

## Chapter 1

# Mathematical Concepts and Symbols

## 1.1 Logical Symbols

The logical symbols are a kind of symbols using for theoretical statements.

Table 1.1: Frequently-used Logical Symbols

Symbols	Meanings
$L \implies P$	Proposition $L$ is contained in proposition $P$
$L \iff P$	Proposition $L$ is equivalent to proposition $P$
$\neg P$	Not $P$
$L \wedge P$	Proposition $L$ and proposition $P$
$L \vee P$	Proposition $L$ or proposition $P$

e.g.

$$((A \implies B) \wedge (\neg B) \implies (\neg A))$$

stands for “ if  $A$  is contained in  $B$ ,and  $B$  is not true,then  $A$  is not true”.

We also call  $A \iff B$  “ $A$  is the necessary and suffiecent condition of  $B$ ”.

The typical math proposition is like “ $A \implies B$ ”.In order to prove this proposition ,we can use the implication relationship

$$A \implies C_1 \implies \cdots \implies C_n \implies B$$

The every implication relationship in this chain is general truth or proved proposition.

Table 1.2: Truth Table

$\neg A$	$A$	0	1
	$\neg A$	1	0
$A \vee B$	$\begin{array}{c} B \\ \diagdown \\ A \end{array}$	0	1
	0	0	1
	1	1	1
$A \wedge B$	$\begin{array}{c} B \\ \diagdown \\ A \end{array}$	0	1
	0	0	0
	1	0	1
$A \implies B$	$\begin{array}{c} B \\ \diagdown \\ A \end{array}$	0	1
	0	1	1
	1	0	1

**Question 1.**  $\neg(A \wedge B) \Leftrightarrow (\neg A \vee \neg B)$ .

*Proof.* (Use the truth table)

If  $A$  is true,  $B$  is true,  $A \wedge B$  is true.  $\neg(A \wedge B)$  is false.  $\neg A$  is false,  $\neg B$  is false,  $(\neg A \vee \neg B)$  is false.

If  $A$  is true,  $B$  is false,  $A \wedge B$  is false.  $\neg(A \wedge B)$  is true.  $\neg A$  is false,  $\neg B$  is true,  $(\neg A \vee \neg B)$  is true.

If  $A$  is false,  $B$  is true,  $A \wedge B$  is false.  $\neg(A \wedge B)$  is true.  $\neg A$  is true,  $\neg B$  is false,  $(\neg A \vee \neg B)$  is true.

If  $A$  is false,  $B$  is false,  $A \wedge B$  is false.  $\neg(A \wedge B)$  is true.  $\neg A$  is true,  $\neg B$  is true,  $(\neg A \vee \neg B)$  is true.

So

$$\neg(A \wedge B) \Leftrightarrow (\neg A \vee \neg B)$$

□

**Question 2.**  $(A \Rightarrow B) \Leftrightarrow \neg A \vee B$ .

*Proof.* Firstly, we confirm the truth of

$$(A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow \neg A \vee B$$

If  $(A \Rightarrow B)$  is false, then  $\neg A \vee B$  is true.

If  $(A \Rightarrow B)$  is true, then we have two possibilities. The first is  $A$  is true,  $B$  is true, so  $\neg A \vee B$  is true. The second is  $A$  is false, then  $B$  can be true or false, but  $\neg A \vee B$  will be true.

Hence,  $(A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow \neg A \vee B$ .

Secondly, we prove

$$(A \Rightarrow B) \Leftarrow \neg A \vee B$$

If  $\neg A \vee B$  is false, then  $(A \Rightarrow B)$  is true.

If  $\neg A \vee B$  is true, we have

1.  $\neg A$  is true,  $B$  is false, then,  $A$  is false,  $(A \Rightarrow B)$  is true.
2.  $\neg A$  is false,  $B$  is true, then,  $A$  is true,  $(A \Rightarrow B)$  is true.
3.  $\neg A$  is true,  $B$  is true, then,  $A$  is false,  $(A \Rightarrow B)$  is true.

So  $(A \Rightarrow B) \Leftarrow \neg A \vee B$ .

□

## 1.2 Sets and their Operations

A set is a collection of well-defined objects.

If  $A$  is a set, we write  $a \in A$  to express element  $a$  belongs to set  $A$ , the negative proposition of which is  $a \notin A$ . We use the symbol  $\emptyset$  to denote the empty set, that is, the set with no elements.

**Theorem 1** (Cantor). *There is no set contains all the sets.*

*Proof.* We assume  $P(M)$  represents  $M$  doesn't contain itself.

Consider  $K = \{M | P(M)\}$  which is made of **sets**  $M$  that satisfies  $P$ . Assuming  $K$  is a set, then either  $P(K)$  or  $\neg P(K)$  is true.

If  $P(K)$  is true,  $K$  doesn't contain itself, but because of the definition of  $K$ ,  $K$  is belong to  $K$ , which means  $\neg P(M)$ .

If  $\neg P(M)$  is true, it's easy to find the similar conclusion.

So to the contrary,  $K$  is not a set. This reveals a set can't contain all the sets.  $\square$

**Theorem 1** is a typical paradox called Russell's paradox.

$\forall$  and  $\exists$  are logical symbols to describe

Table 1.3: Universal and Existential Quantifications

Symbols	Meanings
$\forall x \in A$	For all elements $x$ in $A$
$\exists x \in A$	There exist at least one element $x$ in $A$

To show the inclusion relation of two sets, we often use the Symbol  $A \subset B$ , which means set  $A$  is a **subset** of set  $B$  (All the elements in  $A$  also belong to  $B$ ). We indicate that  $A$  is not a subset of  $B$  by this notation:  $A \not\subset B$ .

$$(A \subset B) := \forall x((x \in A) \Rightarrow (x \in B))$$

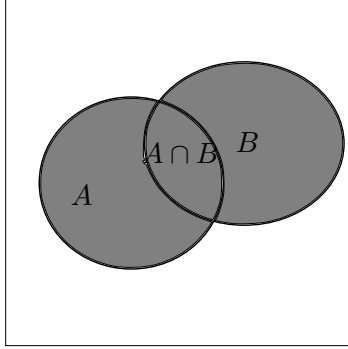
We define the equal relation between two sets, using the symbol  $=$ :

$$A = B := (A \subset B) \wedge (B \subset A)$$

We often use this definition to prove  $A = B$ . Symbol  $\neq$  denotes the negative proposition of equal.

$A$  is a **proper subset** of  $B$ , if  $A$  is a subset of  $B$ , and  $A \neq B$ , denoted by the symbol  $\subsetneq$ .

Figure 1.1: Union of two sets



If  $A$  and  $B$  are sets, then their **union**, denoted by  $A \cup B$ , is the set of all elements that are elements of either  $A$  or  $B$ :

$$(A \cup B) =: \{x \in M \mid (x \in A) \vee (x \in B)\}$$

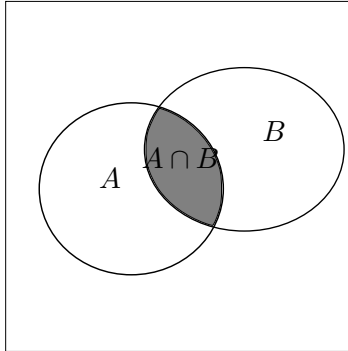
Clearly,  $A \cup B = B \cup A$ .

If  $A$  and  $B$  are sets, then their **intersection**, denoted by  $A \cap B$ , contains all the elements in both  $A$  and  $B$ :

$$(A \cap B) =: \{x \in M \mid (x \in A) \wedge (x \in B)\}$$

Also, we have  $A \cap B = B \cap A$ .

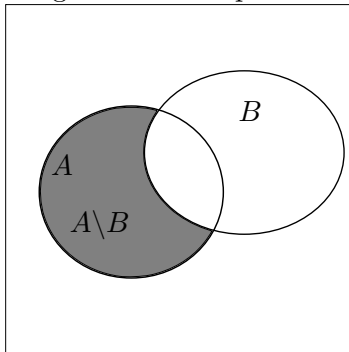
Figure 1.2: Intersection of two sets



For  $B \subset A$ , we use the notation  $C_A B$  to represent the set contains all the elements which belongs to  $A$  but not belong to  $B$ .

$$C_A B =: \{x \in M \mid (x \in A) \wedge (x \notin B)\}$$

Figure 1.3: Complement



We can also denote it as the symbol  $A \setminus B$ .