
(1.1) Propositional logic

Defn

A Proposition is a statement that can be assigned a truth value:

True or False

T

F

1

0

Ex Propositions

- 'It is raining today'
- ' $2+3=5$ '
- ' $2+3=7$ '

Ex not Propositions

- 'hello'
- ' $x + 2 = 7$ '
- ' $a + b = c$ '

Propositional variables: $P, Q, R, S, \dots$

Logical operators

Negation: $\neg P$ (not)

P	$\neg P$
0	1
1	0

'P is false'

'not P'

'it is not the case that P'

running examples

$P =$ 'it is raining today'

$Q =$ 'today is Wednesday'

Conjunction: $P \wedge Q$ (and)

P	Q	$P \wedge Q$
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

' P and Q '

'both P and Q are true'.

Disjunction: $P \vee Q$ (or, inclusive or)

P	Q	$P \vee Q$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

'P or Q'

'P or Q, or possibly both'

Exclusive or: $P \oplus Q$ (xor, or)

P	Q	$P \oplus Q$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

'P or Q, but not both'

Ex. 'your money or your life'

Implication : $P \rightarrow q$

P	q	$P \rightarrow q$
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

- 'P implies q'
- 'if P, then q'
- 'P, only if q'
- 'P is sufficient for q'

also:

- 'q, if P'
- 'q, whenever P'
- 'q is necessary for P'

in $P \rightarrow q$ we call

P : hypothesis

q : conclusion

Ex. P = 'it is sunny today', q = 'I will take you to the beach'

Propositions related to $P \rightarrow Q$:

- converse of $P \rightarrow Q$: $Q \rightarrow P$
- contrapositive " " : $\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$
- inverse " " : $\neg P \rightarrow \neg Q$

Biconditional : $P \leftrightarrow Q$ (if and only if)

P	Q	$P \leftrightarrow Q$
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

'P is necessary and sufficient for Q'

Atomic Propositions : $p, q, r, \dots$

Compound Propositions : Proposition

Built from atomic Prop. using logical operators.

Ex. $(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow r$

p	q	r	$p \rightarrow q$	$(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow r$
0	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	1	0
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	0	1
1	1	0	1	0
1	1	1	1	1

Ex. $P \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$

P	q	r	$q \rightarrow r$	$P \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$
0	0	0	1	1
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	1
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1

Thus: $(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow r \neq p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$

and the expression

$$p \rightarrow q \rightarrow r$$

is meaningless

Exercise: show that

$$p \vee q \wedge r$$

is meaningless, i.e.

$$(p \vee q) \wedge r \neq p \vee (q \wedge r)$$

since they have different truth tables.

1.2 Applications

Translation (read this)

'unless' = 'if not'

i.e. 'P unless Q' = 'if not P then Q'
 $= \neg P \rightarrow Q$

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

$\Rightarrow \neg P \rightarrow Q = \neg Q \rightarrow P = P \vee Q$

Read also in 1,2 :

- system specifications
- Logic Puzzles
- Logic circuits

1.3 Equivalences

Defn

tautology: true for every assignment of truth values to its Prop. vars.

contradiction: false " " "

" " " " " " "

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

↑
tautology

↑
contradiction

Ex $P \rightarrow (P \vee Q)$ is a tautology ✓

P	Q	$P \vee Q$	$P \rightarrow (P \vee Q)$
0	0	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1

contingency : neither a tautology, nor a contradiction.

satisfiable : not a contradiction

Ex. P