

**Homework #8: From Language to Logic****Problem 4****Problem 4a**

The knowledge base is

$$KB = \{(A \vee B) \rightarrow C, A\}$$

First, we apply the property that  $P \rightarrow Q = \neg P \vee Q$ , which allows us to write the knowledge base as

$$= \{\neg(A \vee B) \vee C, A\} = \{(\neg A \vee \neg B) \vee C, A\}$$

Distributing the negation connectives on A and B we have

$$= \{(\neg A \vee C) \wedge (\neg B \vee C), A\}$$

We can remove the conjunction operator to yield the equivalent group of atomic expressions

$$= \{(\neg A \vee C), (\neg B \vee C), A\}$$

Finally, we apply the same identity as in the first step to convert back into implication connectives, which then allows us to express the knowledge base into Conjunctive Normal Form:

$$= \{A \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow C, A\}$$

To apply modus ponens to the above expression of the knowledge base, we accept the conditional statement  $A \rightarrow C$ , and that the antecedent  $A$  holds, such that we can infer  $C$ .

**Problem 4b**

The knowledge base is

$$KB = \{A \vee B, B \rightarrow C, (A \vee C) \rightarrow D\}$$

Once again applying the identity  $P \rightarrow Q = \neg P \vee Q$ , we have

$$= \{A \vee B, \neg B \vee C, (A \vee C) \rightarrow D\}$$

Distribution of the third rule's disjunction operation on A and C and applying the identity once again gives us the knowledge base expressed in CNF:

$$KB_{CNF} = \{A \vee B, \neg B \vee C, \neg A \vee D, \neg C \vee D\}$$

From the first two rules of the knowledge base, we obtain

$$\frac{A \vee B, \neg B \vee C}{A \vee C}$$

We can combine this result with the fourth rule so that we have

$$\frac{A \vee C, \neg C \vee D}{A \vee D}$$

Finally, applying that result to the third rule allows us to derive D directly:

$$\frac{A \vee D, \neg A \vee D}{D}$$

## Problem 5

### Problem 5b

In order to prove that the resulting set of 7 constraints is not consistent for any finite, non-empty model, we can consider a sequence of  $n + 1$  elements in a domain of size  $n$ . For every  $z_i$  in the sequence of elements, we say that  $z_{i+1}$  is a successor of  $z_i$ . Then, the fifth constraint dictates that  $i + 1$  must also be larger than  $i$ , and the sixth constraint says that any  $z_j$  is greater than  $z_i$ .

However, since there are  $n + 1$  elements in the sequence and only  $n$  values specified in the domain, this means that there must be at least one pair of numbers that are equivalent, i.e.  $z_a = z_b, b > a$ . However, the transitive sixth constraint says that  $z_b > z_a$ , while the new seventh constraint says that a number cannot be larger than itself. **Therefore, these two constraints contradict one another in this case, which means the set of constraints is inconsistent.**