

# Propositional Logic

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# Overview of the session

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- Definition of Logic

- Definition of Propositional Logic

- Syntax
- Semantics

# What is a Logic?

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**Logic** is defined by:

- **A set of sentences**
  - A sentence is constructed from a set of primitives according to syntax rules.
- **A set of interpretations**
  - An interpretation gives a semantic to primitives. It associates primitives with values.
- **The valuation (meaning) function  $V$** 
  - Assigns a value (typically the truth value) to a given sentence under some interpretation

$$V : \text{sentence} \times \text{interpretation} \rightarrow \{True, False\}$$

# Propositional Logic

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**Propositional logic**: a formal language for representing knowledge and for making logical inferences

- A **proposition** is a statement that is either true or false.
- A **compound proposition** can be created from other propositions using logical connectives
- The **truth of a compound proposition** is defined by truth values of elementary propositions and the meaning of connectives.
- The **truth table for a compound proposition**: table with entries (rows) for all possible combinations of truth values of elementary propositions.

# Propositional Logic

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- **Examples (cont.):**
  - How are you?
    - a question is not a proposition
  - $x + 5 = 3$ 
    - since  $x$  is not specified, neither true nor false
  - 2 is a prime number.
    - (T)
  - She is very talented.
    - since she is not specified, neither true nor false
  - There are other life forms on other planets in the universe.
    - either T or F

# Propositional Logic - Syntax

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- **Formally propositional logic P:**
  - is defined by **Syntax+interpretation+semantics of P**

## Syntax:

- **Symbols (alphabet) in P:**
  - **Constants:** *True, False*
  - **Propositional symbols**

Examples:

- *P*
- *Pitt is located in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh.,*
- *It rains outside,* etc.
- **A set of connectives:**

$\neg, \wedge, \vee, \Rightarrow, \Leftrightarrow$

# Propositional Logic - Syntax

## Sentences in the propositional logic:

- **Atomic sentences:**
  - Constructed from **constants** and **propositional symbols**
  - True, False are (atomic) sentences
  - $P, Q$  or *Light in the room is on*, *It rains outside* are (atomic) sentences
- **Composite sentences:**
  - Constructed from valid sentences via connectives
  - If  $A, B$  are sentences then
$$\neg A \quad (A \wedge B) \quad (A \vee B) \quad (A \Rightarrow B) \quad (A \Leftrightarrow B)$$
or  $(A \vee B) \wedge (A \vee \neg B)$ are sentences

# Compound Propositions

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- Let  $p$ : 2 is a prime ..... **T**  
 $q$ : 6 is a prime ..... **F**
- Determine **the truth value** of the following statements:
  - $\neg p$ :
  - $p \wedge q$  :
  - $p \wedge \neg q$ :
  - $p \vee q$  :
  - $p \oplus q$ :
  - $p \rightarrow q$ :
  - $q \rightarrow p$ :



# Compound Propositions

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- Let  $p$ : 2 is a prime ..... **T**  
     $q$ : 6 is a prime ..... **F**
- Determine **the truth value** of the following statements:
  - $\neg p$ : **F**
  - $p \wedge q$ : **F**
  - $p \wedge \neg q$ : **T**
  - $p \vee q$ : **T**
  - $p \oplus q$ : **T**
  - $p \rightarrow q$ : **F**
  - $q \rightarrow p$ : **T**

# Definition of Propositional Logic

**SYNTAX** (what is a **formula**):

- **Vocabulary** consists of a set  $\mathcal{P}$  of propositional variables, usually denoted by (subscripted)  $p, q, r, \dots$
- The set of **propositional formulas** over  $\mathcal{P}$  is defined as:
  - Every **propositional variable** is a formula
  - If  $F$  is a formula,  $\neg F$  is also a formula
  - If  $F$  and  $G$  are formulas,  $(F \wedge G)$  is also a formula
  - If  $F$  and  $G$  are formulas,  $(F \vee G)$  is also a formula
  - Nothing else is a formula
- Formulas are usually denoted by (subscripted)  $F, G, H, \dots$
- Examples:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} p & & \neg p & & (p \vee q) & & \neg(p \wedge q) \\ & & & & & & \\ (p \wedge (\neg p \vee q)) & & ((p \wedge q) \vee (r \vee \neg q)) & & \dots & & \end{array}$$

# Propositional Logic - Semantics

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**The semantic gives the meaning to sentences.**

the semantics in the propositional logic is defined by:

**1. Interpretation of propositional symbols and constants**

- Semantics of atomic sentences

**2. Through the meaning of connectives**

- Meaning (semantics) of composite sentences

# Semantic: propositional symbols

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## A **propositional symbol**

- a statement about the world that is either true or false

Examples:

- *Pitt is located in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh*
- *It rains outside*
- *Light in the room is on*

- An **interpretation** maps symbols to one of the two values: **True (T)**, or **False (F)**, depending on whether the symbol is satisfied in the world

**I:** *Light in the room is on* -> **True**, *It rains outside* -> **False**

**I':** *Light in the room is on* -> **False**, *It rains outside* -> **False**

# Semantic: propositional symbols

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The **meaning (value)** of the propositional symbol for a specific interpretation is given by its interpretation

**I**: *Light in the room is on*  $\rightarrow$  **True**, *It rains outside*  $\rightarrow$  **False**

$V(\text{Light in the room is on}, \mathbf{I}) = \text{True}$

$V(\text{It rains outside}, \mathbf{I}) = \text{False}$

**I'**: *Light in the room is on*  $\rightarrow$  **False**, *It rains outside*  $\rightarrow$  **False**

$V(\text{Light in the room is on}, \mathbf{I}') = \text{False}$

# Semantic: constants

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- **The meaning (truth) of constants:**
  - True and False constants are always (under any interpretation) assigned the corresponding *True, False* value

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} V(\text{True}, \mathbf{I}) = \text{True} \\ V(\text{False}, \mathbf{I}) = \text{False} \end{array} \right\} \text{For any interpretation } \mathbf{I}$$

# Semantic: composite sentences

- The meaning (truth value) of complex propositional sentences.
  - Determined using the standard rules of logic:

$P$	$Q$	$\neg P$	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$P \Rightarrow Q$	$P \Leftrightarrow Q$
<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>

Rows define all possible interpretations (worlds)

# Semantic: composite sentences – Constructing Truth Table

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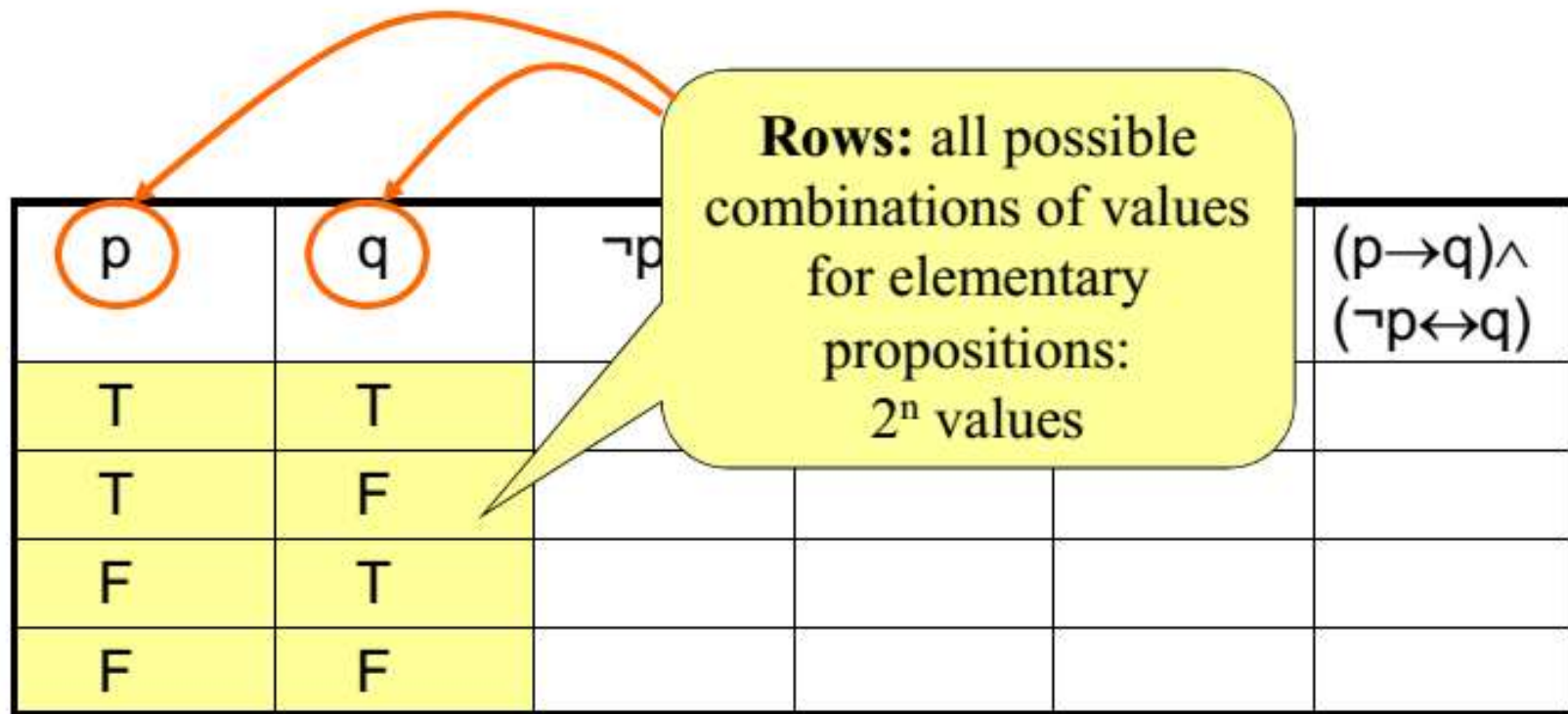
## Constructing the truth table

- **Example:** Construct the truth table for  $(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (\neg p \leftrightarrow q)$



## Semantic: composite sentences – Constructing Truth Table

- Example: Construct the truth table for  $(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (\neg p \leftrightarrow q)$



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

**Rows:** all possible combinations of values for elementary propositions:  $2^n$  values

## Semantic: composite sentences – Constructing Truth Table

- Example: Construct the truth table for  
 $(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (\neg p \leftrightarrow q)$

Typically the target  
(unknown) compound  
proposition and its  
values

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

Auxiliary compound  
propositions and their  
values

## Semantic: composite sentences – Constructing Truth Table

- Examples: Construct a truth table for  $(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (\neg p \leftrightarrow q)$

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

# Definition of Propositional Logic (2)

**SEMANTICS** (what is an interpretation  $I$ , when  $I \models F$  ?):

- An **interpretation**  $I$  over  $\mathcal{P}$  is a function  $I : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ .
- $I$  **satisfies**  $F$  (written  $I \models F$ ) if and only if  $eval_I(F) = 1$ .
- $eval_I : Formulas \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is a function defined as follows:
  - $eval_I(p) = I(p)$
  - $eval_I(\neg F) = 1 - eval_I(F)$
  - $eval_I(F \wedge G) = \min\{eval_I(F), eval_I(G)\}$
  - $eval_I(F \vee G) = \max\{eval_I(F), eval_I(G)\}$
- If  $I \models F$  we say that
  - $I$  is a **model** of  $F$  or, equivalently
  - $F$  is true in  $I$ .

# Semantics of propositional logic

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We start with two truth values:  $\{0, 1\}$

- 0 stands for False, and 1 stands for True

Let  $\mathbf{D}$  be any subset of the *atomic* formulas. An *assignment*  $\mathbf{A}$  is a map  $\mathbf{D} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$

- $\mathbf{A}$  assigns True or False to every atomic in  $\mathbf{D}$

Let  $\mathbf{E} \supseteq \mathbf{D}$  be set of formulas built from  $\mathbf{D}$  using propositional connectives

*Extended assignment*  $\mathbf{A}': \mathbf{E} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  extends  $\mathbf{A}$  from atomic formulas to all formulas

- continued on the next slide

# Semantics of propositional logic

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For an atomic formula  $A_i$  in  $\mathbf{D}$ :  $\mathbf{A}'(A_i) = \mathbf{A}(A_i)$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A}'(F \wedge G) &= 1 && \text{if } \mathbf{A}'(F) = 1 \text{ and } \mathbf{A}'(G) = 1 \\ &= 0 && \text{otherwise}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A}'(F \vee G) &= 1 && \text{if } \mathbf{A}'(F) = 1 \text{ or } \mathbf{A}'(G) = 1 \\ &= 0 && \text{otherwise}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A}'(\neg F) &= 1 && \text{if } \mathbf{A}'(F) = 0 \\ &= 0 && \text{otherwise}\end{aligned}$$

We write  $\mathcal{A}$  instead of  $\hat{A}$ .

## Exercise: Define Extended Assignment

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$$F = \neg(A \wedge B) \vee C$$

$$\mathcal{A}(A) = 1$$

$$\mathcal{A}(B) = 1$$

$$\mathcal{A}(C) = 0$$

Is  $F$  true or false under  $\mathcal{A}$ ?

# Parse Tree

Formula

$$F = \neg(A \wedge B) \vee C$$

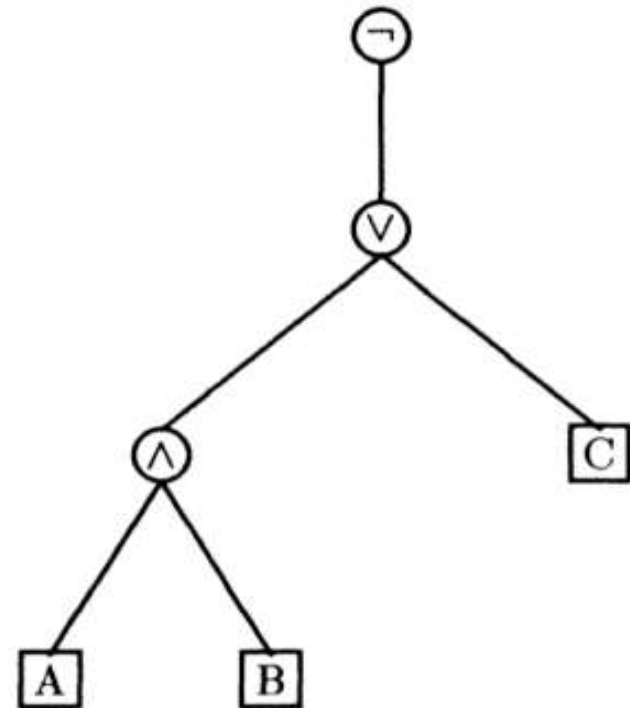
Assignment

$$\mathcal{A}(A) = 1$$

$$\mathcal{A}(B) = 1$$

$$\mathcal{A}(C) = 0$$

Abstract Syntax Tree  
(AST)





Is  $F$  true or false under  $A'$ ?

$$F = (\neg A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B))$$

$A$	$B$	$\neg A$	$(A \rightarrow B)$	$F$
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	1
1	1	0	1	1

# Applications of Proposition Logic

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- **Translation of English sentences**
- **Inference and reasoning:**
  - new true propositions are inferred from existing ones
  - Used in Artificial Intelligence:
    - Rule based (expert) systems
    - Automatic theorem provers
- **Design of logic circuit**

# Translation

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**Assume the following sentences:**

- It is not sunny this afternoon and it is colder than yesterday.
- We will go swimming only if it is sunny.
- If we do not go swimming then we will take a canoe trip.
- If we take a canoe trip, then we will be home by sunset.

**Denote:**

- $p$  = It is sunny this afternoon
- $q$  = it is colder than yesterday
- $r$  = We will go swimming
- $s$  = we will take a short trip
- $t$  = We will be home by sunset

# Translation

**Assume the following sentences:**

- It is not sunny this afternoon and it is colder than yesterday.
- We will go swimming only if it is sunny.
- If we do not go swimming then we will take a canoe trip.
- If we take a canoe trip, then we will be home by sunset.

$$\neg p \wedge q$$

$$r \rightarrow p$$

$$\neg r \rightarrow s$$

$$s \rightarrow t$$

**Denote:**

- $p$  = It is sunny this afternoon
- $q$  = it is colder than yesterday
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# Translation

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Assume a sentence:

If you are older than 13 or you are with your parents then you can attend a Horror movie.

Parse:

- If ( you are older than 13 or you are with your parents)then  
(you can attend a Horror movie)

Atomic (elementary) propositions:

- A= you are older than 13
- B= you are with your parents
- C=you can attend a Horror movie

- Translation: ?

# Translation

---

Assume a sentence:

If you are older than 13 or you are with your parents then you can attend a Horror movie.

Parse:

- If ( **you are older than 13 or you are with your parents**)then  
(**you can attend a Horror movie**)

Atomic (elementary) propositions:

- A= you are older than 13
- B= you are with your parents
- C=you can attend a Horror movie

- Translation:  $A \vee B \rightarrow C$

# Translation

---

- **General rule for translation.**
- Look for patterns corresponding to logical connectives in the sentence and use them to define elementary propositions.
- **Example:**

**You can have free coffee if you are senior citizen and it is a Tuesday**

**Step 1 find logical connectives**

# Translation

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- **Example:**

You can have free coffee **if** you are senior citizen **and** it is a Tuesday

**Step 1 find logical connectives**



# Translation

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- **General rule for translation.**
- Look for patterns corresponding to logical connectives in the sentence and use them to define elementary propositions.

- **Example:**

You can have free coffee **if** you are senior citizen **and** it is a Tuesday

**Step 2 break the sentence into elementary propositions**

# Translation

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- **General rule for translation.**
- Look for patterns corresponding to logical connectives in the sentence and use them to define elementary propositions.

- **Example:**

You can have free coffee if you are senior citizen and it is a Tuesday

**a****b****c**

**Step 2 break the sentence into elementary propositions**

# Translation

- **General rule for translation.**
- Look for patterns corresponding to logical connectives in the sentence and use them to define elementary propositions.
- **Example:**

You can have free coffee if you are senior citizen and it is a Tuesday

**a****b****c**

**Step 3 rewrite the sentence in propositional logic**

$$\mathbf{b \wedge c \rightarrow a}$$

# Propositional Logic: Semantics

An assignment  $A$  is suitable for a formula  $F$  if  $A$  assigns a truth value to every atomic proposition of  $F$

An assignment  $A$  is a model for  $F$ , written  $A \models F$ , iff

- $A$  is suitable for  $F$
- $A'(F) = 1$ , i.e.,  $F$  evaluates to true (or holds) under  $A$

A formula  $F$  is satisfiable iff  $F$  has a model, otherwise  $F$  is unsatisfiable (or contradictory)

A formula  $F$  is valid (or a tautology), written  $\models F$ , iff every suitable assignment for  $F$  is a model for  $F$

# Formalizing natural language (I)

A device consists of two parts  $A$  and  $B$ , and a red light. We know that:

- $A$  or  $B$  (or both) are broken.
- If  $A$  is broken, then  $B$  is broken.
- If  $B$  is broken and the red light is on, then  $A$  is not broken.
- The red light is on.

We use the atomic formulas:  $Ro$  (red light on),  $Ab$  ( $A$  is broken),  $Bb$  ( $B$  is broken), and formalize this situation by means of the formula

$$((((Ab \vee Bb) \wedge (Ab \rightarrow Bb)) \wedge ((Bb \wedge Ro) \rightarrow \neg Ab))) \wedge Ro$$

# Formalizing natural language (II)

Full truth table:

$Ro$	$Ab$	$Bb$	$F$
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0
1	1	1	0

•  $I$  satisfies  $F$  (written  $I \models F$ ) if and only if  $eval_I(F) = 1$ .

• If  $I \models F$  we say that

$I$  is a **model** of  $F$  or, equivalently

$F$  is true in  $I$ .

# Contradiction and Tautology

Some composite sentences may always (under any interpretation) evaluate to a single truth value:

- **Contradiction** (always *False*) / **Unsatisfiable**

$$P \wedge \neg P$$

- **Tautology** (always *True*)

$$P \vee \neg P$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \neg(P \vee Q) \Leftrightarrow (\neg P \wedge \neg Q) \\ \neg(P \wedge Q) \Leftrightarrow (\neg P \vee \neg Q) \end{array} \right\} \text{DeMorgan's Laws}$$

# Model, validity and satisfiability

- A **model (in logic)**: An **interpretation** is a **model** for a set of sentences if it assigns true to each sentence in the set.
- A sentence is **satisfiable** if it has a model;
  - There is at least one interpretation under which the sentence can evaluate to True.
- A sentence is **valid** if it is **True** in all interpretations
  - i.e., if its negation is **not satisfiable** (leads to contradiction)

$P$	$Q$	$P \vee Q$	$(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q$	$((P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q) \Rightarrow P$
<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>



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$P$	$Q$	$P \vee Q$	$(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q$	$((P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q) \Rightarrow P$
<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>

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		Satisfiable sentence		
$P$	$Q$	$P \vee Q$	$(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q$	$((P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q) \Rightarrow P$
<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>

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- A **model (in logic)**: An **interpretation** is a **model** for a set of sentences if it assigns true to each sentence in the set.
- A sentence is **satisfiable** if it has a model;
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  - i.e., if its negation is **not satisfiable** (leads to contradiction)

		Satisfiable sentence		Valid sentence
$P$	$Q$	$P \vee Q$	$(P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q$	$((P \vee Q) \wedge \neg Q) \Rightarrow P$
<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>
<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>False</i>	<i>True</i>

# Validity and Unsatisfiability

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## Theorem:

A formula  $F$  is valid if and only if  $\neg F$  is unsatisfiable

## Proof:

$F$  is valid  $\Leftrightarrow$  every suitable assignment for  $F$  is a model for  $F$   
 $\Leftrightarrow$  every suitable assignment for  $\neg F$  is not a model for  $\neg F$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \neg F$  does not have a model  
 $\Leftrightarrow \neg F$  is unsatisfiable

# Small Syntax Extension

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- We will write  $(F \rightarrow G)$  as an **abbreviation** for  $(\neg F \vee G)$
- Similarly,  $(F \leftrightarrow G)$  is an **abbreviation** of  $((F \rightarrow G) \wedge (G \rightarrow F))$

They both capture very intuitive concepts, which ones?

# Small Syntax Extension

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- We will write  $(F \rightarrow G)$  as an **abbreviation** for  $(\neg F \vee G)$
- Similarly,  $(F \leftrightarrow G)$  is an **abbreviation** of  $((F \rightarrow G) \wedge (G \rightarrow F))$

They both capture very intuitive concepts, which ones?

- $I \models (F \rightarrow G)$  iff  $I \models F$  **implies**  $I \models G$

- $I \models (F \leftrightarrow G)$  iff  $I \models F$  and  $I \models G$  or  
 $I \models F$  and  $I \models G$   
iff  $eval_I(F) = eval_I(G)$

# Operator (Connective) Precedence

Operator precedence:

LOW  $\leftrightarrow$  binds weaker than  
 $\rightarrow$  which binds weaker than  
 $\vee$  which binds weaker than  
 $\wedge$  which binds weaker than  
HIGH  $\neg$  .

So we have

$$A \leftrightarrow B \vee \neg C \rightarrow D \wedge \neg E \equiv (A \leftrightarrow ((B \vee \neg C) \rightarrow (D \wedge \neg E)))$$


But: well chosen parenthesis help to visually parse formulas.

# EXERCISE

---

1. Draw the parse tree for the following formula:

$$((\neg p) \wedge ((\neg q) \wedge ((\neg r) \wedge ((\neg s) \wedge \top))))$$

List all sub-formulas of the expression.

2. According to the operator precedences, the following formula has a unique reading.

$$\neg p \wedge q \rightarrow \neg r \vee \neg p \rightarrow r$$

Indicate this reading by writing all parentheses



# EXERCISE on Translation

---

- Assume two elementary statements:

**p: you drive over 65 mph;      q: you get a speeding ticket**

- **Translate each of these sentences to logic**

- a) you do not drive over 65 mph.
- b) you drive over 65 mph, but you don't get a speeding ticket.
- c) you will get a speeding ticket if you drive over 65 mph.
- d) if you do not drive over 65 mph then you will not get a speeding ticket.
- e) driving over 65 mph is sufficient for getting a speeding ticket.
- f) you get a speeding ticket, but you do not drive over 65 mph.

# References

- Chapter 1 of Logic for Computer Scientists  
<http://www.springerlink.com/content/978-0-8176-4762-9/>

