

# Proving that the Boolean Algebra forms a vector space

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# 1 Defining the Boolean algebra

We define a Boolean algebra as a set of  $B$  elements  $a, b, \dots$  with the following properties:

1.  $B$  has two binary operators  $\wedge$  or  $\cdot$  (logical AND) and  $\vee$  or  $+$  (logical OR)

2. Idempotence

- $a \wedge a = a \vee a = a$

3. Commutative law

- $a \wedge b = b \wedge a$

- $a \vee b = b \vee a$

4. Associative law

- $a \wedge (b \wedge c) = (a \wedge b) \wedge c$

- $a \vee (b \vee c) = (a \vee b) \vee c$

5. Absorption law

- $a \wedge (a \vee b) = a \vee (a \wedge b) = a$

6. Mutual distributiveness

- $a \wedge (b \vee c) = (a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge c)$

- $a \vee (b \wedge c) = (a \vee b) \wedge (a \vee c)$

7.  $B$  contains universal bounds  $\emptyset$  (empty set) and  $I$  (universal set)

- $\emptyset \wedge a = \emptyset$

- $\emptyset \vee a = a$

- $I \wedge a = a$

- $I \vee a = I$

8.  $B$  has a unary operator  $a \rightarrow a'$  such that

- $a \wedge a' = \emptyset$

- $a \vee a' = I$

If the truth values  $a, b$  are interpreted as integers 0, 1 our operators can be expressed with ordinary arithmetic, or by minimum/maximum functions:

1.  $a \wedge b = a \times b = \min(a, b)$

2.  $a \vee b = a + b - (a \times b) = \max(a, b)$

3.  $\neg a$  or  $\bar{a} = 1 - a$

We may also express  $a \wedge b$ ,  $a \vee b$ , and  $\neg a$  with a truth table

$a$	$b$	$a \wedge b$	$a \vee b$
0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1
1	0	0	1
1	1	1	1

Table 1: Truth table for binary operators

$a$	$\neg a$
0	1
1	0

Table 2: Truth table for unary operator

## 2 Defining a field

bar

## 3 Boolean algebra as a field

foobar

## 4 Fields as vector spaces

barfoo

## 5 Boolean algebra as a vector space

foobar