



## C. Propositional Equivalence

1.1-1.2

[@2020 A.D. Gunawardena](#)

# INTRODUCTION TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES

## C.Propositional Equivalence

- Tautologies and contradictions
- Logical equivalences
- De Morgan's Law
- Satisfiability
- Direct proofs

## Tautologies and contradictions

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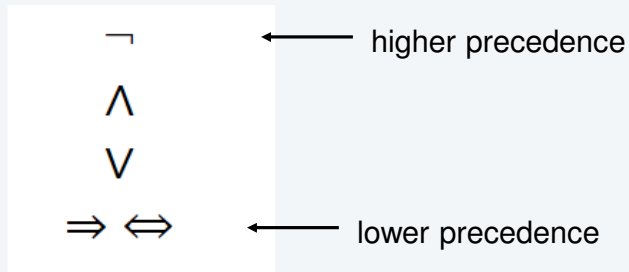
**Tautology.** A compound proposition that is always true despite the values of variables.

**Contradiction.** A compound proposition that is always false.

**contingency.** A compound proposition that neither a tautology or contradiction.

## Precedence rules of logical operators

**Operator precedence** is an ordering of logical operators designed to allow dropping of the parenthesis in logical expressions.



**un-parenthesized statements.** associate the expression with the one with higher precedence.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \neg p \wedge q & ((\neg p) \wedge q) \\ p \wedge \neg q & (p \wedge (\neg q)) \\ p \wedge q \vee r & ((p \wedge q) \vee r) \\ p \vee q \wedge r & (p \vee (q \wedge r)) \\ p \Rightarrow q \Rightarrow r & (p \Rightarrow (q \Rightarrow r)) \\ p \Rightarrow q \Leftrightarrow r & (p \Rightarrow (q \Leftrightarrow r)) \end{array}$$

## Workshop

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Identify each of the following as tautology, contradiction or contingency

1.  $p \wedge q \wedge \neg p$

2.  $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg p$

3.  $p \rightarrow \neg p$

4.  $p \vee q \rightarrow q$

5.  $(p \rightarrow q) \vee (q \rightarrow p)$

# Classwork

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## Logical Equivalence

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Two compound propositions  $p$  and  $q$  are logically equivalent if  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is a tautology.

**Example:**  $p \rightarrow q$  and  $\neg p \vee q$  are logically equivalent (to be proved)

**Notation.** If  $p$  and  $q$  are logically equivalent, then we say  $p \equiv q$



## workshop

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**Example.** Show that  $p \rightarrow q$  and  $\neg p \vee q$  are logically equivalent

**Example.** Find a logically equivalent implication to  $p \vee \neg q$

## workshop

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Show that  $p \vee \neg p \rightarrow q$  and  $q$  are logically equivalent

# Useful Logical Equivalences

TABLE 6 Logical Equivalences.	
Equivalence	Name
$p \wedge \mathbf{T} \equiv p$ $p \vee \mathbf{F} \equiv p$	Identity laws
$p \vee \mathbf{T} \equiv \mathbf{T}$ $p \wedge \mathbf{F} \equiv \mathbf{F}$	Domination laws
$p \vee p \equiv p$ $p \wedge p \equiv p$	Idempotent laws
$\neg(\neg p) \equiv p$	Double negation law
$p \vee q \equiv q \vee p$ $p \wedge q \equiv q \wedge p$	Commutative laws
$(p \vee q) \vee r \equiv p \vee (q \vee r)$ $(p \wedge q) \wedge r \equiv p \wedge (q \wedge r)$	Associative laws
$p \vee (q \wedge r) \equiv (p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)$ $p \wedge (q \vee r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$	Distributive laws
$\neg(p \wedge q) \equiv \neg p \vee \neg q$ $\neg(p \vee q) \equiv \neg p \wedge \neg q$	De Morgan's laws
$p \vee (p \wedge q) \equiv p$ $p \wedge (p \vee q) \equiv p$	Absorption laws
$p \vee \neg p \equiv \mathbf{T}$ $p \wedge \neg p \equiv \mathbf{F}$	Negation laws

TABLE 7 Logical Equivalences Involving Conditional Statements.
$p \rightarrow q \equiv \neg p \vee q$
$p \rightarrow q \equiv \neg q \rightarrow \neg p$
$p \vee q \equiv \neg p \rightarrow q$
$p \wedge q \equiv \neg(p \rightarrow \neg q)$
$\neg(p \rightarrow q) \equiv p \wedge \neg q$
$(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (p \rightarrow r) \equiv p \rightarrow (q \wedge r)$
$(p \rightarrow r) \wedge (q \rightarrow r) \equiv (p \vee q) \rightarrow r$
$(p \rightarrow q) \vee (p \rightarrow r) \equiv p \rightarrow (q \vee r)$
$(p \rightarrow r) \vee (q \rightarrow r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \rightarrow r$

TABLE 8 Logical Equivalences Involving Biconditional Statements.
$p \leftrightarrow q \equiv (p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow p)$
$p \leftrightarrow q \equiv \neg p \leftrightarrow \neg q$
$p \leftrightarrow q \equiv (p \wedge q) \vee (\neg p \wedge \neg q)$
$\neg(p \leftrightarrow q) \equiv p \leftrightarrow \neg q$



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## De Morgan's Law

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### **TABLE 2** De Morgan's Laws.

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

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



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## Satisfiability

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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.

**Example.**  $p \vee \neg p$  is satisfiable

**Example.**  $(p \rightarrow q) \vee (q \rightarrow p)$  is satisfiable

**Example.**  $p \rightarrow \neg p$



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## Direct Proofs

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A method of proof where result is obtained by applying known equivalences

Example 1. Show that  $\neg(p \rightarrow q)$  and  $p \wedge \neg q$  are logically equivalent.

Example 2. Show that  $(p \wedge q) \rightarrow (p \vee q)$  is a tautology.

## workshop

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Use De Morgan's laws to find the negation of each of the following statements.

- a) Kwame will take a job in industry or go to graduate school.
- b) Yoshiko knows Java and calculus.
- c) James is young and strong.
- d) Rita will move to Oregon or Washington.

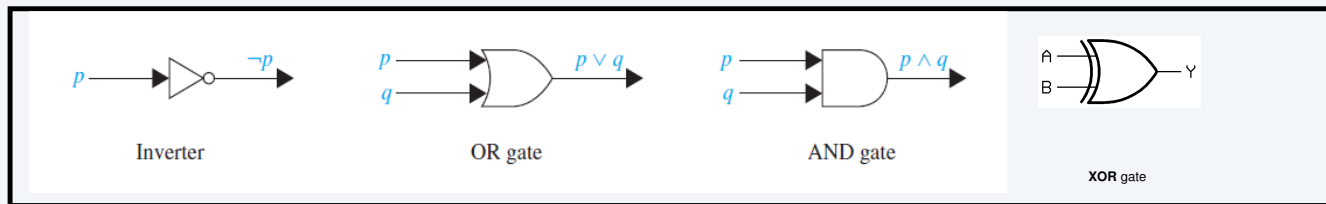
Problem #1

Find a compound proposition involving the propositional variables  $p$ ,  $q$ , and  $r$  that is true when  $p$  and  $q$  are true and  $r$  is false, but is false otherwise. [Hint: Use a conjunction of each propositional variable or its negation.]

Problem #2

# Logic gates

Logic gates. Is a big part of computer hardware design



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