

# Lecture 1: Course Intro + Propositional Logic

Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love  
the Class

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Adapting to this mindset can be hard — don't be discouraged, and do ask for help when you need it!



# Staff Introductions

- ▶ Lecturers
- ▶ TAs
- ▶ Readers / Academic Interns

# Logistics

Course website: [eecs70.org](http://eecs70.org)

- ▶ Has homeworks, lecture notes, slides, etc.

Piazza: main avenue of communication

- ▶ Ask any questions here!
- ▶ Can make a private post or email [su19@eecs70.org](mailto:su19@eecs70.org) for more personal questions
- ▶ Will also post announcements here

Homework 0 (logistics) already out, Homework 1 coming soon

# A Word on Homeworks

Intended to help you internalize the material.

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This summer, new grading policy to address this:

- ▶ Graded on putting “reasonable effort” into each problem (see website for details)
- ▶ Translation: try all the problems, write down your thought process and where exactly you got stuck
- ▶ Readers still give detailed feedback
- ▶ Do still try your best on the homeworks — they're there for your benefit!

# Lewis Carroll and Logic

- (I) No one, who is going to a party, ever fails to brush his or her hair.
- (II) No one looks fascinating, if he or she is untidy.
- (III) Opium-eaters have no self-command.
- (IV) Everyone who has brushed his or her hair looks fascinating.
- (V) No one wears kid gloves, unless he or she is going to a party.
- (VI) A person is always untidy if he or she has no self-command.

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Alice brushed her hair. What else do we know?

# Propositions

A statement which is (unambiguously) true or false.  
Basic building block of our logical system.

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Examples:

- ▶  $2 + 2 = 4$  (True)
- ▶ I had pizza for breakfast this morning (False)
- ▶ Even integers are the sum of two primes<sup>1</sup> (???)

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Not examples:

- ▶ A Pop-Tart is a sandwich (define sandwich)
- ▶  $x + 2 = 7$  (what is  $x$ ?)
- ▶ 17 (not making a claim)
- ▶ Jazz is better than Rock (personal preference)

---

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# Propositional Formulae

Can combine propositions with logical operators:

- ▶  $P \wedge Q$  (Conjunction, “both  $P$  and  $Q$ ”)
- ▶  $P \vee Q$  (Disjunction, “at least one of  $P$  or  $Q$ ”)
- ▶  $\neg P$  (Negation, “not  $P$ ”)

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String together for more complicated formulae:

- ▶  $P \wedge Q \wedge R$
- ▶  $(P \vee Q) \wedge (\neg P)$
- ▶  $(P \wedge Q \wedge R) \vee ((\neg P) \wedge (\neg Q) \wedge (\neg R))$

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Use parentheses:  $P \wedge Q \vee R$  is ambiguous!

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For our example:

$P$	$Q$	$\neg P$	$\neg Q$	$\neg((\neg P) \wedge (\neg Q))$	$P \vee Q$
F	F	T	T	<b>F</b>	<b>F</b>
F	T	T	F	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>
T	F	F	T	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>
T	T	F	F	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>

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Claim: Can express any truth table as a formula.<sup>2</sup>

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General Form:

- ▶ Disjunction (or) of many “and” clauses
- ▶ One clause for each satisfying assignment

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Can instead eliminate all  $\vee$ s, leaving only  $\wedge$  and  $\neg$ .

# Implications

Even though we have enough to be fully expressive, having more operators is much more convenient.

One important symbol: implication ( $\implies$ )

$P$	$Q$	$P \implies Q$	$(\neg P) \vee Q$
F	F	T	T
F	T	T	T
T	F	F	F
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Read: “ $P$  implies  $Q$ ” or “if  $P$  then  $Q$ ”

Equivalent to  $(\neg P) \vee Q$



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$$(P \iff Q) \equiv ((P \implies Q) \wedge (Q \implies P))$$

Exercise: verify this with truth tables!

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Not the same! Think “if it rains, the streets will be wet” versus “if the streets are wet, it rained”.

If want logical equivalence, need *contrapositive*:

$$(\neg Q) \implies (\neg P)$$

Think “if the streets are not wet, it did not rain”.



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**Today's discussion question:**

Does pineapple belong on pizza?

# Quantifiers

For any natural number  $x$ , define two propositions:

- ▶  $E(x)$  says that “ $x$  is even”
- ▶  $O(x)$  says that “ $x$  is odd”

How to say “0 is either even or odd”?

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Requires an infinitely-long formula :(

Need new tools.

# Quantifiers

$\forall$  (“for all”) and  $\exists$  (“there exists”)

Now write  $(\forall n \in \mathbb{N})(E(n) \vee O(n))$

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<sup>3</sup>Here,  $x$  is a variable allowed to appear in  $P$ , called a “free variable”

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For a proposition  $P(x)$ <sup>3</sup> and a set  $S$ , we say

- ▶  $(\forall x \in S)P(x)$  if  $P(x)$  holds for all  $x \in S$
- ▶  $(\exists x \in S)P(x)$  if  $P(x)$  holds for some  $x \in S$

If  $S$  clear from context or doesn't matter<sup>4</sup>, may omit

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Multiple free variables needs multiple quantifiers!

Example:  $(\forall x \in \mathbb{N})(\exists y \in \mathbb{N})(x = y)$

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Careful!  $\forall$  and  $\exists$  don't commute with each other.

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# Negation and Quantifiers

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# An Alternate Intuition

Recall De Morgan's Laws from earlier:

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$\forall$  is like a conjunction ( $\wedge$ )

$(\forall x \in \mathbb{N})P(x)$  is like  $P(0) \wedge P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge \dots$

$\exists$  is like a disjunction ( $\vee$ )

$(\exists x \in \mathbb{N})P(x)$  is like  $P(0) \vee P(1) \vee P(2) \vee \dots$

$\neg$  interacts with  $\forall$  and  $\exists$  like with  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$ !

## Lewis Carroll 2: Electric Boogaloo

Recall:

- (I) No one, who is going to a party, ever fails to brush his or her hair.
- (II) No one looks fascinating, if he or she is untidy.
- (III) Opium-eaters have no self-command.
- (IV) Everyone who has brushed his or her hair looks fascinating.
- (V) No one wears kid gloves, unless he or she is going to a party.
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Is she going to a party? Not enough information!



# Fin

Next time: proofs!