

Discrete Structures and Theory (Spring 2023) Homework 1

Deadline: 27/01/2023

Total: 9 POINTS

1. (3 POINTS) Write each of these statements in the form “if p, then q” in English.

a) It is sufficient to leave Accra at 6:00AM to get to campus by 8:00AM.

SOLUTION (1/2 POINT)

If we leave Accra at 6:00AM, then we will get to campus by 8:00am

b) Willy gets caught whenever he cheats.

SOLUTION (1/2 POINT)

If Willy cheats, then he gets caught.

c) You can access the website only if you pay a subscription fee.

SOLUTION (1/2 POINT)

If you can access the website, then you paid a subscription fee.

d) Getting elected follows from knowing the right people.

SOLUTION (1/2 POINT)

If you know the right people, then you will get elected.

e) Winds from the south imply a spring thaw.

SOLUTION (1/2 POINT)

If there are winds from the south, then there's a spring thaw.

f) Abena will go to Accra unless she missed the bus.

SOLUTION (1/2 POINT)

If Abena does not miss the bus, then she will go to accra.

2. (3 POINTS) Construct a truth table for each of these compound propositions:

a) $p \oplus p$

SOLUTION (1 POINT)

| p | $p \oplus p$ |
|---|--------------|
| T | F |
| F | F |

b) $(p \oplus q) \vee (p \oplus \neg q)$

SOLUTION (2 POINTS)

| p | q | $\neg q$ | $p \oplus q$ | $p \oplus \neg q$ | $(p \oplus q) \vee (p \oplus \neg q)$ |
|---|---|----------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| T | T | F | F | T | T |
| T | F | T | T | F | T |
| F | T | F | T | F | T |
| F | F | T | F | T | T |

3. (3 POINTS) Use logical equivalences to show that $[\neg p \wedge (p \vee q)] \rightarrow q$ is a tautology.

Steps

Reasons

$$[\neg p \wedge (p \vee q)] \rightarrow q \equiv \neg[\neg p \wedge (p \vee q)] \vee q \quad \text{Conditional-disjunction equivalence (1/4 POINT)}$$

$$\equiv (\neg \neg p \vee \neg (p \vee q)) \vee q \quad \text{1st De Morgan's Law (1/4 POINT)}$$

$$\equiv (p \vee (\neg p \wedge \neg q)) \vee q \quad \text{Double negation law \& 2nd De Morgans Law (1 POINT)}$$

$$\equiv ((p \vee \neg p) \wedge (p \vee \neg q)) \vee q \quad \text{1st Distributive Law (1/4 POINT)}$$

$$\equiv (T \wedge (p \vee \neg q)) \vee q \quad \text{1st negation law (1/4 POINT)}$$

$$\equiv (p \vee \neg q) \vee q \quad \text{1st Identity law (1/4 POINT)}$$

$$\equiv p \vee (\neg q \vee q)$$

1st associative law (1/4 POINT)

$$\equiv (p \vee T)$$

1st negation law (1/4 POINT)

$$\equiv T$$

1st domination law (1/4 POINT)

OR

$$[\neg p \wedge (p \vee q)] \rightarrow q \equiv \neg[\neg p \wedge (p \vee q)] \vee q$$

Conditional-disjunction
equivalence (1/2 POINT)

$$\equiv \neg\neg p \vee \neg(p \vee q) \vee q$$

1ST De Morgan's Law (1/2
POINT)

$$\equiv (p \vee q) \vee \neg(p \vee q)$$

Double negation law & 1st
Commutative law (1 POINT)

$$\equiv T$$

1st Negation law (1 POINT)