

## 2.1 Logical Form and Logical Equivalence

An **argument** is a sequence of **statements** used to prove an assertion called the **conclusion**.

The **argument form** focuses on the logical structure.

A **statement** is a sentence that is either true or false. Example:

- $1 + 3 = 7$  (false)

Non-example:

- $x^2 + y^2 = 4$  (unknown  $x, y$ )

### Logical Operators

- $\sim$ : negation, “not”
- $\vee$ : Disjunction, “or”
- $\wedge$ : Conjunction, “and”

### Logical Equivalence

Two statement forms are **logically equivalent** if they have identical truth values for all inputs. Proven using truth tables.

De Morgan’s Laws:

- $\sim (p \wedge q) \Leftrightarrow \sim p \vee \sim q$
- $\sim (p \vee q) \Leftrightarrow \sim p \wedge \sim q$

A **tautology** is a statement form that is always true, regardless of the inputs. A **contradiction** is a statement form that is always false.

*Law of excluded middle:*  $p \vee \sim p$  is a tautology.

*Law of non-contradiction:*  $p \wedge \sim p$  is a contradiction.

### Common Logical Equivalences

- **1. Commutative Laws:**  $P \wedge Q \equiv Q \wedge P$ ,  $P \vee Q \equiv Q \vee P$
- **2. Associative Laws:**  $(P \wedge Q) \wedge R \equiv P \wedge (Q \wedge R)$ ,  $(P \vee Q) \vee R \equiv P \vee (Q \vee R)$
- **3. Identity Laws:**  $P \wedge \text{T} \equiv P$ ,  $P \vee \text{F} \equiv P$
- **4. Double negation:**  $\sim \sim P \equiv P$
- **5. De Morgan’s Laws:**  $\sim (P \wedge Q) \equiv \sim P \vee \sim Q$ ,  $\sim (P \vee Q) \equiv \sim P \wedge \sim Q$
- **6. Absorption Laws:**  $P \wedge (P \vee Q) \equiv P$ ,  $P \vee (P \wedge Q) \equiv P$

## 2.2 Conditional Statements

### Conditionals

A conditional statement has the form:

$$P \rightarrow Q$$

where  $P$  is called the hypothesis and  $Q$  is called the conclusion.

- The only time  $P \rightarrow Q$  is false is when  $P$  is true and  $Q$  is false.
- $P \rightarrow Q$  is logically equivalent to  $\sim P \vee Q$ . This can be proven using a truth table.
- The contrapositive of  $P \rightarrow Q$  is  $\sim Q \rightarrow \sim P$ . An implication is logically equivalent to its contrapositive.
- The converse of  $P \rightarrow Q$  is  $Q \rightarrow P$ . The converse is not logically equivalent to the original implication.
- The inverse of  $P \rightarrow Q$  is  $\sim P \rightarrow \sim Q$ . The inverse is not logically equivalent to the original.

### Biconditionals

A biconditional statement has the form:

$$P \leftrightarrow Q$$

which can also be written as  $P$  if and only if  $Q$ .

- $P \leftrightarrow Q$  is true when  $P$  and  $Q$  have the same truth value.
- $P \leftrightarrow Q$  is false when  $P$  and  $Q$  have different truth values.
- $P \leftrightarrow Q$  is logically equivalent to  $(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P)$ .

### Examples

- Let  $P$  be “It is raining” and let  $Q$  be “The grass is wet.” The statement “If it is raining, then the grass is wet” can be written as  $P \rightarrow Q$ .
- The contrapositive of the previous statement is “If the grass is not wet, then it is not raining” or  $\sim Q \rightarrow \sim P$ .
- The converse is “If the grass is wet, then it is raining” or  $Q \rightarrow P$ .
- The biconditional “The grass is wet if and only if it is raining” is  $P \leftrightarrow Q$ .

## 2.3 Valid and Invalid Arguments

### Validity

An argument form is **valid** if when the premises are true, the conclusion must also be true.

To show validity:

- Construct a truth table for the argument form
- Identify **critical rows** where all premises are true
- Check that the conclusion is true in all critical rows

If the conclusion is false in any critical row, the argument form is invalid.

### Common Valid Argument Forms

- **Modus Ponens:**  $P \rightarrow Q, P \therefore Q$
- **Modus Tollens:**  $P \rightarrow Q, \sim Q \therefore \sim P$
- **Hypothetical Syllogism:**  $P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R \therefore P \rightarrow R$

### Fallacies

Common invalid argument forms (fallacies):

- **Converse error:**  $P \rightarrow Q, Q \therefore P$
- **Inverse error:**  $P \rightarrow Q, \sim P \therefore \sim Q$

### Validity vs. Truth

Validity is different from truth. An argument can be:

- Valid with false premises/conclusion
- Invalid with true premises/conclusion

A **sound** argument is valid and has true premises. An **unsound** argument is invalid or has false premises.

### Contradiction Rule

The contradiction rule states:

If  $\sim P \rightarrow C$  where  $C$  is a contradiction, then  $P$  must be true.

This can be used to prove arguments valid.

## 2.4 Circuits

A circuit can be **open** (no current flows) or **closed** (current flows).

- **Series** - Light bulb turns on if all switches closed.
- **Parallel** - Light bulb turns on if at least one switch closed.

Parallel circuit truth table is like OR. Series circuit truth table is like AND.

### Basic Gates

- **NOT** - Inverts input
- **AND** - Output 1 if all inputs 1
- **OR** - Output 1 if any input 1

### Combinatorial Circuits

More complicated circuits created by combining basic gates:

- Can split wires but not combine input wires
- Output of one gate can be input of another
- No feedback loops allowed

**Boolean expression:** Composed of variables taking values 0 or 1 and operations like NOT, AND, OR.

Boolean expression can be derived from circuit by tracing signals.

### Recognizers

A **recognizer** circuit outputs 1 for only one input combination. Useful building blocks.

### Equivalent Circuits

Two circuits are **equivalent** if input-output tables are identical. Can show equivalence by deriving boolean expressions and using logical equivalences.

### NAND and NOR Gates

**NAND** = AND followed by NOT.

**NOR** = OR followed by NOT.

NAND and NOR gates can simplify circuit designs.