



# Brush-Up Maths for Data Science (2025)

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# Mathematical Logic

Mathematical logic is the branch of mathematics that:

- Studies reasoning using precise rules and symbols
- Represents and manipulates statements logically

These principles are not purely theoretical, they form the foundation for:

- Digital circuits in computers (hardware)
- Conditional logic in programming (software)

In the following, we will explore:

- Propositions and their truth values
- Logical operations like AND, OR, NOT, and IF...THEN...
- Truth tables, tautologies, and contradictions
- Logical equivalences and implications

# Propositions

A proposition is a declarative statement that can be assigned a truth value: true or false, but never both.

In mathematical logic:

- Propositions reflect everyday reasoning but with strict precision.
- They can be simple or compound, formed using logical connectives like and, or, and not.

Understanding propositions forms the basis for:

- Conditional statements in programming (e.g., involving `if` and `else`)
- Formal mathematical proofs

**Examples:**

- "Four is even." (True)
- "1 + 1 is 3." (False)
- " $43 > 21$ ." (True)
- " $4 \in \{1, 3, 5\}$ ." (False)

# Logical Operations

Simple propositions can be combined into compound propositions using logical connectives such as:

- AND
- OR
- NOT
- IF...THEN...
- IF AND ONLY IF

To ensure clarity, we will:

- Define the precise meaning of each connective
- Introduce its standard symbolic representation
- Look at the behavior of each operation through a truth table

# Logical Conjunction (AND)

If  $p$  and  $q$  are propositions, their conjunction, " $p$  and  $q$ ", denoted by  $p \wedge q$ , is defined by the truth table:

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

Here, note that:

- The symbols  $p$ ,  $q$ , and  $r$  are placeholders for propositions
- Each row in the table represents one possible case
- 0 and 1 denote false and true, respectively

Finally, the conjunction  $p \wedge q$  is true only when both  $p$  and  $q$  are true, just as in ordinary language.

# Logical Conjunction (AND)

- Example

Suppose we want to check that  $x > 0$  and  $x < 5$ .

This means  $x$  must satisfy both conditions simultaneously:

$$(x > 0) \wedge (x < 5)$$

The truth table below shows how the conjunction evaluates for different values of  $x$ :

$x$	$x > 0$	$x < 5$	$(x > 0) \wedge (x < 5)$
0	0	1	0
3	1	1	1
5	1	0	0

# Logical Conjunction (AND)

- Example (Python)

In python we can write this as:

```
1 x = 3 # Example value
2 if x > 0 and x < 5: # Conditional statement
3     print("x is between 0 and 5") # Print a message as the check passed
```

# Logical Disjunction (OR)

If  $p$  and  $q$  are propositions, their disjunction, " $p$  or  $q$ ", denoted by  $p \vee q$ , is defined by:

$p$	$q$	$p \vee q$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

This operation reflects the inclusive or, meaning the result is true if either or both propositions are true.

# Logical Disjunction (OR)

- Example

A quadratic equation  $x^2 = 9$  has two possible solutions:

$$(x = 3) \vee (x = -3)$$

The truth table below shows how the disjunction evaluates for different values of  $x$ :

$x$	$x = 3$	$x = -3$	$(x = 3) \vee (x = -3)$
$-3$	0	1	1
0	0	0	0
3	1	0	1

# Logical Disjunction (OR)

- Example (Python)

In python we can write this as:

```
1  x = -3                # Example value
2  if x == 3 or x == -3: # Conditional statement
3      print("x is a solution to x^2 = 9") # Print a message as the check passed
```

# Logical Negation (NOT)

Negation, denoted by  $\neg p$ , is the only standard operation that applies to a single proposition.

$p$	$\neg p$
0	1
1	0

# Logical Negation (NOT)

- Example

To express that  $x$  is not equal to 5:

$$\neg(x = 5)$$

The truth table below shows how the negation evaluates for different values of  $x$ :

$x$	$x = 5$	$\neg(x = 5)$
5	1	0
7	0	1
0	0	1

# Logical Negation (NOT)

- Example (Python)

In python we can write this as:

```
1 x = 7 # Example value
2 if not x == 5: # Conditional statement
3     print("x is not 5") # Print a message as the check passed
```

# Conditional Statement (IF...THEN...)

The conditional statement "If  $p$  then  $q$ ", denoted  $p \rightarrow q$ , is defined by:

$p$	$q$	$p \rightarrow q$
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

The conditional is false only when  $p$  is true and  $q$  is false.

# Conditional Statement (IF...THEN...)

- Example

Consider the statement "If a number is greater than 10, then it is even", which we can write more formally as:

$$(x > 10) \rightarrow (x \text{ is even})$$

The truth table below shows how the conditional evaluates for different values of  $x$ :

$x$	$x > 10$	$x$ is even	$(x > 10) \rightarrow (x \text{ is even})$
12	1	1	1
11	1	0	0
8	0	1	1
7	0	0	1

# Conditional Statement (IF...THEN...)

- Example (Python)

In python we can write this as:

```
1  x = 11                # Example value
2  if x > 10 and x % 2 != 0: # Conditional statement
3      print("Success!")    # Print a message as the check passed
```

# Biconditional (IF AND ONLY IF)

If  $p$  and  $q$  are propositions, the biconditional, “ $p$  if and only if  $q$ ”, denoted  $p \leftrightarrow q$ , is defined by:

$p$	$q$	$p \leftrightarrow q$
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

The biconditional:

- is true when  $p$  and  $q$  share the same truth value, i.e., both true or both false
- is the same as saying  $p$  and  $q$  are logically equivalent, written as  $p \equiv q$

# Biconditional (IF AND ONLY IF)

- Example

The condition " $x$  is not less than 5" is equivalent to " $x$  is greater than or equal to 5":

$$\neg(x < 5) \leftrightarrow x \geq 5$$

The truth table below shows how the equivalence evaluates for different values of  $x$ :

$x$	$x < 5$	$\neg(x < 5)$	$x \geq 5$	$\neg(x < 5) \leftrightarrow x \geq 5$
3	1	0	0	1
5	0	1	1	1
7	0	1	1	1

# Biconditional (IF AND ONLY IF)

- Example (Python)

In python we can write this as:

```
1 x = 7 # Example value
2 if not x < 5 == x >= 5: # Conditional statement
3     print("Success!") # Print a message as the check passed
```

# Tautology

A tautology is a logical expression that is true in every possible case.

The symbol 1 is often used to denote a tautology.

# Tautology

- Example

The statement:

$$(x = 5) \vee (x \neq 5)$$

is a tautology, because it is true for any value of  $x$ .

The truth table below illustrates this:

$x$	$x = 5$	$x \neq 5$	$(x = 5) \vee (x \neq 5)$
5	1	0	1
3	0	1	1
42	0	1	1

# Tautology

- Example (Python)

In python we can write this as:

```
1 x = 5 # Example value
2 if x == x or x != x: # Conditional statement
3     print("This is always true") # Print a message as the check passed
```

# Contradiction

A contradiction is a logical expression that is false in every possible case.

The symbol  $\perp$  is often used to denote a contradiction.

# Contradiction

- Example

The statement:

$$(x > 5) \wedge (x < 5)$$

is a contradiction because it can never be true for any value of  $x$ .

The truth table below illustrates this:

$x$	$x > 5$	$x < 5$	$(x > 5) \wedge (x < 5)$
3	0	1	0
5	0	0	0
7	1	0	0

# Contradiction

- Example (Python)

In python we can write this as:

```
1 x = 5 # Example value
2 if x > 5 and x < 5: # Conditional statement
3     print("This will never run") # Print a message as the check passed
```

# Exercise Set

Construct the truth tables for the following logical expressions:

1.  $p \vee (\neg p)$
2.  $p \wedge (\neg p)$

For each scenario below:

- Identify the propositions ( $p, q$ , etc.)
  - Write the compound proposition symbolically
  - State if the proposition is true or false
3. The variable `country` is either `"US"` or `"Canada"`
  4. If the variable `income`  $> 100000$ , then the label `high_value` is `True`

For each of the following (Python conditional statements), determine if it is a tautology, contradiction, or neither:

5. `if (x > 10) or (not (x > 10)):`
6. `if (x in S) and (x not in S):`
7. `if (x in S) or (y in S):`

*Note:* `S` represents a Python set. For example:

```
1 S = {1, 2, 3, 4} # Define a set
2 x = 1           # Number of interest
3 x in S         # Determine if x is in S
```