

We can use a recursive definition to describe all compound propositions that use propositional variables from a specified collection. Here's the definition for all compound propositions whose propositional variables are in $\{p, q\}$.

Basis Step: p and q are each a compound proposition
Recursive Step: If x is a compound proposition then so is $(\neg x)$ and if
 x and y are both compound propositions then so is each of
 $(x \wedge y), (x \oplus y), (x \vee y), (x \rightarrow y), (x \leftrightarrow y)$