



# Propositional logic

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## Outline

- Logics of different order: 0, 1, 2, higher
- Basic concepts and nomenclature
  - Syntax vs. semantics
  - Entailment
- Propositional logic
- Entailment and proof methods
  - Truth table, equivalence, resolution

## Logics of different order

- Propositional logic (a. k. a. Boolean logic)
  - Only constant Boolean statements
- First order predicate logic (FOPL)
  - Introduces variables, predicates, functions, and quantifiers
- Higher order logics
  - Quantifiers can also be applied to predicates and functions
  - Meta level reasoning

## Logic

- A formal language in which knowledge can be expressed
- In problem solving we enumerate states
- Logic provides a means of describing set of states and carrying out reasoning
  - “Peter is hungry”: refers to all world states in which Peter is hungry regardless of other things influencing the state

## Basic concepts

- **Syntax**: specifies what expressions are legal
  - Well-formed sentences
- **Semantics**: meaning of sentences
  - **Interpretation**: assigns meaning to logic symbols
  - Semantics define the truth of sentences w. r. t. all possible interpretations
  - An interpretation  $i$  is a **model** of a set of sentences iff each of the sentences is true in interpretation  $i$
- **Logical inference**: **entailment**
  - A set of sentences KB **entails**  $\phi$  ( $KB \models \phi$ ) iff every model of KB is also a model of  $\phi$
  - Sentence  $\phi$  logically follows from KB

## Syntax of propositional logic

- Atomic sentences: **Propositions**
  - Symbols: P, Q, R, ... (uppercase letters)
  - Special cases: T (true) and F (false)
- Complex sentences
  - **Brackets**
  - **Connectives** in order of precedence (high to low)
    - not ( $\neg$ ), and ( $\wedge$ ), or ( $\vee$ ), implies ( $\rightarrow$ ), equivalent ( $\leftrightarrow$ )
  - If  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are sentences, then

$(\phi), \neg\phi, \phi \wedge \psi, \phi \vee \psi, \phi \rightarrow \psi$  and  $\phi \leftrightarrow \psi$

are also sentences

## Semantics

- Meaning of a sentence is a truth value
  - $\{T, F\}$
- An **interpretation** is an assignment of truth values to the propositional variables
  - $\models_i \varphi$     Sentence  $\varphi$  is **T** in interpretation  $i$
  - $\not\models_i \varphi$     Sentence  $\varphi$  is **F** in interpretation  $i$

## Semantic rules

- $\models_i T$                       for all  $i$
- $\not\models_i F$                       for all  $i$
- $\models_i \neg\varphi$                     iff  $\not\models_i \varphi$
- $\models_i \varphi \wedge \psi$                 iff  $\models_i \varphi$  and  $\models_i \psi$  (conjunction)
- $\models_i \varphi \vee \psi$                 iff  $\models_i \varphi$  or  $\models_i \psi$  (disjunction)
- $\models_i P$                       iff  $i(P) = T$

## Properties of sentences

- Equivalence  $\varphi \equiv \psi$ 
  - $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are true for the same models
- Validity  $\models \varphi$ 
  - A sentence is valid iff its truth value is **T** in all interpretations
  - Valid sentences are called tautologies
  - Examples: **T**,  $P \vee \neg P$ ,  $A \rightarrow A$
- Satisfiability
  - A sentence is satisfiable iff it has at least one model

## Entailment theorem

$$KB \models \varphi \quad \text{iff} \quad \models (KB \rightarrow \varphi)$$

- Enables proving **entailment** if we have means to prove the **validity** of a sentence
- This theorem is valid for all logics

## Proving validity

- Truth table
- Equivalence rules
- Resolution
- $(X \rightarrow (Y \wedge Z)) \leftrightarrow ((X \rightarrow Y) \wedge (X \rightarrow Z))$

## Proving by truth table

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X	Y	Z	$Y \wedge Z$	$X \rightarrow Y$	$X \rightarrow Z$	$X \rightarrow (Y \wedge Z)$	$((X \rightarrow Y) \wedge (X \rightarrow Z))$	S

## Proving by truth table

X	Y	Z	$Y \wedge Z$	$X \rightarrow Y$	$X \rightarrow Z$	$X \rightarrow (Y \wedge Z)$	$((X \rightarrow Y) \wedge (X \rightarrow Z))$	S
T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
T	T	F	F	T	F	F	F	T
T	F	T	F	F	T	F	F	T
T	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	T
F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
F	T	F	F	T	T	T	T	T
F	F	T	F	T	T	T	T	T
F	F	F	F	T	T	T	T	T

## Equivalence (re-write) rules

- Logical equivalence
  - Different syntax
  - Same semantics
- Usage
  - Proving via showing equivalence
  - Modifying to a particular syntax to allow the use of other techniques (e.g. resolution)

## Commutativity and associativity of connectives

- Commutativity:
  - $P \wedge Q$  can be replaced by  $Q \wedge P$  (& vice-versa)
  - $P \vee Q$  can be replaced by  $Q \vee P$  (& vice-versa)
  - $P \leftrightarrow Q$  can be replaced by  $Q \leftrightarrow P$  (& vice-versa)
- Associativity
  - $((P \wedge Q) \wedge R)$  can be replaced by  $(P \wedge (Q \wedge R))$  (& vice-versa)
  - $((P \vee Q) \vee R)$  can be replaced by  $(P \vee (Q \vee R))$  (& vice-versa)



## Distributivity of connectives

- And over or, or over and:

- ☐  $(P \wedge (Q \vee R))$  can be replaced by  $((P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge R))$
- ☐  $(P \vee (Q \wedge R))$  can be replaced by  $((P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R))$

- Over the implies sign

- ☐  $(P \rightarrow (Q \vee R))$  can be replaced by  $((P \rightarrow Q) \vee (P \rightarrow R))$
- ☐  $(P \rightarrow (Q \wedge R))$  can be replaced by  $((P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (P \rightarrow R))$

## Double negation

- Double negations can be removed

- ☐  $\neg\neg P$  is equivalent to  $P$

- Caution when translating from natural language

## de Morgan's laws and contraposition

- de Morgan's laws

- $\neg(P \wedge Q)$  is equivalent to  $(\neg P \vee \neg Q)$

- $\neg(P \vee Q)$  is equivalent to  $(\neg P \wedge \neg Q)$

- Contraposition

- $(P \rightarrow Q)$  is equivalent to  $(\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P)$

## Other equivalences

- $(P \rightarrow Q)$  is equivalent to  $(\neg P \vee Q)$

- $(P \leftrightarrow Q)$  is equivalent to  $((P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (Q \rightarrow P))$

- $(P \leftrightarrow Q)$  is equivalent to  $((P \wedge Q) \vee (\neg P \wedge \neg Q))$

- $(P \wedge \neg P)$  is equivalent to **F**

- $(P \vee \neg P)$  is equivalent to **T**

## Propositional implication rules

- Re-write rules are good for bidirectional search
  - What if equivalence does not hold
- Modus Ponens

$$\frac{A \rightarrow B, A}{B}$$

- Comma used for conjunction
- Above the line: what we know
- Below the line: what we can deduce

## Proving Modus Ponens

A	B	$A \rightarrow B$	$\alpha: A \rightarrow B, A$	$\beta: B$
True	True	True	True	True
True	False	False	False	False
False	True	True	False	True
False	False	True	False	True

## Elimination and introduction of “and”

- “and” elimination

$$\frac{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n}{A_i}$$

$$[1 \leq i \leq n]$$

- “and” introduction

$$\frac{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n}{A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge \dots \wedge A_n}$$

## Introduction of “or”; Unit resolution

- “or” introduction

$$\frac{A_i}{A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \dots \vee A_n}$$

$$[1 \leq i \leq n]$$

- Unit resolution

- Basis for theorem proving

$$\frac{(A \vee B) \wedge \neg B}{A}$$



## Problems

- Too many predicates
  - Sample r.: “If you see a stop sign, then stop!”
  - A new predicate for every stop sign
- Slow inference
- No variables (many constants needed)
  - Even more predicates