



BITS Pilani
Pilani Campus



CS F214 Logic in Computer Science

MODULE: **PROPOSITIONAL LOGIC**

Proof System - Natural Deduction

Propositional Logic

- **Propositional Logic** is essentially Boolean Logic: i.e.
 - it is a logic of **formulas (i.e. propositions)**
 - that evaluate to TRUE or FALSE
 - made from **atomic propositions** and **logical operations** (AND, OR, NOT ...)
 - e.g. raining AND sunny
 - e.g. raining AND sunny OR NOT humid AND NOT hot



Propositional Logic - Propositions

- An *atomic proposition* is a statement that is atomic (i.e. understood as is without structure):
 - It may be *true* or *false*,
 - but its truth or falsity is
 - *not based on any structure*
 - *nor is it derived from something else*
 - *e.g.* (from the formulas in the last slide) :
 - raining, sunny, humid, hot
- In Boolean Logic atomic propositions are referred to as variables.



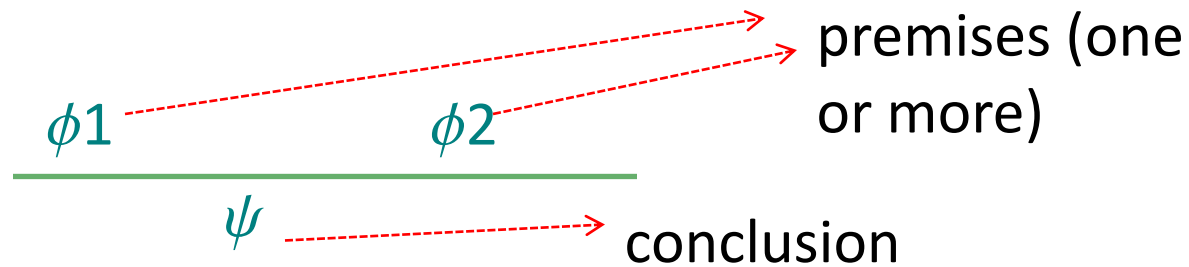
Proof Rules

- Proofs in (propositional) logic can be written down in various formats:
 - one of them is (Gentzen's) *natural deduction*
- Proofs are based on rules (of inference):
 - i.e. rules that state “one can infer S_1 from S_2 ”



Proof Rules – Generic Format

- In natural deduction, rules are written in the form:



- Each ***premise*** is a (class of) propositional formula(s).
- Similarly a ***conclusion*** is a (class of) propositional formula(s)

Proof Rules - Format - Example

- Consider this rule (labeled $\wedge e_2$):

$$\frac{\phi1 \wedge \phi2}{\phi2} \quad \wedge e_2$$

This rule is read as:

given the premise

$\phi1 \wedge \phi2$

one can conclude

$\phi2$



Proof Rules – Different Kinds

- In natural deduction, typically, for each operation there are two kinds of rules:
 - one kind for ***elimination***
 - i.e. to prove a conclusion by eliminating the operation
 - e.g. see previous slide (\wedge elimination)
 - one kind for ***introduction***
 - i.e. to prove a conclusion by introducing the operation
 - e.g.

$\phi 1$	$\phi 2$
$\phi 1 \wedge \phi 2$	

 $\wedge i$


Proof Technique: Natural Deduction: Sequents

- In natural deduction, the statement (intended to be proved) is referred to as **a sequent**:

- $$\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_n \quad |-- \quad \psi$$

which is read as

- (the set of premises) “ ϕ_1, ϕ_2, \dots , and ϕ_n ” **entails** (the conclusion) “ ψ ”

- e.g. (sequent):
 - $p \wedge q, r \quad |-- \quad q \wedge r$
- To prove the sequent one has to apply (appropriate) proof rules.
 - Q: Which rule(s) is/are required to prove the example sequent given above?



Proofs in Natural Deduction

- Typically a *(deduction) step* in a proof involves:
 - applying a rule on one or more premises to derive a conclusion:
 - for instance, from applying the rule $\wedge e_2$ on the premise $p \wedge q$ results in the conclusion, say, q
- Typically, then, a (natural deduction) proof is a sequence of such (deduction) steps:
 - e.g. proof for the sequent $p \wedge q, r \vdash q \wedge r$
 - Step 1: apply $\wedge e_2$ on premise $p \wedge q$ to result in q
 - Step 2: apply $\wedge i$ on inference q and premise r to result in $q \wedge r$



Proofs in Natural Deduction

- Proofs are written in a particular format:
 - as a table with one column of premises and results along with corresponding explanations in the next column
- For instance, the 2-step proof from the previous slide i.e.
 - Step 1: apply $\wedge e_2$ on $p \wedge q$ to result in q
 - Step 2: apply $\wedge i$ on premises q and r to result in $q \wedge r$

is written out as:

	Deduction	Explanation
1	$p \wedge q$	Premise
2	q	$\wedge e_2$ 1
3	r	Premise
4	$q \wedge r$	$\wedge i$ 2,3

Diagram annotations:

- Red arrows point from the text "Step 1: apply $\wedge e_2$ on $p \wedge q$ to result in q " to the entry in row 2, column 2.
- Red arrows point from the text "Step 2: apply $\wedge i$ on premises q and r to result in $q \wedge r$ " to the entry in row 4, column 2.
- Purple arrows point from the text "refers to premise in row 1" to the entry in row 2, column 2.
- Purple arrows point from the text "refers to result in row 2 and premise in row 3" to the entry in row 4, column 2.

Note that the explanations may refer to the entries in the deduction column by using the row number.



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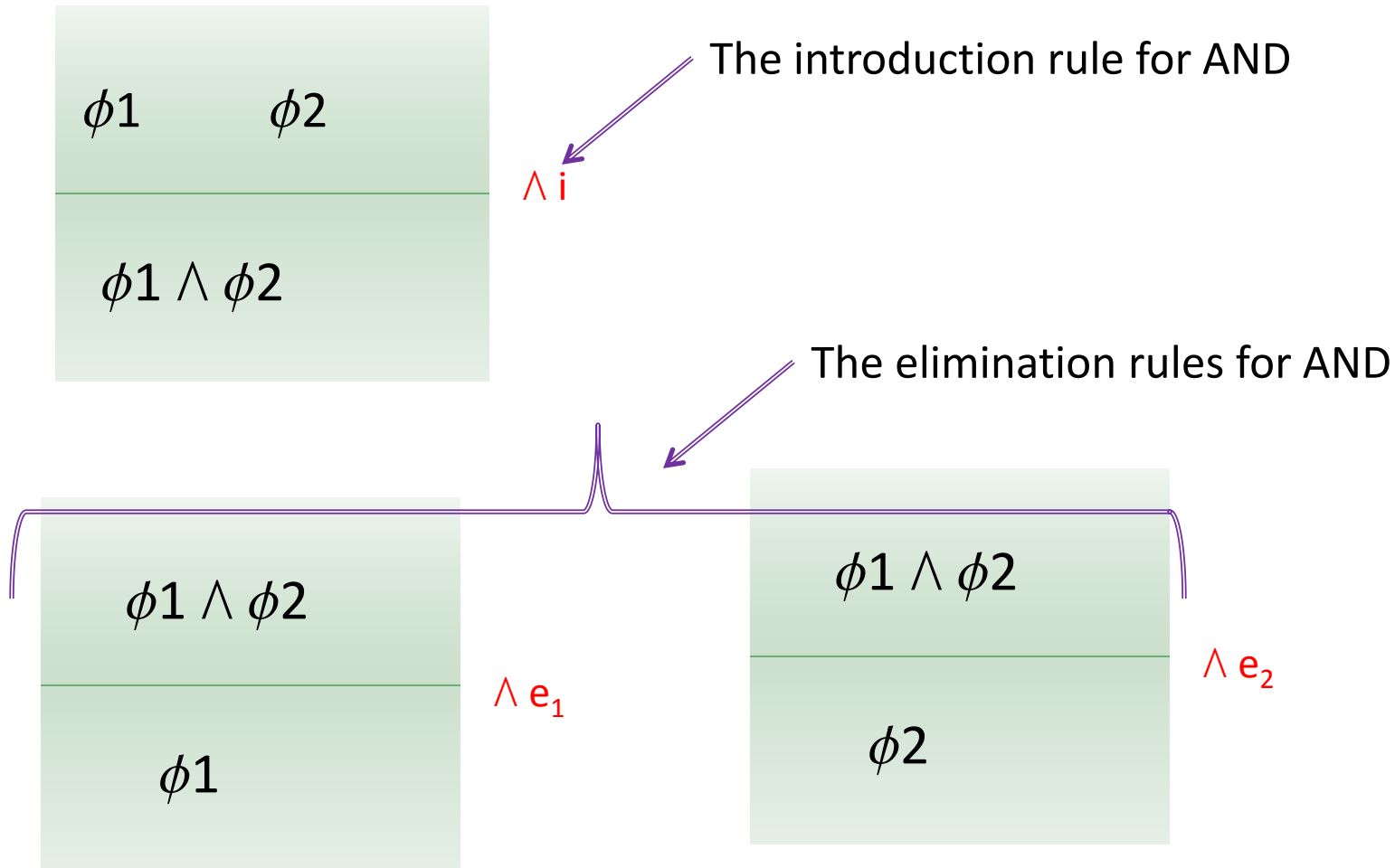
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MODULE: PROPOSITIONAL LOGIC

Natural Deduction: Rules for Conjunction

ND: Rules for Conjunction

- Conjunction refers to the operation “AND”:



ND: Rules for Conjunction – Example 1

- Prove the following sequent:
 - $\text{hot} \wedge \text{humid}, \text{sleepy} \wedge \text{dull} \vdash \text{hot} \wedge \text{sleepy}$
- The proof evolves via the following steps:

	Deduction	Explanation
1	hot \wedge humid	Premise
2	hot	$\wedge e_1$ 1

The first \wedge -elimination rule is applied on the premise in line 1
i.e. on **hot** \wedge **humid** to obtain the result **hot**



ND: Rules for Conjunction – Example 1

(continued)

	Deduction	Explanation
1	hot \wedge humid	Premise
2	hot	$\wedge e_1$ 1
3	dull \wedge sleepy	Premise
4	sleepy	$\wedge e_2$ 3

The second \wedge -elimination rule is applied on premise in line 3

i.e. on **dull \wedge sleepy** to obtain the result **sleepy**



ND: Rules for Conjunction – Example 1

(continued)

	Deduction	Explanation
1	hot \wedge humid	Premise
2	hot	$\wedge e_1$ 1
3	dull \wedge sleepy	Premise
4	sleepy	$\wedge e_2$ 3
5	hot \wedge sleepy	$\wedge i$ 2,4

The \wedge -introduction rule is applied on results in line 2 and 4 to obtain the result ***hot \wedge sleepy***



Natural Deduction: Proofs

Observations (about proofs):

- Typically the first step of a proof is *a premise* from the given sequent

and the last step is *the conclusion* from the given sequent.

i.e. if the sequent (to be proved) is of the form

$$\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_n \vdash \psi$$

then the proof will (typically) be of the form

$$\phi_k$$

Premise

...

$$\psi$$

Conclusion



Natural Deduction: Proofs

Observations (about proofs):

- Typically the rule (to be) applied is

(i) *an elimination rule* for an operation if
the (desired) result should be devoid of the operation
and one of the premises contains the operation.

(ii) *an introduction rule* for an operation if
the (desired) result should involve the operation
and the premises may not



Conjunction - Exercises

- Prove the following sequent:
 - $\text{english_summer} \wedge \text{green_top} \wedge \text{fast_bowling}, \text{indian_batsmen_fail}$
|--
 $\text{english_summer} \wedge \text{fast_bowling} \wedge \text{indian_batsmen_fail}$



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MODULE: PROPOSITIONAL LOGIC

Proof System - Natural Deduction – Implication Rules

Natural Deduction: Proof Rules: Implication

- **Modus Ponens (Implication Elimination)**

$\phi \rightarrow \psi$	ϕ
<hr/>	
ψ	

$\rightarrow e$

This rule is read as:

*if we know ϕ implies ψ and we know ϕ is true
then we can conclude ψ*



ND: Implication – Example 1

Prove using “modus ponens”:

rains, rains \rightarrow wet, wet \rightarrow slippery | \vdash slippery

The proof proceeds as follows:

	Deduction	Explanation
1	rains	Premise
2	rains\rightarrowwet	Premise
3	wet	\rightarrowe 1,2
		...

**\rightarrow elimination
on premises in
row 1 and 2**

1st step

ND: Implication – Example 1

[continued]

Proof using “modus ponens”:

rains, rains \rightarrow wet, wet \rightarrow slippery \vdash slippery

	Deduction	Explanation
1	rains	Premise
2	rains\rightarrowwet	Premise
3	wet	\rightarrowe 1,2
4	wet\rightarrowslippery	Premise
5	slippery	\rightarrowe 3,4

2nd step

\rightarrow -elimination
on premises in
row 3 and 4



ND: Implication – Example 2

Prove:

rains, rains \rightarrow wet, wet \rightarrow slippery \vdash wet \wedge slippery

	Deduction	Explanation
1	rains	Premise
2	rains\rightarrowwet	Premise
3	wet	\rightarrowe 1,2
4	wet\rightarrowslippery	Premise
5	slippery	\rightarrowe 1,4
6	wet \wedge slippery	\wedgei 3,5

**\rightarrow -elimination
on premises in
row 1 and 2**

**\rightarrow -elimination
on premises in
row 1 and 4**

**\wedge -introduction
on premises in
row 3 and 5**



Natural Deduction – Proofs

- Questions:
 - How do you identify the next step in a proof?
 - How do you identify which rule is to be applied?
- Observations:
 - An ND proof is usually driven bottom up i.e.
 - one identifies the steps (deductions) of the proof by starting with the conclusion
 - The structure of the conclusion (i.e. the top level operation(s) used) leads to the identification of the appropriate rule
 - for instance the choice of $\&i$ rule vs. the choice of $\rightarrow e$ rule in the two proofs in the last two slides.



ND – Structure of Proofs - Example

Prove: rains, rains \rightarrow wet, wet \rightarrow slippery \vdash wet \wedge slippery

Deduction	Explanation
wet \wedge slippery	\wedge i

\wedge -introduction



ND: Implication – Example 2

Prove:

$\text{rains}, \text{rains} \rightarrow \text{wet}, \text{wet} \rightarrow \text{slippery} \vdash \text{wet} \wedge \text{slippery}$

Deduction		Explanation
2	slippery	$\rightarrow e$
1	wet \wedge slippery	$\wedge i$?, 2

\rightarrow elimination

\wedge introduction
on premise in
row 2 and ?



ND: Implication – Example 2

Prove:

$\text{rains}, \text{rains} \rightarrow \text{wet}, \text{wet} \rightarrow \text{slippery} \vdash \text{wet} \wedge \text{slippery}$

	Deduction	Explanation
4	wet	?
3	wet \rightarrow slippery	Premise
2	slippery	\rightarrow e 3,4
1	wet \wedge slippery	\wedge i ?,2

\rightarrow -elimination
on Premise in
row 3 and result
in row 4

\wedge -introduction
on premise in
row 2 and ?



ND: Implication – Example 2

Prove:

$\text{rains}, \text{rains} \rightarrow \text{wet}, \text{wet} \rightarrow \text{slippery} \vdash \text{wet} \wedge \text{slippery}$

	Deduction	Explanation
6	rains	Premise
5	rains \rightarrow wet	Premise
4	wet	\rightarrow e 5,6
3	wet \rightarrow slippery	Premise
2	slippery	\rightarrow e 3,4
1	wet \wedge slippery	\wedge i ?,2

\rightarrow -elimination on
Premises in rows 5
and 6



ND: Implication – Example 2

Prove:

rains, rains \rightarrow wet, wet \rightarrow slippery \vdash wet \wedge slippery

	Deduction	Explanation
6	rains	Premise
5	rains\rightarrowwet	Premise
4	wet	\rightarrow e 5,6
3	wet \rightarrow slippery	Premise
2	slippery	\rightarrow e 3,4
1	wet \wedge slippery	\wedge i 4,2

\rightarrow -elimination on
Premise in row 4 and
result in row 3

\wedge -introduction on
premise in row 2 and
result in row 4



ND: Proof Rules: Implication Introduction

- A “Proof” introduces implication

Assume $\phi 1$

.

.

.

$\phi 2$

$\phi 1 \rightarrow \phi 2$

i.e. *if we can assume $\phi 1$ and prove $\phi 2$, then $\phi 1 \rightarrow \phi 2$ can be inferred*

Question:

How is this rule different from the ones seen before?

[Hint: *Note that there is a sub-proof.*

End of Hint.]

$\rightarrow i$



ND: Proofs using Implication Introduction

- Example:
 - Prove the sequent $\vdash p \wedge q \rightarrow q$
 - Proof:

	Deduction	Explanation
1	$p \wedge q$	Assumption
2	q	$\wedge e_2 - 1$
3	$p \wedge q \rightarrow q$	$\rightarrow i - 1-2$

} These two rows constitute a proof of the sequent $p \wedge q \vdash q$

Observation:

Proof of a sequent of the form $\phi \vdash \psi$ can be treated as the proof of a sequent of the form $\vdash \phi \rightarrow \psi$



ND: Proofs using Implication Introduction

• Observation:

- Proof of a sequent of the form $\phi \vdash \psi$ can be treated as the proof of a sequent of the form $\vdash \phi \rightarrow \psi$
- Inductively, proof of $\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_n \vdash \psi$ is proof of $\vdash \phi_1 \rightarrow (\phi_2 \rightarrow (\dots \rightarrow (\phi_n \rightarrow \psi) \dots))$

Exercise:

Prove the following sequent :

$$p \rightarrow q, q \rightarrow r \vdash p \rightarrow r$$

and thereby prove the following sequent, using the observation mentioned above:

$$\vdash (p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow ((q \rightarrow r) \rightarrow (p \rightarrow r))$$

