

# Propositional Logic – Semantics (3A)

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# Based on

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Contemporary Artificial Intelligence,  
R.E. Neapolitan & X. Jiang

Logic and Its Applications,  
Burkey & Foxley

# Semantics

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gives **meaning** to the propositions

consists of **rules** for **assigning** either the value **T** or **F** to every proposition

## The truth value of a proposition

If a proposition has truth value **T**, we say it is **true**  
Otherwise, we say it is **false**

# Semantic Rules

1. the logical value **True**  $\leftarrow$  the value **T** always  
the logical value **False**  $\leftarrow$  the value **F** always

2. **Every atomic proposition**  $\leftarrow$  a value **T or F**

The **set of all these assignments** constitutes a **model** or **possible world**

**All possible worlds** (assignments) are **permissible**

3. The truth values of arbitrary propositions connected with **connectives** are given by the connective **truth tables**.

4. The truth value for **compound propositions** are determined recursively using the truth tables according to the following rules

(a) the grouping () has highest precedence

(b) the precedence order :  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\leftrightarrow$

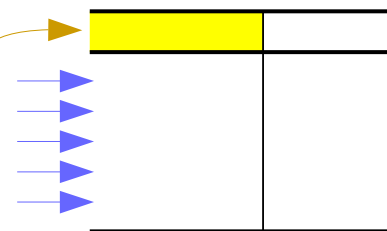
(c) binary connectives : from left to right

# A Model

A **model** or a **possible world**:

Every **atomic proposition** is assigned a value **T** or **F**

The **set of all these assignments** constitutes  
A **model** or a **possible world**

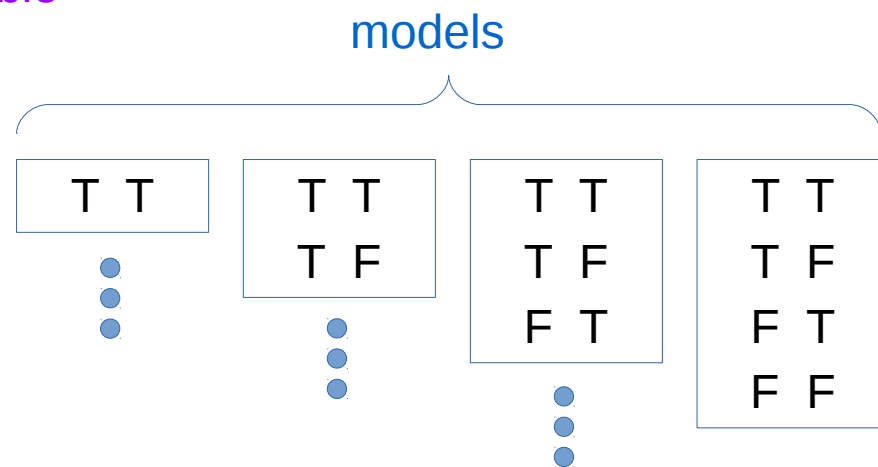


All possible worlds (assignments) are **permissible**

A	B	$A \wedge B$	$A \wedge B \Rightarrow A$
T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T
F	T	F	T
F	F	F	T



Every atomic proposition : A, B



$$2^4 = 16$$

# Interpretation

Semantics : the meaning of formulas

Truth values are assigned to **the atoms of a formula** in order to evaluate the truth value of the formula

	A	B	
Interpretation $I_1$	T	T	
Interpretation $I_2$	T	F	
Interpretation $I_3$	F	T	
Interpretation $I_4$	F	F	

An **interpretation** for A is a **total function**  $I_A: P_A \rightarrow \{T, F\}$  that assigns the truth values T or F to every atom in  $P_A$

$A \in F$  a formula

$P_A$  the set of atoms in A

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syntax\\_\(logic\)#Syntactic\\_consequence\\_within\\_a\\_formal\\_system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syntax_(logic)#Syntactic_consequence_within_a_formal_system)

# The Definition of a Model

A set of formulas  $U = \{A_1, A_2, \dots\}$   
is *simultaneously* **satisfiable**



there exists an **interpretation**  $I$   
such that  $v_I(A_i) = \mathbf{T}$  for all  $I$

$v_I(A_i)$  : the value of  
a formula  $A_i$  under  
an interpretation  $I$

this satisfying **interpretation**  $I$  is a **model** of  $U$

$U$  is **unsatisfiable**



for every interpretation  $I$ ,  
there exists an  $I$  such that  $v_I(A_i) = \mathbf{F}$

Mathematical Logic for Computer Science  
M. Ben-Arie



# All possible worlds

A	B	
T	T	T
T	F	
F	T	
F	F	

A	B	
T	T	
T	F	T
F	T	
F	F	

A	B	
T	T	
T	F	
F	T	T
F	F	

A	B	
T	T	
T	F	
F	T	
F	F	T

A	B	
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	
F	F	

A	B	
T	T	T
T	F	
F	T	T
F	F	

A	B	
T	T	T
T	F	
F	T	
F	F	T

A	B	
T	T	
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	

A	B	
T	T	
T	F	T
F	T	
F	F	T

A	B	
T	T	
T	F	
F	T	T
F	F	T

A	B	
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	

A	B	
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	
F	F	T

A	B	
T	T	T
T	F	
F	T	T
F	F	T

A	B	
T	T	
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	T

A	B	
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	T

A	B	
T	T	
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	

# Interpretations and all possible worlds

	A	B	
Interpretation $I_1$	T	T	
Interpretation $I_2$	T	F	
Interpretation $I_3$	F	T	
Interpretation $I_4$	F	F	

	A	B	
	T	T	
a model	T	F	T
a model	F	T	T
	F	F	

## All possible worlds

$\{I_1\}, \{I_2\}, \{I_3\}, \{I_4\},$   
 $\{I_1, I_2\}, \{I_1, I_3\}, \{I_1, I_4\}, \{I_2, I_3\}, \{I_2, I_4\}, \{I_3, I_4\},$   
 $\{I_1, I_2, I_3\}, \{I_1, I_2, I_4\}, \{I_2, I_3, I_4\},$   
 $\{I_1, I_2, I_3, I_4\}, \emptyset$

# All possible worlds

The **set** of **all these assignments** constitutes a **model** or **possible world**

All **possible worlds** (assignments) are **permissible**

A **proposition** is called a **tautology**  
If and only if it is **true** in all possible worlds

A **proposition** is called a **contradiction**  
If and only if it is **false** in all possible worlds

# Satisfiability and Validity

$A \in F$  (a set of formulas)

$A$  is **satisfiable**

$v_I(A) = T$  for some interpretation  $I$

A satisfying interpretation is a model for  $A$

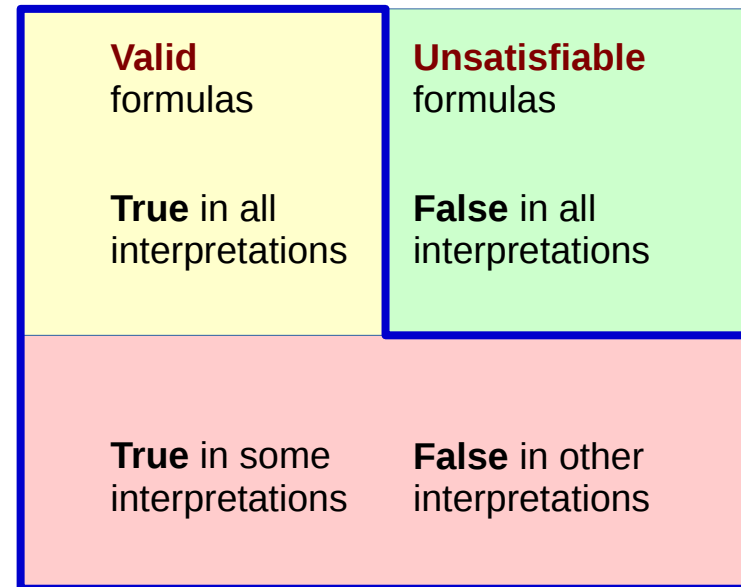
$A$  is **valid**

$\models A$   $\Leftrightarrow$

$v_I(A) = T$  for all interpretation  $I$

A **valid** propositional formula is called a tautology

**Satisfiable**  
formulas  $\models$



Mathematical Logic for Computer Science  
M. Ben-Arie

$P$	$Q$	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$P \underline{\vee} Q$	$P \underline{\wedge} Q$	$P \Rightarrow Q$	$P \Leftarrow Q$	$P \Leftrightarrow Q$
T	T	T	T	F	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	T	F	F	T	F
F	T	F	T	T	F	T	F	F
F	F	F	F	F	T	T	T	T

T = true, F = false

$\wedge$  = AND (logical conjunction)

$\vee$  = OR (logical disjunction)

$\underline{\vee}$  = XOR (exclusive or)

$\underline{\wedge}$  = XNOR (exclusive nor)

$\rightarrow$  = conditional "if-then"

$\leftarrow$  = conditional "(then)-if"

$\Leftrightarrow$  biconditional or "if-and-only-if" is logically equivalent to  $\underline{\wedge}$ : XNOR (exclusive nor).

# Semantic Rule Purposes

The semantics for propositional logic

- assign truth values to **all propositions**
- could use **different** truth tables from the conventional ones
- but it must provide a way to **reflect the real world**
  - to allow **reasoning**
- The purpose is to make **statements about the real world**
- and **to reason** with these statements
- the semantics must reflect the way humans reason
  - with the statements in the world
- some difficulty with  $A \rightarrow B$

# Clause

a **clause** is an expression formed from a finite collection of **literals**  
(**variables** or their **negations**) – **atoms**

A **clause** is **true**

either whenever **at least one** of the literals that form it is true

(a **disjunctive clause**, the most common use of the term), or

when **all** of the literals that form it are **true**

(a **conjunctive clause**, a less common use of the term).

it is a finite **disjunction** or **conjunction** of **literals**, depending on the context.

**CNF**

**DNF**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clause\\_\(logic\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clause_(logic))

# Interpretation

**Semantics** allows you  
to *relate* the **symbols** in the logic  
to the **domain** you're trying to **model**.

	A	B	
Interpretation $I_1$	T	T	
Interpretation $I_2$	T	F	
Interpretation $I_3$	F	T	
Interpretation $I_4$	F	F	

An **interpretation**  $I$  assigns a **truth value** to **each atom**

A **body**  $b_1 \wedge b_2$  is **true in  $I$**  iff  $b_1$  is **true in  $I$**  and  $b_2$  is **true in  $I$** .

A **rule**  $h \leftarrow b$  is **false in  $I$**  iff  $b$  is **true in  $I$**  and  $h$  is **false in  $I$** .

A **knowledge base**  $KB$  is **true in  $I$**  iff **every clause in  $KB$**  is **true in  $I$** .

<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~kevinlb/teaching/cs322%20-%202009-10/Lectures/Logic2.pdf>



# Model

A **model** of a set of clauses is

**an interpretation** in which **all the clauses** are **true**. (a set of formulas)

A **satisfying interpretation**

If **KB** is a set of clauses and **g** is a conjunction of atoms,

If **g** is true in every model of **KB**,

then **g** is a **logical consequence** of **KB**, written  $\text{KB} \models \text{g}$ .

<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~kevinlb/teaching/cs322%20-%202009-10/Lectures/Logic2.pdf>

# Model Example

KB:  $p \leftarrow q$ ,  $q$ ,  $r \leftarrow s$

→ a set of clauses

	p	q	r	s	$p \leftarrow q$	q	$r \leftarrow s$
I1	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
I2	F	F	F	F	T	F	T
I3	T	T	F	F	T	T	T
I4	T	T	T	F	T	T	T
I5	T	T	F	T	T	T	F

→ a **model** of KB

not a model of KB

→ a **model** of KB

→ a **model** of KB

not a model of KB

Interpretation I1, I2, I3, I4, I5

An **interpretation I** assigns a **truth value** to **each atom**

**model** I1, I3, I4

A **satisfying interpretation**

<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~kevinlb/teaching/cs322%20-%202009-10/Lectures/Logic2.pdf>

# Entailment Example

KB

$p \leftarrow q$
$q$
$r \leftarrow s$

KB  $\models$   $p$

KB  $\models$   $p \leftarrow q$

KB  $\models$   $q$

KB  $\models$   $r \leftarrow s$

KB  $\not\models$   $r$

KB  $\not\models$   $s$

	$p$	$q$	$r$	$s$	$p \leftarrow q$	$q$	$r \leftarrow s$
I1	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
I2	F	F	F	F	T	F	T
I3	T	T	F	F	T	T	T
I4	T	T	T	F	T	T	T
I5	T	T	F	T	T	T	F

a model of KB

a model of KB

a model of KB

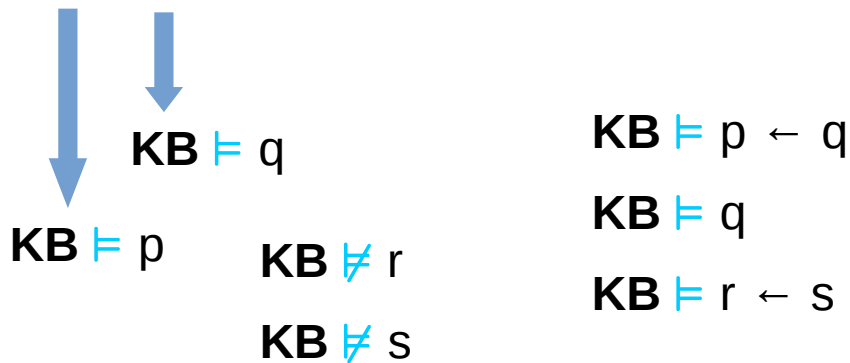
<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~kevinlb/teaching/cs322%20-%202009-10/Lectures/Logic2.pdf>

# Entailment Example

	p	q	r	s	$p \leftarrow q$	q	$r \leftarrow s$
I2	F	F	F	F	T	F	T
I5	T	T	F	T	T	T	F
I1	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
I3	T	T	F	F	T	T	T
I4	T	T	T	F	T	T	T

a model of KB  
 a model of KB  
 a model of KB

} every model of KB



<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~kevinlb/teaching/cs322%20-%202009-10/Lectures/Logic2.pdf>

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