

**Problem Set on Propositional Logic and First Order Logic:  
Formal Semantics<sup>1</sup>**

**(1) Computing Entailment in Propositional Logic**

Please use truth-tables to establish whether the following claims are accurate.

- a.  $\{ (\sim p \vee \sim q) \} \models \sim(p \vee q)$
- b.  $\{ (p \vee q), (\sim p \rightarrow \sim q) \} \models q$
- c.  $\{ ((p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow r) \} \models (p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r))$

**(2) Computing Logical Equivalence in Propositional Logic**

Please use truth-tables to show that the following pairs are logically equivalent.

- a. (i)  $(\varphi \ \& \ \psi)$                       (ii)  $\sim(\sim\varphi \vee \sim\psi)$
- b. (i)  $(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$                       (ii)  $(\sim\psi \rightarrow \sim\varphi)$
- c. (i)  $(\varphi \ \& \ (\psi \vee \chi))$               (ii)  $((\varphi \ \& \ \psi) \vee (\varphi \ \& \ \chi))$

**(3) Defining Operators in Propositional Logic**

Please show how the operators ‘ $\sim$ ’ and ‘ $\vee$ ’ can be defined using the ‘nor’-operator ( $\downarrow$ ) defined below.

$\varphi$	$\psi$	$(\varphi \downarrow \psi)$
1	1	0
1	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	1

**(4) Computing Truth of Formulas Relative to a Model**

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the model  $\langle L, I \rangle$ , where L is the set of English letters  $\{ a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, I, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z \}$  and I consists of at least the following mappings:

- I(A) =  $\{ x : x \in L \text{ and } x \text{ is a vowel} \}$
- I(R) =  $\{ \langle x, y \rangle : x, y \in L \text{ and } x \text{ precedes } y \text{ in alphabetical order} \}$

Please calculate the truth-values of the following sentences relative to  $\mathcal{M}$ .

- a.  $\exists x \exists y \exists z (Rxy \ \& \ (Ay \ \& \ (Rxz \ \& \ \sim Az)))$
- b.  $\forall x (Rxx \rightarrow \sim Ax)$
- c.  $\forall x (\sim Ax \rightarrow \exists y Rxy)$

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<sup>1</sup> Most of these exercises are taken from Gamut (1991), Volume 1: Chapter 2, Chapter 3

(5) **Proving Logical Equivalence for First Order Logic Sentences**

Please show that the following pairs of formulae are logically equivalent.

- a. (i)  $\forall x \forall y Pxy$                       (ii)  $\forall y \forall x Pxy$   
b. (i)  $\exists x \exists y Pxy$                       (ii)  $\exists y \exists x Pxy$

(6) **Proving Entailment for First Order Logic Sentences**

Please show that the following entailment relations hold.

- a.  $\forall x Px \models \exists x Px$ <sup>2</sup>  
b.  $\exists x (Px \ \& \ Qx) \models (\exists x Px \ \& \ \exists x Qx)$   
c.  $\exists y \forall x Pxy \models \forall x \exists y Pxy$

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<sup>2</sup> Hint: Recall that the domain D of a model has to be a *non-empty* set.