

# CS172: COMPUTER SYSTEMS II

## Lecture 8

# Syllogistic Reasoning

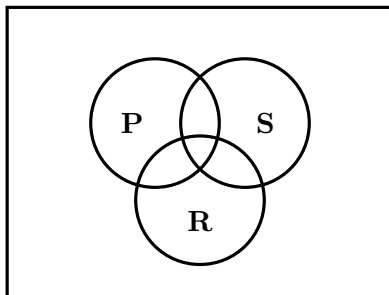
James Power



**Maynooth  
University**  
National University of  
Ireland Maynooth

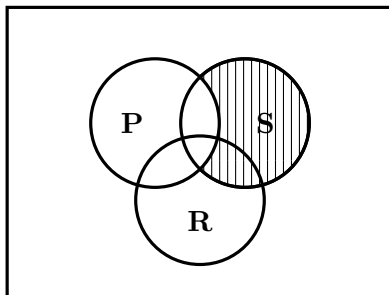
## The syllogistic method: example (2)

	All students are politician.	To draw
	All politician are rich.	To draw
?	<hr/>	
	All students are rich.	To verify



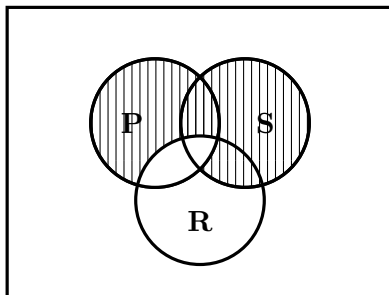
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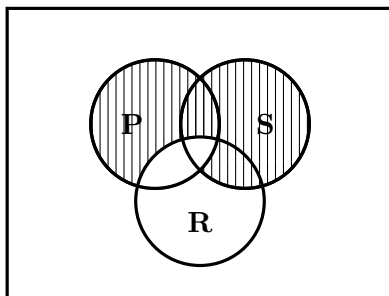
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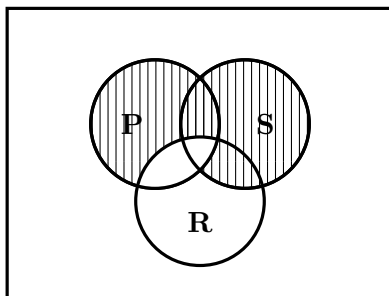
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The unique conclusion's representation **is** in the unique diagram.

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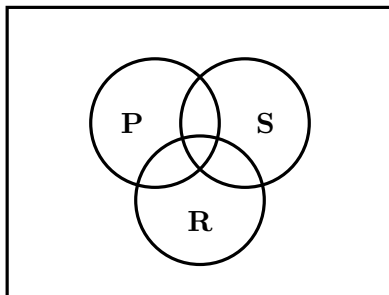
	All students are politician.	<b>Drawn</b>
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	All students are rich.	<b>Success</b>



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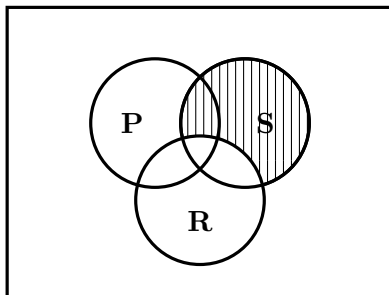
## The syllogistic method: example (3)

	All students are rich.	To draw
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<hr/>		
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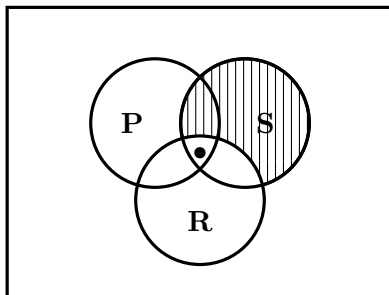
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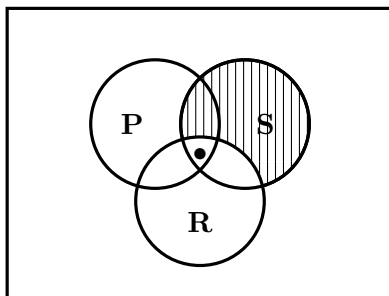
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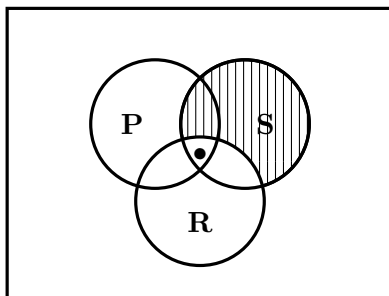
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One of the conclusion's representation **is** in the unique diagram.

# The syllogistic method: example (3)

	All students are rich.	Drawn
✓	Some students are politicians.	Drawn
	Some students are rich.	Success



One of the conclusion's representation **is** in the unique diagram.

## Syllogistic Reasoning: More examples

LiA §3.5

Some philosophers are Greek

No Greeks are barbarians

---

No philosophers are barbarians.

All Greeks are not barbarians

Some barbarians are philosophers

---

Not all philosophers are Greek.

All Athenians are Greek

Some Greeks are not philosophers

---

Some Athenians are not philosophers.

# Counting Syllogistic Forms

How many kinds of syllogistic inferences are there?

# Counting Syllogistic Forms: Moods

How many kinds of syllogistic inferences are there?

The **mood** of a syllogistic inference is a label based on the *forms* of the two premises and conclusion.

<b>A</b>	All A are B	universal affirmative
<b>I</b>	Some A are B	particular affirmative
<b>E</b>	All A are not B	universal negative
<b>O</b>	Some A are not B	particular negative

Latin: **A**ffirmo and **N**ego

Example of *the mood of an inference*: A-A-A

# Counting Syllogistic Forms

Suppose we choose a particular mood, e.g. A-A-A.

# Counting Syllogistic Forms: Figure

Suppose we choose a particular mood, e.g. A-A-A.

The **figure** of a syllogistic inference defines the order of the predicates in the premises.

For each *mood* there are four *figures*:

All A are B
All B are C
-----
All A are C

Figure 1

All A are B
All C are B
-----
All A are C

Figure 2

All B are A
All B are C
-----
All A are C

Figure 3

All B are A
All C are B
-----
All A are C

Figure 4



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Thus  $4 \times 4 \times 4 = 64$  different *moods*

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Thus there are  $64 \times 4 = 256$  possible forms of syllogistic inferences

- Note: only 15 of these are (universally) considered valid  
... plus maybe 9 more if you assume *existential import*

(Textbook, pg. 3-3)

## Extending Syllogistic Reasoning: more premises

Normally a syllogism only has two premises, but our system of syllogistic reasoning will work just as well with more...

All Spartans are Greek  
Some philosophers are Greek  
No Spartans are philosophers  

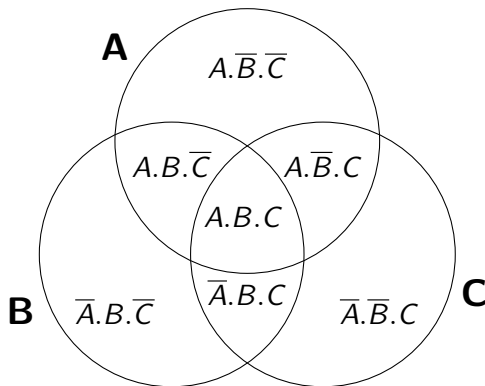
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Some Greeks are not Spartans.

Note that there are still only three *predicates*.

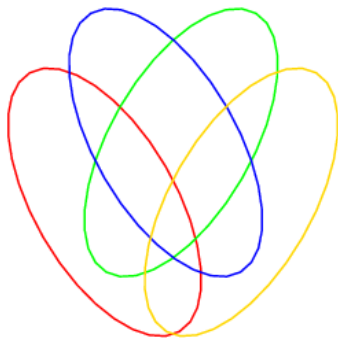
# Standard Syllogistic Reasoning: 3 predicates

Working with *three* predicates always gives us the following kind of picture



Can we have pictures for more than 3 predicates?

# Extending Syllogistic Reasoning: 4 predicates

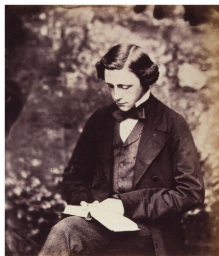


John Venn's diagram for 4 sets/predicates

Source: Frank Ruskey and Mark Weston  
[combinatorics.org](http://combinatorics.org)



# Lewis Carroll's diagrams



Lewis Carroll  
(Charles Dodgson)  
1832-1898

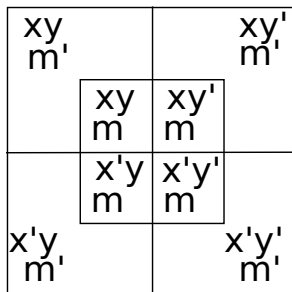
"The time has come," the Walrus said,  
"To talk of many things:  
Of shoes - and ships - and sealing-wax -  
Of cabbages - and kings -  
And why the sea is boiling hot -  
And whether pigs have wings."

- *Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There*, 1871
- *The Game of Logic*, 1887
- *Symbolic Logic*, 1896

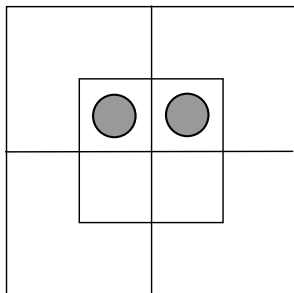
# Lewis Carroll's diagrams

With each copy of this Book is given an Envelope, containing a Diagram (similar to the frontispiece) on card, and nine Counters, four red and five grey.

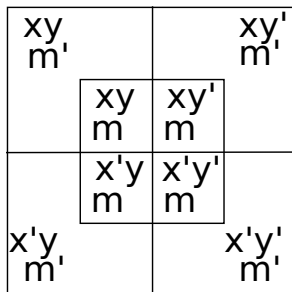
The Envelope, &c. can be had separately, at 3d. each.



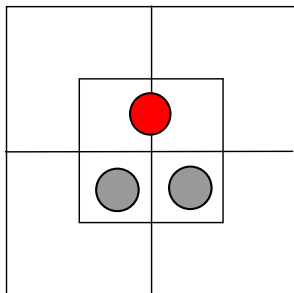
# Lewis Carroll's diagrams



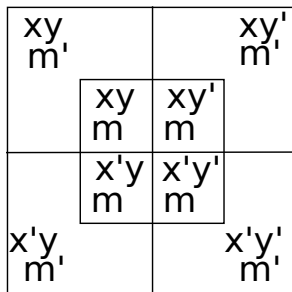
No x are m



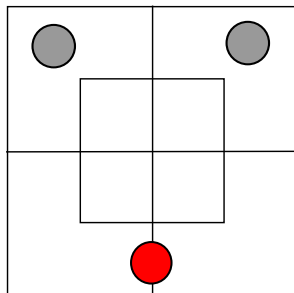
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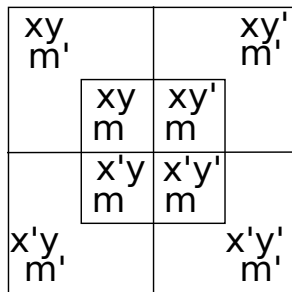
All m are x



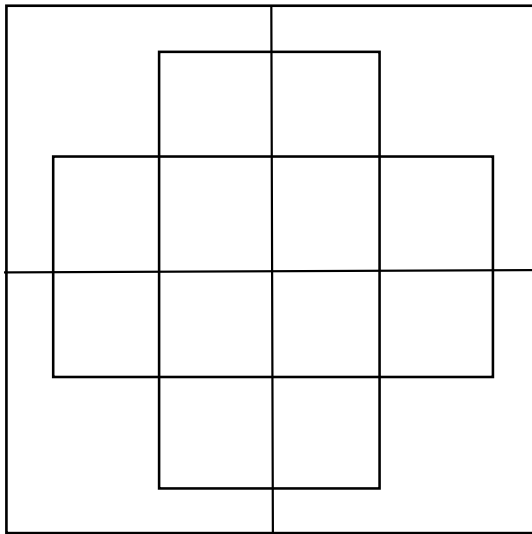
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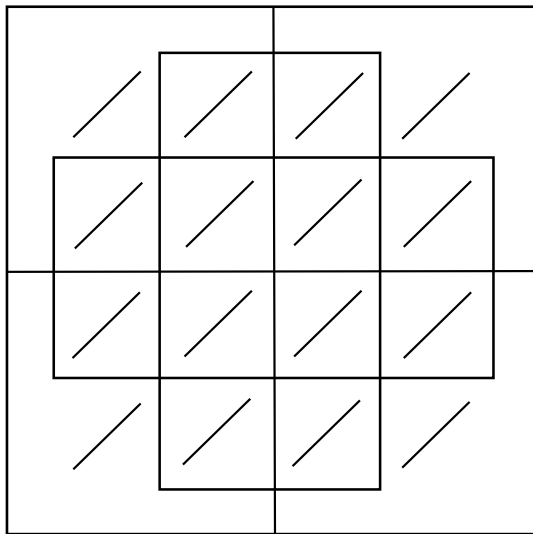
All  $m'$  are  $x'$



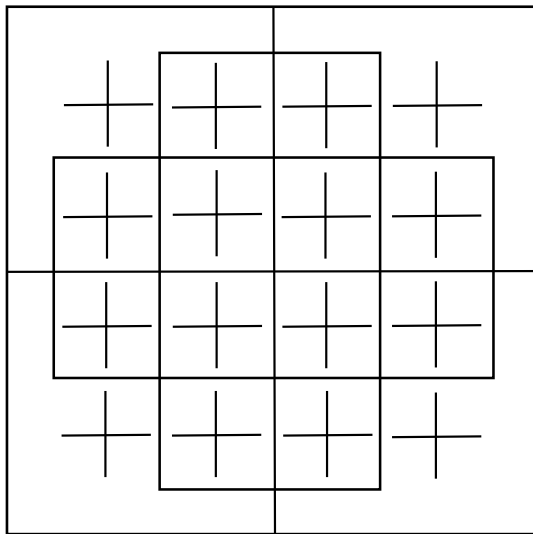
# Lewis Carroll's diagrams: 4 predicates



# Lewis Carroll's diagrams: 5 predicates

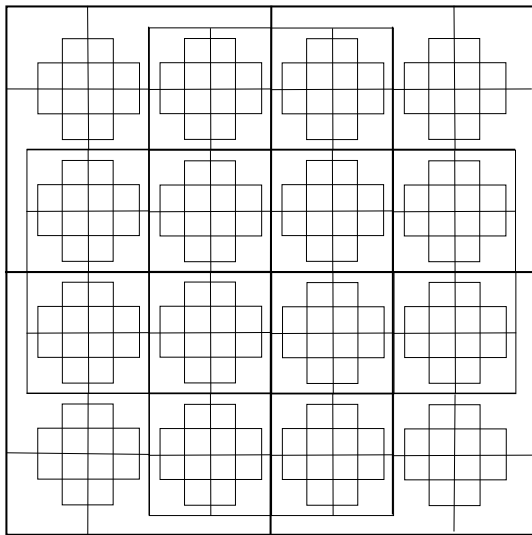


# Lewis Carroll's diagrams: 6 predicates

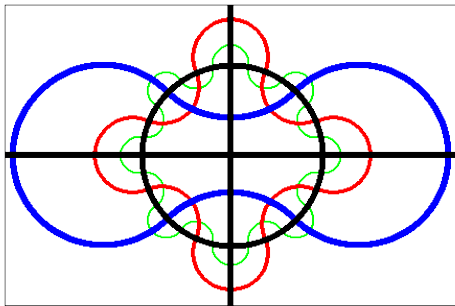




# Lewis Carroll's diagrams: 10 predicates



# Extending Syllogistic Reasoning: 6 predicates



Anthony Edwards' diagram for 6 sets/predicates

Source: Frank Ruskey and Mark Weston  
[combinatorics.org](http://combinatorics.org)