
Quick Introduction to Propositional Logic

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Logic and Algebra in Computer Science

Session 1

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Overview of the session

- Definition of Logic
- Definition of Propositional Logic
 - Syntax
 - Semantics
- General Concepts in Logic
 - Reduction to SAT
- Parenthesis removal
- Logical equivalences
- Conversion to CNF and DNF
 - Via truth table
 - Via distributivity
 - Via Tseitin



What is a Logic?

- A logic is a **language**
 - But any logic is non-ambiguous language
- **Logic = syntax + semantics**
- When defining a logic we have to define:
 - Syntax:
 - what is a **formula** F ?
 - Semantics:
 - what is an **interpretation** I ?
 - when does an interpretation **satisfy** a formula?
- Trade-off in every logic: **expressivity** vs **automation**
- Lots of different logics, but here only **propositional logic**
 - Other logics: first-order, temporal, fuzzy, ...



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Definition of Propositional Logic

SYNTAX (what is a formula?):

- **Vocabulary** consists of a set \mathcal{P} of propositional variables, usually denoted by (subscripted) p, q, r, \dots
- The set of **propositional formulas** over \mathcal{P} is defined as:
 - Every **propositional variable** is a formula
 - If F is a formula, $\neg F$ is also a formula
 - If F and G are formulas, $(F \wedge G)$ is also a formula
 - If F and G are formulas, $(F \vee G)$ is also a formula
 - Nothing else is a formula
- Formulas are usually denoted by (subscripted) F, G, H, \dots
- Examples:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} p & & \neg p & & (p \vee q) & & \neg(p \wedge q) \\ (p \wedge (\neg p \vee q)) & & ((p \wedge q) \vee (r \vee \neg q)) & & \dots & & \end{array}$$



Definition of Propositional Logic (2)

SEMANTICS (what is an interpretation I , when $I \models F$):

- An **interpretation** I over \mathcal{P} is a function $I : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$.
- I **satisfies** F (written $I \models F$) if and only if $eval_I(F) = 1$.
- $eval_I : Formulas \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ is a function defined as follows:
 - $eval_I(p) = I(p)$
 - $eval_I(\neg F) = 1 - eval_I(F)$
 - $eval_I((F \wedge G)) = \min\{eval_I(F), eval_I(G)\}$
 - $eval_I((F \vee G)) = \max\{eval_I(F), eval_I(G)\}$
- If $I \models F$ we say that
 - I is a **model** of F or, equivalently
 - F is true in I .



Definition of Propositional Logic - Examples

EXAMPLE:

- Let F be the formula $(p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))$.
- Let I be such that $I(p) = I(r) = 1$ and $I(q) = 0$.
- Let us compute $eval_I(F)$ (use your intuition first!)



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$$eval_I((p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))) =$$



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- Is there any I such that $I \models F$?



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- Is there any I such that $I \models F$?
YES, $I(p) = I(q) = I(r) = 1$ is a possible model.



Definition of Prop. Logic - Examples (2)

EXAMPLE

- We have 3 pigeons and 2 holes. If each hole can hold at most one pigeon, is it possible to place all pigeons in the holes?
- Vocabulary: $p_{i,j}$ means i -th pigeon is in j -th hole
- Each pigeon is placed in at least one hole:

$$(p_{1,1} \vee p_{1,2}) \wedge (p_{2,1} \vee p_{2,2}) \wedge (p_{3,1} \vee p_{3,2})$$

- Each hole can hold at most one pigeon:

$$\begin{aligned} &\neg(p_{1,1} \wedge p_{2,1}) \wedge \neg(p_{1,1} \wedge p_{3,1}) \wedge \neg(p_{2,1} \wedge p_{3,1}) \wedge \\ &\neg(p_{1,2} \wedge p_{2,2}) \wedge \neg(p_{1,2} \wedge p_{3,2}) \wedge \neg(p_{2,2} \wedge p_{3,2}) \wedge \\ &\neg(p_{1,3} \wedge p_{2,3}) \wedge \neg(p_{1,3} \wedge p_{3,3}) \wedge \neg(p_{2,3} \wedge p_{3,3}) \end{aligned}$$

- Resulting formula has no model
- Note that we have relaxed the syntax of propositional logic



Small Syntax Extension

- We will write $(F \rightarrow G)$ as an **abbreviation** for $(\neg F \vee G)$
- Similarly, $(F \leftrightarrow G)$ is an **abbreviation** of $((F \rightarrow G) \wedge (G \rightarrow F))$

They both capture very intuitive concepts, which ones?



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They both capture very intuitive concepts, which ones?

- $I \models (F \rightarrow G)$ iff $I \models F$ **implies** $I \models G$
(note that if $I \not\models F$ then $(F \rightarrow G)$ is trivially satisfied by I)
- $I \models (F \leftrightarrow G)$ iff $I \models F$ and $I \models G$ or
 $I \not\models F$ and $I \not\models G$
iff $eval_I(F) = eval_I(G)$



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General Concepts in Logic

Let F and G be arbitrary formulas. Then:

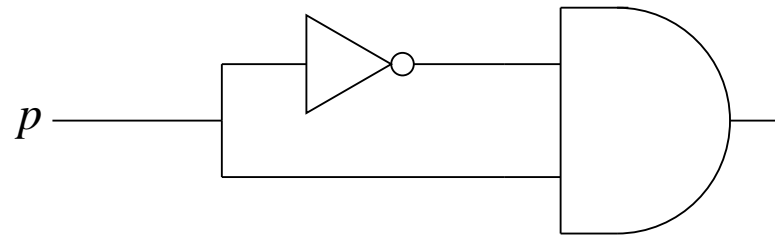
- F is **satisfiable** if it has at least one model
- F is **unsatisfiable** (also a **contradiction**) if it has no model
- F is a **tautology** if every interpretation is a model of F
- G is a **logical consequence** of F , denoted $F \models G$, if every model of F is a model of G
- F and G are **logically equivalent**, denoted $F \equiv G$, if F and G have the same models

Note that:

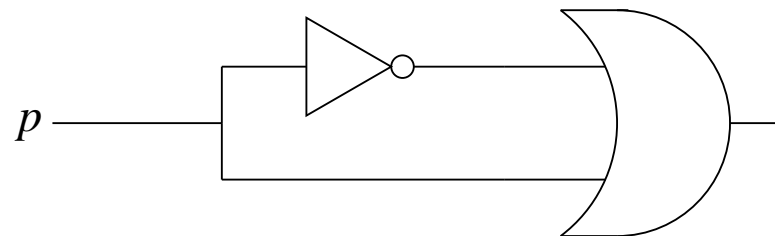
- All these concepts are **independent of the logic**.
- All definitions are based on the concept of **model**.



General Concepts in Logic (2)

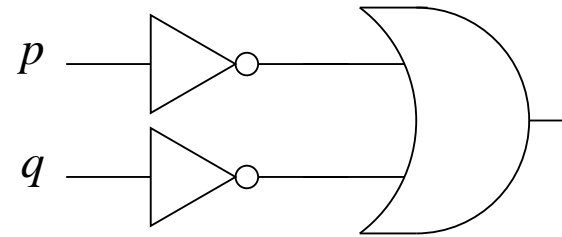
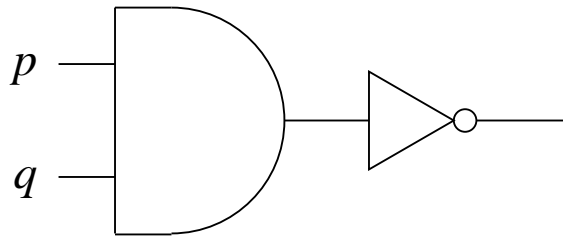


- Circuit corresponds to formula $(\neg p \wedge p)$
- Formula **unsatisfiable** amounts to “circuit equals 0”



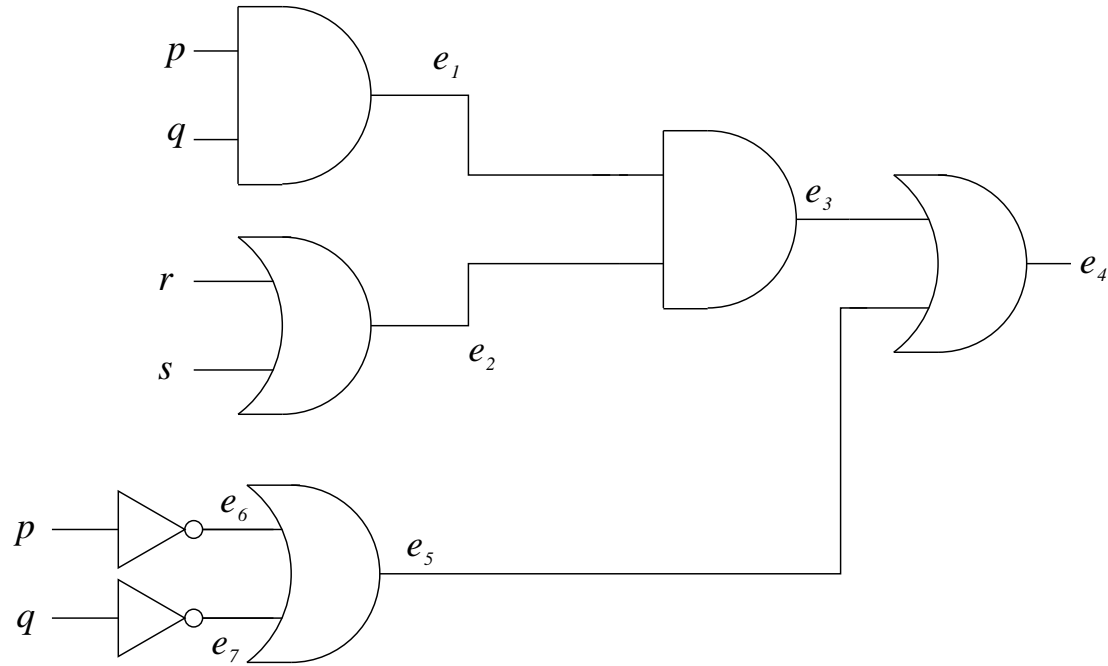
- Circuit corresponds to formula $(\neg p \vee p)$
- Formula is a **tautology** amounts to “circuit equals 1”

General Concepts in Logic (3)



- Circuit on the left corresponds to formula $F := \neg(p \wedge q)$
- Circuit on the right corresponds to formula $G := (\neg p \vee \neg q)$
- They are **functionally equivalent**, i.e. same inputs produce same output
- Cheapest, fastest, less power-consumption circuit is then chosen
- That corresponds to saying $F \equiv G$

General Concepts in Logic (4)



$e_1 \neq e_5$ in the circuit amounts to

$$\left. \begin{array}{l}
 e_1 \leftrightarrow (p \wedge q) \quad \wedge \\
 e_2 \leftrightarrow (r \vee s) \quad \wedge \\
 e_3 \leftrightarrow (e_1 \wedge e_2) \quad \wedge \\
 e_4 \leftrightarrow (e_3 \vee e_5) \quad \wedge \\
 e_5 \leftrightarrow (e_6 \wedge e_7) \quad \wedge \\
 e_6 \leftrightarrow (\neg p) \quad \wedge \\
 e_7 \leftrightarrow (\neg q) \quad \wedge
 \end{array} \right\} \models e_1 \leftrightarrow \neg e_5$$



General concepts - Reduction to SAT

Assume we have a black-box **SAT** that given a formula F :

- **SAT**(F)=YES iff F is satisfiable
- **SAT**(F)=NO iff F is unsatisfiable

How to reuse SAT for detecting tautology, logical consequences, ...?

- F tautology iff **SAT**($\neg F$)=NO
- $F \models G$ iff **SAT**($F \wedge \neg G$)=NO
- $F \equiv G$ iff **SAT**($(F \wedge \neg G) \vee (\neg F \wedge G)$)=NO

Hence, a single tool suffices.

COURSE GOAL: learn how to build such a black-box **SAT**



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Removing parenthesis

- Formulas like $((F_1 \vee F_2) \vee F_3)$ are usually written as $F_1 \vee F_2 \vee F_3$
- Given a formula $F_1 \vee F_2 \vee F_3$ we can understand it as $((F_1 \vee F_2) \vee F_3)$ or $(F_1 \vee (F_2 \vee F_3))$
- But this doesn't matter since $((F_1 \vee F_2) \vee F_3) \equiv (F_1 \vee (F_2 \vee F_3))$
- However, what if we write $F \wedge G \vee H$?
In this case, $((F \wedge G) \vee H) \not\equiv (F \wedge (G \vee H)) \dots$
- Similarly, take $F \rightarrow G \rightarrow H$.
Again $((F \rightarrow G) \rightarrow H) \not\equiv (F \rightarrow (G \rightarrow H))$
- Ambiguity is fixed by assigning **priorities** and type of **associativities**



Removing parenthesis (2)

- From **most** to **least** priority: $\neg \wedge \vee \rightarrow \leftrightarrow$
- All connectives are **left-associative**

EXAMPLES:

- $\neg F_1 \wedge F_2 \vee F_3 \rightarrow \neg F_4$ is



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EXAMPLES:

- $\neg F_1 \wedge F_2 \vee F_3 \rightarrow \neg F_4$ is
 $((((\neg F_1) \wedge F_2) \vee F_3) \rightarrow (\neg F_4))$

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EXAMPLES:

- $\neg F_1 \wedge F_2 \vee F_3 \rightarrow \neg F_4$ is
$$\left(\left(\left(\neg F_1 \right) \wedge F_2 \right) \vee F_3 \right) \rightarrow \left(\neg F_4 \right)$$

- $F_1 \wedge F_2 \wedge F_3 \rightarrow \neg F_4 \leftrightarrow F_5$ is

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- $F_1 \wedge F_2 \wedge F_3 \rightarrow \neg F_4 \leftrightarrow F_5$ is

$$\left(\left(\left(F_1 \wedge F_2 \right) \wedge F_3 \right) \rightarrow \left(\neg F_4 \right) \right) \leftrightarrow F_5$$



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Logical Equivalences

$$F \wedge F \equiv F$$

$$F \vee F \equiv F$$

$$F \wedge G \equiv G \wedge F$$

$$F \vee G \equiv G \vee F$$

$$\neg\neg F \equiv F$$

$$(F \wedge G) \wedge H \equiv F \wedge (G \wedge H)$$

$$(F \vee G) \vee H \equiv F \vee (G \vee H)$$

$$F \wedge (G \vee H) \equiv (F \wedge G) \vee (F \wedge H)$$

$$F \vee (G \wedge H) \equiv (F \vee G) \wedge (F \vee H)$$

$$\neg(F \wedge G) \equiv \neg F \vee \neg G$$

$$\neg(F \vee G) \equiv \neg F \wedge \neg G$$

If F is a tautology then

$$F \wedge G \equiv G$$

$$F \vee G \equiv F$$

If F is unsatisfiable then

$$F \wedge G \equiv F$$

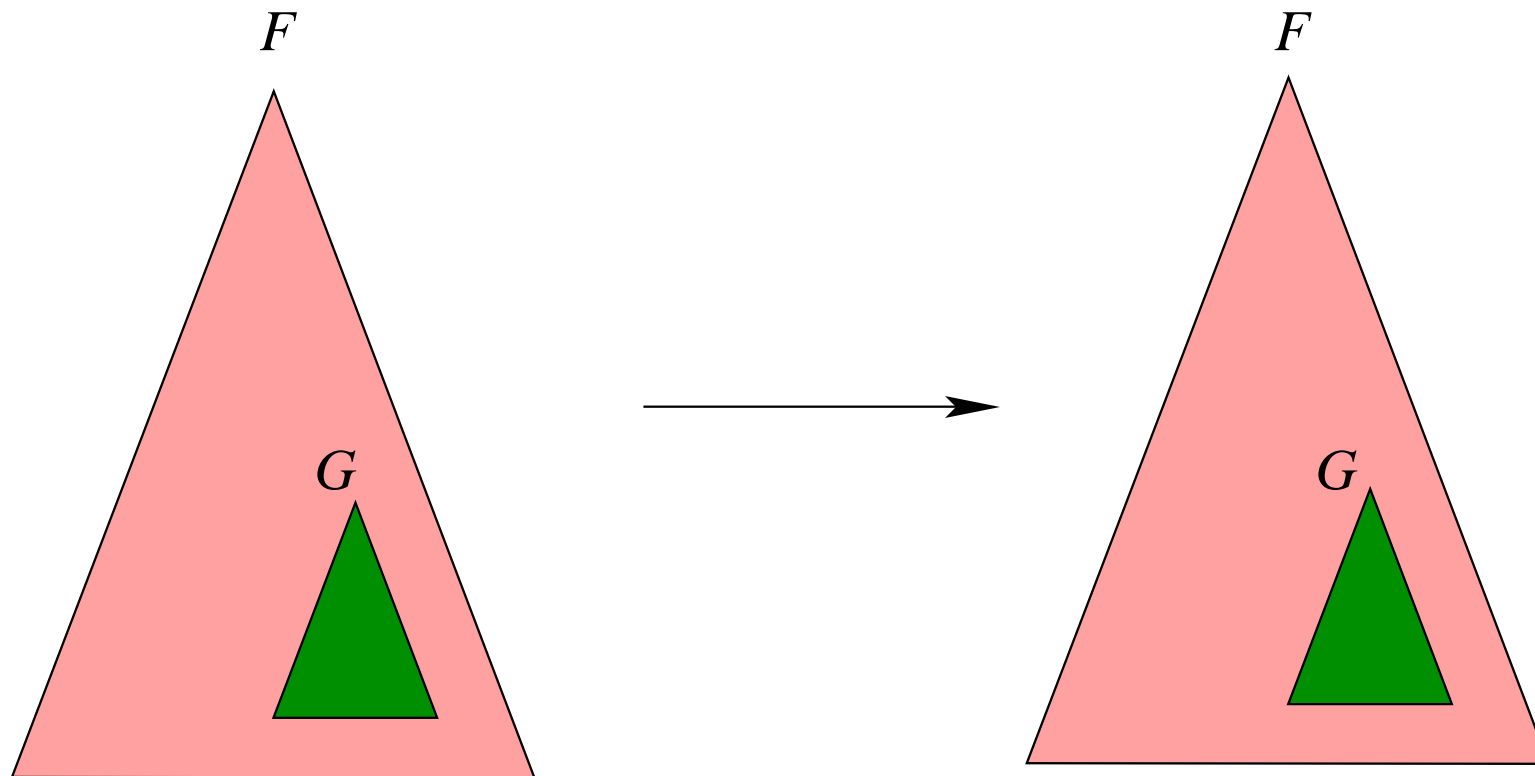
$$F \vee G \equiv G$$

But we want to use them not only at top level!



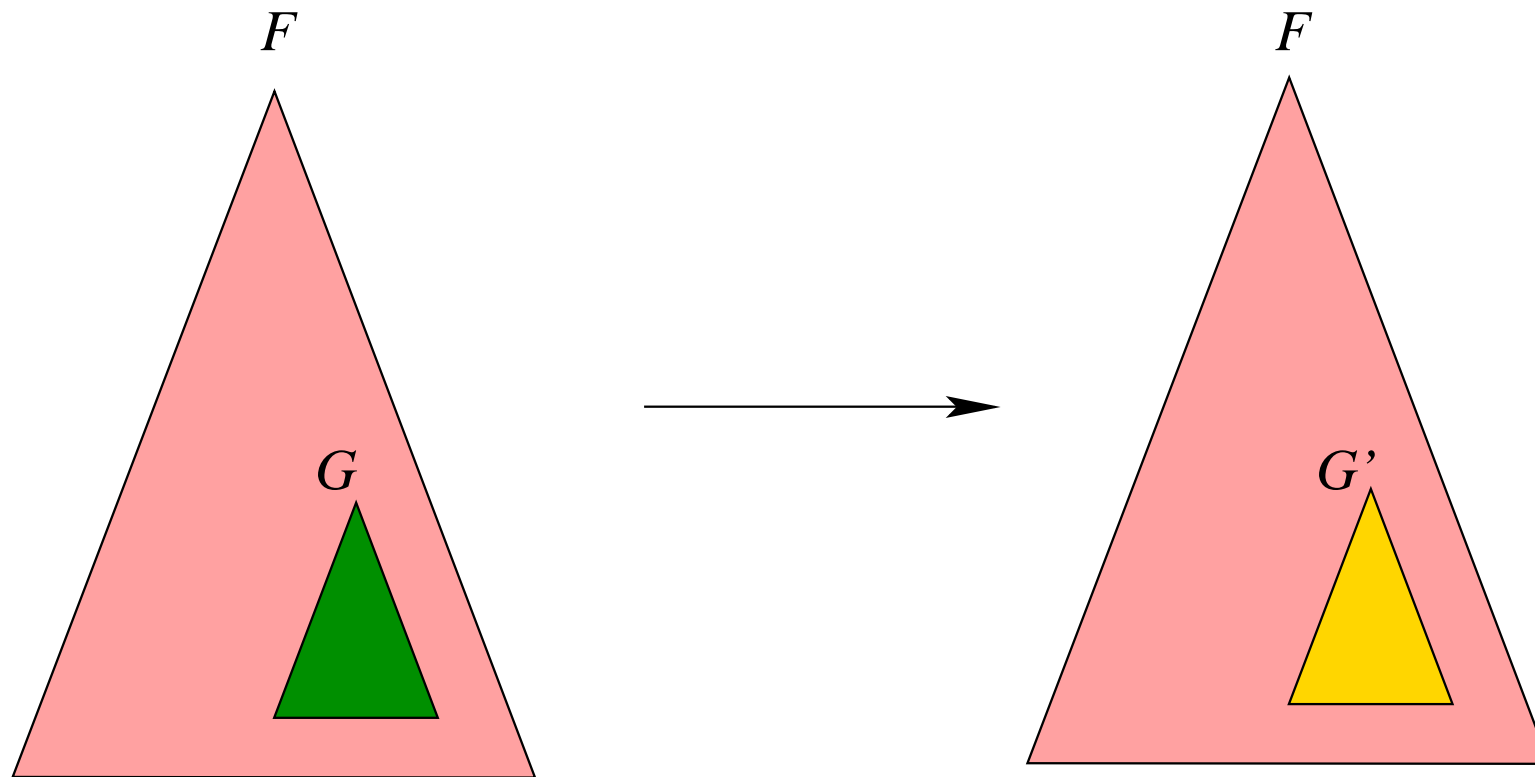
Logical Equivalences - Substitution Lemma

Lemma: If we replace inside F a subformula G by G' with $G \equiv G'$, we obtain F' with $F \equiv F'$. [exercise: prove by induction]



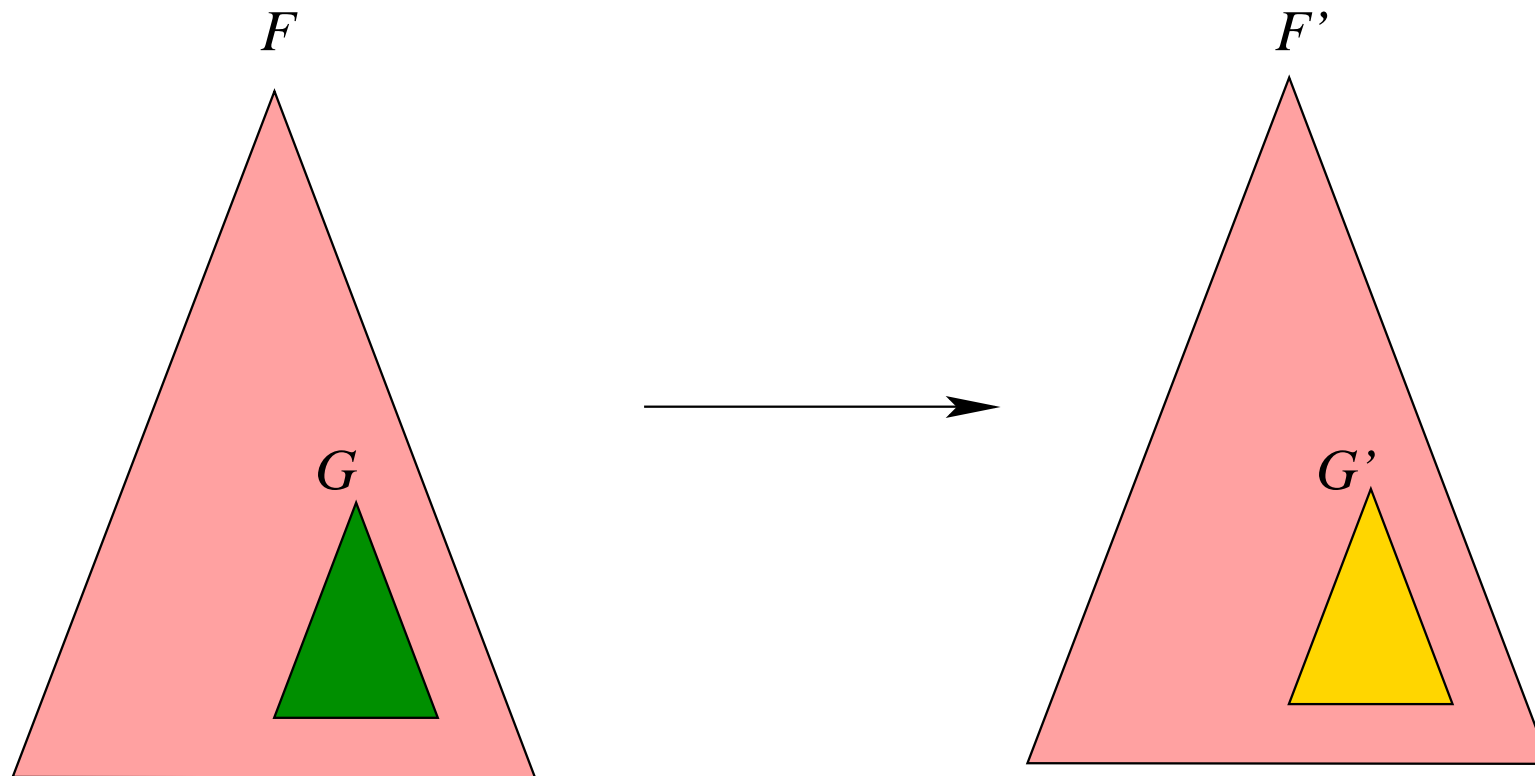
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CNFs and DNFs

In order to construct our **SAT** black-box it would simplify our job to assume that the formula F has a given format.

- A **literal** is a prop. variable (p) or a negation of one ($\neg p$)
- A **clause** is a disjunction of zero or more literals ($l_1 \vee \dots l_n$)
- The **empty clause** (zero lits.) is denoted \square and is unsatisfiable
- A formula is in **Conjunctive Normal Form (CNF)** if it is a conjunction of zero or more clauses
- A formula is in **Disjunctive Normal Form (DNF)** if it is a disjunction of conjunctions of literals

Examples:

$p \wedge (q \vee \neg r) \wedge (q \vee p \vee \neg r)$ is in CNF

$p \vee (q \wedge \neg r) \vee (q \wedge p \wedge \neg r)$ is in DNF



CNFs and DNFs (2)

- Given a formula F there exist formulas
 - G in CNF with $F \equiv G$ and
 - H in DNF with $F \equiv H$
- Which is the complexity of checking whether F is satisfiable
 - if F is an arbitrary formula?
 - if F is in CNF?
 - if F is in DNF?
- Then, why not choosing always F in DNF?
- For all our purposes, we will assume F in CNF



Transformation to CNF via truth table

Let us take the formula $F := (p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))$

Its **truth table** is:

p	q	r	
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
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- It is easy to compute a **DNF** for F :

$$\begin{aligned} & (\neg p \wedge \neg q \wedge r) \vee (p \wedge \neg q \wedge \neg r) \vee \\ & (p \wedge \neg q \wedge r) \vee (p \wedge q \wedge \neg r) \vee \\ & (p \wedge q \wedge r) \end{aligned}$$



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- Similarly a **DNF** for $\neg F$:

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- Now, using deMorgan, a **CNF** for F is:

$$\begin{aligned} & (p \vee q \vee r) \wedge (p \vee \neg q \vee r) \wedge \\ & (p \vee \neg q \vee \neg r) \end{aligned}$$



Transformation to CNF via distributivity

1. Apply the three transformation rules **up to completion**:

● $\neg\neg F \Rightarrow F$

● $\neg(F \wedge G) \Rightarrow \neg F \vee \neg G$

● $\neg(F \vee G) \Rightarrow \neg F \wedge \neg G$

After that, the formula is in **Negation Normal Form (NNF)**

2. Now apply the **distributivity** rule **up to completion**:

● $F \vee (G \wedge H) \Rightarrow (F \vee G) \wedge (F \vee H)$

EXAMPLE: let F be $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))$

1. $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r)) \Rightarrow$



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1. $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r)) \Rightarrow (p \wedge q) \vee (\neg\neg p \vee \neg(q \vee \neg r)) \Rightarrow$



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● $\neg(F \wedge G) \Rightarrow \neg F \vee \neg G$

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After that, the formula is in **Negation Normal Form (NNF)**

2. Now apply the **distributivity** rule **up to completion**:

● $F \vee (G \wedge H) \Rightarrow (F \vee G) \wedge (F \vee H)$

EXAMPLE: let F be $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))$

1. $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r)) \Rightarrow (p \wedge q) \vee (\neg\neg p \vee \neg(q \vee \neg r)) \Rightarrow$
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Transformation to CNF via distributivity

1. Apply the three transformation rules **up to completion**:

● $\neg\neg F \Rightarrow F$

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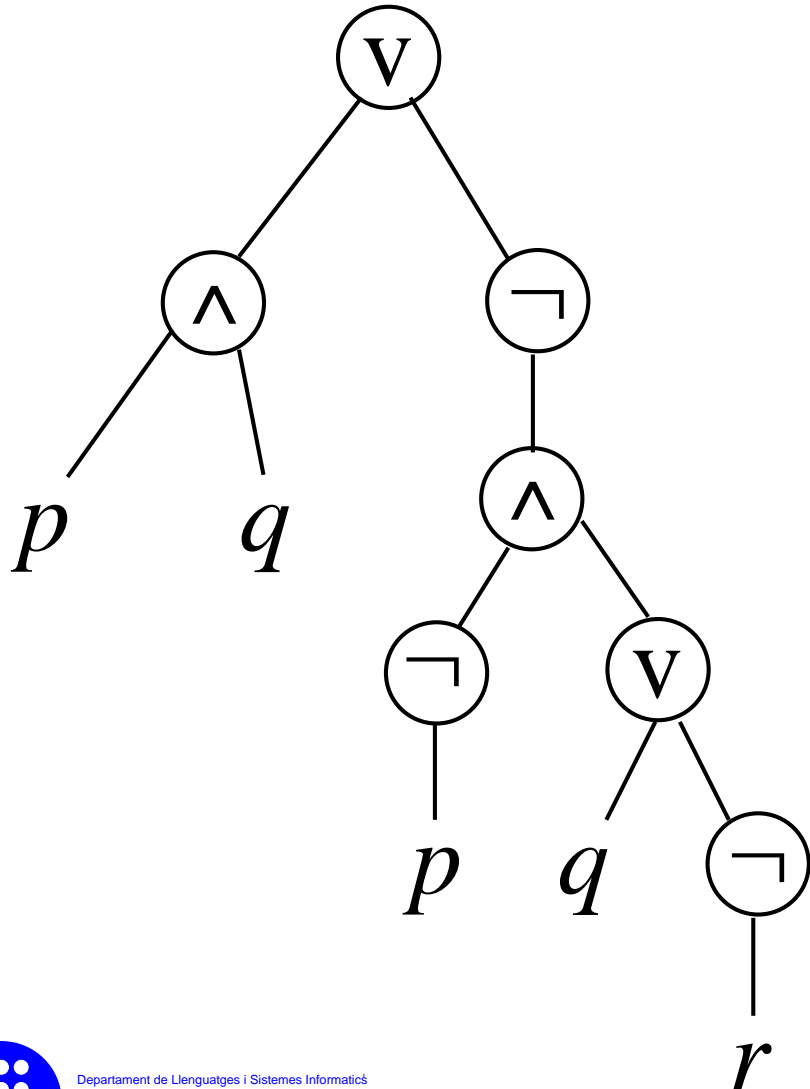
1. $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r)) \Rightarrow (p \wedge q) \vee (\neg\neg p \vee \neg(q \vee \neg r)) \Rightarrow$
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 $(p \vee p \vee \neg q) \wedge (p \vee p \vee r) \wedge (q \vee p \vee \neg q) \wedge (q \vee p \vee r) \Rightarrow$
 $(p \vee \neg q) \wedge (p \vee r) \wedge (q \vee p \vee r)$



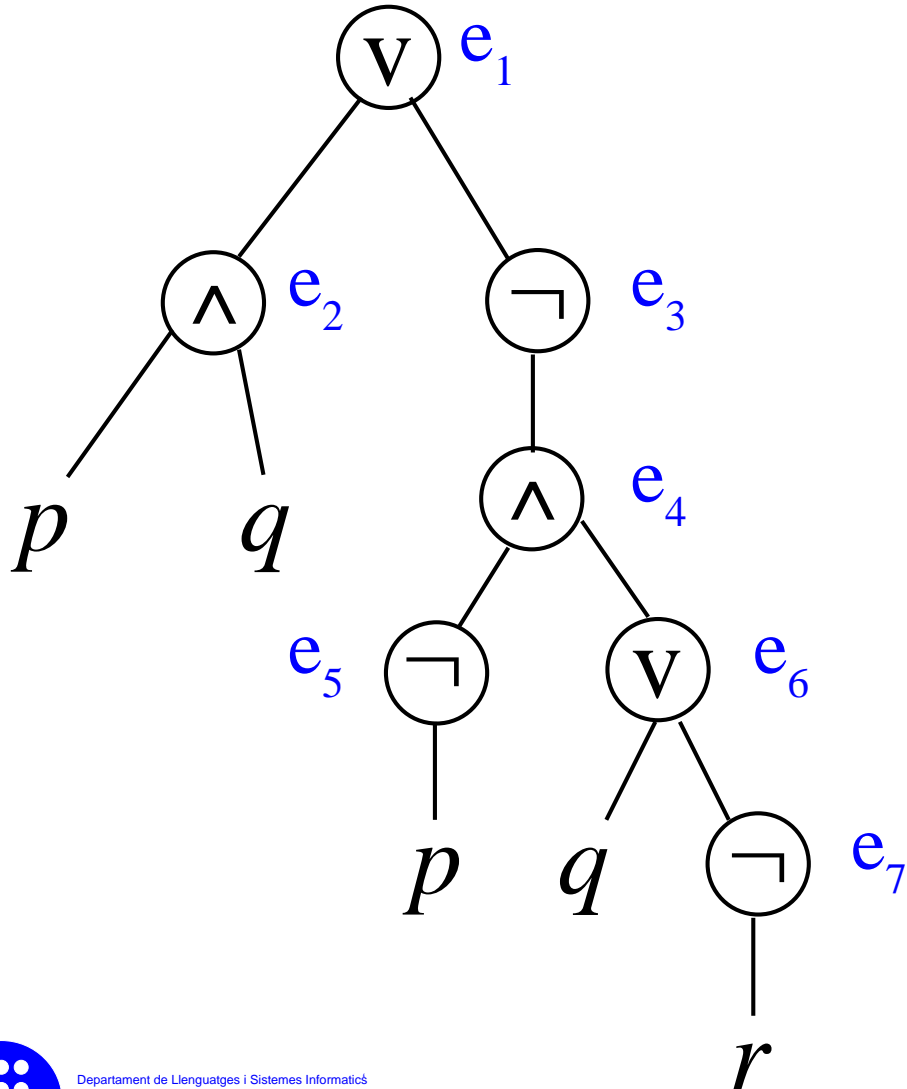
Transformation to CNF via Tseitin

Let F be $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))$



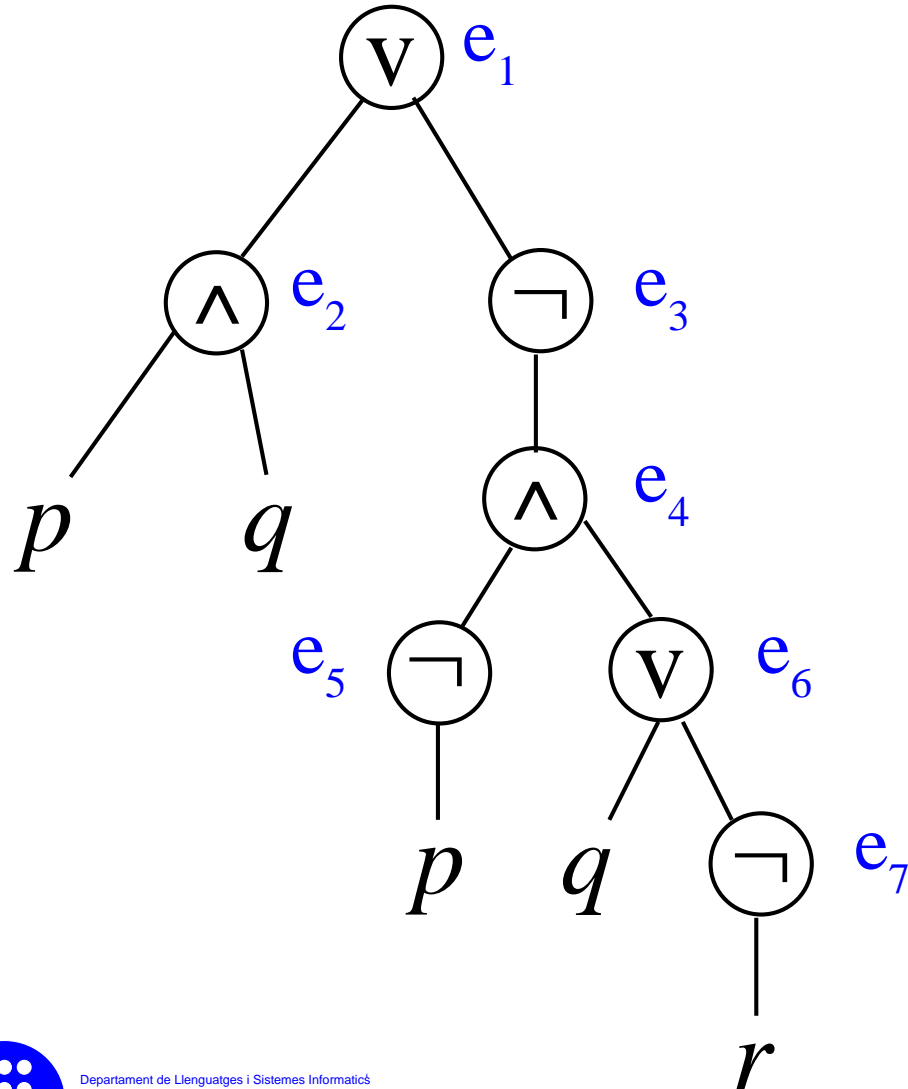
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Let F be $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))$



Transformation to CNF via Tseitin

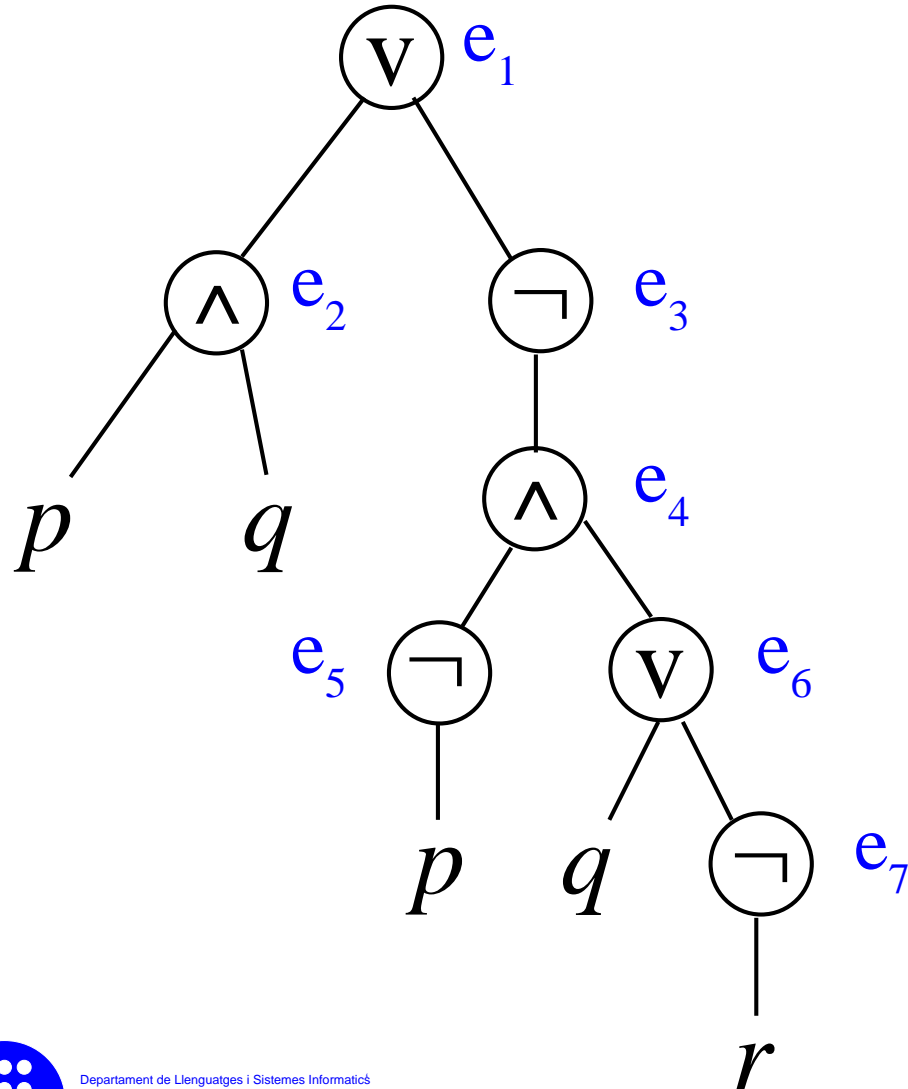
Let F be $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))$



- e_1
- $e_1 \leftrightarrow e_2 \vee e_3$
- $e_2 \leftrightarrow p \wedge q$
- $e_3 \leftrightarrow \neg e_4$
- $e_4 \leftrightarrow e_5 \wedge e_6$
- $e_5 \leftrightarrow \neg p$
- $e_6 \leftrightarrow q \vee \neg e_7$
- $e_7 \leftrightarrow \neg r$

Transformation to CNF via Tseitin

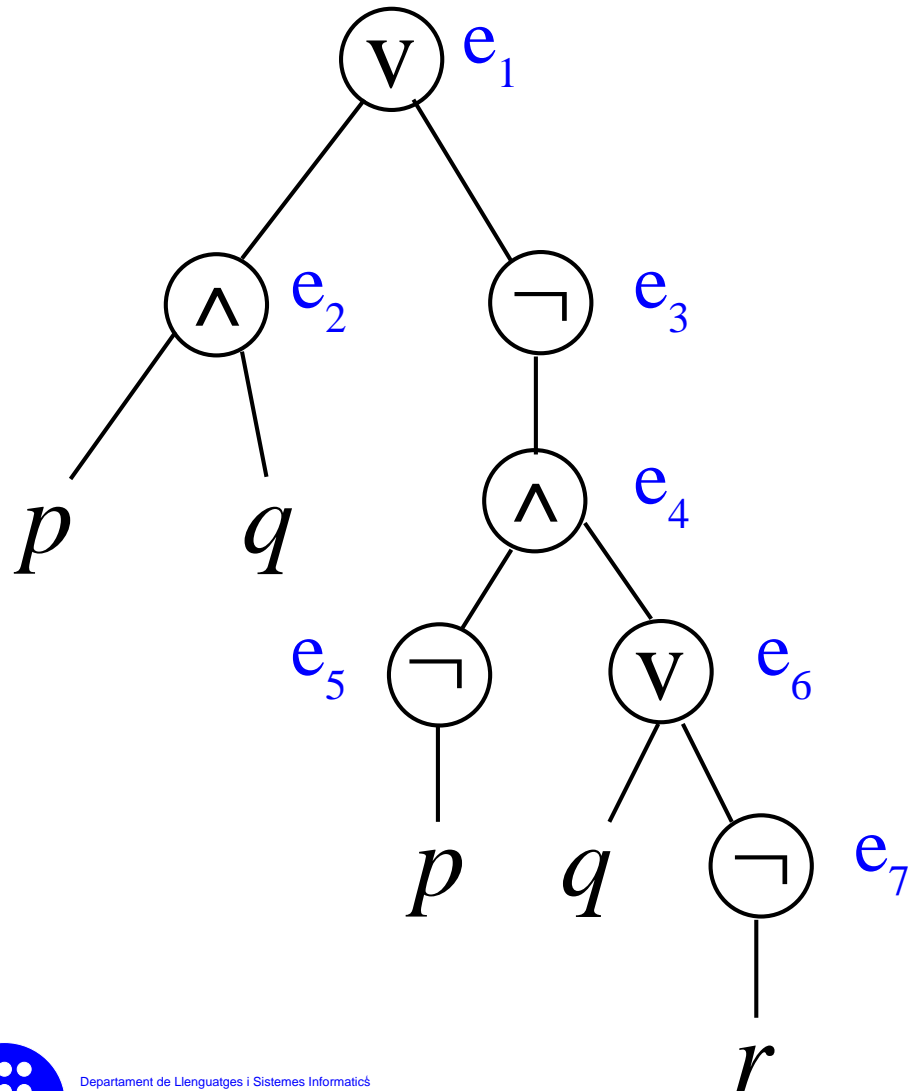
Let F be $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))$



- e_1
- $e_1 \leftrightarrow e_2 \vee e_3$
- $\neg e_1 \vee e_2 \vee e_3$
- $\neg e_2 \vee e_1$
- $\neg e_3 \vee e_1$
- $e_2 \leftrightarrow p \wedge q$
- $e_3 \leftrightarrow \neg e_4$
- $e_4 \leftrightarrow e_5 \wedge e_6$
- $e_5 \leftrightarrow \neg p$
- $e_6 \leftrightarrow q \vee \neg e_7$
- $e_7 \leftrightarrow \neg r$

Transformation to CNF via Tseitin

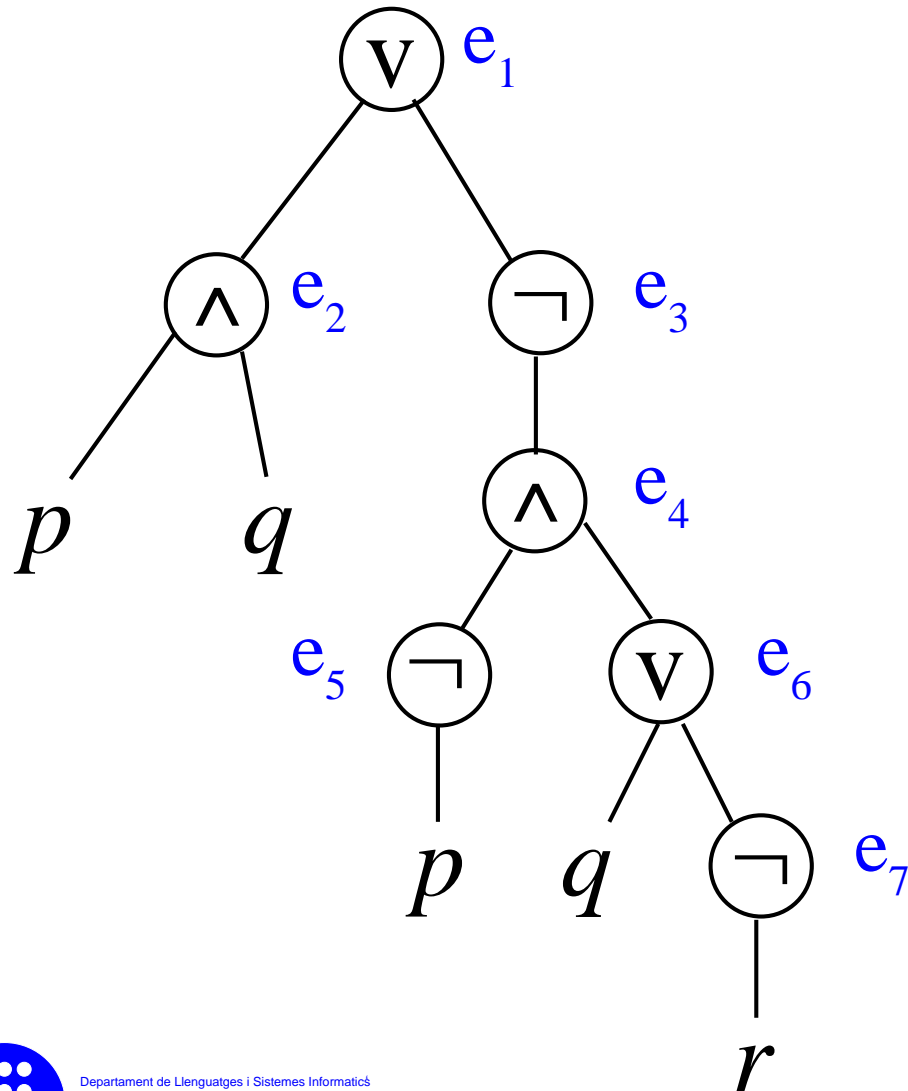
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- $\neg e_2 \vee p$
- $\neg e_2 \vee q$
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Transformation to CNF via Tseitin

Let F be $(p \wedge q) \vee \neg(\neg p \wedge (q \vee \neg r))$



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- $e_3 \vee e_4$
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- $e_5 \leftrightarrow \neg p$
- $e_6 \leftrightarrow q \vee \neg e_7$
- $e_7 \leftrightarrow \neg r$



Transformation to CNF via Tseitin (2)

- Variations of Tseitin are the ones used in practice
- Tseitin does **not** produce an **equivalent** CNF
- Given F , the CNF obtained has three important properties:
 - It is **equisatisfiable** to F
 - Any model of CNF can be projected to the variables in F giving a model of F
 - Any model of F can be completed to a model of the CNF
- Hence **no model is lost nor added** in the conversion

