

Econ 600: taught by Prof. Shaowei Ke

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Disclaimer

This is a personal note of mine. I will try to follow professor Ke's lecture as close as possible. However, neither is this an official lecture note, nor will Linfeng be responsible for any errors + typos. Nevertheless, corrections and suggestions are always welcomed.

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- Use the “Issues” feature on Github to post suggestions;
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1 Lecture 1: Logic, Sets and some Real Analysis¹

1.1 Logic

Definition 1.1. Proposition is a sentence that is either *true* or *false*. It cannot be both true and false.

Note: “true” and “false” may not necessarily be based on any (subjective) factual basis. However, to give a concrete example, contextually correct propositions are employed.

Definition 1.2. Logic Connectives: \wedge and \vee . Let P and Q be propositions

- Conjunction of P and Q is denoted as $P \wedge Q$;
- Disjunction of P and Q is denoted as $P \vee Q$.
- Negation of P is denoted as: $\neg P$.

P	Q	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$\neg P$
1	1	1	1	0
1	0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1	0
0	0	0	0	1

Table 1: Truth Table for logic connectives

Truth Table is vaguely defined, with each row being a possible “state of the world”. On top of this,

Definition 1.3 (Conditionals and Biconditionals). Let P, Q, R be propositions,

1. Conditional of P and Q is $P \implies Q$;
2. Biconditional of P and Q is $P \iff Q$.

P	Q	$P \implies Q$	$P \iff Q$
1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	0
0	0	1	1

Table 2: Truth Table for Conditionals and Biconditionals

Note that, the two 1’s are obtained for free. Conditional of P and Q are trivially true if P is false (thus the conditional is not entered, thereby cannot be disproved?).

Additionally, from [an external source](#) (← click me!):

⇐Check This.

Conditionals are FALSE only when the first condition (if) is true and the second condition (then) is false. All other cases are TRUE.

Definition 1.4. Two propositions are **equivalent** if they have the same truth table, denoted using “ \equiv ”.

Example 1. Claim: that $P \implies Q$ and $\neg Q \implies \neg P$ are equivalent.

Proof. Refer to table 3: that by definition, the truth table of the two conditionals are the same. \square

Note, (it seems that)^a truth tables are the same if the two “column vectors”

¹Relation, Function, Correspondence and Sequences in \mathbb{R}

denoting the true/false status are the same.

^aSince “truth table” was not explicitly defined.

Table 3: Truth Table: equivalence of $P \implies Q$ and $\neg Q \implies \neg P$

P	Q	$P \implies Q$	$\neg Q \implies \neg P$
1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
0	0	1	1

Definition 1.5 (Tautology). A proposition whose truth table consists only 1’s is called **tautology**.

Example 2. Claim: $Q \implies (P \implies Q)$ is a tautology.

Proof. Refer to Table 4

□

Table 4: Truth Table: Tautology

P	Q	$P \implies Q$	$Q \implies (P \implies Q)$
1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1
0	1	1	1
0	0	1	1

Remark 1.6. We introduce the following 4 types of proof:

1. Direct proof: to follow the direction of the statement.

- **Proposition:** For odd integers x, y , $x + y$ is an even integer.

2. Proof by contrapositive: (restate the proposition and prove the easier direction).

- **Proposition:** If n^2 is an odd integer (P), then n is an odd integer.

Proof. Prove instead that: “if n is an even integer, then n^2 is an even integer”. \square

3. Proof by contradiction: (construct a structure that leads to contradiction between derived conditions and given conditions.).

- That $\sqrt{2}$ is rational number².

4. Proving a “if and only if” statement/proposition to be true: either one of the following 4 are valid strategies:

- (a) $P \implies Q$ and $Q \implies P$;
- (b) $P \implies Q$ and $\neg P \implies \neg Q$;
- (c) $\neg Q \implies \neg P$ and $Q \implies P$;
- (d) $\neg Q \implies \neg P$ and $\neg P \implies \neg Q$.

1.2 Sets

Remark 1.7 (Russell’s paradox). The barber is a man who shaves all those and only those who do not shave themselves.

In terms of set theory, let $R = \{x : x \notin x\}$, then:

$$R \in R \iff R \notin R$$

which is very problematic.

Definition 1.8 (Sets). There are two definition of sets:

1. (Enumerating all elements)

A set is a collection of objects, e.g. $\{1, 2, \dots\}$ ³ or $\{1, 2\}$ ⁴.

²The set of rational numbers is denoted as \mathbb{Q} .

³a countably infinite set.

⁴a finite set.

2. (Describing properties to be satisfied by elements in the set)

If A is a set of all objects that satisfies property P , then we can write

$$A = \{x : P(x)\}$$

where the colon means “such that”, and $P(x)$ means that x satisfies property P .

Now, we can define the following **sets** using the two definitions of sets:

- (Natural Number) $N = \{1, 2, \dots\}$;
- (Integer) $Z = \{x : x = n \text{ or } x = -n \text{ or } x = 0, \text{ for some } n \in N\}$;
- (Rational number) $Q = \{x : x = \frac{m}{n}, m, n \in Z\}$.

Definition 1.9 (Set Equality). Two sets A and B are equal if they have the same elements. That is:

$$A = B \text{ if and only if } x \in A \iff x \in B, \forall x$$

Note, that the notion $\forall x$ was used sloppily here. Without loss of generality, it shall better be $\forall x \in A \cup B$.

Definition 1.10 (Set Containment). A set A is contained in a set B , denoted by $A \subseteq B$, if $\forall x \in A \implies x \in B$.

As a consequence, $A = B$ if and only if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$.

Definition 1.11 (Cardinality (finite case)). If a set A has $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ⁵ distinct elements, then n is the cardinality of A and we call A a finite set. The **cardinality of** A is denoted by $|A|$.

Definition 1.12 (Empty set \emptyset). The empty set is the set with no element.

Definition 1.13 (Power set 2^A). Let A be a set. The **power set of** A is the collection of all subsets of A .

Note that, A is an arbitrary set. It could be finite, in which case 2^A easy to envision; At the other extreme, it could be a uncountable set. Nevertheless, the following equality shall hold:

$$|2^A| = 2^{|A|}$$

⁵Natural number.