

Predicate Logic

① When does $\varphi := \neg(A \Rightarrow B) \vee \neg B$ hold?

Can use a truth table:

A	B	$A \Rightarrow B$	$\neg(A \Rightarrow B)$	$\neg B$	φ
T	T	T	\perp	\perp	\perp
T	\perp	\perp	T	T	T
\perp	T	T	\perp	\perp	\perp
\perp	\perp	T	\perp	T	T

So φ holds when $B = \perp$ and regardless of A .

Could also use laws of logic to show that $\varphi \equiv \neg B$: exercise!

② Simplify $(A \Rightarrow B) \vee (B \Rightarrow A)$

A proof using logic laws:

$$\begin{aligned}(A \Rightarrow B) \vee (B \Rightarrow A) &\equiv (\neg A \vee B) \vee (\neg B \vee A) && \text{(material implication)} \\ &\equiv (\neg A \vee A) \vee (\neg B \vee B) && (\vee \text{ commutes}) \\ &\equiv T \vee T && \text{(law of excluded middle)} \\ &\equiv T.\end{aligned}$$

Could use a truth table again, though.

[Note: law of excluded middle is not constructively valid, so this proof is not constructive. More on this later!]

③

A	B	$A \circ B$
T	T	T
T	\perp	T
\perp	T	\perp
\perp	\perp	T

$$A \vee B \equiv A \circ (\neg B)$$

Since $A \vee \neg B = \perp$ when $\begin{cases} A = \perp \\ B = T \end{cases}$
just like \circ .

What is \circ ? Flipped implication, \Leftarrow
Since $A \circ B = B \Rightarrow A = A \Leftarrow B$

④

$F(x) = \text{"person } x \text{ is my friend"}$
 $P(x) = \text{"person } x \text{ is perfect"}$ } predicates? functions of spec.
 $p: \text{Objects} \rightarrow \{T, \perp\}$

"none of my friends is perfect" = Any of these will do:

$$\neg (\exists x. F(x) \wedge P(x)) \equiv \forall x. F(x) \Rightarrow \neg P(x) \equiv \forall x. P(x) \Rightarrow \neg F(x)$$

"There does not exist a
person x who is perfect
and my friend"

"For all people x ,
if they are my friend,
then they aren't perfect"

"For all people x ,
if they are perfect,
then they aren't my friend"

⑤

Prove $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ that $f(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n=0 \\ 2n-1 + f(n-1) & \text{if } n>0 \end{cases} = n^2$

• Base case: By definition, $f(0) = 0 = 0^2$.

• Inductive case: Assume $f(n) = n^2$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Now,

$$\begin{aligned} f(n+1) &= 2(n+1)-1 + f(n) && \text{(definition)} \\ &= 2n+1 + n^2 && \text{(inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= (n+1)^2. && \text{(algebra)} \end{aligned}$$

Thus $f(n) = n^2 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ by induction. \square