

Conditional, proofs.

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In the previous lecture we defined conditional propositions a.k.a. implications.

P implies Q .

If P , then Q .

P is sufficient for Q .

Q is necessary for P .

$P \Rightarrow Q$.

And its truth table is

P	Q	$P \Rightarrow Q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

Since in mathematics we often deal with this type of propositions, let's try to find new forms of such propositional form.

What does it mean for $P \Rightarrow Q$ to fail? For you to show me this implication fails, you have to provide a situation where P is true and Q is false, which means

$$\neg(P \Rightarrow Q) \equiv P \wedge (\neg Q).$$

Let's double check this using the truth table.

P	Q	$\neg Q$	$P \Rightarrow Q$	$\neg(P \Rightarrow Q)$	$P \wedge (\neg Q)$
T	T	F	T	F	F
T	F	T	F	T	T
F	T	F	T	F	F
F	F	T	T	F	F

So by de Morgan's law we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 P \Rightarrow Q &\equiv \neg(P \wedge \neg Q) \equiv \neg P \vee Q \\
 &\equiv Q \vee (\neg P) \\
 &\equiv (\neg Q) \Rightarrow (\neg P).
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$ is called the contrapositive of $P \Rightarrow Q$, and it is a useful method to prove things.
- Before we see some examples, let me warn you that

$$P \Rightarrow Q \neq \underline{Q \Rightarrow P}$$

is called the converse of $P \Rightarrow Q$.

Ex. (Kenken)

3+ 2	4+ 1	3 3
1	3	5+ 2
3 3	2	1

→ it is unique

In the blue box we can have


either $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ or $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.


If the second case happens, we would have two 3s in a row, which is a contradiction. So the first case happens.



a row, which is a contradiction. So the first case happens.

In the yellow box there are two possible cases $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ or $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

If the first case happens, we would get two 1s in a row, which is a contradiction. Hence the second case is true.

The only remaining possibility for  is 3.

Similarly we have that  is 2.

Using the same logic we have that  and  are 2 and 1, respectively.

In this game, you see how we use case-by-case proof together with proof by contradiction together in our daily games or decisions.

Def. Suppose m and n are two integers. We say m divides n if for some integer k we have

$$n = mk.$$

(We also say m is a divisor of n , or n is a multiple of m) We denote it by $m|n$.

n is a multiple of m) We denote it by $m|n$.

Ex. $1|n$ for any integer n .

Pf. For any integer n , $n = (n)(1)$. So n is a multiple of 1 . ■

Ex. For non-zero integers a and b , $a|b \implies |a| \leq |b|$.

Pf. $a|b \implies$ for some integer k , $b = ak$

$$\implies |b| = |a||k|.$$

Claim $k \neq 0$.

Pf of claim. Suppose to the contrary that $k = 0$. Then

$b = (a)(0) = 0$, which contradicts the assumption that b is non-zero.

Since k is a non-zero integer, we have $|k| \geq 1$.

Hence $|b| = |a||k| \geq |a|$ as $|k| \geq 1$. ■

Warning. By multiple, we mean integer multiple. We are NOT allowed to multiply by fractions.

[We also discussed that, if $P \implies Q$ and $Q \implies P$ are true, then P and Q are equivalent. And we showed this using the truth table:

P	Q	$P \implies Q$	$Q \implies P$	$(P \implies Q) \wedge (Q \implies P)$
T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	F
F	T	T	F	F
F	F	T	T	T

both are true.

T	T	T	T	T	both are true.
T	F	F	F	F	
F	T	T	T	T	
F	F	F	F	F	
T	T	T	T	T	both are false.]
F	F	F	F	F	