

The Foundations: Logic and Proofs

CSC-2259 Discrete Structures

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1

Propositional Logic

Proposition is a declarative statement that is either true or false

- | | |
|---|-------|
| • Baton Rouge is the capital of Louisiana | True |
| • Toronto is the capital of Canada | False |
| • $1+1=2$ | True |
| • $2+2=3$ | False |

Statements which are not propositions:

- What time is it?
- $x+1 = 2$

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p = today is Thursday

Negation: $\neg p$ = today is not Thursday

truth table

p	$\neg p$
T	F
F	T

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p = today is Thursday

q = it is raining today

Conjunction:

$p \wedge q$ = today is Thursday and it is raining today

truth table

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

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p = today is Thursday

q = today is Friday

Disjunction:

$p \vee q$ = today is Thursday or today is Friday

truth table

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

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p = today is Thursday

q = today is Friday

Exclusive-or: one or the other but not both

$p \oplus q$ = today is Thursday or today is Friday (but not both)

truth table

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

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(hypothesis) p = Maria learns discrete math

(conclusion) q = Maria will find a good job

Conditional statement:

$p \rightarrow q$ = if Maria learns discrete math then she will find a good job

if p then q

p implies q

q follows from p

p only if q

p is sufficient for q

truth table

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

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7

Conditional statement: $p \rightarrow q$

Contrapositive: $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$

} equivalent (same truth table)

Converse: $q \rightarrow p$

Inverse: $\neg p \rightarrow \neg q$

} equivalent

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p = you can take the flight

q = you buy a ticket

Biconditional statement:

$p \leftrightarrow q$ = you can take the flight if and only if you buy a ticket

p if and only if q

p iff q

If p then q and conversely

p is necessary and sufficient for q

truth table

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

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9

Compound propositions

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

Precedence of operators

\neg \wedge \vee \rightarrow \leftrightarrow

higher

lower

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Translating English into propositions

p = "you cannot ride the roller coaster if you are under 4 feet tall unless you are older than 16 years old"

q = you can ride the roller coaster

r = you are under 4 feet tall

s = you are older than 16 years old

$$p = r \wedge \neg s \rightarrow \neg q$$

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Logic and Bit Operations

Boolean

variables

OR

AND

XOR

x	y	$x \vee y$	$x \wedge y$	$x \oplus y$
0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	1
1	0	1	0	1
1	1	1	1	0

$T = 1$

$F = 0$

Bit string

0110110110

1100011101

1110111111 bitwise OR

0100010100 bitwise AND

1010101011 bitwise XOR

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Propositional Equivalences

Compound proposition

Tautology: always true

Contradiction: always false

		tautology	contradiction
p	$\neg p$	$p \vee \neg p$	$p \wedge \neg p$
T	F	T	F
F	T	T	F

Contingency: not a tautology and
not a contradiction

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Logically equivalent

compound propositions: $p \equiv q$

$p \leftrightarrow q$ is a tautology

Have same truth table

Example: $\neg x \vee y \equiv x \rightarrow y$

x	y	$\neg x$	$\neg x \vee y$	$x \rightarrow y$
T	T	F	T	T
T	F	F	F	F
F	T	T	T	T
F	F	T	T	T

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De Morgan's laws

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

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

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

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Identity laws

$$p \wedge T \equiv p$$

$$p \vee F \equiv p$$

Domination laws

$$p \vee T \equiv T$$

$$p \wedge F \equiv F$$

Idempotent laws

$$p \vee p \equiv p$$

$$p \wedge p \equiv p$$

Negation laws

$$p \vee \neg p \equiv T$$

$$p \wedge \neg p \equiv F$$

Double Negation law

$$\neg(\neg p) \equiv p$$

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Commutative laws

$$p \vee q \equiv q \vee p$$

$$p \wedge q \equiv q \wedge p$$

Associative laws

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

$$(p \wedge q) \wedge r \equiv p \wedge (q \wedge r)$$

Distributive laws

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

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

Absorption laws

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

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

Conditional Statements

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

$$p \rightarrow q \equiv \neg q \rightarrow \neg p$$

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

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

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

$$(p \rightarrow r) \wedge (q \rightarrow r) \equiv (p \vee q) \rightarrow r$$

$$(p \rightarrow r) \vee (q \rightarrow r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \rightarrow r$$

Biconditional Statements

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

$$p \leftrightarrow q \equiv \neg p \leftrightarrow \neg q$$

$$p \leftrightarrow q \equiv (p \wedge q) \vee (\neg p \wedge \neg q)$$

$$\neg(p \leftrightarrow q) \equiv p \leftrightarrow \neg q$$

Construct new logical equivalences

$$\begin{aligned}\neg(p \rightarrow q) &\equiv \neg(\neg p \vee q) && \text{(since } \neg x \vee y \equiv x \rightarrow y \text{)} \\ &\equiv \neg(\neg p) \wedge \neg q && \text{(De Morgan's laws)} \\ &\equiv p \wedge \neg q && \text{(Double negation law)}\end{aligned}$$

Predicates and Quantifiers

variable **predicate**

$A(x)$: Computer x is under attack by an intruder

$B(x)$: Computer x is functioning properly

Propositional functions

$$P(x): x > 3$$

$$Q(x, y): x = y + 3$$

$$R(x, y, z): x + y = z$$

Predicate logic

Computers = {CS1, CS2, MATH1}

$A(x)$: Computer x is under attack by an intruder

$$A(\text{CS1}) = T$$

$$A(\text{CS2}) = F$$

$$A(\text{MATH1}) = T$$

$B(x)$: Computer x is functioning properly

$$B(\text{CS1}) = F$$

$$B(\text{CS2}) = T$$

$$B(\text{MATH1}) = F$$

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Predicate logic

predicate

$$P(x): x > 3$$

2-ary predicate

$$Q(x, y): x = y + 3$$

3-ary predicate

$$R(x, y, z): x + y = z$$

$$P(1) = F$$

$$P(4) = T$$

$$Q(4, 1) = T$$

$$Q(3, 2) = F$$

$$R(1, 1, 2) = T$$

$$R(2, 1, 1) = F$$

n-ary predicate

$$P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

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Universal quantifier: $\forall x P(x)$
for all x it holds $P(x)$

$P(x) : x + 1 > x$ (for every element in domain)
 $\forall x P(x)$ is true for every real number x

$Q(x) : x^2 > 0$ (for every element in domain)
 $\forall x Q(x)$ is not true for every real number x
Counterexample: $Q(0) = F$

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Existential quantifier: $\exists x P(x)$
there is x such that $P(x)$

$P(x) : x > 3$
 $\exists x P(x)$ is true because $P(4) = T$

$Q(x) : x + 1 = 1 \wedge x > 0$
 $\exists x Q(x)$ is not true

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For finite domain $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$

$$\forall x P(x) \equiv P(x_1) \wedge P(x_2) \wedge \dots \wedge P(x_n)$$

$$\exists x P(x) \equiv P(x_1) \vee P(x_2) \vee \dots \vee P(x_n)$$

Quantifiers with restricted domain

$$\forall x < 0 (x^2 > 0)$$

$$\forall y \neq 0 (y^3 \neq 0)$$

$$\exists z > 0 (z^2 = 2)$$

Precedence of operators

$\forall \quad \neg \quad \wedge \quad \vee \quad \rightarrow \quad \leftrightarrow$

\exists

higher

lower

$$\exists x(x + y = 1)$$

Bound
variable
free
variable

$$\underbrace{\exists x(P(x) \wedge Q(x))}_{\text{Scope of } x} \vee \underbrace{\forall xR(x)}_{\text{Scope of } x}$$

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Logical equivalences with quantifiers

$$\forall x(P(x) \wedge Q(x)) \equiv \forall xP(x) \wedge \forall xQ(x)$$

$$\exists x(P(x) \vee Q(x)) \equiv \exists xP(x) \vee \exists xQ(x)$$

$$\forall x(P(x) \vee Q(x)) \equiv \forall xP(x) \vee \forall xQ(x)? \quad \text{False}$$

$$\exists x(P(x) \wedge Q(x)) \equiv \exists xP(x) \wedge \exists xQ(x)? \quad \text{False}$$

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De Morgan's Laws for Quantifiers

$$\neg \forall x P(x) \equiv \exists x \neg P(x)$$

$$\neg \exists x P(x) \equiv \forall x \neg P(x)$$

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Example

$$\begin{aligned} \neg \forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) &\equiv \exists x \neg (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \\ &\equiv \exists x (P(x) \wedge \neg Q(x)) \end{aligned}$$

Recall that: $\neg(p \rightarrow q) \equiv p \wedge \neg q$

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Translating English into Logical Expressions

$P(x) = x$ is a hummingbird

$Q(x) = x$ is large bird

$R(x) = x$ lives on honey

$S(x) = x$ is richly colored

"All hummingbirds are richly colored" $\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow S(x))$

"No large birds live on honey" $\neg \exists x(Q(x) \wedge R(x))$

"Birds that do not live on honey
are dull in color" $\forall x(\neg R(x) \rightarrow \neg S(x))$

"Hummingbirds are small" $\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow \neg Q(x))$

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Nested Quantifiers

Additive inverse

$$\forall x \exists y (x + y = 0)$$

Commutative law for addition

$$\forall x \forall y (x + y = y + x)$$

Associative law for addition

$$\forall x \forall y \forall z (x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z)$$

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32

Order of quantifiers

$$\forall x \forall y P(x, y) \equiv \forall y \forall x P(x, y)$$

$$\exists x \exists y P(x, y) \equiv \exists y \exists x P(x, y)$$

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We cannot always change
the order of quantifiers

$$\forall x \exists y P(x, y) \equiv \exists y \forall x P(x, y) ?$$

true

false

$$\forall x \exists y (x + y = 0)$$

$$\exists y \forall x (x + y = 0)$$

$$\exists y \forall x P(x, y) \rightarrow \forall x \exists y P(x, y)$$

But not the converse

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34

Translating Math Statements

"The sum of two positive integers
is always positive"

$$\forall x \forall y ((x > 0) \wedge (y > 0) \rightarrow (x + y > 0))$$

"Every real number except zero
has a multiplicative inverse"

$$\forall x ((x \neq 0) \rightarrow \exists y (xy = 1))$$

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35

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$$

For every real number $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists
a real number $\delta > 0$ such that $|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$
whenever $0 < |x - a| < \delta$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \forall x (0 < |x - a| < \delta \rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon)$$

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Translating into English

$C(x)$: student x has a computer

$F(x, y)$: students x and y are friends

$$\forall x(C(x) \vee \exists y(C(y) \wedge F(x, y)))$$

"Every student has a computer
or has a friend who has a computer"

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$F(x, y)$: students x and y are friends

$$\exists x \forall y \forall z ((F(x, y) \wedge F(x, z) \wedge (y \neq z)) \rightarrow \neg F(y, z))$$

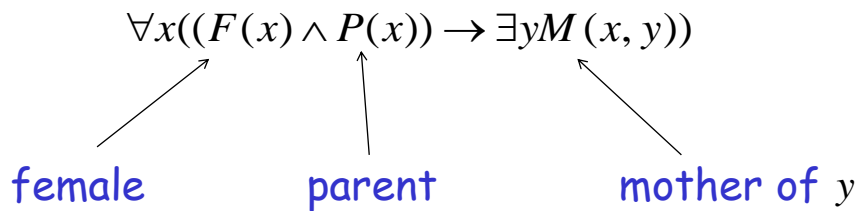
"There is a student none of whose friends
are also friends with each other"

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Translating English into Logical Expressions

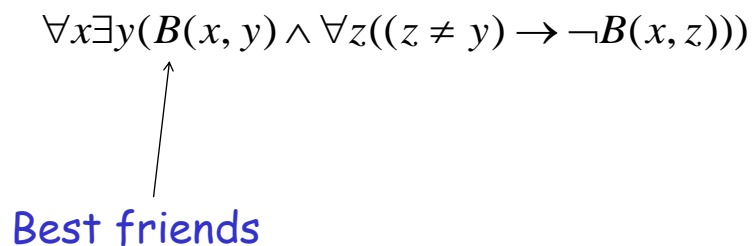
"If a person is female and is a parent, then this person is someone's mother"



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39

"Everyone has exactly one best friend"



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40

Negating nested quantifiers

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \neq L$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \neg \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \forall x (0 < |x - a| < \delta \rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon) \\ & \equiv \exists \varepsilon > 0 \neg \exists \delta > 0 \forall x (0 < |x - a| < \delta \rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon) \\ & \equiv \exists \varepsilon > 0 \forall \delta > 0 \neg \forall x (0 < |x - a| < \delta \rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon) \\ & \equiv \exists \varepsilon > 0 \forall \delta > 0 \exists x \neg (0 < |x - a| < \delta \rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon) \\ & \equiv \exists \varepsilon > 0 \forall \delta > 0 \exists x (0 < |x - a| < \delta \wedge \neg (|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon)) \\ & \equiv \exists \varepsilon > 0 \forall \delta > 0 \exists x (0 < |x - a| < \delta \wedge |f(x) - L| \geq \varepsilon) \end{aligned}$$

Recall: $\neg(p \rightarrow q) \equiv p \wedge \neg q$

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41

Rules of Inference

If you have a current password,
then you can log onto the network $p \rightarrow q$

You have a current password p

Therefore,
you can log onto the network q

Valid argument:
if premises are true
then conclusion is true

Modus Ponens

$$\begin{array}{r} p \rightarrow q \\ p \\ \hline \therefore q \end{array}$$

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If $\sqrt{2} > 1$, then $(\sqrt{2})^2 > (1)^2$ $p \rightarrow q$

We know that $\sqrt{2} > 1$ p (true)

Therefore,

$$(\sqrt{2})^2 = 2 > 1 = (1)^2 \quad q \text{ (true)}$$

Valid argument,
true conclusion

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$\frac{p}{\therefore q}$$

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43

If $\sqrt{2} > \frac{3}{2}$, then $(\sqrt{2})^2 > \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2$ $p \rightarrow q$

We know that $\sqrt{2} > \frac{3}{2}$ p (false)

Therefore,

$$(\sqrt{2})^2 = 2 > \frac{9}{4} = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 \quad q \text{ (false)}$$

Valid argument,
false conclusion

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$\frac{p}{\therefore q}$$

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Modus Ponens

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$\frac{p}{\quad}$$

$$\therefore q$$

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

If $p \rightarrow q$ and p then q

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45

Rules of Inference

Modus Ponens

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$\frac{p}{\quad}$$

$$\therefore q$$

Modus Tollens

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$\frac{\neg q}{\quad}$$

$$\therefore \neg p$$

Hypothetical Syllogism

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$q \rightarrow r$$

$$\frac{\quad}{\therefore p \rightarrow r}$$

Disjunctive Syllogism

$$p \vee q$$

$$\frac{\neg p}{\quad}$$

$$\therefore q$$

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Rules of Inference

Addition

$$\frac{p}{\therefore p \vee q}$$

Simplification

$$\frac{p \wedge q}{\therefore p}$$

Conjunction

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} p \\ q \end{array}}{\therefore p \wedge q}$$

Resolution

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} p \vee q \\ \neg p \vee r \end{array}}{\therefore q \vee r}$$

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47

It is below freezing now

p

Therefore,
 p it is either below freezing
 q or raining now

$p \vee q$

Addition

$$\frac{p}{\therefore p \vee q}$$

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p It is below freezing
 q and raining now $p \wedge q$

Therefore,
 it is below freezing now p

Simplification

$$\frac{p \wedge q}{\therefore p}$$

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p If it rains today
 q then we will not have a barbecue today $p \rightarrow q$

q If we do not have a barbecue today
 r then we will have a barbecue tomorrow $q \rightarrow r$

Therefore,
 p if it rains today
 r then we will have a barbecue tomorrow $p \rightarrow r$

Hypothetical
Syllogism

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q \quad q \rightarrow r}{\therefore p \rightarrow r}$$

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$\neg p$ it is not snowing
 q or Jasmine is skiing

$\neg p \vee q$

p It is snowing
 r or Bart is playing hockey

$p \vee r$

Therefore,
 Jasmine is skiing
 or Bart is playing hockey

$q \vee r$

Resolution $\frac{p \vee q \quad \neg p \vee r}{\therefore q \vee r}$

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51

Hypothesis:

$\neg p$ It is not sunny this afternoon
 q and it is colder than yesterday

$\neg p \wedge q$

r We will go swimming
 p only if it is sunny

$r \rightarrow p$

$\neg r$ If we do not go swimming,
 s then we will take a canoe trip

$\neg r \rightarrow s$

s If we take a canoe trip,
 t then we will be home by sunset

$s \rightarrow t$

Conclusion:

t We will be home by sunset

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52

1. $\neg p \wedge q$ Hypothesis
2. $\neg p$ Simplification from 1
3. $r \rightarrow p$ Hypothesis
4. $\neg r$ Modus tollens from 2,3
5. $\neg r \rightarrow s$ Hypothesis
6. s Modus ponens from 4,5
7. $s \rightarrow t$ Hypothesis
8. t Modus ponens from 6,7

Fallacy of affirming the conclusion

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q \quad q}{\therefore p}$$

p If you do every problem in this book $p \rightarrow q$
 q then you will learn discrete mathematics

You learned discrete mathematics q

Therefore, p
 you did every problem in this book

Fallacy of denying the hypothesis

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$\neg p$$

$$\hline \therefore \neg q$$

p If you do every problem in this book $p \rightarrow q$
 q then you will learn discrete mathematics

You didn't do every problem in this book $\neg p$

Therefore,
you didn't learn discrete mathematics $\neg q$

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Rules of inference for quantifiers

Universal
Instantiation

$$\forall x P(x)$$

$$\hline \therefore P(c) \text{ for any } c$$

Universal
Generalization

$$P(c) \text{ for arbitrary } c$$

$$\hline \therefore \forall x P(x)$$

Existential
Instantiation

$$\exists x P(x)$$

$$\hline \therefore P(c) \text{ for some } c$$

Existential
Generalization

$$P(c) \text{ for some } c$$

$$\hline \therefore \exists x P(x)$$

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Premises:

$C(x)$ A student in this class
 $\neg B(x)$ has not read the book $\exists x(C(x) \wedge \neg B(x))$

$C(x)$ Everyone in this class
 $P(x)$ passed the first exam $\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow P(x))$

Conclusion:

$P(x)$ Someone who passed the first exam
 $\neg B(x)$ has not read the book $\exists x(P(x) \wedge \neg B(x))$

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57

1. $\exists x(C(x) \wedge \neg B(x))$ Premise
2. $C(a) \wedge \neg B(a)$ Existential instantiation from 1
3. $C(a)$ Simplification from 2
4. $\forall x(C(x) \rightarrow P(x))$ Premise
5. $C(a) \rightarrow P(a)$ Universal instantiation from 1
6. $P(a)$ Modus Ponens from 3,5
7. $\neg B(a)$ Simplification from 2
8. $P(a) \wedge \neg B(a)$ Conjunction from 6,7
9. $\exists x(P(x) \wedge \neg B(x))$ Existential generalization from 8

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Universal Modus Ponens

$$\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

$P(a)$, for some particular a in domain

$$\therefore Q(a)$$

$P(x)$	For all positive integers x ,	$\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$
	if $\underline{x > 4}$	
$Q(x)$	then $\underline{x^2 < 2^x}$	

$$100 > 4$$

$$P(100)$$

Therefore, $100^2 < 2^{100}$

$$Q(100)$$

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59

Proofs

Theorem: the main result that
we want to prove

Lemma: intermediate result
used in theorem proof

Axiom: basic truth

Corollary: immediate consequence of theorem

Conjecture: something to be proven

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60

Typically, we want to prove statements

$$\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

Proof technique:

show that for some arbitrary c

$$P(c) \rightarrow Q(c)$$

and apply universal generalization

Direct proof: $P(c) \rightarrow Q(c)$

Proof by contraposition: $\neg Q(c) \rightarrow \neg P(c)$

Proof by contradiction: $\neg P(c) \rightarrow (r \wedge \neg r)$

If we want to prove $P(c)$

Definition: integer n is even $\leftrightarrow \exists k \ n = 2k$

integer n is odd $\leftrightarrow \exists k \ n = 2k + 1$

An integer is either even or odd

Theorem: if n is an even integer, $P(n)$
then n^2 is even $Q(n)$

Proof: (direct proof $P(n) \rightarrow Q(n)$)

n is even $\rightarrow \exists k \ n = 2k$

$$n^2 = (2k)^2 = 4k^2 = 2(2k^2)$$

Therefore, n^2 is even

End of proof

Theorem: if n is an odd integer, $P(n)$
then n^2 is odd $Q(n)$

Proof: (direct proof $P(n) \rightarrow Q(n)$)

$$n \text{ is odd} \rightarrow \exists k \ n = 2k + 1$$

$$n^2 = (2k + 1)^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 = 2(2k^2 + 2k) + 1$$

Therefore, n^2 is odd

End of proof

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Theorem: if n^2 is an even integer, $P(n)$
then n is even $Q(n)$

Proof: (proof by contraposition $\neg Q(n) \rightarrow \neg P(n)$)

$$\neg Q(n) \rightarrow \neg P(n)$$

$$n \text{ is odd} \rightarrow n^2 \text{ is odd} \quad (\text{see last proof})$$

Therefore: $P(n) \rightarrow Q(n)$

End of proof

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66

Theorem: if n^2 is an odd integer, $P(n)$
then n is odd $Q(n)$

Proof: (proof by contraposition $\neg Q(n) \rightarrow \neg P(n)$)

$$\neg Q(n) \rightarrow \neg P(n)$$

n is even $\rightarrow n^2$ is even

Therefore: $P(n) \rightarrow Q(n)$

End of proof

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Theorem: $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational P

Proof: (proof by contradiction $\neg P \rightarrow (r \wedge \neg r)$)

$\neg P$: Assume $\sqrt{2}$ is rational

$$\sqrt{2} = \frac{m}{n}$$

r : m and n have no common
divisor greater than 1

Therefore: $\neg P \rightarrow r$

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68

$$2 = \frac{m^2}{n^2} \implies m^2 = 2n^2 \implies m = 2k_1 \text{ (} m \text{ is even)}$$

$$2n^2 = m^2 = 4k_1^2 \implies n^2 = 2k_1^2 \implies n = 2k_2 \text{ (} n \text{ is even)}$$

$$\neg r: \quad \frac{m}{n} = \frac{2k_1}{2k_2} \text{ common divisor is 2}$$

$$\text{Therefore: } \neg P \rightarrow \neg r$$

Therefore:

$$\neg P \rightarrow r$$

$$\neg P \rightarrow \neg r$$

$$\therefore (\neg P \rightarrow r) \wedge (\neg P \rightarrow \neg r) \text{ Conjunction}$$

$$\equiv \neg P \rightarrow (r \wedge \neg r)$$

contradiction

Therefore:

$$\begin{array}{l} \neg P \rightarrow (r \wedge \neg r) \\ \neg(r \wedge \neg r) \\ \hline \therefore \neg(\neg P) \quad \text{Modus Tollens} \\ \equiv P \end{array}$$

End of proof

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71

Counterexamples

False statement:

"Every positive integer is the sum of the squares of two integers"

$$\forall x > 0 \exists y \exists z (x = y^2 + z^2)$$

Counterexample: $x = 3$

$$3 \neq 1^2 + 1^2 = 2$$

$$3 \neq 1^2 + 2^2 = 1 + 4 = 5$$

Any other combination gives sum larger than 3

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72

Proof by cases

We want to prove $p \rightarrow q$

We know $p = p_1 \vee p_2 \vee \cdots \vee p_n$

Instead, we can prove each case

$$\begin{aligned} p &\rightarrow q \\ &\equiv p_1 \vee p_2 \vee \cdots \vee p_n \rightarrow q \\ &\equiv \underbrace{(p_1 \rightarrow q)}_{\text{Case 1}} \wedge \underbrace{(p_2 \rightarrow q)}_{\text{Case 2}} \wedge \cdots \wedge \underbrace{(p_n \rightarrow q)}_{\text{Case n}} \end{aligned}$$

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73

Theorem: If n is integer, then $n^2 \geq n$

Proof: n is integer $\equiv \underbrace{(n = 0)}_{\text{Case 1}} \vee \underbrace{(n \geq 1)}_{\text{Case 2}} \vee \underbrace{(n \leq -1)}_{\text{Case 3}}$

Case 1: $n = 0$ $n^2 = 0^2 = 0 = n$

Case 2: $n \geq 1$ $n^2 = n \cdot n \geq n \cdot 1 = n$

Case 3: $n \leq -1$ $n^2 > 0 > n$

End of proof

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74

Existence Proofs

Theorem: There is a positive integer that can be written as the sum of cubes in two different ways

Proof: (constructive existence proof)

$$1729 = 10^3 + 9^3 = 12^3 + 1^3$$

End of proof

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75

Theorem: There exist irrational numbers x, y such that x^y is rational

Proof: (non-constructive existence proof)

We know: $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational

If $\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}$ is rational $\implies x = \sqrt{2}, y = \sqrt{2}$

If $\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}$ is irrational $\implies x = \sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}, y = \sqrt{2}$

$$x^y = \left(\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}} \right)^{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}^2 = 2 = \frac{2}{1} \text{ rational}$$

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End of proof 76