

COSC 030, Fall 2014: Problem Set #1

Assigned: Tuesday, 8/28.

Due: Tuesday, 9/9, at the beginning of class (hand in hard copy).

Lectures Covered: Weeks 1 and 2.

Academic Integrity: You must work alone on the problem set and not consult outside sources (with the exception of the professor and teaching assistants). See the syllabus for details on the academic integrity policy for problem sets.

Problems

1. Let proposition p = “it is raining today,” proposition q = “it is a holiday today”, and proposition r = “the traffic is bad today.” Describe in words the following compound proposition: $r \rightarrow p \vee q$.
2. Prove that $(p \wedge q) \vee q \equiv (q \vee p) \wedge q$ using a truth table.
3. Prove that $(p \wedge q) \vee q \equiv (q \vee p) \wedge q$ by using the method of replacing propositions with known equivalent propositions. (Hint: Your answer should use one of the distributive laws learned in class as well as the following equivalence: $s \vee s \equiv s$.)
4. Consider the following theorem:

Theorem. Assume that if someone is tall then they are confident, and if someone is shy then they are not confident. My friend bob is shy, therefore he is not tall.

Prove this theorem using the direct proof method. You can use any rules of inference or propositional equivalences discussed in class.