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# Satisfiability Checking

## 02 Propositional logic I

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## 02 Propositional logic I

- 1 Syntax of propositional logic
- 2 Semantics of propositional logic
- 3 Satisfiability and validity

# Syntax of propositional logic

**Abstract syntax** of well-formed propositional formulae:

$$\varphi := a \mid (\neg\varphi) \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi)$$

where  $AP$  is a set of (atomic) **propositions** (Boolean variables) and  $a \in AP$ .  
We write **PropForm** for the set of all propositional logic formulae.

**Syntactic sugar:**

$$\begin{aligned}\perp &:= (a \wedge \neg a) \\ \top &:= (a \vee \neg a) \\ (\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) &:= \neg((\neg\varphi_1) \wedge (\neg\varphi_2)) \\ (\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2) &:= ((\neg\varphi_1) \vee \varphi_2) \\ (\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2) &:= ((\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2) \wedge (\varphi_2 \rightarrow \varphi_1)) \\ (\varphi_1 \oplus \varphi_2) &:= (\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow (\neg\varphi_2))\end{aligned}$$

- Examples of **well-formed** formulae:

- $(\neg a)$
- $(\neg(\neg a))$
- $(a \wedge (b \wedge c))$
- $(a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c))$

- We omit parentheses whenever we may restore them through operator precedence:

binds stronger



$\neg \quad \wedge \quad \vee \quad \rightarrow \quad \leftrightarrow$

- We will also use the “big” Boolean notation, e.g.

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^5 x_i \quad \text{is defined as} \quad x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3 \wedge x_4 \wedge x_5 .$$

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# Semantics: Assignments

**Structures** for predicate logic:

- The **domain** is  $\mathbb{B} = \{0, 1\}$ .
- The **interpretation** assigns Boolean values to the variables:

$$\alpha : AP \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

We call these special interpretations **assignments** and use *Assign* to denote the set of all assignments.

**Example:**  $AP = \{a, b\}, \alpha(a) = 0, \alpha(b) = 1$

Equivalently, we can see an assignment  $\alpha$  as a set of variables ( $\alpha \in 2^{AP}$ ), defining the variables from the set to be true and the others false.

**Example:**  $AP = \{a, b\}, \alpha = \{b\}$

An assignment can also be seen as being of type  $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}^{AP}$ , if we have an order on the propositions.

**Example:**  $AP = \{a, b\}, \alpha = 01$

# Only the projected assignment matters...

- Let  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \text{Assign}$  and  $\varphi \in \text{PropForm}$ .
- Let  $AP(\varphi)$  be the atomic propositions in  $\varphi$ .
- Clearly  $AP(\varphi) \subseteq AP$ .
- **Lemma:** if  $\alpha_1|_{AP(\varphi)} = \alpha_2|_{AP(\varphi)}$ , then



Projection

$(\alpha_1 \text{ satisfies } \varphi) \text{ iff } (\alpha_2 \text{ satisfies } \varphi)$

- We will assume, for simplicity, that  $AP = AP(\varphi)$ .



# Semantics I: Truth tables

- **Truth tables** define the semantics (=meaning) of the operators. They can be used to define the semantics of formulae inductively over their structure.
- Convention: 0 = false, 1 = true

$$a \oplus b = (\neg a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge \neg b)$$

$p$	$q$	$\neg p$	$p \wedge q$	$p \vee q$	$p \rightarrow q$	$p \leftrightarrow q$	$p \oplus q$
0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0

Each possible assignment is covered by a line of the truth table.

$\alpha$  satisfies  $\varphi$  iff in the line for  $\alpha$  and the column for  $\varphi$  the entry is 1.

Q: How many binary operators can we define that have different semantics?

A: 16

# Semantics I: Example

- Let  $\varphi$  be defined as  $(a \vee (b \rightarrow c))$ .
- Let  $\alpha : \{a, b, c\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  be an assignment with  $\alpha(a) = 0$ ,  $\alpha(b) = 0$ , and  $\alpha(c) = 1$ .
- Q: Does  $\alpha$  satisfy  $\varphi$ ?
- A1: Compute with truth table:

$a$	$b$	$c$	$b \rightarrow c$	$a \vee (b \rightarrow c)$
0	0	0	1	1
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	1	1	1

# Semantics II: Satisfaction relation

满足符

**Satisfaction relation:**  $\models \subseteq \text{Assign} \times \text{PropForm}$

Instead of  $(\alpha, \varphi) \in \models$  we write  $\alpha \models \varphi$  and say that

- $\alpha$  satisfies  $\varphi$  or
- $\varphi$  holds for  $\alpha$  or
- $\alpha$  is a model of  $\varphi$ .

$\models$  is defined recursively:

$\alpha \models p$	iff	$\alpha(p) = \text{true}$
$\alpha \models \neg\varphi$	iff	$\alpha \not\models \varphi$
$\alpha \models \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$	iff	$\alpha \models \varphi_1$ and $\alpha \models \varphi_2$
$\alpha \models \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$	iff	$\alpha \models \varphi_1$ or $\alpha \models \varphi_2$
$\alpha \models \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2$	iff	$\alpha \models \varphi_1$ implies $\alpha \models \varphi_2$
$\alpha \models \varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2$	iff	$\alpha \models \varphi_1$ iff $\alpha \models \varphi_2$

**Note:** More elegant but semantically equivalent to truth tables.

## Semantics II: Example

- Let  $\varphi$  be defined as  $(a \vee (b \rightarrow c))$ .
- Let  $\alpha : \{a, b, c\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  be an assignment with  $\alpha(a) = 0$ ,  $\alpha(b) = 0$ , and  $\alpha(c) = 1$ .
- Q: Does  $\alpha$  satisfy  $\varphi$ ?

A2: Compute with the satisfaction relation:

$$\alpha \models (a \vee (b \rightarrow c))$$

$$\text{iff } \alpha \models a \text{ or } \alpha \models (b \rightarrow c)$$

$$\text{iff } \alpha \models a \text{ or } (\alpha \models b \text{ implies } \alpha \models c)$$

$$\text{iff } 0 \text{ or } (0 \text{ implies } 1)$$

$$\text{iff } 0 \text{ or } 1$$

$$\text{iff } 1$$

## Semantics III: The algorithmic view

- Using the satisfaction relation we can define an **algorithm** for the problem to decide whether an assignment  $\alpha : AP \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is a model of a propositional logic formula  $\varphi \in PropForm$ :

```
Eval( $\alpha, \varphi$ ) {  
    if  $\varphi \equiv a$  return  $\alpha(a)$ ;  
    if  $\varphi \equiv (\neg\varphi_1)$  return not Eval( $\alpha, \varphi_1$ );  
    if  $\varphi \equiv (\varphi_1 \text{ op } \varphi_2)$   
        return Eval( $\alpha, \varphi_1$ ) [op] Eval( $\alpha, \varphi_2$ );  
}
```

- Equivalent to the  $\models$  relation, but from the algorithmic view.
- Q: Complexity? A: **Polynomial** (time and space).

- Recall our example

- $\varphi = (a \vee (b \rightarrow c))$

- $\alpha : \{a, b, c\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  with  $\alpha(a) = 0$ ,  $\alpha(b) = 0$ , and  $\alpha(c) = 1$ .

- $$\begin{aligned} \text{Eval}(\alpha, \varphi) &= \text{Eval}(\alpha, a) \text{ or } \text{Eval}(\alpha, b \rightarrow c) = \\ &0 \text{ or } (\text{Eval}(\alpha, b) \text{ implies } \text{Eval}(\alpha, c)) = \\ &0 \text{ or } (0 \text{ implies } 1) = \\ &0 \text{ or } 1 = \\ &1 \end{aligned}$$

- Hence,  $\alpha \models \varphi$ .

# Satisfying assignments

- Intuition: each formula specifies a **set of assignments** satisfying it.
- Remember: *Assign* denotes the set of all assignments.
- Function  $\text{sat} : \text{PropForm} \rightarrow 2^{\text{Assign}}$   
(a formula  $\rightarrow$  set of its satisfying assignments)
- Recursive definition:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{sat}(a) &= \{\alpha \mid \alpha(a) = 1\}, \quad a \in AP \\ \text{sat}(\neg\varphi_1) &= \text{Assign} \setminus \text{sat}(\varphi_1) \\ \text{sat}(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) &= \text{sat}(\varphi_1) \cap \text{sat}(\varphi_2) \\ \text{sat}(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) &= \text{sat}(\varphi_1) \cup \text{sat}(\varphi_2) \\ \text{sat}(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2) &= (\text{Assign} \setminus \text{sat}(\varphi_1)) \cup \text{sat}(\varphi_2)\end{aligned}$$

- For  $\varphi \in \text{PropForm}$  and  $\alpha \in \text{Assign}$  it holds that

$$\alpha \models \varphi \quad \text{iff} \quad \alpha \in \text{sat}(\varphi)$$

# Satisfying assignments: Example

$$\text{sat}(a \vee (b \rightarrow c)) =$$

$$\text{sat}(a) \cup \text{sat}(b \rightarrow c) =$$

$$\text{sat}(a) \cup ((\text{Assign} \setminus \text{sat}(b)) \cup \text{sat}(c)) =$$

$$\{\alpha \in \text{Assign} \mid \alpha(a) = 1\} \cup$$

$$\{\alpha \in \text{Assign} \mid \alpha(b) = 0\} \cup$$

$$\{\alpha \in \text{Assign} \mid \alpha(c) = 1\} =$$

$$\{\alpha \in \text{Assign} \mid \alpha(a) = 1 \text{ or } \alpha(b) = 0 \text{ or } \alpha(c) = 1\}$$



# Extensions of $\models$

- We define  $\models \subseteq 2^{\text{Assign}} \times \text{PropForm}$  by

$$T \models \varphi \text{ iff } T \subseteq \text{sat}(\varphi)$$

for formulae  $\varphi \in \text{PropForm}$  and assignment sets  $T \subseteq 2^{\text{Assign}}$ .

Examples:  $\{\alpha \in \text{Assign} \mid \alpha(a) = \alpha(c) = 1\} \models a \vee (b \rightarrow c)$   
 $\{\alpha \in \text{Assign} \mid \alpha(x_1) = 1\} \models x_1 \vee x_2$

- We define  $\models \subseteq \text{PropForm} \times \text{PropForm}$  by

$$\varphi_1 \models \varphi_2 \text{ iff } \text{sat}(\varphi_1) \subseteq \text{sat}(\varphi_2)$$

for formulae  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in \text{PropForm}$ .

Examples:  $a \wedge c \models a \vee (b \rightarrow c)$   
 $x_1 \models x_1 \vee x_2$

# Short summary for propositional logic syntax and semantics

- **Syntax** of propositional formulae  $\varphi \in PropForm$ :

$$\varphi := AP \mid (\neg\varphi) \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi)$$

- **Semantics**:

- **Assignments**  $\alpha \in Assign$ :

$$\alpha : AP \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

$$\alpha \in 2^{AP}$$

$$\alpha \in \{0, 1\}^{AP}$$

- **Satisfaction relation**:

$$\models \subseteq Assign \times PropForm \quad , \quad (\text{e.g., } \alpha \models \varphi)$$

$$\models \subseteq 2^{Assign} \times PropForm \quad , \quad (\text{e.g., } \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\} \models \varphi)$$

$$\models \subseteq PropForm \times PropForm, \quad (\text{e.g., } \varphi_1 \models \varphi_2)$$

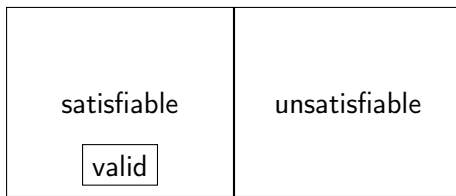
$$sat : PropForm \rightarrow 2^{Assign} \quad , \quad (\text{e.g., } sat(\varphi))$$

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# Semantic classification of formulae

- A formula  $\varphi$  is called **valid** if  $\text{sat}(\varphi) = \text{Assign}$ .  
(Also called a **tautology**).
- A formula  $\varphi$  is called **satisfiable** if  $\text{sat}(\varphi) \neq \emptyset$ .
- A formula  $\varphi$  is called **unsatisfiable** if  $\text{sat}(\varphi) = \emptyset$ .  
(Also called a **contradiction**).



- We can write:
  - $\models \varphi$  when  $\varphi$  is **valid**
  - $\not\models \varphi$  when  $\varphi$  is **not valid**
  - $\not\models \neg\varphi$  when  $\varphi$  is **satisfiable**
  - $\models \neg\varphi$  when  $\varphi$  is **unsatisfiable**

# Examples

■  $(x_1 \wedge x_2) \rightarrow (x_1 \vee x_2)$

is valid

■  $(x_1 \vee x_2) \rightarrow x_1$

is satisfiable

■  $(x_1 \wedge x_2) \wedge \neg x_1$

is unsatisfiable

- Here are some valid formulae:

- $\models a \wedge 1 \leftrightarrow a$
- $\models a \wedge 0 \leftrightarrow 0$
- $\models \neg\neg a \leftrightarrow a$  (double-negation rule)
- $\models a \wedge (b \vee c) \leftrightarrow (a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge c)$

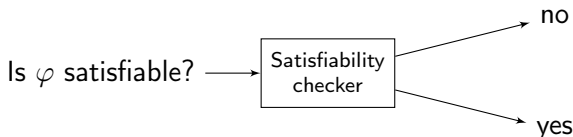
- Some more (De Morgan rules):

- $\models \neg(a \wedge b) \leftrightarrow (\neg a \vee \neg b)$
- $\models \neg(a \vee b) \leftrightarrow (\neg a \wedge \neg b)$

# The satisfiability problem for propositional logic

- The **satisfiability problem** for propositional logic is as follows:  
*Given an input propositional formula  $\varphi$ , decide whether  $\varphi$  is satisfiable.*
- This problem is decidable but **NP-complete**.
- An algorithm that always terminates for each propositional logic formula with the correct answer is called a **decision procedure** for propositional logic.

**Goal:** Design and implement such a decision procedure:



**Note:** A formula  $\varphi$  is valid iff  $\neg\varphi$  is unsatisfiable.



- What are the rules to (syntactically) build propositional logic formulas?
- How to interpret propositional logic formulas...
  - ... using truth tables?
  - ... using the satisfaction relation?
  - ... algorithmically by the Eval function?
- How to compute the set of all satisfying assignments recursively by the sat function?
- When is a propositional logic formula valid, satisfiable or unsatisfiable?