

## CSC 258

### Four common Boolean operators

---

*not* 

This is a unary operator; the rest are binary operators.

Our symbol: an overbar, e.g.  $\bar{p}$

Other common symbols:  $\sim$  '  $\neg$


Funny note: The ' symbol is postfix; others are prefix.

In e-mail: Use an apostrophe for ' ; may require more parentheses than overbar

Truth table:

$p$	$\bar{p}$
0	1
1	0

---

*and* 

Our symbol: multiplication

Other common symbols:  $\wedge$  &  $\cap$

Truth table:

$p$	$q$	$pq$
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

*or* 

Our symbol: +

Other common symbols:  $\vee$  |  $\cup$

Truth table:

$p$	$q$	$p + q$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

---

*exclusive or* (also called “xor”) 

Our symbol:  $\oplus$

In e-mail: Use the word “xor”

Truth table:

$p$	$q$	$p \oplus q$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

---

## CSC 258

### Some Boolean algebra identities

#### identity laws:

$$a \cdot 1 = a$$

$$a + 0 = a$$

#### base laws:

$$a \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$a + 1 = 1$$

#### idempotence:

$$aa = a$$

$$a + a = a$$

#### excluded middle:

$$a + \bar{a} = 1$$

#### non-contradiction:

$$a \bar{a} = 0$$

#### double-negation:

$$\bar{\bar{a}} = a$$

#### exclusive-or definition:

$$a \oplus b = a\bar{b} + \bar{a}b$$

#### commutative:

$$ab = ba$$

$$a + b = b + a$$

$$a \oplus b = b \oplus a$$

#### associative:

$$(ab)c = a(bc)$$

$$(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$$

$$(a \oplus b) \oplus c = a \oplus (b \oplus c)$$

#### distributive:

$$a(b + c) = ab + ac$$

$$a + bc = (a + b)(a + c)$$

#### de Morgan's laws:

$$\overline{a + b} = \bar{a}\bar{b}$$

$$\overline{ab} = \bar{a} + \bar{b}$$

*etc*

#### absorption:

$$a(a + b) = a$$

$$a + ab = a$$

$$a + \bar{a}b = a + b$$

#### no name:

$$ab + a\bar{b} = a$$