

Previously:

Expressions

Values and operations that evaluate to a value

Values

- literals ✓
- variables ✓

Operators

- arithmetic ✓
- function calls ✓

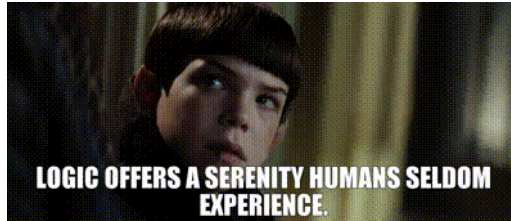
Today

Logic

Today:

Propositional logic (a.k.a., propositional calculus)

- propositions
- operators
- expressions



... as **discrete math** / **philosophy**

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Don't let the word "calculus" scare you! There are many kinds of "calculus", and this one involves no differentiating or integrals.

If you go on to take a course in discrete mathematics (e.g., [ECE 4110](#) or [MATH 23020](#)), you'll get into more advanced stuff like predicate logic with quantifiers. For our purposes, though, we will stick to nice, simple propositional logic.

Propositions

a.k.a., logical *statements*

P : it is sunny outside

Q : everyone in this room is taller than 6'

R : you passed the exam portion of Engineering 1020

Could be true or false!

Cannot be both true *and* false (Law of Non-Contradiction)

Must be either true *or* false (Law of Excluded Middle)

Operators

Apply to one or more propositions

Given propositions, can evaluate

Negation operator

\neg ("not")

P : it is sunny outside

$\neg P$: it is not sunny outside

Unary operator

Q : there are more than 100 students here

$\neg Q$: there are less than **or equal to** 100 students here

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A *unary* operator operates on _____ value... like a _____ has _____
wheel!

Remember: the opposite of $>$ isn't $<$, it's \leq !

Conjunction operator

\wedge ("and")

Truth table

Binary operator

P : it's over 20 degrees outside

Q : it's dry outside

Can you go out without a coat?

$$R = P \wedge Q$$

P	Q	$P \wedge Q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

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A binary operator has _____ in the same way that a _____ has
_____ wheels

Disjunction operator

\vee ("or")

P : transfer credit for MATH 1001

Q : passed 1001 with a grade ≥ 55

Have you satisfied the Eng One requirement for MATH 1001?

$$R = P \vee Q$$

Truth table

P	Q	$P \vee Q$
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

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Logical *disjunction* is the *dual* of conjunction: whereas both operands to a conjunction ("and") operator have to be true to make the conjunction true, both operands to a disjunction ("or") have to be _____ to make the disjunction _____.

Exclusive disjunction

\oplus ("xor")

Truth table

Either this or that

P : switch at this end of the hall

Q : switch at the other end of the hall

Is the light on?

$$R = P \oplus Q$$

P	Q	$P \vee Q$
T	T	F
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

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The *exclusive or* operation turns out to be very important in computing. There are lots of things that can be either this or that, but _____.

Truth table

Fill out as homework:

P	Q	$\neg P$	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$P \oplus Q$
F	F				
F	T				
T	F				
T	T				

Operator properties

\wedge is like multiplication

\vee and \oplus are like addition

Associative: $(P \wedge Q) \wedge R \Leftrightarrow P \wedge (Q \wedge R)$

Commutative: $P \oplus Q \Leftrightarrow Q \oplus P$

Distributive: $P \wedge (Q \vee R) \Leftrightarrow P \wedge Q \vee P \wedge R$

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The "and" and "or" operations behave like multiplication and addition in that the multiplicative operation ("and") comes before the additive ones ("or"), and also in that these operations share some common mathematical properties with their arithmetic cousins.

Useful expressions

Contradictions and tautologies tell us nothing:

$$R = P \wedge Q \wedge \neg P$$

$$R = (P \vee Q) \vee \neg(P \vee Q)$$

Contingencies could be true or false, depending:

$$R = \neg P \wedge Q$$

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In order for a logical expression to be useful to us, it needs to be something that *could* evaluate to _____.

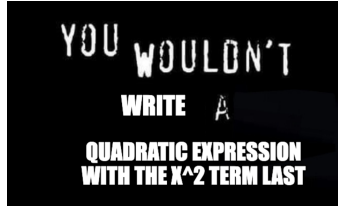
Imagine that I said I would give you a "pass" grade if your final exam mark was either _____ or else _____. In that case, no matter how hard you work — or not! — it makes no difference to the outcome. That's not very motivational!

Normal form

What's wrong with this?

$$x + 9 + 3x^2$$

In one sense, nothing, but...



Similarly:

- $(P \vee \dots) \wedge (Q \vee \dots) \wedge \dots$ (*conjunctive normal form*)
- $P \wedge \dots \vee Q \wedge \dots \vee \dots$ (*disjunctive normal form*)

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The *conjunctive normal form* should include only ANDs of terms that include only ORs. The *disjunctive normal form* should include only ORs of terms that include only ANDs. In both cases, negation should only be applied to specific propositions (e.g., $\neg P$), not expressions (e.g., $\neg(P \vee Q)$).

De Morgan's Laws

Expression negation

$$\neg(P \wedge Q) = \neg P \vee \neg Q$$

$$\neg(P \vee Q) = \neg P \wedge \neg Q$$

More complex example:

$$\begin{aligned}\neg(P \wedge \neg Q \vee R) &= \neg((P \wedge \neg Q) \vee R) \\ &= \neg(P \wedge \neg Q) \wedge \neg R = (\neg P \vee \neg\neg Q) \wedge \neg R \\ &= (\neg P \vee Q) \wedge \neg R\end{aligned}$$

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It's often the case that we have a complex logical expression and we need to find its opposite.

Say that it's safe to land an aircraft if the landing lights are on, the gear is down and ATC has given permission to land. What's the opposite of that logical expression? If _____ of those conditions are not met, _____.

Summary

Propositions

Operators: \wedge , \vee and \oplus

Expressions

- precedence
- normal forms
- De Morgan's Laws