

**CS215: Discrete Math (H)**  
**2024 Fall Semester Written Assignment #1**  
**Due: Oct. 14th, 2024, please submit at the beginning of class**

Q.1 Let  $p$ ,  $q$  and  $r$  be the following propositions

$p$ : You get an A on the final exam.

$q$ : You do every exercise in this book.

$r$ : You get an A in this class.

Write these propositions using  $p$ ,  $q$ , and  $r$  and logical connectives (including negations).

- (a) You get an A in this class, but you do not do every exercise in this book.
- (b) To get an A in this class, it is necessary for you to get an A on the final.
- (c) You get an A on the final, but you don't do every exercise in this book; nevertheless, you get an A in this class.
- (d) Getting an A on the final and doing every exercise in this book is sufficient for getting an A in this class.
- (e) You will get an A in this class if and only if you either do every exercise in this book or you get an A on the final.

Q.2 Use truth tables to decide whether or not the following two propositions are equivalent.

- (a)  $(p \oplus q) \rightarrow (p \wedge q)$  and  $(p \oplus q) \rightarrow (p \oplus \neg q)$
- (b)  $p \leftrightarrow q$  and  $(p \wedge q) \vee (\neg p \wedge \neg q)$
- (c)  $(\neg q \wedge \neg(p \rightarrow q))$  and  $\neg p$
- (d)  $(p \rightarrow \neg q) \leftrightarrow (r \rightarrow (p \vee \neg q))$  and  $q \vee (\neg p \wedge \neg r)$

Q.3 Use logical equivalences to prove the following statements.

- (a)  $(p \wedge \neg q) \rightarrow r$  and  $p \rightarrow (q \vee r)$  are equivalent.

(b)  $((p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow r)) \rightarrow (p \rightarrow r)$  is a tautology.

Q.4 Show that  $(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow r$  and  $p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$  are not logically equivalent.

Q.5 Suppose that  $p, q, r, s$  are all propositions. You are given the following statement

$$(q \rightarrow (r \vee p)) \rightarrow ((\neg r \vee s) \wedge \neg s).$$

Prove that this implies  $\neg r$  using logical equivalences and inference rules.

Q.6 Let  $L(x, y)$  be the statement “ $x$  loves  $y$ ”, where the domain for both  $x$  and  $y$  consists of all people in the world. Use quantifiers to express each of these statement.

- (a) Everybody loves somebody.
- (b) There is somebody whom everybody loves.
- (c) Nobody loves everybody.
- (d) There is somebody whom no one loves.
- (e) There is exactly one person whom every body loves.
- (f) There are exactly two people whom Lynn loves.
- (g) There is someone who loves no one besides himself or herself.

Q.7 Suppose that variables  $x$  and  $y$  represent real numbers, and  $L(x, y) : x < y$ ,  $Q(x, y) : x = y$ ,  $E(x) : x$  is even,  $I(x) : x$  is an integer. Write the following statements using these predicates and any needed quantifiers.

- (1) Every integer is even.
- (2) If  $x < y$ , then  $x$  is not equal to  $y$ .
- (3) There is no largest real number.

Q.8 For the predicate  $P(x, y)$  with two variables  $x, y$ , answer the following two questions.

- (1) Give an example of a predicate  $P(x, y)$  such that  $\exists x \forall y P(x, y)$  and  $\forall y \exists x P(x, y)$  have *different* truth values.
- (2) If  $\forall y \exists x P(x, y)$  is true, does it necessarily follow that  $\exists x \forall y P(x, y)$  is true?

Q.9 Each of the two below contains a pair of statements, (i) and (ii). For each pair, say whether (i) is equivalent to (ii), i.e., for all  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$ , (i) is true if and only if (ii) is true. Here  $\mathbb{R}$  denotes the set of all *real numbers*.

If they are equivalent, *all you have to do is to say that they are equivalent*. If they are not equivalent, give a counterexample. A counterexample should involve a specification of  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  and an explanation as to why the resulting statement is false.

- (1) (i)  $(\forall x \in \mathbb{R} P(x)) \vee (\forall x \in \mathbb{R} Q(x))$   
(ii)  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} (P(x) \vee Q(x))$
- (2) (i)  $(\forall x \in \mathbb{R} P(x)) \wedge (\forall x \in \mathbb{R} Q(x))$   
(ii)  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} (P(x) \wedge Q(x))$
- (3) (i)  $(\forall x \in \mathbb{R} P(x)) \wedge (\exists y \in \mathbb{R} Q(y))$   
(ii)  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} (\exists y \in \mathbb{R} (P(x) \wedge Q(y)))$
- (4) (i)  $(\forall x \in \mathbb{R} P(x)) \vee (\exists y \in \mathbb{R} Q(y))$   
(ii)  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} (\exists y \in \mathbb{R} (P(x) \vee Q(y)))$

Q.10

- (a) Give the negation of the statement

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} (n^3 + 6n + 5 \text{ is odd} \rightarrow n \text{ is even}).$$

- (b) Either the original statement in (a) or its negation is true. Which one is it and explain why?

Q.11

- (a) Let  $P$  be a proposition in atomic propositions  $p$  and  $q$ . If  $P = \neg(p \leftrightarrow (q \vee \neg p))$ , prove that  $P$  is equivalent to  $\neg p \vee \neg q$ .

- (b) If  $P$  is of any length, using any of the logical connectives  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$ , prove that  $P$  is logically equivalent to a proposition of the form

$$A \square B,$$

where  $\square$  is one of  $\wedge, \vee, \leftrightarrow$ , and  $A$  and  $B$  are chosen from  $\{p, \neg p, q, \neg q\}$ .

Q.12 For the following argument, explain which rules of inference are used for each step.

“All movies produced by John Sayles are wonderful. John Sayles produced a movie about coal miners. Therefore, there is a wonderful movie about coal miners.”

Q.13 Prove or disprove the following.

- (1) For two irrational numbers  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $a^b$  is also irrational.
- (2) For an irrational number  $a$ ,  $\sqrt{a}$  is also irrational.
- (3) There is a rational number  $x$  and an irrational number  $y$  such that  $x^y$  is irrational.

Q.14 Suppose that we have a theorem: “ $\sqrt{n}$  is irrational whenever  $n$  is a positive integer that is *not* a perfect square.” Use this theorem to prove that  $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$  is irrational.

Q.15 Prove that between every rational number and every irrational number there is an irrational number.

Q.16 Give a direct proof that: Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers. If  $a^2 + b^2$  is even, then  $a + b$  is even.

Q.17 Let the coefficients of the polynomial  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + x^n$  be integers. Show that any *real* root of the equation  $f(x) = 0$  is either integral or irrational. Note that in your proof, you may direct use the following result without a proof. “**Fact.** If a prime  $p$  is a factor of some power of an integer, then it is a factor of that integer.”