

# Session 2: Implication and Compound Propositions

- Logical connectives
  - Implication
  - Biconditional
- Compound propositions
  - Precendence
  - Tautologies, Contradictions, and Contingencies
  - Truth tables

# Implication

Let  $p$  and  $q$  be propositions. The *conditional statement*  $p \rightarrow q$  is the proposition “if  $p$ , then  $q$ .” The conditional statement  $p \rightarrow q$  is false when  $p$  is true and  $q$  is false, and true otherwise. In the conditional statement  $p \rightarrow q$ ,  $p$  is called the *hypothesis* (or *antecedent* or *premise*) and  $q$  is called the *conclusion* (or *consequence*).

$p$  : hypothesis , premise , antecedent  
 $q$  : conclusion , consequence

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## Example

$p :=$  “The earth is round” (T)

$q :=$  “The moon is round” (T)

$r :=$  “The moon is made of green cheese” (F)

$$\begin{array}{ll} p \rightarrow q & (\top) \\ p \rightarrow r & (\top) \\ r \rightarrow p & (\top) \\ r \rightarrow \neg p & (\top) \end{array}$$



# Understanding Implication

Implication does not require any connection between the antecedent and the consequent

If the moon is made of green cheese , Then I have more money  
than Bill Gates ( $\top$ )  
                , Then I am on welfare ( $\top$ )

# Understanding Implication

- One way to view the logical conditional is to think of an obligation or contract
  - Politician: “If I am elected, then I will lower taxes.”

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  - Politician: “If I am elected, then I will lower taxes.”
- If the politician is elected and does not lower taxes, then the voters can say that he or she has broken the campaign pledge.
- If the politician is not elected, no one cares ...

# Understanding Implication

- If  $p$  is false, a conditional statement  $p \rightarrow q$  is always true
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- If  $p$  is false, a conditional statement  $p \rightarrow q$  is always true
  - “If the moon is made of green cheese, then ....”
- If  $q$  is true, a conditional statement  $p \rightarrow q$  is always true
  - “If ...., then  $1+1 = 2$ ”

# Properties of Implication

$p \rightarrow q$  is different from  $q \rightarrow p$ : this is a common logical fallacy

- “If the moon is made of green cheese, then the earth is round”
- “If the earth is round, then the moon is made of green cheese”

# Implication in Natural Language



- Conditional statements are at the heart of any logical reasoning
- Therefore you find many ways how they are expressed

“if  $p$ , then  $q$ ”

“if  $p$ ,  $q$ ”

“ $p$  is sufficient for  $q$ ”

“ $q$  if  $p$ ”

“ $q$  when  $p$ ”

“a necessary condition for  $p$  is  $q$ ”

“ $q$  unless  $\neg p$ ”

“ $p$  implies  $q$ ”

“ $p$  only if  $q$ ”

“a sufficient condition for  $q$  is  $p$ ”

“ $q$  whenever  $p$ ”

“ $q$  is necessary for  $p$ ”

“ $q$  follows from  $p$ ”

“ $q$  provided that  $p$ ”

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- A **necessary condition** for  $p$  is  $q$
- A **sufficient condition** for  $q$  is  $p$

Take  $q := x > 10$ ; What is a necessary condition?  
e.g.  $x > 20$ , i.e.  $x > 20 \rightarrow \underline{x > 10}$

and  $x > 20$  is a sufficient condition for  $x > 10$

# Implication in Mathematical Language

- In mathematics  $p \rightarrow q$  is often formulated as
  - A **necessary condition** for  $p$  is  $q$
  - A **sufficient condition** for  $q$  is  $p$
- What if  $p$  is a necessary and sufficient condition for  $q$ ?

# Biconditional

Let  $p$  and  $q$  be propositions. The *biconditional statement*  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is the proposition “ $p$  if and only if  $q$ .” The biconditional statement  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is true when  $p$  and  $q$  have the same truth values, and is false otherwise. Biconditional statements are also called *bi-implications*.

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## Example

$p$  := “The earth is round” (T)

$p \leftrightarrow q$  (T)

$q$  := “The moon is round” (T)

# Expressing the Biconditional

- Some alternative ways “ $p$  if and only if  $q$ ” is expressed in English:
  - $p$  is necessary and sufficient for  $q$
  - if  $p$  then  $q$  , and conversely
  - $p$  iff  $q$

# Biconditional in Natural Language



- In natural language the biconditional is often implicit

“If you finish your meal, then you can have a dessert”

- also premise and conclusion need no connection !

The earth is round if and only if Bill Gates is billionaire !

# Precendence in Compound Propositions

- We can compose complex logical expressions from simpler ones

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

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

- To simplify notation **precedence** is used
- Examples

**TABLE 8**  
**Precedence of Logical Operators.**

<i>Operator</i>	<i>Precedence</i>
$\neg$	1
$\wedge$	2
$\vee$	3
$\rightarrow$	4
$\leftrightarrow$	5

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$$\neg p \vee q \equiv (\neg p) \vee q \text{ different from } \neg(p \vee q)$$

$$p \rightarrow q \vee \neg r \equiv p \rightarrow (q \vee (\neg r)) \text{, different from }$$

$$(p \rightarrow q) \vee (\neg r)$$

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# Truth Tables For Compound Propositions

- Construction of a truth table
  - A row for every possible combination of values for the atomic propositions
  - A column for the compound proposition (usually at far right)
  - A column for the truth value of each sub-expression that occurs in the compound proposition; this includes the atomic propositions

A systematic method for determining whether a proposition is tautology, contradiction, contingency and satisfiable.

# Example

TABLE 7 The Truth Table of  $(p \vee \neg q) \rightarrow (p \wedge q)$ .

$p$	$q$	$\neg q$	$p \vee \neg q$	$p \wedge q$	$(p \vee \neg q) \rightarrow (p \wedge q)$
T	T	F	T	T	T
T	F	T	T	F	F
F	T	F	F	F	T
F	F	T	T	F	F

# Tautologies, Contradictions, and Contingencies

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- A **contradiction** is a proposition which is always false
  - Example:  $p \wedge \neg p$
- A **contingency** is a proposition which is neither a tautology nor a contradiction
  - Example:  $p$  , truth value depends on assignment of truth values to the propositional variables

# Propositional Satisfiability

- A compound proposition is **satisfiable** if there is an assignment of truth values to its variables that make it true
  - Either a tautology ~~or~~ a contingency
    - or*

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# Propositional Satisfiability

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  - A compound proposition is unsatisfiable if and only if its negation is a tautology
- Modeling a problem as propositional statement and asking for satisfiability corresponds to asking: is there a solution?

Compound Expression

called

Example

always true

Tautology

$$P \vee \top P$$

true/false , depending  
on truth values of atomic  
propositions

Contingency

$$\top$$

always false

Contradiction

$$\top \wedge \neg \top$$

Satisfiable  
(solution exists)

Unsatisfiable

# Examples

Determine the satisfiability of the following compound propositions:

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

*satisfiable : p = T , q = T , r = T*

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

*satisfiable : p = T , q = F*

# Summary

- Implication
- Biconditional
- Precedence
- Tautologies, Contradictions, and Contingencies
- Truth tables for Compound Propositions

Next: Logical Equivalences

Terminology: an implication

if my age is more than 20 , then my age is more than 10  
a sufficient condition for my age being 10, is that I am 20  
a necessary condition for my age being 20, is that I have to

if it rains, I take an umbrella

a sufficient condition to take an umbrella, is that it rains

a necessary condition for that it rains, is that I take an umbrella

(hidden causality assumption)

## Example : translating a problem from NL to PL

9. Are these system specifications consistent? "The system is in multiuser state if and only if it is operating normally.  
If the system is operating normally, the kernel is functioning. The kernel is not functioning or the system is in interrupt mode. If the system is not in multiuser state, then it is in interrupt mode. The system is not in interrupt mode."

① Identify the statements and assign propositional variables.

$m$  := The system is in multi-user state

$n$  := The system is operating normally

$le$  := The kernel is functioning

$i$  := The system is in interrupt mode

② Identifying the compound statements

$m \leftrightarrow n$ ,  $n \rightarrow le$ ,  $\neg le \oplus i$ ,  $\neg m \rightarrow i$ ,  $\neg i$

③ Are these statements consistent?

$$m \leftrightarrow n, n \rightarrow k, \neg k \oplus i, \neg m \rightarrow i, \neg i$$

Consistent means that there exists an assignment of truth

values that makes all statements true (i.e. satisfiable)

Method 1 write down truth tables: 4 variables  $\rightarrow$  16 rows  
systematic, but boring and slow

Method 2 perform some reasoning

$\neg i$  therefore  $i$  must be  $F$

$\neg m \rightarrow i$  since  $i$  is  $F$ ,  $\neg m$  must be  $F$ , or  $m$  must be  $T$

$m \leftrightarrow n$  since  $m$  is  $T$ , also  $n$  is  $T$

$n \rightarrow k$  since  $n$  is  $T$ ,  $k$  must be  $T$

$\neg k \oplus i$  since  $\neg k$  is  $F$  and  $i$  is  $F$  this statement cannot be satisfied  $\rightarrow$  not consistent

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Method 2 perform some reasoning

$\neg i$  therefore  $i$  must be T

$\neg m \rightarrow i$  since  $i$  is T,  $\neg m$  must be T, or  $m$  must be F

$m \leftrightarrow n$  since  $m$  is F, also  $n$  is F

$n \rightarrow k$  since  $n$  is F,  $k$  can be T or F

$\neg k \oplus i$  since  $i$  is T,  $\neg k$  must be F, or  $k$  must be T

So we found an assignment that makes all statements T! Consistent!

## Boolean Queries

In text search engines, you can write queries like

lausanne AND university

lausanne AND (university OR studying) AND NOT unil

Corresponding Google syntax: (AND is implicit)

lausanne university | studying -unil

## Precedence

Assume you write a Boolean query

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lausanne AND university OR studying

$$l \wedge u \vee s \equiv (l \wedge u) \vee s$$

what does it mean?

That is why we used parenthesis in the previous example!