

# Propositional Logic Solutions

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1. Given  $n$  propositional statements, how many possible combinations of their states exist? In the case we have exactly two propositions  $P$  and  $Q$  ( $n = 2$ ), what are the possible combinations?

**Solution:**  $2^n$ ;  $P \wedge Q, P \wedge \neg Q, \neg P \wedge Q, \neg P \wedge \neg Q$ .

2. Convert the following sentences to expressions in propositional logic. You should need at most three propositions per statement. Please specify what the propositions are.

- (a) It rains.

**Solution:**  $P := \text{It rains}; P$ .

- (b) It rains or it doesn't rain.

**Solution:**  $P := \text{It rains}; P \vee \neg P$ .

- (c) If martians exist, they have red hair.

**Solution:**  $P := \text{Martians exist}, Q := \text{Martians have red hair}; P \implies Q$ .

- (d) He has an Ace only if he does not have a Knight or a Spade

**Solution:**  $P := \text{He has a knight}, Q := \text{He has a Spade}, R := \text{He has an Ace}; \neg(P \vee Q) \implies R$ .

- (e) New allocation not being worse than initial endowment is a necessary and sufficient condition for Pareto efficiency.

**Solution:**  $P := \text{New allocation is worse than initial endowment}, Q := \text{Pareto efficiency exists}; \neg P \Leftrightarrow Q$ .

- (f) If independence implies uncorrelatedness, correlatedness implies dependence.

**Solution:**  $P := \text{Independence}, Q := \text{Uncorrelatedness}; (P \implies Q) \implies$

$(\neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P)$ . Alternatively,  $P := \text{Dependence}$ ,  $Q := \text{Correlatedness}$ ;  
 $(\neg P \Rightarrow \neg Q) \Rightarrow (Q \Rightarrow P)$ .

3. Which of the following are valid deductions?

- (a) Assertion: If I leave my umbrella at home, I will get wet today.  
 Hypothesis 1: I got wet, so I must have left my umbrella at home.  
 Hypothesis 2: I didn't leave my umbrella at home, so I will not get wet today.  
 Hypothesis 3: I did not get wet today, so I must not have left my umbrella at home.

**Solution: In propositional form,  $P := \text{I leave my umbrella at home}$ ,  $Q := \text{I get wet}$ . Assertion:  $P \Rightarrow Q$ , Hypothesis 1:  $Q \Rightarrow P$ , Hypothesis 2:  $\neg P \Rightarrow \neg Q$ , Hypothesis 3:  $\neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$ . Hypothesis 3 is the only logical deduction.**

- (b) Assertion: If two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, their correlation is zero.  
 Hypothesis 1:  $X$  and  $Y$  have zero correlation, so they are independent.  
 Hypothesis 2:  $X$  and  $Y$  don't have zero correlation, so they must not be dependent.  
 Hypothesis 3:  $X$  and  $Y$  are dependent, so their correlation is not zero.

**Solution: This is nearly identical to part (a).  $P := X$  and  $Y$  are independent,  $Q := X$  and  $Y$  have zero correlation. Assertion:  $P \Rightarrow Q$ , Hypothesis 1:  $Q \Rightarrow P$ , Hypothesis 2:  $\neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$ , Hypothesis 3:  $\neg P \Rightarrow \neg Q$ . Hypothesis 2 is the only logical deduction.**

4. Simplify the following Boolean expression such that it only has three boolean operators:

$$\neg(A \vee \neg C) \vee ((\neg A \wedge B) \vee B)$$

**Solution:**

$$\neg(A \vee \neg C) \vee ((\neg A \wedge B) \vee B)$$

$$\text{Using De Morgan's Law: } \Leftrightarrow (A \wedge \neg \neg C) \vee ((\neg A \wedge B) \vee B)$$

$$\text{Double negations cancel: } \Leftrightarrow (A \wedge C) \vee ((\neg A \wedge B) \vee B)$$

$$\text{Identity law: } \Leftrightarrow (A \wedge C) \vee ((\neg A \wedge B) \vee (B \wedge 1))$$

$$\text{Distributive law: } \Leftrightarrow (A \wedge C) \vee (B \wedge (\neg A \vee 1))$$

$$\text{Annulment Law: } \Leftrightarrow (A \wedge C) \vee (B \wedge 1)$$

$$\text{Identity law: } \Leftrightarrow (A \wedge C) \vee B$$

**Constructing a truth table verifies our solution.**

5. Show that  $P \implies Q$  is an equivalent statement to  $\neg P \vee Q$  by filling in the following truth table:

	$P$	$Q$	$\neg P$	$\neg P \vee Q$	$P \implies Q$
	1	1	0	1	1
<b>Solution:</b>	1	0	0	0	0
	0	1	1	1	1
	0	0	1	1	1

6. Fill in the following truth table. Which binary operation have you derived in the last column? (From  $\vee, \wedge, \implies, \iff$ )

	$P$	$Q$	$\neg P$	$\neg P \vee Q$	$\neg Q$	$\neg Q \vee P$	$(\neg P \vee Q) \wedge (\neg Q \vee P)$
	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
<b>Solution:</b>	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	0	0	1	1	1	1	1

7. What is the boolean expression equivalent to "MUX Out" below? Draw the circuit that corresponds with this expression. The circuit is known as a multiplexer.

$P$	$Q$	$S$	MUX Out
1	1	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	0	0	0
0	1	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	0	1	0
0	0	0	0

**Solution:** If we can figure out when the output is non-zero, we know the expression. So we consider all the rows with a 1 as their out, and "sum"

them:

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

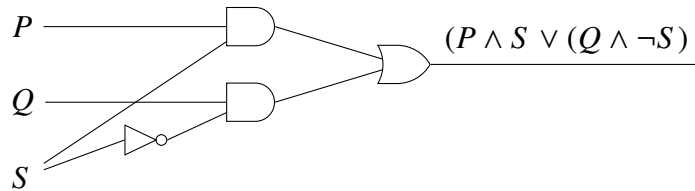
Rearranging via commutativity of disjunction:

$$\Leftrightarrow (P \wedge Q \wedge S) \vee (P \wedge \neg Q \wedge S) \vee (P \wedge Q \wedge \neg S) \vee (\neg P \wedge Q \wedge \neg S)$$

Distributivity:  $\Leftrightarrow ((P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge \neg Q)) \wedge S \vee ((P \wedge Q) \vee (\neg P \wedge Q)) \wedge \neg S$

Distributivity:  $\Leftrightarrow (P \wedge (Q \vee \neg Q)) \wedge S \vee (Q \wedge (P \vee \neg P)) \wedge \neg S$

Complement:  $\Leftrightarrow (P \wedge S) \vee (Q \wedge \neg S)$



8. Prove that  $(P \Rightarrow Q) \Rightarrow ((Q \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow (P \Rightarrow \perp))$ . The consequent is known as the contrapositive.

**Solution:** Note that in natural deduction style proofs, statements above horizontal lines are assumptions. So lines 1, 2 and 3 are assumptions, while lines 4 and 5 are deductions from the assumptions (Modus Ponens):

1	$P \Rightarrow Q$ <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
2	$Q \Rightarrow \perp$ <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
3	$P$ <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
4	$Q$
5	$\perp$
6	$P \Rightarrow \perp$
7	$(Q \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow (P \Rightarrow \perp)$
8	$(P \Rightarrow Q) \Rightarrow ((Q \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow (P \Rightarrow \perp))$