IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING

THIRD YEAR INDIVIDUAL PROJECT
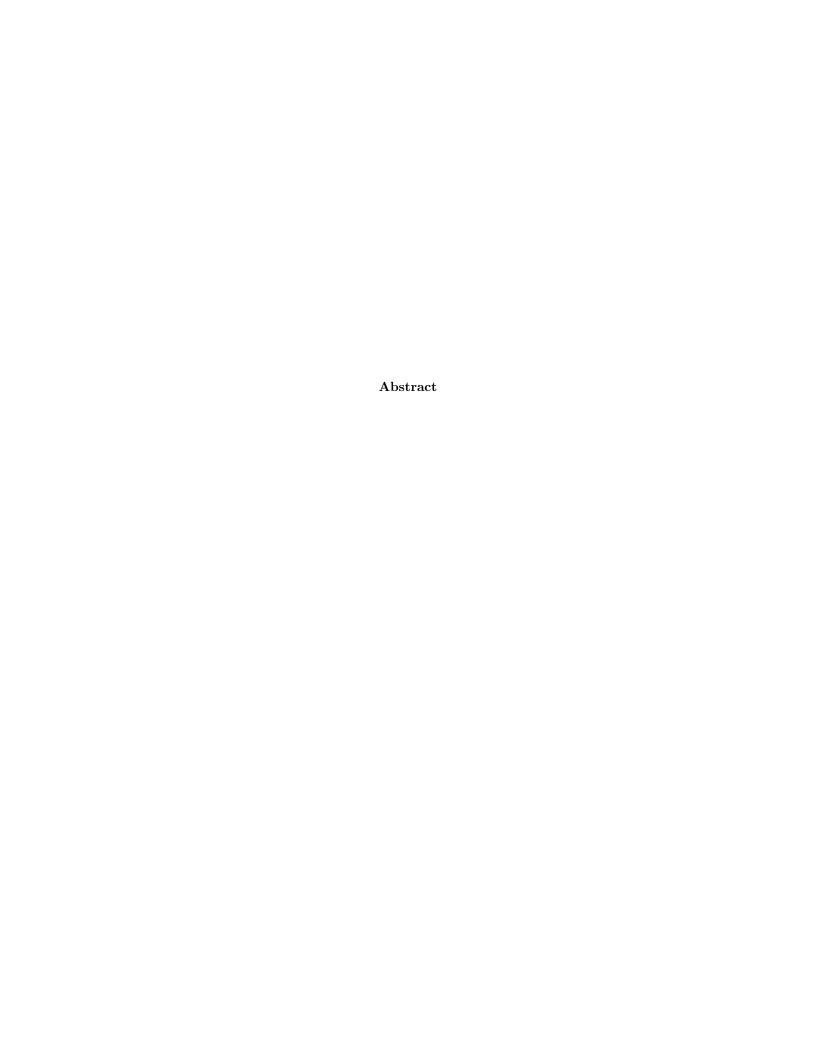
Equivalences Tutor

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Abstract

Acknowledgements

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Logic refers to the study of different modes of reasoning conducted or assessed according to strict principles of validity. Due to Logic being one of the most fundamental aspects of Computer Science, it is taught to every student pursuing a Computing degree at Imperial College London. During the first term in university, every Computing student is taught the Logic course, which aims to provide the students with knowledge of the syntax and semantics of Propositional and Predicate logic. Students can apply this knowledge to complete equivalences and natural deduction proofs.

A logical system is made up of three things:

1. Syntax - this is the formal language specified to express different concepts.

2. Semantics - this is what provides meaning to the language.

3. Proof theory - this is a way of arguing in the language. This allows us to identify valid statements in the language.

In logic, two statements are logically equivalent if they contain the same logical content. Mendelson stated that "two statements are equivalent if they have the same truth value in every model." This can be illustrated in the following example:

Statement 1: *If Sahil is a final year student, then he has to do an individual project*

Statement 2: *If Sahil is not doing an individual project, then he is not a final year student*

As we can see, both statements have the same result in same models. When two logic statements are

equivalent, they can be derived by each other, with the use of equivalences which we know to be true.

Chapter 2

Background

This section summarises the necessary background knowledge for understanding this report. It also introduces the concepts of Logic Equivalences.

2.1 Propositional Logic

Before we can define what Propositional Logic is, we have to define what a proposition is. Essentially, a proposition is a statement which is either true or false. This then leads to defining Propositonal Logic as a branch of symbolic logic dealing with propositions as units and with their combinations and the connectives that relate them. [1]

2.1.1 Syntax

This is the formal language used in propositional logic. There are three different parts which make up the syntax of propositional logic; atoms, connectives and punctuation.

A propositional atom, or propositional variable, is a symbol which has a truth value, either true or false. Usually, atoms are denoted by letters p, q, r, s, etc.

Connectives are boolean operations which are applied to atoms. There are a total of seven connectives:

- And - written as $\wedge$. Takes two arguments.

- Or - written as $\vee$. Takes two arguments.

- Not - written as $\neg$. Takes one argument.

- If then - written as $\rightarrow$. Takes two arguments.

- If and only if - written as $\leftrightarrow$. Takes two arguments.

- Truth - written as $\top$. Takes zero arguments.

- Falsity - written as $\bot$. Takes zero arguments.

2.1.2 Semantics

This is the meaning of a logic formula. As each atom has a truth value, there can be several combinations of truth values for each atom. To be more specific, if there are n atoms in a logic formula, then there are a total of 2^n combinations of truth values. Each combination is known as a situation.

Each connective has a different meaning. These meanings can be shown using a truth table and using the atoms p and q.

And

p	q	p ∧ q
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

As we can see, p ∧ q is only true when both p and q are true. Otherwise, p ∧ q is always false.

Or

p	q	p ∨ q
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

As we can see, p ∨ q is true when either p or q is true. When both p and q are false, p ∨ q is false as well.

Not

p	¬p
0	1
1	0

The truth value of ¬p is always the opposite of p.

If Then

p	q	p → q
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

p → q is true if p is false or/and if q is true. This means that there is only one situation where p → q is false, i.e p is true and q is false.

If and Only If

p	q	p ↔ q
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

p ↔ q is true if p and q both have the same truth value.

Truth and Falsity

Truth is an atom which is always true, and Falsity is an atom which is always false.

2.2 Equivalences

As we introduced the example of "*If Sahil is a final year student, then he has to do an individual project*" being the same as "*If Sahil is not doing an individual project, then he is not a final year student*", all logic formulae are equivalent to other logic formulae.

We can show this by converting the above example into propositional logic. If we let the atom p denote "*Sahil is a final year student*" and let the atom q denote "*Sahil is doing an individual project*", then the statement "*If Sahil is a final year student, then he has to do an individual project*" becomes p → q and the statement "*If Sahil is not doing an individual project, then he is not a final year student*" becomes ¬q → ¬p.

If we construct the truth tables of both of these formulae, we get:

p	q	p → q
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

p	q	¬q → ¬p
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

As we can see, both of the truth tables are the same. This means that in any given situation, both of the logic formulae have the same truth value, meaning that they are equivalent.

There are several defined equivalences for each operator.

2.2.1   And Equivalences

1. A ∧ B ≡ B ∧ A *(Commutativity of And)*

2. A ∧ A ≡ A *(Idempotence of And)*

3. (A ∧ B) ∧ C ≡ A ∧ (B ∧ C) *(Associaticity of And)*

2.2.2   Or Equivalences

1. A ∨ B ≡ B ∨ A *(Commutativity of Or)*

2. A ∨ A ≡ A *(Idempotence of Or)*

3. (A ∨ B) ∨ C ≡ A ∨ (B ∨ C) *(Associaticity of Or)*

2.2.3   Not Equivalences

1. A ≡ ¬¬A

2.2.4   Implies Equivalences

1. A → B ≡ ¬A ∨ B

2. A → B ≡ ¬(A ∧ ¬B)

3. ¬(A → B) ≡ A ∧ ¬B

2.2.5   If and Only If Equivalences

1. A ↔ B ≡ (A → B) ∧ (B → A)

2. A ↔ B ≡ (A ∧ B) ∨ (¬A ∧ ¬B)

2.2.6   De Morgan Equivalences

1. ¬(A ∧ B) ≡ ¬A ∨ ¬B

2. ¬(A ∨ B) ≡ ¬A ∧ ¬B

2.2.7   Distributibivity of And and Or

1. A ∧ (B ∨ C) ≡ (A ∧ B) ∨ (A ∧ C)

2. A ∨ (B ∧ C) ≡ (A ∨ B) ∧ (A ∨ C)

2.3 Examples of Equivalence Problems

2.3.1 Equivalence Examples

1. $\neg(p \rightarrow q) \equiv p \wedge \neg q$

   (a) $\neg(p \rightarrow q)$

   (b) $\neg(\neg p \vee q)$ a, Implication rule

   (c) $\neg\neg p \wedge \neg q$ b, De Morgan's law

   (d) $p \wedge \neg q$ c, Double Negation rule

2. $\neg((p \wedge q) \rightarrow r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \wedge \neg r$

   (a) $\neg((p \wedge q) \rightarrow r)$

   (b) $\neg(\neg(p \wedge q) \vee r)$ a, Implication rule

   (c) $\neg\neg(p \wedge q) \wedge \neg r$ b, De Morgan's law

   (d) $(p \wedge q) \wedge \neg r$ c, Double Negation rule

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

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

   (b) $\neg(p \vee \neg q) \vee \neg(p \wedge q)$ a, De Morgan's law

   (c) $\neg[(p \vee \neg q) \wedge (p \wedge q)]$ b, De Morgan's law

   (d) $\neg[p \vee (\neg q \wedge q)]$ c, Distributivity

   (e) $\neg(p \vee \bot)$ d, And rule

   (f) $\neg p$ e, Or rule

2.4 Current Logic Tutorial Applications

In the first year Logic course, several different concepts are taught to the students. Some of the concepts have applications installed on the lab machines which are produced to help students understand these concepts better. Firstly, there is an application called *Pandora*, which is a learning support tool designed to guide the construction of natural deduction proofs. The second application the department provides is *LOST*, which helps students understand logic semantics better.

Equivalences is a large part of the Logic course, but currently, there is no tutorial application which the students can use to understand how to apply equivalences better, or which provides a user friendly interface for the students to use.

Chapter 3

Approach and Implementation details

3.1 Modelling Logic Formulae

The first part that had to be implemented was modelling logic formulae so that they could be manipulated when applying equivalences. In the first year Logic course taught by Ian Hodkinson, the students are taught the Logic formation tree.

The example given in the first year slides is:

Using this formation tree, we can model logical formulae in a tree structure in Java by creating our own data structure.

3.1.1 Lexer

The first step in modelling the logical formulae into a tree structure is lexical analysis. This is the process of converting a sequence of characters into a sequence of tokens which can be parsed in the future.

As writing a lexer from scratch would have been very time consuming and tedious, I researched about the tools which had been developed for generating lexers after inputting the lexical grammar. The best tool which I came across was ANTLR, as it provides a very easy to use debugger where you can load the generated code and step through it.

Lexical Grammar

```
lexer grammar LogicLexer;

options {
  language = Java;
}

@header {
  package eqtutor;
```

```
}

WHITESPACE: ( '\t' | ' ' | '\r' | '\n' | '\u000C' )+ { $channel = HIDDEN; };


AND : '&';
OR : '|';
IFTHEN : '->';
IFF  : '<>';
NOT  : '!';


LPAREN  : '(';
RPAREN  : ')';


ID : ('A'..'Z'|'a'..'z') ('A'..'Z'|'a'..'z'|'_')*;
```

3.1.2   Parser

Once the formulae has been tokenised by the lexer, it then has to be parsed. Parsing is the process where the tokens are used to build a data structure, which is usually a hierarchical structure. This data structure gives a structural representation of the input.

ANTLR provides both lexer and parser generators. Due to having the ability of doing both of these steps using one tool which I had become familiar with, I decided to use the ANTLR parser generator.

Parser Grammar

```
parser grammar LogicParser;

options {
  tokenVocab = LogicLexer;
}

@header {
  package eqtutor;

  import java.util.LinkedList;
  import java.util.List;
  import AST.*;
}

@members {
  private boolean hasFoundError = false;
```

```
    public void displayRecognitionError(String[] tokenNames, RecognitionException e) {
      hasFoundError = true;
    }


  public boolean hasFoundError() {
      return this.hasFoundError;
    }
}


program returns [AST tree]
  : e = iffexpr {$tree = new AST(new ASTProgramNode($e.node));} EOF
  ;


iffexpr returns [ASTPropositionalNode node]
  : ifthen = ifexpr {$node = $ifthen.node;}
  (IFF iff = iffexpr {$node = new ASTIffNode($ifthen.node, $iff.node);})*
  ;


ifexpr returns [ASTPropositionalNode node]
  : or = orexpr {$node = $or.node;}
(IFTHEN ifthen = ifexpr {$node = new ASTIfThenNode($or.node, $ifthen.node);})*
  ;


orexpr returns [ASTPropositionalNode node]
  : and = andexpr {$node = $and.node;}
(OR or = orexpr {$node = new ASTOrNode($and.node, $or.node);})*
  ;


andexpr returns [ASTPropositionalNode node]
  : not = notexpr {$node = $not.node;}
(AND and = andexpr {$node = new ASTAndNode($not.node, $and.node);})*
  ;


notexpr returns [ASTPropositionalNode node]
  : NOT not = notexpr {$node = new ASTNotNode($not.node);}
  | id = identifier {$node = $id.node;}
  ;


identifier returns [ASTPropositionalNode node]
```

```
: ID {$node = new ASTIdentifierNode($ID.text);}
| LPAREN iffexpr RPAREN {$node = $iffexpr.node;}
;
```

3.2 Abstract Syntax Tree

The Abstract Syntax Tree (AST) is the tree representation of the structure of the logic expression. Each node of the tree represents either a connective or an identifier of the logic expression.

ANTLR provided an implementation of the AST as well, but I decided not to use it since manipulation of the trees provided was tough and confusing. Due to this, I created my own data structure to store the logic expression.

Once the tree is parsed, we obtain an object of type AST. The tree contains a node of type ASTProgramNode, which is the highest level of the tree. The ASTProgramNode node contains an ASTPropositionalNode. ASTPropositionalNode is an abstract class which contains the abstract methods for all of the propositional operators. The ASTPropositionalNode class is shown below:

```
public abstract class ASTPropositionalNode extends ASTNode {

/*--Checks if the current node is equal to the input node--*/
public abstract boolean equals(ASTPropositionalNode node);

/*--Returns the string representation of the node--*/
public abstract String toString();

/*--Returns the string representation of the node which can be parsed--*/
public abstract String toParserString();

/*--Returns a tree map of the identifiers in the node--*/
public abstract TreeMap<String, Integer> numIdentifiers(TreeMap<String, Integer> identifiers);

/*--Returns the value of the node, e.g TRUTH and TRUTH = TRUTH--*/
public abstract int value(TreeMap<String, Integer> id);

/*--Creates the JPanel for the node which is used to solve equivalences--*/
public abstract JPanel createJPanel(NewPersonalEquivalenceListener l, boolean side);

/*--Copy constructor for the node--*/
public abstract ASTPropositionalNode copy();

}
```

3.3 Logic Expression Generator

3.4 Equivalence Solvers

3.4.1 Easy Equivalence Solver

The easy equivalence solver is an interface for solving equivalences where the student can click on either an identifier or an operator, and then a dialog opens which shows the student which equivalences can be applied to the clicked node.

3.4.2 Hard Equivalence Solver

The hard equivalence solver is an interface for solving equivalences where the student enters logic expressions into a text field. This expression is then compared to the previous expression to see if it is logically equivalent, and to see if only one of the given equivalences has been applied.

Chapter 4

Evaluation

Chapter 5

Conclusions and Future Work

5.1   Learning outcomes

5.2   Potential improvements

5.3   Potential extensions

Bibliography

Appendix A

Equivalences Truth Tables

A.1 And Equivalences

1. A ∧ B ≡ B ∧ A *(Commutativity of And)*

A	B	A ∧ B	B ∧ A
0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0
1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1

2. A ∧ A ≡ A *(Idempotence of And)*

A	A ∧ A
0	0
0	0
1	1
1	1

3. (A ∧ B) ∧ C ≡ A ∧ (B ∧ C) *(Associaticity of And)*

A	B	C	(A ∧ B) ∧ C	A ∧ (B ∧ C)
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1

A.2   Or Equivalences

1. A ∨ B ≡ B ∨ A *(Commutativity of Or)*

A	B	A ∨ B	B ∨ A
0	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1

2. A ∨ A ≡ A *(Idempotence of Or)*

A	A ∨ A
0	0
0	0
1	1
1	1

3. (A ∨ B) ∨ C ≡ A ∨ (B ∨ C) *(Associaticity of Or)*

A	B	C	(A ∨ B) ∨ C	A ∨ (B ∨ C)
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	1

A.3   Not Equivalences

1. A ≡ ¬¬A

A	¬A	¬¬A
0	1	0
1	0	1

A.4   Implies Equivalences

1. A → B ≡ ¬A ∨ B

A	B	¬A	A → B	¬A ∨ B
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	1

2. A → B ≡ ¬(A ∧ ¬B)

A	B	¬B	A ∧ ¬B	A → B	¬(A ∧ ¬B)
0	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	1	1

3. ¬(A → B) ≡ A ∧ ¬B

A	B	¬B	A → B	¬(A → B)	A ∧ ¬B
0	0	1	1	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	0

A.5   If and Only If Equivalences

1. A ↔ B ≡ (A → B) ∧ (B → A)

A	B	A → B	B → A	A ↔ B	(A → B) ∧ (B → A)
0	0	1	1	1	1
0	1	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1

2. A ↔ B ≡ (A ∧ B) ∨ (¬A ∧ ¬B)

A	B	A ∧ B	¬A	¬B	A ↔ B	(A ∧ B) ∨ (¬A ∧ ¬B)
0	0	0	1	1	1	1
0	1	0	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	0	0	1	1

A.6 De Morgan Equivalences

1. $\neg(A \land B) \equiv \neg A \lor \neg B$

A	B	$\neg(A \land B)$	$\neg A \lor \neg B$
0	0	1	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0

2. $\neg(A \lor B) \equiv \neg A \land \neg B$

A	B	$\neg(A \lor B)$	$\neg A \land \neg B$
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	0
1	0	0	0
1	1	0	0

A.7 Distributibivity of And and Or

1. $A \land (B \lor C) \equiv (A \land B) \lor (A \land C)$

A	B	C	$A \land (B \lor C)$	$(A \land B) \lor (A \land C)$
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	1

2. $A \lor (B \land C) \equiv (A \lor B) \land (A \lor C)$

A	B	C	$A \lor (B \land C)$	$(A \lor B) \land (A \lor C)$
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	1

Appendix B

Truth Tables of all Equivalences

B.1   And Equivalences

1. A $\land$ B $\equiv$ B $\land$ A *(Commutativity of And)*

A	B	A $\land$ B	B $\land$ A
0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0
1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1

2. A $\land$ A $\equiv$ A *(Idempotence of And)*

A	A $\land$ A
0	0
0	0
1	1
1	1

3. (A $\land$ B) $\land$ C $\equiv$ A $\land$ (B $\land$ C) *(Associaticity of And)*

A	B	C	(A $\land$ B) $\land$ C	A $\land$ (B $\land$ C)
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1

B.2   Or Equivalences

1. A ∨ B ≡ B ∨ A *(Commutativity of Or)*

A	B	A ∨ B	B ∨ A
0	0	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1

2. A ∨ A ≡ A *(Idempotence of Or)*

A	A ∨ A
0	0
0	0
1	1
1	1

3. (A ∨ B) ∨ C ≡ A ∨ (B ∨ C) *(Associaticity of Or)*

A	B	C	(A ∨ B) ∨ C	A ∨ (B ∨ C)
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	1

B.3   Not Equivalences

1. A ≡ ¬¬A

A	¬A	¬¬A
0	1	0
1	0	1

B.4   Implies Equivalences

1. A → B ≡ ¬A ∨ B

A	B	¬A	A → B	¬A ∨ B
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	1

2. A → B ≡ ¬(A ∧ ¬B)

A	B	¬B	A ∧ ¬B	A → B	¬(A ∧ ¬B)
0	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	1	1

3. ¬(A → B) ≡ A ∧ ¬B

A	B	¬B	A → B	¬(A → B)	A ∧ ¬B
0	0	1	1	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	0

B.5   If and Only If Equivalences

1. A ↔ B ≡ (A → B) ∧ (B → A)

A	B	A → B	B → A	A ↔ B	(A → B) ∧ (B → A)
0	0	1	1	1	1
0	1	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1

2. A ↔ B ≡ (A ∧ B) ∨ (¬A ∧ ¬B)

A	B	A ∧ B	¬A	¬B	A ↔ B	(A ∧ B) ∨ (¬A ∧ ¬B)
0	0	0	1	1	1	1
0	1	0	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	0	0	1	1

B.6   De Morgan Equivalences

1. ¬(A ∧ B) ≡ ¬A ∨ ¬B

A	B	¬(A ∧ B)	¬A ∨ ¬B
0	0	1	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0

2. ¬(A ∨ B) ≡ ¬A ∧ ¬B

A	B	¬(A ∨ B)	¬A ∧ ¬B
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	0
1	0	0	0
1	1	0	0

B.7   Distributibivity of And and Or

1. A ∧ (B ∨ C) ≡ (A ∧ B) ∨ (A ∧ C)

A	B	C	A ∧ (B ∨ C)	(A ∧ B) ∨ (A ∧ C)
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	1

2. A ∨ (B ∧ C) ≡ (A ∨ B) ∧ (A ∨ C)

A	B	C	A ∨ (B ∧ C)	(A ∨ B) ∧ (A ∨ C)
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	1