

# Mathematical and Logical Foundations of Computer Science

## Lecture 4 - Propositional Logic (Natural Deduction)

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(some slides were adapted from Rajesh Chitnis' slides)

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# Where are we?

- ▶ Symbolic logic
- ▶ **Propositional logic**
- ▶ Predicate logic
- ▶ Constructive vs. Classical logic
- ▶ Type theory

# Today

- ▶ Natural Deduction proofs

# Recap: Connectives & Special Atomic Propositions

Syntax

$$P ::= a \mid P \wedge P \mid P \vee P \mid P \rightarrow P \mid \neg P$$

**Two special atoms:**

- ▶  $\top$  which stands for True
- ▶  $\perp$  which stands for False

# Recap: Connectives & Special Atomic Propositions

## Syntax

$$P ::= a \mid P \wedge P \mid P \vee P \mid P \rightarrow P \mid \neg P$$

## Two special atoms:

- ▶  $\top$  which stands for True
- ▶  $\perp$  which stands for False

## We also introduced four connectives:

- ▶  $P \wedge Q$ : we have a proof of both  $P$  and  $Q$
- ▶  $P \vee Q$ : we have a proof of at least one of  $P$  and  $Q$
- ▶  $P \rightarrow Q$ : if we have a proof of  $P$  then we have a proof of  $Q$
- ▶  $\neg P$ : stands for  $P \rightarrow \perp$

## Recap: Proofs in Propositional Logic

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For **formal proofs**, we need two things

1. A **formal** language
  - ▶ for representing propositions, arguments
  - ▶ here we are using propositional logic
2. A **proof** theory
  - ▶ to prove (“infer”, “deduce”) whether an argument is valid
  - ▶ inference rules, which are the building blocks of proofs



## Recap: What are inference rules?

Inference rules are the tools we are allowed to use

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These are **rule schemata**, where here  $A$  and  $B$  are **metavariables** ranging over all possible propositions.

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These are **rule schemata**, where here  $A$  and  $B$  are **metavariables** ranging over all possible propositions.

### Notation

- ▶ Premise(s) at the top
- ▶ Conclusion at the bottom
- ▶ Name of the inference rule on the right

## Recap: Some simple inference rules

And-introduction

$$\frac{A \quad B}{A \wedge B} \quad [\wedge I]$$

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implication-elimination

$$\frac{A \rightarrow B \quad A}{B} \quad [\rightarrow E]$$

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False-elimination

$$\frac{\perp}{A} \quad [\perp E]$$



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$$\frac{A \quad B}{A \wedge B} [\wedge I]$$

implication-elimination

$$\frac{A \rightarrow B \quad A}{B} [\rightarrow E]$$

False-elimination

$$\frac{\perp}{A} [\perp E]$$

True-introduction

$$\frac{}{\top} [\top I]$$

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A **proof** is a tree of instances of inference rules.

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Formally, want to prove  $A, \neg A \vdash \perp$

A **proof** is a tree of instances of inference rules.

Assuming that  $\neg A$  is defined as  $A \rightarrow \perp$ , a proof of the above sequent (or argument) is:

$$\frac{A \quad \neg A}{\perp} [\rightarrow E]$$

## Recap: Another simple proof

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The rule used at each step is **and-introduction**, i.e.,  $[\wedge I]$



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## Framework

- ▶ “natural” style of constructing a proof
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Introduced by **Gentzen** in 1934  
and further studied by **Prawitz** in 1965.

# Slightly confusing aspect of natural Deduction

**Discharging/cancellation of hypothesis**

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$$\frac{B}{A \rightarrow B}$$

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At this point, we can also cancel another hypothesis, say  $A$

This gives a proof of

$$A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow ((A \wedge B) \wedge (A \wedge C)))$$

using the hypothesis  $C$  only

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$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{B}^1}{A \wedge B} \quad \frac{}{A \wedge C}}{(A \wedge B) \wedge (A \wedge C)} [\wedge I]}{B \rightarrow ((A \wedge B) \wedge (A \wedge C))}^1 [\rightarrow I]$$



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# Comprehensive set of inference rules

**Rules for  $\rightarrow$  (implication)**

# Comprehensive set of inference rules

## Rules for $\rightarrow$ (implication)

- implication-introduction

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \overline{A}^1 \\ \vdots \\ B \end{array}}{A \rightarrow B}^1 [\rightarrow I]$$

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- ▶ implication-introduction

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \overline{\phantom{A}}^1 \\ A \\ \vdots \\ B \end{array}}{A \rightarrow B}^1 [\rightarrow I]$$

- ▶ implication-elimination

$$\frac{A \rightarrow B \quad A}{B} [\rightarrow E]$$

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Rules for  $\neg$  (not)

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## Rules for $\neg$ (not)

- Negation-introduction

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# Comprehensive set of inference rules

## Rules for $\vee$ (or)



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## Rules for $\vee$ (or)

- ▶ or-introduction (for any formula  $B$ )

$$\frac{A}{A \vee B} \quad [\vee I_L] \qquad \frac{A}{B \vee A} \quad [\vee I_R]$$

# Comprehensive set of inference rules

## Rules for $\vee$ (or)

- ▶ or-introduction (for any formula  $B$ )

$$\frac{A}{A \vee B} \quad [\vee I_L] \qquad \frac{A}{B \vee A} \quad [\vee I_R]$$

- ▶ or-elimination

$$\frac{A \vee B \quad A \rightarrow C \quad B \rightarrow C}{C} \quad [\vee E]$$

# More comprehensive set of inference rules

## Rules for $\wedge$ (and)

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## Rules for $\wedge$ (and)

- ▶ and-introduction

$$\frac{A \quad B}{A \wedge B} [\wedge I]$$

# More comprehensive set of inference rules

## Rules for $\wedge$ (and)

- ▶ and-introduction

$$\frac{A \quad B}{A \wedge B} [\wedge I]$$

- ▶ and-elimination

$$\frac{A \wedge B}{B} [\wedge E_R] \qquad \frac{A \wedge B}{A} [\wedge E_L]$$

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And backward?

$$\frac{}{A \rightarrow C}$$

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And backward?

$$\frac{\frac{\overline{A}^1 \quad A \rightarrow B}{B} [\rightarrow E] \quad B \rightarrow C}{\frac{C}{A \rightarrow C}^1 [\rightarrow I]} [\rightarrow E]$$

We also need to go forward to prove  $C$



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Here is a proof:

	$A$	$\neg A$	
	<hr/>		
	<hr/>		
$\neg A \vee B$	<hr/>		<hr/>
<hr/>			
	$B$		
	<hr/>		
	<hr/>		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
<hr/>			

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Given  $\neg A \vee B$  and  $A$ , how do we derive  $B$ ?

Here is a proof:

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{A \quad \neg A}{\perp} [\neg E] \\ \hline \neg A \vee B \quad \frac{\quad}{\quad} \\ \hline B \end{array}$$
  
$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\quad}{\quad} \\ \frac{\quad}{\quad} \\ \frac{\quad}{\quad} \end{array}$$

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Here is a proof:

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 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\overline{B}^2}{B \rightarrow B}^2 \quad [\rightarrow I]
 \end{array} \\
 \frac{\neg A \vee B \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{\perp}{B}}{B \rightarrow B}^1 \quad [\rightarrow I]}{\neg A \rightarrow B}^1 \quad [\rightarrow I] \quad \frac{\overline{B}^2}{B \rightarrow B}^2 \quad [\rightarrow I]}{B} \quad [\vee E]
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## Backward?

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{A}{\text{---}}}{\text{---}}}{\neg A \vee B} \quad \frac{\text{---}}{B}$$

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 B
 \end{array}$$

Backward? We go forward because we are left with just  $B$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{A}{\overline{\neg A}^1} \\
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 B [\vee E]
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 \frac{\neg A \vee B \quad \frac{\perp}{B}}{\neg A \rightarrow B}^1 [\rightarrow I] \quad \frac{\overline{B}^2}{B \rightarrow B}^2 [\rightarrow I] \\
 \hline
 B \quad [\vee E]
 \end{array}$$

Backward? We go forward because we are left with just  $B$

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 \hline
 B \quad [\vee E]
 \end{array}$$

## Another simple natural Deduction proof

Given  $\neg A \vee B$  and  $A$ , how do we derive  $B$ ?

Here is a proof:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{A \quad \overline{\neg A}^1}{\perp} [\neg E] \\
 \frac{\perp}{B} [\perp E] \\
 \frac{\neg A \vee B \quad \frac{\frac{\perp}{B} [\perp E]}{\neg A \rightarrow B}^1 [\rightarrow I]}{B} [\vee E]
 \end{array}$$

Backward? We go forward because we are left with just  $B$

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 \frac{\perp}{B} [\perp E] \\
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 \end{array}$$



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## Complicated looking question

Prove the following:

$$R, (P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P), Q \rightarrow Z, R \rightarrow P \vdash Z$$

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# Conclusion

## What did we cover today?

- ▶ Natural Deduction rules for propositional logic
- ▶ Natural Deduction proofs
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## Next time?

- ▶ Sequent calculus