

# Propositional Logic



## 2.1. Introduction and Basics

## 2.2 Conditional Statements

## 2.3 Inferencing

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## **Acknowledgement:**

This lecture is based on (but not limited to) to chapter 2 in “Discrete Mathematics with Applications by Susanna S. Epp (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition)”.

# What is Discrete Math?

- Discrete mathematics is the branch of mathematics dealing with objects that can assume only distinct, separated values
- It is a branch of mathematics concerned with the study of objects that can be represented finitely (or countable)
- Discrete mathematics is the mathematical language of computer science

# What is Discrete Math?

- Concepts and notations from discrete mathematics are useful in studying and describing objects and problems in all branches of computer science, such as algorithms, artificial intelligence, programming languages, security and cryptography, automated theorem proving, and software development in general
- Mathematical reasoning is interesting but also a great way to increase creative mathematical thinking. It helps in your personal life as much as your output as a software developer

# Propositional Logic

# What is Logic?

- Logic is concerned with the methods of reasoning
- Logic provides rules and techniques to determine whether a given argument is valid
- Logic is the language used for most formal specification languages
- Programs can be described with mathematics, and Propositional logic can be used to reason about their correctness (design and analysis of algorithms)

# Proposition

- The basic building blocks of logic—propositions
- A **proposition** is a statement (that is, a sentence that declares a fact) that is either true or false, but not both

- Examples:

Amman is the capital of Jordan.

$1 + 1 = 2.$

$2 + 2 = 3.$

# Proposition

- Consider the following examples, are they propositions?
  - What time is it? *a question not a statement.*
  - Read this carefully. *not a statement.*
  - $x + 1 = 2$ . *not a statement.*
  - $x + y = z$ . *not a statement.*



# Negation

- Definition

If  $p$  is a statement variable, the **negation** of  $p$  is “not  $p$ ” or “It is not the case that  $p$ ” and is denoted  $\sim p$ . It has opposite truth value from  $p$ : if  $p$  is true,  $\sim p$  is false; if  $p$  is false,  $\sim p$  is true.

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \sim p \\ \neg p \end{array} \right\} \text{not } p$

$p$	$\sim p$
T	F
F	T

# Conjunction $\rightarrow$ and (gate)

## • Definition

If  $p$  and  $q$  are statement variables, the **conjunction** of  $p$  and  $q$  is “ $p$  and  $q$ ,” denoted  $p \wedge q$ . It is true when, and only when, both  $p$  and  $q$  are true. If either  $p$  or  $q$  is false, or if both are false,  $p \wedge q$  is false.

$p$	$q$	$p \wedge q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

# Disjunction $\rightarrow$ or

- **Definition**

If  $p$  and  $q$  are statement variables, the **disjunction** of  $p$  and  $q$  is “ $p$  or  $q$ ,” denoted  $p \vee q$ . It is true when either  $p$  is true, or  $q$  is true, or both  $p$  and  $q$  are true; it is false only when both  $p$  and  $q$  are false.

$p$	$q$	$p \vee q$
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

# Truth Table for Exclusive Or

$$p \oplus q \quad \text{or} \quad p \text{ XOR } q$$

$$(p \vee q) \wedge \sim(p \wedge q)$$

$p$	$q$	$p \vee q$	$p \wedge q$	$\sim(p \wedge q)$	$(p \vee q) \wedge \sim(p \wedge q)$
T	T	T	T	F	F
T	F	T	F	T	T
F	T	T	F	T	T
F	F	F	F	T	F

# Logical Equivalence

## • Definition

Two *statement forms* are called **logically equivalent** if, and only if, they have identical truth values for each possible substitution of statements for their statement variables. The logical equivalence of statement forms  $P$  and  $Q$  is denoted by writing  $P \equiv Q$ .

Two *statements* are called **logically equivalent** if, and only if, they have logically equivalent forms when identical component statement variables are used to replace identical component statements.

$p$	$q$	$p \wedge q$	$q \wedge p$
T	T	T	T
T	F	F	F
F	T	F	F
F	F	F	F



$p \wedge q$  and  $q \wedge p$  always have the same truth values, so they are logically equivalent

# Logical Equivalence

$p$	$\sim p$	$\sim(\sim p)$
T	F	T
F	T	F



$p$  and  $\sim(\sim p)$  always have the same truth values, so they are logically equivalent

$p$	$q$	$\sim p$	$\sim q$	$p \wedge q$	$\sim(p \wedge q)$	$\sim p \wedge \sim q$
T	T	F	F	T	F	F
T	F	F	T	F	T	F
F	T	T	F	F	T	F
F	F	T	T	F	T	T



$\sim(p \wedge q)$  and  $\sim p \wedge \sim q$  have different truth values in rows 2 and 3, so they are not logically equivalent

# Negations of And and Or: De Morgan's Laws

$$\sim(p \wedge q) \equiv \sim p \vee \sim q.$$

$$\sim(p \vee q) \equiv \sim p \wedge \sim q.$$

$p$	$q$	$\sim p$	$\sim q$	$p \wedge q$	$\sim(p \wedge q)$	$\sim p \vee \sim q$
T	T	F	F	T	F	F
T	F	F	T	F	T	T
F	T	T	F	F	T	T
F	F	T	T	F	T	T



$\sim(p \wedge q)$  and  $\sim p \vee \sim q$  always have the same truth values, so they are logically equivalent

# Tautologies and Contradictions

## • Definition

A **tautology** is a statement form that is always true regardless of the truth values of the individual statements substituted for its statement variables. A statement whose form is a tautology is a **tautological statement**.

A **contradiction** is a statement form that is always false regardless of the truth values of the individual statements substituted for its statement variables. A statement whose form is a contradiction is a **contradictory statement**.

$p$	$t$	$p \wedge t$	$p$	$c$	$p \wedge c$
T	T	T	T	F	F
F	T	F	F	F	F

↑      ↑  
 same truth  
 values, so  
 $p \wedge t \equiv p$

↑      ↑  
 same truth  
 values, so  
 $p \wedge c \equiv c$

$p$	$\sim p$	$p \vee \sim p$	$p \wedge \sim p$
T	F	T	F
F	T	T	F

↑  
 all T's so  
 $p \vee \sim p$  is  
 a tautology

↑  
 all F's so  
 $p \wedge \sim p$  is a  
 contradiction



# Summary of Logical Equivalences

## Theorem 2.1.1 Logical Equivalences

Given any statement variables  $p, q,$  and  $r,$  a tautology  $\mathbf{t}$  and a contradiction  $\mathbf{c},$  the following logical equivalences hold.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. <i>Commutative laws:</i>  | $p \wedge q \equiv q \wedge p$                              | $p \vee q \equiv q \vee p$                                |
| 2. <i>Associative laws:</i>  | $(p \wedge q) \wedge r \equiv p \wedge (q \wedge r)$        | $(p \vee q) \vee r \equiv p \vee (q \vee r)$              |
| 3. <i>Distributive laws:</i>   | $p \wedge (q \vee r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$ | $p \vee (q \wedge r) \equiv (p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)$ |
| 4. <i>Identity laws:</i>   | $p \wedge \mathbf{t} \equiv p$                              | $p \vee \mathbf{c} \equiv p$                              |
| 5. <i>Negation laws:</i>   | $p \vee \sim p \equiv \mathbf{t}$                           | $p \wedge \sim p \equiv \mathbf{c}$                       |
| 6. <i>Double negative law:</i>   | $\sim(\sim p) \equiv p$                                     |   |
| 7. <i>Idempotent laws:</i>   | $p \wedge p \equiv p$                                       | $p \vee p \equiv p$                                       |
| 8. <i>Universal bound laws:</i>  | $p \vee \mathbf{t} \equiv \mathbf{t}$                       | $p \wedge \mathbf{c} \equiv \mathbf{c}$                   |
| 9. <i>De Morgan's laws:</i>  | $\sim(p \wedge q) \equiv \sim p \vee \sim q$                | $\sim(p \vee q) \equiv \sim p \wedge \sim q$              |
| 10. <i>Absorption laws:</i>  | $p \vee (p \wedge q) \equiv p$                              | $p \wedge (p \vee q) \equiv p$                            |
| 11. <i>Negations of <math>\mathbf{t}</math> and <math>\mathbf{c}</math>:</i> | $\sim \mathbf{t} \equiv \mathbf{c}$                         | $\sim \mathbf{c} \equiv \mathbf{t}$                       |

# Simplifying Statement Forms using

- 1) Truth Table.
- 2) Theorem of logical Equivalences.

$$\sim(\sim p \wedge q) \wedge (p \vee q) \equiv p$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sim(\sim p \wedge q) \wedge (p \vee q) &\equiv (\sim(\sim p) \vee \sim q) \wedge (p \vee q) && \text{by De Morgan's laws} \\ &\equiv (p \vee \sim q) \wedge (p \vee q) && \text{by the double negative law} \\ &\equiv p \vee (\sim q \wedge q) && \text{by the distributive law} \\ &\equiv p \vee (q \wedge \sim q) && \text{by the commutative law for } \wedge \\ &\equiv p \vee \mathbf{c} && \text{by the negation law} \\ &\equiv p && \text{by the identity law.}\end{aligned}$$

# Propositional Logic

## 2.1. Introduction and Basics



## 2.2 Conditional Statements

## 2.3 Inferencing

# *If-Then* Statements

If 9 is divisible by 6, then 9 is divisible by 3

hypothesis                      conclusion

If you study, then you pass

hypothesis                      conclusion

# If-Then Statements

Remark that this if-then is a logical (not a causal) condition

$$p \rightarrow q \equiv \sim p \vee q$$

$p$	$q$	$p \rightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

Your mum said {you study  $\rightarrow$  you pass}, is it True?

you studied and you passed

you studied and you didn't pass

you didn't study and you passed

you didn't study and you didn't pass

If  $p$  and  $q$  are statement variables, the **conditional** of  $q$  by  $p$  is “If  $p$  then  $q$ ” or “ $p$  implies  $q$ ” and is denoted  $p \rightarrow q$ . It is false when  $p$  is true and  $q$  is false; otherwise it is true. We call  $p$  the **hypothesis** (or **antecedent**) of the conditional and  $q$  the **conclusion** (or **consequent**).

# Conditional Statement with a False Hypothesis

If  $0 = 1$  then  $1 = 2$ .

The statement as whole is true.

Notice that we don't test the correctness of the conclusion

# Truth Tables involving $\rightarrow$

Construct a truth table for the statement form  $p \vee \sim q \rightarrow \sim p$ .

$$\equiv \sim(p \vee \sim q) \vee \sim p$$

$$\equiv (\sim p \wedge q) \vee \sim p$$

$$\equiv \sim p \vee (\sim p \wedge q)$$


$p$	$q$	conclusion		hypothesis	
$p$	$q$	$\sim p$	$\sim q$	$p \vee \sim q$	$p \vee \sim q \rightarrow \sim p$
T	T	F	F	T	F
T	F	F	T	T	F
F	T	T	F	F	T
F	F	T	T	T	T

# Logical Equivalences involving $\rightarrow$

Division into Cases: Showing that  $p \vee q \rightarrow r \equiv (p \rightarrow r) \wedge (q \rightarrow r)$

عدد الاحتمالات =  $2^n$   
عدد المتغيرات =  $n$

	$p$	$q$	$r$	$p \vee q$	$p \rightarrow r$	$q \rightarrow r$	$p \vee q \rightarrow r$	$(p \rightarrow r) \wedge (q \rightarrow r)$
1	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
2	T	T	F	T	F	F	F	F
3	T	F	T	T	T	T	T	T
4	T	F	F	T	F	T	F	F
5	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
6	F	T	F	T	T	F	F	F
7	F	F	T	F	T	T	T	T
8	F	F	F	F	T	T	T	T

  
 $p \vee q \rightarrow r$  and  $(p \rightarrow r) \wedge (q \rightarrow r)$   
always have the same truth values,  
so they are logically equivalent



# Representation of If-Then As Or

$$p \rightarrow q \equiv \sim p \vee q$$

Examples?

$p$	$q$	$\sim p$	$p \rightarrow q$	$\sim p \vee q$
T	T	F	T	T
T	F	F	F	F
F	T	T	T	T
F	F	T	T	T

~~~~~  
≡

# The Negation of a Conditional Statement

The negation of “if  $p$  then  $q$ ” is logically equivalent to “ $p$  and not  $q$ .”

$$\sim(p \rightarrow q) \equiv p \wedge \sim q$$

$$\sim(p \rightarrow q) \equiv \sim(\sim p \vee q)$$

$$\equiv \sim(\sim p) \wedge (\sim q) \quad \text{by De Morgan's laws}$$

$$\equiv p \wedge \sim q \quad \text{by the double negative law}$$

# The Negation of a Conditional Statement

## Examples

If my lecture is at Masri109, then I cannot buy coffee

my lecture is at Masri109 and I can buy coffee

If Amjad loves Zatar, then Amjad is smart

Amjad loves Zatar and Amjad is not smart

# Contrapositive Statements

Conditional statement = its contrapositive.

If you don't pass then you didn't study

## • Definition

The **contrapositive** of a conditional statement of the form "If  $p$  then  $q$ " is

If  $\sim q$  then  $\sim p$ .

Symbolically,

The contrapositive of  $p \rightarrow q$  is  $\sim q \rightarrow \sim p$ .  $p \rightarrow q \equiv \sim q \rightarrow \sim p$

if study then pass  
if not pass then not study

Try the truth table

# Contrapositive Statements

## Examples

If my lecture is at Masri109, then I cannot buy coffee

If I can buy coffee then my lecture is not at Masri109

If Amjad loves Zatar, then Amjad is smart

If Amjad is not smart then Amjad does not love Zatar

# Converse and Inverse

## • Definition

Suppose a conditional statement of the form “If  $p$  then  $q$ ” is given.

1. The **converse** is “If  $q$  then  $p$ .”
2. The **inverse** is “If  $\sim p$  then  $\sim q$ .”

Symbolically,

and

The converse of  $p \rightarrow q$  is  $q \rightarrow p$ ,

The inverse of  $p \rightarrow q$  is  $\sim p \rightarrow \sim q$ .

*They're not logically equivalent.*

مقلوب Converse  
معكوس Inverse

# Converse and Inverse

## Examples

If my lecture is at Masri109, then I cannot buy coffee

Converse: If I cannot buy coffee then my lecture is at Masri109

Inverse: If my lecture is not at Masri109 then I can buy coffee

If Amjad loves Zatar, then Amjad is smart

Converse: If Amjad is smart then Amjad loves Zatar

Inverse: If Amjad does not love Zatar, then Amjad is not smart

# Converse and Inverse

**Caution!** Many people believe that if a conditional statement is true, then its converse and inverse must also be true. This is not correct!

1. A conditional statement and its converse are *not* logically equivalent.
2. A conditional statement and its inverse are *not* logically equivalent.
3. The converse and the inverse of a conditional statement are logically equivalent to each other.  $q \rightarrow p \equiv \sim p \rightarrow \sim q$



# Biconditional

If and only if  
*iff*

- **Definition**

Given statement variables  $p$  and  $q$ , the **biconditional of  $p$  and  $q$**  is “ $p$  if, and only if,  $q$ ” and is denoted  $p \leftrightarrow q$ . It is true if both  $p$  and  $q$  have the same truth values and is false if  $p$  and  $q$  have opposite truth values. The words *if and only if* are sometimes abbreviated **iff**.

| $p$ | $q$ | $p \leftrightarrow q$ |
|-----|-----|-----------------------|
| T   | T   | T                     |
| T   | F   | F                     |
| F   | T   | F                     |
| F   | F   | T                     |

# Biconditional

Truth Table Showing that  $p \leftrightarrow q \equiv (p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow p)$

| $p$ | $q$ | $p \rightarrow q$ | $q \rightarrow p$ | $p \leftrightarrow q$ | $(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow p)$ |
|-----|-----|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| T   | T   | T                 | T                 | T                     | T                                            |
| T   | F   | F                 | T                 | F                     | F                                            |
| F   | T   | T                 | F                 | F                     | F                                            |
| F   | F   | T                 | T                 | T                     | T                                            |



$p \leftrightarrow q$  and  $(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow p)$   
always have the same truth values,  
so they are logically equivalent

# Biconditional

## Examples

This computer program is correct **if, and only if,** it produces correct answers for all possible sets of input data.

If this program produces the correct answers for all possible sets of input data, then it is correct.

If this program is correct, then it produces the correct answers for all possible sets of input data;

### Order of Operations for Logical Operators

1.  $\sim$  Evaluate negations first.
2.  $\wedge, \vee$  Evaluate  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  second. When both are present, parentheses may be needed.
3.  $\rightarrow, \leftrightarrow$  Evaluate  $\rightarrow$  and  $\leftrightarrow$  third. When both are present, parentheses may be needed.

# Necessary and Sufficient Conditions

## • Definition

If  $r$  and  $s$  are statements:

$r$  is a **sufficient condition** for  $s$  means “if  $r$  then  $s$ .”

$r$  is a **necessary condition** for  $s$  means “if not  $r$  then not  $s$ .”

$r$  is a necessary condition for  $s$  also means “if  $s$  then  $r$ .”

$r$  is a necessary and sufficient condition for  $s$  means “ $r$  if, and only if,  $s$ .”

## Examples

Studying is a sufficient condition for passing.

In order to pass, it is sufficient to study.

It is sufficient to study in order to pass.

$r$

Study  $\rightarrow$  Pass

Study  $\rightarrow$  Pass

Study  $\rightarrow$  Pass

# Necessary and Sufficient Conditions

## • Definition

If  $r$  and  $s$  are statements:

$r$  is a **sufficient condition** for  $s$  means “if  $r$  then  $s$ .”

$r$  is a **necessary condition** for  $s$  means “if not  $r$  then not  $s$ .”

$r$  is a necessary condition for  $s$  also means “if  $s$  then  $r$ .”

$r$  is a necessary and sufficient condition for  $s$  means “ $r$  if, and only if,  $s$ .”

## Examples

Being above 16 is a sufficient condition for getting ID Card.

Above (16)  $\rightarrow$  Get ID Card

Being above 16 is a necessary condition for getting ID Card

$\sim$ Above (16)  $\rightarrow$   $\sim$ Get ID Card

# Necessary and Sufficient Conditions

## Examples

A is a sufficient condition for B

→ if A then B

→ The occurrence of A guarantees the occurrence of B

A is a necessary condition for B

→ If  $\sim A$  then  $\sim B$

→ If A did not occur, then B did not occur either

>> It also means If B then A (if B occurred then A had also occurred)

$$\sim A \rightarrow \sim B \equiv B \rightarrow A$$

# Examples

## Examples

- Passing all exams is a sufficient condition for passing the course
  - If a person passes all exams, then the person will pass the course
- Passing all exams is a necessary condition for passing the course
  - If a person does not pass all exams, then the person will not pass the course
  - OR if a person passes the course, then the person will have passed all exams



# Propositional Logic

**2.1. Introduction and Basics**

**2.2 Conditional Statements**

**2.3 Inferencing**



# Propositional Logic

## 2.3 Logical Inferencing

In this lecture:



- Part 1: **Numeration Method**
- Part 2: **Rules of Inference**
- Part 3: **Examples**

# Numeration Method

## Example 1

*Premises* → If today is Friday then today is holiday  
 → Today is Friday  
*conclusion* → ∴ today is holiday?

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$p$$

$$\therefore q?$$

|     |     | premises          |     | conclusion |
|-----|-----|-------------------|-----|------------|
| $p$ | $q$ | $p \rightarrow q$ | $p$ | $q$        |
| T   | T   | T                 | T   | T          |
| T   | F   | F                 | T   |            |
| F   | T   | T                 | F   |            |
| F   | F   | T                 | F   |            |

← critical row

The row in which the premises are True.

# Numeration Method

## Example 1

If Socrates is a man, then Socrates is mortal.

Socrates is a man.

$\therefore$  Socrates is mortal

$p \rightarrow q$

$p$

$\therefore q?$

### • Definition

An **argument** is a sequence of statements, and an **argument form** is a sequence of statement forms. All statements in an argument and all statement forms in an argument form, except for the final one, are called **premises** (or **assumptions** or **hypotheses**). The final statement or statement form is called the **conclusion**. The symbol  $\therefore$ , which is read “therefore,” is normally placed just before the conclusion.

To say that an *argument form* is **valid** means that no matter what particular statements are substituted for the statement variables in its premises, if the resulting premises are all true, then the conclusion is also true. To say that an *argument* is **valid** means that its form is valid.

# Testing for validity

## Testing an Argument Form for Validity

1. Identify the premises and conclusion of the argument form.
2. Construct a truth table showing the truth values of all the premises and the conclusion.
3. A row of the truth table in which all the premises are true is called a **critical row**. If there is a critical row in which the conclusion is false, then it is possible for an argument of the given form to have true premises and a false conclusion, and so the argument form is invalid. If the conclusion in *every* critical row is true, then the argument form is valid.

# Numeration Method

## Example 2

The argument form is invalid  
because the conclusion is false  
for one critical-row.

$$p \rightarrow q \vee \sim r$$

$$q \rightarrow p \wedge r$$

$$\therefore p \rightarrow r ?$$

|     |     |     | premises |                 |              |                               | conclusion                 |                   |
|-----|-----|-----|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| $p$ | $q$ | $r$ | $\sim r$ | $q \vee \sim r$ | $p \wedge r$ | $p \rightarrow q \vee \sim r$ | $q \rightarrow p \wedge r$ | $p \rightarrow r$ |
| T   | T   | T   | F        | T               | T            | T                             | T                          | T                 |
| T   | T   | F   | T        | T               | F            | T                             | F                          |                   |
| T   | F   | T   | F        | F               | T            | F                             | T                          |                   |
| T   | F   | F   | T        | T               | F            | T                             | T                          | F                 |
| F   | T   | T   | F        | T               | F            | T                             | F                          |                   |
| F   | T   | F   | T        | T               | F            | T                             | F                          |                   |
| F   | F   | T   | F        | F               | F            | T                             | T                          | T                 |
| F   | F   | F   | T        | T               | F            | T                             | T                          | T                 |

# Building a Valid Argument

- A valid argument is a sequence of statements where each statement is either a premise or follows from previous statements (called premises) by rules of inference. The last statement is called conclusion.
- A valid argument takes the following form:

Premise 1  
Premise 2  
.  
.  
.  
Premise n  
—————  
∴ Conclusion

# Propositional Logic

## 2.3 Logical Inferencing

In this lecture:

Part 1: Numeration Method

  Part 2: **Rules of Inference**

Part 3: Examples



# Rules of Inference

An argument form consisting of two premises and a conclusion is called a syllogism

- The first and second premises are called the major premise and minor premise, respectively
- A rule of inference is a form of argument that is valid

# Rules of Inference

## 1. Modus Ponens

*syllogism  
valid argument*

$$\begin{array}{l} p \rightarrow q \\ p \\ \therefore q \end{array}$$

Corresponding Tautology:

$$((p \rightarrow q) \wedge p) \rightarrow q$$

If today is Friday then today is holiday

Today is Friday

**$\therefore$  Today is holiday**

**Modus Ponens = method of affirming (the conclusion is an affirmation)**

# Rules of Inference

## 1. Modus Ponens

### Example:

Let  $p$  be “It is snowing.”

Let  $q$  be “I will study discrete math.”

“If it is snowing, then I will study discrete math.”

“It is snowing.”

“Therefore , I will study discrete math.”

# Rules of Inference

## 2. Modus Tollens:

Corresponding Tautology:

$$((p \rightarrow q) \wedge \neg q) \rightarrow \neg p$$

$$\begin{array}{l} p \rightarrow q \\ \sim q \\ \therefore \sim p \end{array}$$

If today is Friday then today is holiday

Today is not holiday

**$\therefore$  Today is not Friday**

**Modus Tollens = method of denying (the conclusion is a denial)**

# Rules of Inference

## 2. Modus Tollens

### Example:

Let  $p$  be “it is snowing.”

Let  $q$  be “I will study discrete math.”

“If it is snowing, then I will study discrete math.” “I will not study discrete math.”

“Therefore , it is not snowing.”

# Rules of Inference

## 3. Generalization:

$p$   
 $\therefore p \vee q$

Today is Saturday

**$\therefore$  Today is Saturday or today is Sunday**

$q$   
 $\therefore p \vee q$

According to the first, if  $p$  is true, then, more generally, “ $p$  or  $q$ ” is true for any other statement  $q$

# Rules of Inference

## 4. Specialization: aka Conjunction Elimination

$$p \wedge q$$
$$\therefore p$$

Today is Friday and today is holiday

**$\therefore$  Today is Friday**

$$p \wedge q$$
$$\therefore q$$

**$\therefore$  Today is Holiday**

# Rules of Inference

## 5. Conjunction:

$$\begin{array}{c} p \\ q \\ \therefore p \wedge q \end{array}$$

Today is Friday

Today is Holiday

**$\therefore$  Today is Friday and today is holiday**



# Rules of Inference

## 6. Elimination: also known as Disjunctive Elimination

$$p \vee q$$

$$\sim q$$

$$\therefore p$$

Today is Saturday or today is Sunday

Today is not Saturday

**$\therefore$  Today is Sunday**

These argument forms say that when you have only two possibilities and you can rule one out, the other must be the case. For instance, suppose you know that for a particular number  $x$ ,

$$x - 3 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x + 2 = 0.$$

If you also know that  $x$  is not negative, then  $x \neq -2$ , so

$$x + 2 \neq 0.$$

By elimination, you can then conclude that

$$\therefore x - 3 = 0.$$

$$p \vee q$$

$$\sim p$$

$$\therefore q$$

# Rules of Inference

## 6. Elimination: also known as Disjunctive Elimination

$$p \vee q$$

$$\sim q$$

$$\therefore p$$

$$p \vee q$$

$$\sim p$$

$$\therefore q$$

Example:

Let p be "I will study discrete math." Let q be "I will study English literature."

"I will study discrete math or I will study English literature." "I will not study discrete math."

"Therefore, I will study English literature."

# Rules of Inference

## 7. Transitivity: also known as Chain Argument

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$q \rightarrow r$$

$$\therefore p \rightarrow r$$

If today is Friday then Today is holiday

If today is holiday then I am happy

**$\therefore$  If today is Friday then I am happy**

# Rules of Inference

## 7. Transitivity: also known as Chain Argument

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$q \rightarrow r$$

$$\therefore p \rightarrow r$$

Example:

Let p be "it snows."

Let q be "I will study discrete math." Let r be "I will get an A."

"If it snows, then I will study discrete math."

"If I study discrete math, I will get an A."

"Therefore, If it snows, I will get an A."

# Rules of Inference

## 8. Division into Cases:

$$p \vee q$$

$$p \rightarrow r$$

$$q \rightarrow r$$

$$\therefore r$$

Today is Friday or today is Sunday

If today is Friday then I am happy

If today is Sunday then I am happy

**$\therefore$  I am happy**

# Rules of Inference

## 8. Division into Cases:

$$p \vee q$$

$$p \rightarrow r$$

$$q \rightarrow r$$

$$\therefore r$$

### Example:

Let  $p$  be “I will study discrete math.”

Let  $q$  be “I will study Computer Science.”

Let  $r$  be “I will study databases.”

“If I will study discrete math, then I will study Computer Science.”

“If I will study databases, then I will study Computer Science.”

“I will study discrete math or I will study databases.”

“Therefore, I will study Computer Science.”

# Rules of Inference

## 9. Contradiction Rule:

$$\sim p \rightarrow c$$
$$\therefore p$$

If “Today is not Friday” is false

**$\therefore$  Today is Friday**

# Rules of Inference Summary

|                       |                                                |                                          |                                                                  |                                                               |  |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Modus Ponens</b>   | $p \rightarrow q$ $p$ $\therefore q$           | <b>Elimination</b>                       | <b>a.</b> $p \vee q$<br>$\sim q$<br>$\therefore p$               | <b>b.</b> $p \vee q$<br>$\sim p$<br>$\therefore q$            |  |
| <b>Modus Tollens</b>  | $p \rightarrow q$ $\sim q$ $\therefore \sim p$ | <b>Transitivity</b>                      | $p \rightarrow q$ $q \rightarrow r$ $\therefore p \rightarrow r$ |                                                               |  |
| <b>Generalization</b> | <b>a.</b> $p$<br>$\therefore p \vee q$         | <b>b.</b> $q$<br>$\therefore p \vee q$   | <b>Proof by<br/>Division into Cases</b>                          | $p \vee q$ $p \rightarrow r$ $q \rightarrow r$ $\therefore r$ |  |
| <b>Specialization</b> | <b>a.</b> $p \wedge q$<br>$\therefore p$       | <b>b.</b> $p \wedge q$<br>$\therefore q$ |                                                                  |                                                               |  |
| <b>Conjunction</b>    | $p$ $q$ $\therefore p \wedge q$                | <b>Contradiction Rule</b>                | $\sim p \rightarrow c$ $\therefore p$                            |                                                               |  |



# Propositional Logic

## 2.3 Logical Inferencing

In this lecture:

Part 1: Numeration Method

Part 2: Rules of Inference

  Part 3: **Examples**

# Inferencing Example

**Formalize the following text in propositional logic and use the inference rules find the glasses.**

If I was reading the newspaper in the kitchen, then my glasses are on the kitchen table.  $RK \rightarrow GK$

If my glasses are on the kitchen table, then I saw them at breakfast.  $GK \rightarrow SB$

I did not see my glasses at breakfast.  $\sim SB$

I was reading the newspaper in the living room or I was reading the newspaper in the kitchen.  $RL \vee RK$

If I was reading the newspaper in the living room then my glasses are on the coffee table.  $RL \rightarrow GC$

# Inferencing Example

Let

$RK$  = I was reading the newspaper in the kitchen.

$GK$  = My glasses are on the kitchen table.

$SB$  = I saw my glasses at breakfast.

$RL$  = I was reading the newspaper in the living room.

$GC$  = My glasses are on the coffee table.

$RK \rightarrow GK$

$GK \rightarrow SB$

$\sim SB$

$RL \vee RK$

$RL \rightarrow GC$

$RK \rightarrow GK$

$GK \rightarrow SB$

$\therefore RK \rightarrow SB$  by transitivity

$RL \vee RK$

$\sim RK$

$\therefore RL$  by elimination

$RK \rightarrow SB$

$\sim SB$

$\therefore \sim RK$  by modus tollens

$RL \rightarrow GC$

$RL$

$\therefore GC$  by modus ponens

Thus the glasses are on the coffee table.