

# A simple identity forcing a lattice to be Boolean

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# Result

## Theorem 1

*A non-empty lattice  $\mathbf{L} = (L, \vee, \wedge, ')$  with a unary operation is Boolean if and only if it satisfies the identity*

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$$(x \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge y') \leq x \leq (x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee y')$$

and (1).

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$$y \wedge y' \leq (x \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge y') \approx x \approx (x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee y') \leq y \vee y'$$

## Step 2: $\mathbf{L}$ is bounded and $'$ a complementation

We have

$$y \wedge y' \leq (x \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge y') \approx x \approx (x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee y') \leq y \vee y'$$

and hence  $y \wedge y' \approx 0$  and  $y \vee y' \approx 1$ .

## Step 3: ' is antitone

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$$y' \approx (y' \wedge x) \vee (y' \wedge x') \leq (y' \wedge y) \vee (y' \wedge x') \approx y' \wedge x' \leq x'.$$

## Step 4: $'$ is an involution

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$$x \approx (x \wedge x') \vee (x \wedge x'') \approx x \wedge x'' \leq x'' \approx (x'' \wedge x) \vee (x'' \wedge x') \approx x'' \wedge x \leq x.$$

## Step 5: $\mathbf{L}$ satisfies the de Morgan laws

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This follows since  $'$  is an antitone involution on the lattice  $\mathbf{L}$ .

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If  $x \leq y$  then

$$x \vee (y \wedge x') = (y \wedge x) \vee (y \wedge x') = y.$$

This means that  $x \leq y$  and  $y \wedge x' = 0$  together imply  $x = y$ .

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and

$$\begin{aligned} (x \vee y) \wedge z \wedge ((x \wedge z) \vee (y \wedge z))' &\approx \\ &\approx (x \vee y) \wedge z \wedge (x' \vee z') \wedge (y' \vee z') \approx \\ &\approx (x \vee y) \wedge z \wedge (x' \vee z) \wedge (x' \vee z') \wedge (y' \vee z) \wedge (y' \vee z') \approx \\ &\approx (x \vee y) \wedge z \wedge x' \wedge y' \approx \\ &\approx (x \vee y) \wedge z \wedge (x \vee y)' \approx 0 \end{aligned}$$

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whence

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whence

$$(x \wedge z) \vee (y \wedge z) \approx (x \vee y) \wedge z.$$

# References

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Thank you for your attention!