



A. Propositional Logic

1.1-1.2

A. Propositional Logic

- Atomic and compound propositions
- Logical Operators: AND, OR, Exclusive OR, Negation
- Satisfiability
- Implications

The foundation for writing proofs

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

Propositions are statements that we can determine as true or false.



Propositional logic is the steps we use to determine the truth of a proposition

Propositions

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- A proposition is a statement that can be determined to be true or false.
- Propositions do not contain variables that need to be defined.
- If a statement, such as an imperative or question, cannot be determined true or false, it is not a proposition.

Example: 7 is prime.

Example: 2 is odd.

Example: Please walk to the metro.

Example: If the temperature is 200F, you win one million dollars.

Example: $n+1$ is even.

Example: What is your favorite color?

This is a proposition since we can verify that 7 is prime.

This is a proposition since we can verify that 2 is even.

This is not a proposition. It is an imperative.

This is a vacuously true proposition (sadly we cannot collect that money).

This is not a proposition. Unless we know what value n is we cannot determine its truth.

This question is not a proposition as we cannot determine if it is true or false.

Atomic and Compound Propositions

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- A single proposition may be represented as a propositional variable.
- An **atomic proposition** is a single proposition.
- A **compound proposition** is a proposition that combines atomic propositions using logical operators.

Atomic Proposition using propositional variable p:

p = "7 is prime. "

Atomic Proposition using propositional variable q:

q = "25 is divisible by 2."

Compound proposition using and operator:

$$p \wedge q$$

7 is prime and 25 is divisible by 2.

Compound proposition using or operator:

$$p \vee q$$

7 is prime or 25 is divisible by 2.

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Logical Operator: AND

- A truth table assigns T or F to each proposition and calculates the truth assignment of the entire compound proposition.
- Logical and is also called conjunction.
- Given two atomic propositions, p , q , let's construct truth table for the conjunction.

p	q	$p \wedge q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

Logical Operator: OR

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- A truth table assigns T or F to each proposition and calculates the truth assignment of the entire compound proposition.
- Logical or is also called disjunction.
- Given two atomic propositions, p , q , let's construct truth table for the disjunction.

p	q	$p \vee q$
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

Logical Operator: Exclusive OR

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- A truth table assigns T or F to each proposition and calculates the truth assignment of the entire compound proposition.
- Exclusive OR is true if exactly one of the propositions is true.
- Given two atomic propositions, p , q , let's construct truth table for the exclusive OR.

True Example: p = "2 is prime", q = "25 is divisible by 3"

False Example: p = "2 is prime", q = "25 is divisible by 5"

p	q	$p \oplus q$
T	T	F
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

False Example

True Example

Logical Operator: Negation

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- Observe either a proposition is true or its negation is true.
- Let's construction the truth table for negation and double negation.
- We'll see to prove a statement is false, show its negation is true. We do this when we give counterexamples.

False Example: p = "All prime numbers are odd."

Negation of p = "There is a prime number that is not odd."

Counterexample: 2 is prime and even.

p	$\neg p$	$\neg\neg p$
T	F	T
F	T	F

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Satisfiability

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- A compound proposition is satisfiable if and only if there exists at least one assignment to the propositional variables that makes the entire proposition true
- In a truth table this is a line that is true.
- For example, exclusive OR had two such assignments.

p	q	$p \oplus q$
T	T	F
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

Satisfiability

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- A compound proposition is satisfiable if and only if there exists at least one assignment to the propositional variables that makes the entire proposition true
- A tautology is true for every assignment to the variables
- For any proposition, the following is a tautology:

Example: p = "There was a blizzard on April 1, 1997 in Cambridge, MA."

p	$\neg p$	$p \vee \neg p$
T	F	T
F	T	T

Satisfiability

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- A compound proposition is satisfiable if and only if there exists at least one assignment to the propositional variables that makes the entire proposition true
- There exists compound propositions that are unsatisfiable.
- For any proposition, the following is unsatisfiable:

Example: p = "There was a blizzard on April 1, 1997 in Cambridge, MA."

p	$\neg p$	$p \wedge \neg p$
T	F	F
F	T	F

Consistency

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- A set of compound propositions are consistent if there exists truth assignment such that all propositions are satisfied at the same time.
- First, we will show how two compound propositions using the atomic propositions, p and q , are consistent.
- Then we will introduce a third proposition to show when they are not longer consistent.

Example: p = "There was a heatwave in Los Angeles in July 2019. "

q = "There was a heatwave in London in July 2019."

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

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Implications

- An implication is a compound proposition using propositions, p and q , stated as if p then q or p implies q .
- p is called the premise or sufficient condition for q .
- q is called the conclusion or necessary condition for p .
- Let's draw the truth table for the implication:

Example: p = "There was a day in London in July 2019 with a temperature of 110 F. "
 q = "There was a record high temperature in London in July 2019."

p	q	$p \Rightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

Record London temperature July 2019: 101F

Vacuously true!

Implications: Converse

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- Give an implication, p implies q , the converse is q implies p .
- If an implication is true, its converse need not be true.
- Let's consider the true table for each and an example

Example: Let x and y be real numbers with y not equal to 0.

p = "x is rational and y is rational"

q = "x/y is rational."

p	q	$p \Rightarrow q$	$q \Rightarrow p$
T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T
F	T	T	F
F	F	T	T

$$x = y = \sqrt{2}$$

Implications: Contrapositive

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- Give an implication, p implies q , the contrapositive is not q implies not p .
- If an implication is true, its contrapositive is true and vice versa.
- Let's consider the true table for each and an example

Example: Let x and y be real numbers with y not equal to 0.

p = "x is rational and y is rational" negation of p : "x is not rational or y is not rational."

q = "x/y is rational." negation of q : "x/y is not rational."

p	q	$p \Rightarrow q$	$\neg q \Rightarrow \neg p$
T	T	T	T
T	F	F	F
F	T	T	T
F	F	T	T

Implications: Inverse

INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

- Give an implication, p implies q , the inverse is not p implies not q .
- If an implication is true, its inverse need not be true.
- If the converse is true, the inverse is true and vice versa.

Example: Let x and y be real numbers with y not equal to 0.

p = “ x is rational and y is rational” negation of p : “ x is not rational or y is not rational.”

q = “ x/y is rational.” negation of q : “ x/y is not rational.”

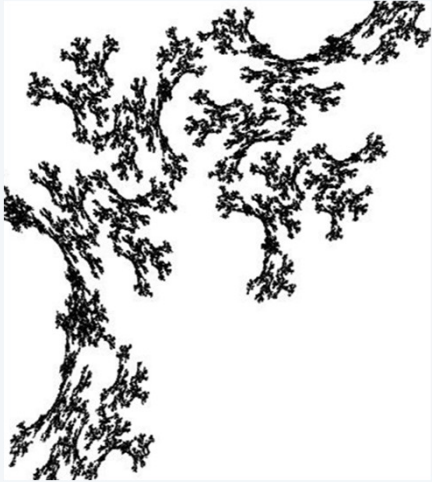
p	q	$p \Rightarrow q$	$\neg p \Rightarrow \neg q$
T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T
F	T	T	F
F	F	T	T

$$x = y = \sqrt{2}$$

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