

# School of Computing Science and Engineering

Course Code : MATH2007

Course Name: Discrete Mathematics

Tautology, Contradiction, Satisfiability, Equivalence

By

Dr. Varsha Gautam

Galgotias University, Greater Noida(U.P.)

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In this presentation we will discuss following things:

- Tautology and Contradiction
- Satisfiability
- Equivalence

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## Tautology and Contradiction

A *tautology* is a compound proposition that is **true no matter what** the truth values of its atomic propositions are!

*Ex.*  $p \vee \neg p$  [What is its truth table?]

A *contradiction* is a compound proposition that is **false no matter what!** *Ex.*  $p \wedge \neg p$  [Truth table?]

Other compound props. are *contingencies*.

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## Satisfiability

A compound proposition is *satisfiable* if it is true for at least one interpretation.

A statement is *unsatisfiable* if it is false for every interpretation.

Note: A tautology and contradiction are satisfiable.

A *contradiction* is unsatisfiable.

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The compound propositions  $p$  and  $q$  are called *logically equivalent* if  $p \leftrightarrow q$  is a tautology. The notation  $p \equiv q$  denotes that  $p$  and  $q$  are logically equivalent.

Compound propositions that have the same truth values in all possible cases are called **logically equivalent**.

Example: Show that  $\neg p \vee q$  and  $p \rightarrow q$  are logically equivalent.

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Ex. Prove that  $p \vee q \Leftrightarrow \neg(\neg p \wedge \neg q)$ .

$p$	$q$	$p \vee q$	$\neg p$	$\neg q$	$\neg p \wedge \neg q$	$\neg(\neg p \wedge \neg q)$
F	F	F	T	T	T	F
F	T	T	T	F	F	T
T	F	T	F	T	F	T
T	T	T	F	F	F	T

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## Assignment

1. Show that  $(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow r) \rightarrow (p \rightarrow r)$  is a **tautology**.
2. Show that  $(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow r$  and  $p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$  are not logically equivalent.

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Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ji2vr-9duPI&list=PLHXZ9OQGMqxersk8fUxiUMSIx0DBqsKZS&index=14>  
References: Discrete Mathematics and its application by Kenneth H Rosen

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**Thank you!!!!**

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