  is false, the implication  $p \rightarrow q$  is true no matter what  $q$  is.)

“If you start out with a true premise, then the implication should be true only when the conclusion is also true. (This corresponds to the fact that, when  $p$  is true, the truth of the implication is the same as the truth of  $q$ .)

Additionally, let  $p$  and  $q$  be propositions and  $A$  the conditional statement:

$$p \rightarrow q$$

then:

- $p$  is called the **hypothesis** (or antecedent or premise) and  $q$  is called the **conclusion** (or consequence).
- The proposition  $q \rightarrow p$  is the **converse** of  $A$ .
- The proposition  $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$  is the **contrapositive** of  $A$ .

#### 4.5. Bi-conditional: $\leftrightarrow$

$$1 \leftrightarrow 1 = 1$$

$$1 \leftrightarrow 0 = 0$$

$$0 \leftrightarrow 1 = 0$$

$$0 \leftrightarrow 0 = 1$$

#### 4.6. Exclusive or: XOR, $\oplus$

$$1 \oplus 1 = 0$$

$$1 \oplus 0 = 1$$

$$0 \oplus 1 = 1$$

$$0 \oplus 0 = 0$$

### 5. Operator Precedence

Operators are applied in the following order (ascending):

1.  $\neg$
2.  $\wedge$
3.  $\vee$
4.  $\rightarrow$
5.  $\leftrightarrow$

For example:

$$p \rightarrow p \wedge \neg q \vee s \equiv (p \rightarrow ((p \wedge (\neg q)) \vee s))$$

### 6. Descriptors

A formula that's always true is called a **tautology**. A formula that is true for at least one scenario is **consistent**. A formula that's never true is **inconsistent**. A formula can also result in a **contradiction**.

## 7. Equivalances

Formulas are equivalent if they result in the same logical outcomes.

For example (*De Morgan's Laws*):

$$\neg(p \wedge q) \equiv \neg p \vee \neg q$$
$$\neg(p \vee q) \equiv \neg p \wedge \neg q$$

For example:

$$\neg(true \wedge true) \equiv false \vee false \equiv false$$
$$\neg true \vee \neg true \equiv \neg(true \wedge true) = \neg true = false$$

## 8. Quantifiers

We use the symbol  $\exists$  to indicate the existence of something (**existential quantifier**).

$$\exists x \text{ odd}(x)$$

This means that there exists some  $x$  that is odd.

We denote the **universal quantifier** as  $\forall$ .

$$\forall x(\text{odd}(x) \vee \text{even}(x))$$

This meant that **for all**  $x$  the number is either even or odd.

Other examples, "All Ps are Qs":

$$\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

And "No Ps are Qs":

$$\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow \neg Q(x))$$

### 8.1. Quantifiers to Connectives

$\exists x, P(x)$  where  $x \in \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  means that there exists some  $x$  for which  $P(x)$  is true.

Denoted alternatively:

$$\exists x, P(x) \equiv P(x_1) \vee P(x_2) \vee \dots \vee P(x_n)$$

We can also conclude:

$$\neg \exists x, P(x) \equiv \neg(P(x_1) \vee P(x_2) \vee \dots \vee P(x_n))$$
$$\neg \exists x, P(x) \equiv \neg P(x_1) \wedge \neg P(x_2) \wedge \dots \wedge \neg P(x_n)$$
$$\neg \exists x, P(x) \equiv \forall x, \neg P(x)$$

#### 8.1.1. De Morgan's Law for Negation

$$\neg \forall x P(x) \equiv \exists x \neg P(x)$$
$$\neg \exists x P(x) \equiv \forall x \neg P(x)$$

## 9. Laws of Propositional Logic

### 9.1. Logic 1

	Disjunction	Conjunction
idempotent laws	$p \vee p \equiv p$	$p \wedge p \equiv p$
commutative laws	$p \vee q \equiv q \vee p$	$p \wedge q \equiv q \wedge p$
associative laws	$(p \vee q) \vee r \equiv p \vee (q \vee r)$	$(p \wedge q) \wedge r \equiv p \wedge (q \wedge r)$
distributive laws	$p \vee (q \wedge r) \equiv (p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)$	$p \wedge (q \vee r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$
identity laws	$p \vee F \equiv p$	$p \wedge T \equiv p$
domination laws	$p \vee T \equiv T$	$p \wedge F \equiv F$

### 9.2. Logic 2

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	Disjunction	Conjunction
De Morgan's laws	$\neg(p \vee q) \equiv \neg p \wedge \neg q$	$\neg(p \wedge q) \equiv \neg p \vee \neg q$
absorption laws	$p \vee (p \wedge q) \equiv p$	$p \wedge (p \vee q) \equiv p$
negation laws	$p \vee \neg p \equiv T$	$p \wedge \neg p \equiv F$
double negation law	$\neg \neg p \equiv p$	