

# Lecture 1: Propositional Logic

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CSCI 55  
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*Syllabus at* <http://www.cs.pomona.edu/classes/cs055/>



# Logic

- “... the systematic study of the form of arguments.”
- In particular the study of valid arguments.
  - How can you tell?
- Many logics of different expressiveness
  - Propositional logic
  - Predicate logic



# Propositional Logic

- Letters  $p$ ,  $q$ ,  $r$ , etc. represent propositions
  - Today is Wednesday.
  - This class is horrible.
  - If I stay in this class, then I'll learn a lot.
  - ~~Where is Michael Greenberg today?~~
  - ~~Do your homework regularly!~~



# (De)Composing Propositions

- Build more complicated propositions from simpler ones.
  - Mary is here *and* the sky is blue.
  - Mary is *not* here.
  - Mary is here *or* her plane was delayed.
  - *If* the sky is blue *then* I will *not* carry an umbrella.



# Represent Symbolically

- Let  $p, q$  represent propositions then use logical connectives  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow$  as follows to build up new formulas as follows:

- $p \wedge q$             *and*
- $\neg p$                 *not*
- $p \vee q$              *or (inclusive or)*
- $p \rightarrow q$         *implies or if ... then ...*
- $p \leftrightarrow q$         *iff*



# Boolean Values

- Often convenient to use abbreviations for true and false:
  - $\text{true} = \top$
  - $\text{false} = \perp$
  - Can use in formulas:  $p \rightarrow \perp$



# English to Propositional Logic

- Let

- $p$  = Mary is here,  $q$  = The sky is blue,  
 $r$  = I will carry an umbrella,  $s$  = Mary's plane was delayed

- New propositions are:

- $p \wedge q$
- $\neg p$
- $p \vee s$
- $q \rightarrow (\neg r)$

- In Java:

- $p \ \&\& \ q$
- $!p$
- $p \ \|\ s$
- $!q \ \|\ !r$



# Disambiguating Propositional Logic

- Use parentheses to make clear how to apply logical connectives.
  - $q \rightarrow (\neg r)$
  - $\neg(p \wedge q)$
- Precedence of operators:  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\leftrightarrow$ 
  - So  $\neg p \wedge q$  is really  $(\neg p) \wedge q$
  - $p \wedge q \rightarrow \neg r$  is  $(p \wedge q) \rightarrow (\neg r)$
  - Better to parenthesize if any confusion



# Translation Issues

- $p \rightarrow q$  can be expressed as
  - “if p then q”
  - “if p, q”
  - “q, if p”
  - “p implies q”
  - “p, only if q”
  - “q, when p”
  - q is a necessary condition for p
  - p is a sufficient condition for q
  - q follows from p
- $p \leftrightarrow q$  can be expressed as
  - p iff q
  - p is a necessary and sufficient condition for q



# More Complicated

- Try these:
  - $p$  unless  $q$                       *The student will fail unless he studies*
  - if  $p$  then  $q$ , and conversely



# Semantics via Truth Tables

- Propositions can be true or false.
- Analyze according using “compositional” semantics
  - Meaning of whole follows from meaning of parts.



# Meaning of $p \wedge q$

- Depends on meaning of each of  $p$  and  $q$ .
  - If  $p, q$  both true then  $p \wedge q$  is true, otherwise false.
    - Doesn't depend on content of  $p, q$ , just truth value
  - What about  $p \vee q$  and  $\neg p$ ?
  - What about  $p \leftrightarrow q$ ?
  - $p \rightarrow q$  harder ...



# Truth Tables

$P$	$Q$	$P \wedge Q$
$\top$	$\top$	$\top$
$\top$	$\perp$	$\perp$
$\perp$	$\top$	$\perp$
$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$

*One row for each combination of values of  $p$  and  $q$*



# Truth Tables

$P$	$Q$	$P \vee Q$
T	T	T
T	⊥	T
⊥	T	T
⊥	⊥	⊥



# Truth Tables

$P$	$\neg P$
$\top$	$\perp$
$\perp$	$\top$

*Why only two rows?*

*How many rows if  $n$  proposition letters?*



# Truth Tables

$P$	$Q$	$P \rightarrow Q$
T	T	T
T	⊥	⊥
⊥	T	T
⊥	⊥	T

*Material implication: No notion of causality.  
Only worry about when it fails.*



# Truth Tables

$P$	$Q$	$\neg P$	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$P \rightarrow Q$	$P \leftrightarrow Q$
T	T	⊥	T	T	T	T
T	⊥	⊥	⊥	T	⊥	⊥
⊥	T	T	⊥	T	T	⊥
⊥	⊥	T	⊥	⊥	T	T

*Each row corresponds to different valuation*



# Classification of Formulas

- A formula  $\phi$  is *valid*, or a *tautology*, if for all assignments to proposition letters,  $\phi$  is true.
- A formula  $\phi$  is *unsatisfiable*, or a *contradiction*, if for all assignments to proposition letters,  $\phi$  is false.
- A formula  $\phi$  is *contingent* if for some assignments to proposition letters  $\phi$  is true, and others make it false.



# Examples

- Tautologies:
  - $p \vee (\neg p)$
  - $p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow p)$
  - $\neg(p \wedge q) \Leftrightarrow (\neg p \vee \neg q)$
  - $\neg(p \vee q) \Leftrightarrow (\neg p \wedge \neg q)$
- Contradiction:
  - $p \wedge \neg p$



# Logical Equivalence

- Two formulas  $\phi$  and  $\tau$  are *logically equivalent* iff for all assignments to proposition letters,  $\phi$  and  $\tau$  have the same truth values.
  - Write it as  $\phi \equiv \tau$
  - How can we tell?
  - Equivalently  $\phi$  and  $\tau$  are logically equivalent iff  $\phi \leftrightarrow \tau$  is a tautology.



# Example

- Example  $\neg p \rightarrow q \equiv p \vee q$

$P$	$Q$	$\neg P$	$\neg P \rightarrow Q$	$P \vee Q$
$\top$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$
$\top$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$
$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$
$\perp$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\perp$

How would you show  $(\neg p \rightarrow q) \leftrightarrow (p \vee q)$  is a tautology?



# DeMorgan's Laws

- Equivalences using negation
  - $\neg(p \wedge q) \equiv (\neg p \vee \neg q)$
  - $\neg(p \vee q) \equiv (\neg p \wedge \neg q)$
  - $\neg(p \rightarrow q) \equiv (\neg q \rightarrow \neg p)$
- Others:
  - $p \vee (q \wedge r) \equiv (p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)$
  - $p \wedge (q \vee r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$
- See Table 6-8 in text for more



# Logical Implication

- How could you define that?



# LaTeX

- Text formatting system designed by Donald Knuth & added to by Leslie Lamport.
  - Not WYSIWYG!!
  - But lovely output.
- Need to learn for CS classes including 55, 81, 140, and for senior project/thesis.
  - Useful outside of CS as well



# Benefits of LaTeX

- Takes care of tricky aspects of technical prose (if you don't fight it!).
  - Automatic numbering
  - Automatic handling of citations
  - Lots of macros for common formatting
    - You can write your own!



# Good News!

- Mainly fill in template with your answers.
- Learn most of what you need from raw LaTeX of assignment sheet.
- See syllabus for details
  - <http://www.cs.pomona.edu/classes/cs055/latex.html>



# Translation

- Iran will supply arms to Syria only if Syria helps Hezbollah.
- Only if Jenna passes the exam will Jenna get her license.
- Bill will take geology just in case it fulfills the science requirement.