

# Discrete Math Notes

## Propositions, Negations, Conjunctions and Disjunctions

A **proposition** is a declarative statement that is either true or false

- Eg, "The sky is blue", "The moon is made of cheese"
- Example of what is *not* a proposition, "Sit down", " $X+1 = 2$ ". The last one is not a proposition because it is not true or false

A compound proposition is comprised of propositions and one or more of the following connectives

- Negation  $\neg$  "NOT"
- Conjunction  $\wedge$  "AND"
- Disjunction  $\vee$  "or"
- Implication  $\rightarrow$  "If, then"
- Bicondition  $\leftrightarrow$  "if and only if"

## Implications (Converse, inverse, contrapositive) and Biconditionals

Implication (conditional statement)

- When the hypothesis is true, the conclusion must be true for the implication to be true.

P	q	$P \rightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

- Converse, if the implication is  $p \rightarrow q$ , then the converse is  $q \rightarrow p$  (switching order)
- Inverse, if the implication is  $p \rightarrow q$ , then the inverse is  $\neg p \rightarrow \neg q$  (negate)
- Contrapositive, if the implication is  $p \rightarrow q$ , then the contrapositive is  $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$  (switching the order and negate). Contrapositive will always have the same truth values as the implication

For a biconditional to be true, both propositions must share the same truth value

P	q	$p \leftrightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	T

Overall

P	q	$p \rightarrow q$	$q \rightarrow p$	$(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow p)$	$p \leftrightarrow q$
T	T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	F	F
F	T	T	F	F	F
F	F	T	T	T	T

### 1.1.3 Constructing a truth table for compound propositions

You need  $2^{\{\text{number of propositions}\}}$  rows

You need a column for each propositional value, a column for the truth value of each expression that occurs in the compound proposition as it's built up, and lastly a column for the final result.

The order of precedence (importance/priority) for operators is as following:

- $\neg$
- $\wedge$

- $\vee$
- $\rightarrow$
- $\leftrightarrow$

Example

The proposition is  $p \vee q \rightarrow \neg r$

- 1) first construct columns for each propositions: p, q, r
- 2) create a column for each compound proposition:  $p \vee q$ ,  $\neg r$
- 3) create a column for the final compound proposition
- 4) create  $2^3 = 8$  rows

### 1.2.1 Translating propositional logical statements

equate each condition to a letter

the letter must always represent the **positive** outcome

Eg. " You can get a free sandwich on thursday if you buy a sandwich or a cup of soup":

- P: I buy a sandwich
- Q: I buy a cup of soup
- R: I get a free sandwich on thursday

Answer:  $(P \vee Q) \rightarrow \neg R$

### 1.2.2 Solving Logic Puzzles

Context:

- Knights always tell the truth
- Knaves always lie

Puzzle:

- A says "B is a knight"
- B says "The two of us are opposite types"
- What are A and B?

Answer:

- P: A is a knight
- q: B is a knight
- 4 Possible outcomes
  - $p \wedge q$
  - $p \wedge \neg q$
  - $\neg p \wedge q$

- $\neg p \wedge \neg q$

Go through each one, the only one that doesn't contradict is the last one

### 1.2.3 Introduction to Logic circuits

- NOT gate
- OR gate
- AND gate

A Logic circuit is designed to perform complex tasks designed in terms of elementary logic functions.

### 1.3.1 "Proving" logical Equivalences with Truth tables

a **tautology** is a proposition which is always true. Eg  $p \vee \neg p$

a **contradiction** is a proposition which is always false. Eg  $p \wedge \neg p$

a **contingency** is a proposition which is neither a tautology nor a contradiction. Example:  $p$

Logical equivalences

- Two compound propositions,  $p$  and  $q$ , are logically equivalent if  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is a tautology
- Eg  $\neg p \vee q \equiv p \rightarrow q$  which can be proven with a truth table

$p$	$q$	$\neg p$	$\neg p \vee q$	$p \rightarrow q$
T	T	F	T	T
T	F	F	F	F
F	T	T	T	T
F	F	T	T	T

### 1.3.2 Key Logical Equivalences Including De Morgan's Laws

Identity Laws — T = Tautology (True), F = (contradiction) False

- $P \wedge T \equiv P$
- $P \vee F \equiv P$

Domination Laws

- $P \vee T \equiv T$
- $P \wedge F \equiv F$

Idempotent Laws

- $P \vee P \equiv P$
- $P \wedge P \equiv P$

#### Double Negation Law

- $\neg(\neg P) \equiv P$

#### Absorption Laws

- $P \vee (P \wedge Q) \equiv P$
- $P \wedge (P \vee Q) \equiv P$

#### Negation Laws

- $P \vee \neg P \equiv T$
- $P \wedge \neg P \equiv F$

#### Commutative Laws

- $P \vee Q \equiv Q \vee P$
- $P \wedge Q \equiv Q \wedge P$

#### Distributive laws

- $P \vee (Q \wedge R) \equiv (P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R)$
- $P \wedge (Q \vee R) \equiv (P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge R)$

#### Associative Laws

- $(P \vee Q) \vee R \equiv P \vee (Q \vee R)$
- $(P \wedge Q) \wedge R \equiv P \wedge (Q \wedge R)$

#### De Morgan's Laws

- $\neg(P \vee Q) \equiv \neg P \wedge \neg Q$
- $\neg(P \wedge Q) \equiv \neg P \vee \neg Q$