

Conditionals and Biconditionals

Most theorem statements rely on the conditional “if... then...” or “implies” and biconditional “if and only if...” or “is equivalent to...”, denoted \implies and \iff , respectively. The statement $P \implies Q$ is true if Q is true whenever P is (importantly, if P is known to be false, $P \implies Q$ is true regardless of whether Q is true or not), and $P \iff Q$ is true if P and Q share the same truth value (both true or both false).

1.2.5: Which of the following conditional sentences are true?

- (a) If triangles have three sides, then squares have four sides?
- (b) If hexagons have six sides, then the moon is made of cheese.
- (c) If $7 + 6 = 14$, then $5 + 5 = 10$.
- (d) The Nile River flows east only if 64 is a perfect square.

1.2.6: Which of the following are true?

- (a) Triangles have three sides iff squares have four sides.
- (b) $7 + 5 = 12$ if and only if $1 + 1 = 2$.
- (c) $5 + 6 = 6 + 5$ iff $7 + 1 = 10$.
- (d) A parallelogram has three sides iff 27 is prime.

1.2.13: Give, if possible, an example of a true conditional sentence for which

- (a) the converse is true.
- (b) the converse is false.
- (c) the contrapositive is false.
- (d) the contrapositive is true.

1.2.16: Determine whether each of the following is a tautology, a contradiction, or neither.

(a) $[(P \Rightarrow Q) \Rightarrow P] \Rightarrow P$

(c) $P \Rightarrow Q \Leftrightarrow P \wedge \sim Q$

(b) $P \equiv P \wedge (P \vee Q)$

(d) $P \Rightarrow [P \Rightarrow (P \Rightarrow Q)]$