

Compound Statements

A statement that is composed of simpler statements joined by some logical connective(s) such as “ \vee ,” “ \wedge ,” “ \neg ,” etc... is called a *compound proposition*

A statement which is not a compound statement is called a *simple proposition*

We are thus interested in determining the truth value (True or False) of a compound proposition given the truth values of the simple propositions of which it is composed.

Truth Tables

p	$\neg p$	p	q	$p \vee q$	p	q	$p \wedge q$	p	q	$p \supset q$
T	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
F	T	T	F	F	T	F	F	T	F	F
		F	T	F	F	T	T	F	T	T
		F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	T

p	q	$p \oplus q$	$p \leftrightarrow q$
T	T	F	T
T	F	T	F
F	T	T	F
F	F	F	T

This is the *exclusive OR*

This is the *biconditional*

Some Notes on the Implication

Let $p \supset q$ be an implication

Then $q \supset p$ is called the *converse* of $p \supset q$

And $\neg q \supset \neg p$ is called the *contrapositive* of $p \supset q$

As we shall see, the contrapositive of an implication is equivalent to the implication itself. This is a very important and useful observation when we wish to do proofs.

Does anyone wonder why $F \supset T$ is True, for example?

Propositional Equivalences

Two propositions are called *logically equivalent* if they always have the same truth value

That is, p and q are logically equivalent if $p \leftrightarrow q$ is always true

Propositions which are always true are called *tautologies*

Propositions which are always false are called *contradictions*

Propositions which are sometimes true, sometimes false are called *contingencies*

Examples of Tautologies, Contradictions and Contingencies

Tautology $p \vee q \vee \neg p$ Contradiction $(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge \neg q)$ Contingency $p \wedge (q \wedge r)$

Why is this tautology always true?

Why is this contradiction always false?

When is this contingency false? When is it true?

Logical Equivalence

How would one show that two propositions are logically equivalent?

- < Show that they have the same truth tables
- < Show that their biconditional is a tautology
- < Use some of the equivalences from page 17

$p \vee T \equiv p$	$p \wedge F \equiv p$
$p \wedge T \equiv p$	$p \vee F \equiv p$
$\neg(p \wedge q) \equiv \neg p \vee \neg q$	$\neg(p \vee q) \equiv \neg p \wedge \neg q$
etc...	etc...

Logical Equivalence

Let us show that $p \wedge q \equiv \neg p \vee \neg q$ with a truth table:

p	q	$p \wedge q$	$\neg p$	$\neg p \vee \neg q$
T	T	T	F	T
T	F	F	F	F
F	T	F	T	T
F	F	F	T	T

Can you see how the ‘biconditional’ method would work? We would want $(p \wedge q) \equiv (\neg p \vee \neg q)$ to be a tautology

Identifying Truth Tables

Can you identify the truth tables below:

p	q	???	p	q	???	p	q	???
T	T	T	T	T	F	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	F	T	T	F	F
F	T	F	F	T	T	F	T	T
F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F

It turns out that, given any truth table, we can construct an expression that gives exactly that table!

Constructing Truth Tables

Identify each row that is true

Construct an “and” expression that says it will be true

$$\langle p \vee q \rangle$$

$$\langle \neg p \vee q \rangle$$

Take the “or” of those expressions

$$\langle (p \vee q) \vee (\neg p \vee q) \rangle$$

Of course, there may be a simpler expression that is logically equiv.

$$\langle q \rangle$$

p	q	???
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	F

Constructing a 3-variable Truth Table

Construct an expression whose truth table is that shown to the right.

We create a conjunction for each row that must be true:

$$\langle (p \vee q \vee r) \rangle$$

$$\langle (p \vee \neg q \vee r) \rangle$$

$$\langle (p \vee \neg q \vee \neg r) \rangle$$

$$\langle (\neg p \vee \neg q \vee r) \rangle$$

$$\langle (\neg p \vee \neg q \vee \neg r) \rangle$$

The disjunction of those five expressions is the answer:

$$\langle (p \vee q \vee r) \vee (p \vee \neg q \vee r) \vee (p \vee \neg q \vee \neg r) \vee (\neg p \vee \neg q \vee r) \vee (\neg p \vee \neg q \vee \neg r) \rangle$$

p	q	r	???
T	T	T	T
T	T	F	F
T	F	T	T
T	F	F	F
F	T	T	F
F	T	F	F
F	F	T	T
F	F	F	T