

Section 2.5: The Laws of Logic (LOL)

Tuesday, January 30, 2024 10:49 AM

there are connections between logic and Boolean algebra

logic	$p \wedge q$	$p \vee q$	$\sim p$	F false	T true
Boolean algebra	AB	$A+B$	\overline{A}	0	1

we can show that

$$p \wedge 1 \Leftrightarrow p$$

can prove using a truth table

p	1	$p \wedge 1$
0	1	0
1	1	1

similarly, $A \cdot 1 = A$

these statements are true for all possible variables, so we call them laws. In particular, this one is called an identity law.

identity laws: there are four of them:

$$\begin{aligned}
 p \wedge 1 &\Leftrightarrow p \\
 p \vee 1 &\Leftrightarrow 1 \\
 p \wedge 0 &\Leftrightarrow 0 \\
 p \vee 0 &\Leftrightarrow p
 \end{aligned}$$

but note that these statements are true for

all possible variables:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{since } p \vee 0 &\Leftrightarrow p, \text{ then} & q \vee 0 &\Leftrightarrow q \\ & & \sim r \vee 0 &\Leftrightarrow \sim r \\ & & \text{☺} \vee 0 &\Leftrightarrow \text{☺} \\ & & \sim(p \wedge q) \vee 0 &\Leftrightarrow \sim(p \wedge q) \end{aligned}$$

why do we care?

example: simplify the following using the laws of logic

- use only one law of logic per line
- state the name of the law you are using

$$(p \wedge 0) \vee (q \wedge 1)$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & \vee & q & \text{identity} \\ & & q & \text{"} \end{array}$$

idempotent

$$p \wedge p \Leftrightarrow p$$

$$p \vee p \Leftrightarrow p$$

which means that

$$\begin{aligned} \sim r \wedge \sim r &\Leftrightarrow \sim r \\ \sim(p \wedge r) \vee \sim(p \wedge r) &\Leftrightarrow \sim(p \wedge r) \end{aligned}$$

complement

$$\sim(\sim p) \Leftrightarrow p$$

$$p \wedge \sim p \Leftrightarrow 0$$

$$p \vee \sim p \Leftrightarrow 1$$

Section 2.5: cont'd

examples: $q \wedge \sim q \Leftrightarrow 0$

$$ABC + \overline{ABC} = 1$$

note: for MATH 156, you may omit explicitly writing the commutative and associative laws as separate steps

example: simplify $0 \vee p$

very careful solution
(has extra steps
that you do
not need)

$$0 \vee 0$$

commutative

$$0$$

identity

totally acceptable
Math 156
solutions

$$0$$

identity

example: simplify using the COL

$$(\sim p \vee 0) \wedge (q \vee \sim q) \wedge (1 \vee r)$$

$$\sim p \wedge (q \vee \sim q) \wedge 1$$

identity

$$\sim p \wedge 1 \wedge 1$$

complement

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 \sim p & \wedge & 1 & \wedge & 1 & \text{complement} \\
 (\sim p & \wedge & 1) & \wedge & 1 & \text{associative} \\
 & & \sim p & \wedge & 1 & \text{(can skip)} \\
 & & & & \sim p & \text{identity} \\
 & & & & & \text{"}
 \end{array}$$

example:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 (p \wedge \sim p) & \vee & (p \vee \sim p) & & & \\
 0 & \vee & 1 & & & \text{complement} \\
 & & 1 & & & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{identity} \\ \text{complement} \\ \text{definition of "or"} \end{array} \right.
 \end{array}$$

simplify (brainteaser)

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

0

simplify

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 A(\bar{B} B) & + & B(A + \bar{A}) & & & \\
 A \cdot 0 & + & B \cdot 1 & & & \text{complement} \\
 0 & + & B & & & \text{identity} \\
 & & B & & & \text{"}
 \end{array}$$

example: write a simplified expression for each of the following and identify which law you've used

- ① $A \wedge A \Leftrightarrow A$ idempotent
- ② $ABC + ABC = ABC$ "
- ③ $\overline{ABC} + ABC = 1$ complement
- ④ $0 + \overline{B} = \overline{B}$ identity

summary:

identity laws

involve ones and zeros

idempotent

involve a variable
and/or itself

complement

involves negation

commutative } can omit
associative }