

(Language of Mathematics)I) Propositions

Definition: A proposition, also called statement, is a declarative sentence that is either true (T) or false (F) but not both.

Example:

Sentence	Is it a proposition?	Truth value
I wear black jeans today	Yes	True.
Today is Friday.	Yes	False (now) maybe true (later)
$2 + 2 = 5$	Yes	False
$x + 1 = 2$	Not a proposition.	
There exists an integer x such that $x + 1 = 2$	Yes	True

Notation:

(2)

p : " $2 + 2 = 4$ "
means p is the proposition " $2 + 2 = 4$ ".

II) Compound propositions

Forming new propositions from old ones.

Two types of rules:

- rule that works on 1 proposition
- rules that work on 2 propositions.

II. 1.) Negation.

Definition: Let p be a proposition. The sentence "it is not the case that p " is another proposition, called the negation of p , denoted $\neg p$, or sometimes $\sim p$. It is read "not p ".

if p :	" $2 + 2 = 4$ "	True
$\neg p$:	" $2 + 2 \neq 4$ "	False

Truth table:

P	$\neg P$
T	F
F	T

II) - 2 Conjunction

Definition: The conjunction of 2 propositions P and q is the compound proposition that we write $P \wedge q$ and read "P and q", which is only true if P is true and q is true.

P	q	$P \wedge q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

II. 3. Disjunction

Definition: The disjunction of two propositions p and q is the compound proposition written as $p \vee q$, and read "p or q", that is true if either p is true, or q is true, or both are true.

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

II. 4. Exclusive or

Definition: The "exclusive or" of two propositions p and q is the compound proposition written as $p \oplus q$, and read "p xor q", that is true when p is true, q is true, but not both.

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

(5)

II. 5 Comparing 2 propositions

Definition : Two propositions p and q are logically equivalent if they always have the same truth values. We write $p \Leftrightarrow q$.

Exercise : Let p and q be 2 propositions.

Show that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a)} \quad & \neg(p \wedge q) \Leftrightarrow \neg p \vee \neg q \\ \text{b)} \quad & \neg(p \vee q) \Leftrightarrow \neg p \wedge \neg q \end{aligned}$$

De Morgan's laws

Solving a) means we want to

$$\text{show} \quad \neg(p \wedge q) \Leftrightarrow \neg p \vee \neg q$$

which means we want to show that 2 propositions are logically equivalent.

Let us define :

$$A = \neg(p \wedge q)$$

$$B = \neg p \vee \neg q$$

p	q	$p \wedge q$	$A = \neg(p \wedge q)$	$\neg p$	$\neg q$	$B = \neg p \vee \neg q$
T	T	T	F	F	F	F
T	F	F	T	F	T	T
F	T	F	T	T	F	T
F	F	F	T	T	T	T

always have the same truth values therefore
 $A \Leftrightarrow B$.

Show that $\neg(\neg p) \Leftrightarrow p$

p	$\neg p$	$\neg(\neg p)$
T	F	T
F	T	F

always have the same truth values
 therefore
 $p \Leftrightarrow \neg(\neg p)$