

## Unit - I

### Proofs and logic.

## Propositions

Our discussion begins with an introduction to the basic building blocks of logic—propositions. A proposition is a declarative sentence (that is, a sentence that declares a fact) that is either true or false, but not both.

**EXAMPLE 1** All the following declarative sentences are propositions.



1. Washington, D.C., is the capital of the United States of America. (True)
2. Toronto is the capital of Canada. (False)
3.  $1 + 1 = 2$ . (True)
4.  $2 + 2 = 3$ . (False)

Propositions 1 and 3 are true, whereas 2 and 4 are false.

Ans: ① As Statement 1 is true,  $\therefore$  It is a proposition.

② AS Statement 2 is false,  $\therefore$  It is a proposition.

③

**EXAMPLE 2** Consider the following sentences. Are these propositions

1. What time is it?

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1. What time is it?
2. Read this carefully.
3.  $x + 1 = 2$ .
4.  $x + y = z$ .

Ans ① As this is not a declarative sentence,  $\therefore$  It is not a proposition.

② This is not a proposition.

③ if  $x = 1$   $x + 1 = 2$  True.  
 $x \neq 1$   $x + 1 = 2$  False ]

As proposition can be true and false both  $\therefore$  It is not a proposition.

④ This is not a proposition.

—X—

$\sim p$      $\overline{p}$

**DEFINITION 1** Let  $p$  be a proposition. The negation of  $p$ , denoted by  $\neg p$  (also denoted by  $\overline{p}$ ), is the statement

"It is not the case that  $p$ ."

The proposition  $\neg p$  is read "not  $p$ ." The truth value of the negation of  $p$ ,  $\neg p$ , is the opposite of the truth value of  $p$ .

$\sim p$ : "It is not the case that  $p$ "

**EXAMPLE 3** Find the negation of the proposition



"Michael's PC runs Linux"

and express this in simple English.

**Solution:** The negation is

"It is not the case that Michael's PC runs Linux."

This negation can be more simply expressed as

"Michael's PC does not run Linux."

$p$ : "Michael's PC runs Linux"

$\sim p$ : "It is not the case that Michael's PC runs Linux" ✓

—X—

$\sim p$ : "Michael's PC doesn't run Linux" ✓

—X—

**EXAMPLE 4** Find the negation of the proposition

"Vandana's smartphone has at least 32GB of memory"

and express this in simple English.

*Solution:* The negation is

~~"It is not the case that Vandana's smartphone has at least 32GB of memory."~~

This negation can also be expressed as

~~"Vandana's smartphone does not have at least 32GB of memory"~~

$\sim p$ : "It is not the case that Vandana's Smartphone has at least 32 GB of memory"

$\sim p$ : Vandana's Smartphone does not have at least 32 GB of memory

—X—

**TABLE 1** The Truth Table for the Negation of a Proposition.

$p$	$\neg p$
T	F
F	T

Negation of a proposition.

$p$	$\sim p$
T	F
F	T

①  
2

no. of rows generated in any table = 2<sup>no. of variables</sup>  
= 2<sup>1</sup> = 2

**DEFINITION 2**

Let  $p$  and  $q$  be propositions. The *conjunction* of  $p$  and  $q$ , denoted by  $p \wedge q$ , is the proposition " $p$  and  $q$ ." The conjunction  $p \wedge q$  is true when both  $p$  and  $q$  are true and is false otherwise.

**EXAMPLE 5** Find the conjunction of the propositions  $p$  and  $q$  where  $p$  is the proposition “Rebecca’s PC has more than 16 GB free hard disk space” and  $q$  is the proposition “The processor in Rebecca’s PC runs faster than 1 GHz.”

**DEFINITION 3** Let  $p$  and  $q$  be propositions. The *disjunction* of  $p$  and  $q$ , denoted by  $p \vee q$ , is the proposition “ $p$  or  $q$ .” The disjunction  $p \vee q$  is false when both  $p$  and  $q$  are false and is true otherwise.

**TABLE 2** The Truth Table for the Conjunction of Two Propositions.

$p$	$q$	$p \wedge q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

**TABLE 3** The Truth Table for the Disjunction of Two Propositions.

$p$	$q$	$p \vee q$
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

**DEFINITION 4**

Let  $p$  and  $q$  be propositions. The *exclusive or* of  $p$  and  $q$ , denoted by  $p \oplus q$ , is the proposition that is true when exactly one of  $p$  and  $q$  is true and is false otherwise.

**TABLE 4** The Truth Table for the Exclusive Or of Two Propositions.

$p$	$q$	$p \oplus q$
T	T	F
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

“Students who have taken calculus or computer science, but not both, can enroll in this class.”