

$$\left| \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} d[f(x)g(x)] - \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} g(x)df(x) - \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} f(x)dg(x) \right|$$

is less than  $\epsilon$  multiplied by the total variation of  $f(x)$  plus the total variation of  $g(x)$ . Hence this expression must be equal to 0 and therefore the formula for integration by parts is valid under the above hypotheses.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## A SET OF POSTULATES FOR BOOLEAN ALGEBRA

BY SOLOMON HOBERMAN AND J. C. C. MCKINSEY

1. *A New Set of Postulates.* In the development of a Boolean Algebra, Boole's Law of Development

$$f(x) = f(1)x + f(0)x',$$

stands out as a basic relationship. This law is so all embracing that the question naturally arises, if this is set as a postulate, what postulates in addition to it are needed to define a Boolean Algebra? Using as undefined a class  $K$  and the Sheffer stroke function, we shall show that, in addition to a form of Boole's Law, only two "trivial" postulates are required.

POSTULATES.\*

I.  $K$  contains at least two elements.

II. If  $a$  and  $b$  are elements of  $K$ , then  $a/b$  is an element of  $K$ .

*Definitions:*  $a' = a/a$ ,  $a \cdot b = a'/b'$ , and  $a + b = (a/b)'$ .

III. There exists in  $K$  a unique element 0, such that, if  $f(x)$  is any function definable in terms of/and elements of  $K$ , we have, for any  $x$  in  $K$ ,

$$f(x) = f(0')x + f(0)x'.$$

THEOREM 1.  $0'' = 0$ .

*Proof:* From III, and the preceding definitions, we have

$$(1) \quad x = 0'x + 0x' = [(0'x)/(0x')]';$$

in particular

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\* This is the smallest set of postulates for a Boolean Algebra yet given.

$$0 = [(0'0)/(00)'].$$

Thus there exists in  $K$  an element 1, such that

$$0 = 1'.$$

From (1) above

$$1 = 0'1 + 01.,$$

and

$$1 = 1''1 + 1'1'.$$

Letting  $f(x) = x''x + x'x'$  in III, we have

$$x''x + x'x' = (0'''0' + 0''0'')x + (0''0 + 0'0')x';$$

in particular

$$1 = 1''1 + 1'1' = (0'''0' + 0''0'')1 + (0''0 + 0'0')1'.$$

This becomes

$$1 = 0'''1 + 0'1',$$

since letting  $f(x)$  equal  $x''$  and  $x'$  respectively in III yields

$$x'' = 0'''x + 0''x', \quad \text{and} \quad x' = 0''x + 0'x';$$

in particular

$$0''' = 0'''0' + 0''0'', \quad \text{and} \quad 0' = 0''0 + 0'0'.$$

Letting  $f(x) = 0'''x + x''x'$  in III, we have

$$0'''x + x''x' = (0'''0' + 0'''0'')x + (0'''0 + 0''0')x';$$

in particular

$$1 = 0'''1 + 1''1' = (0'''0' + 0'''0'')1 + (0'''0 + 0''0')1'.$$

This becomes

$$1 = 0'''1 + 0''1',$$

since

$$0''' = 0'''0' + 0'''0'', \quad \text{and} \quad 0'' = 0'''0 + 0''0'.$$

From III,  $x'' = 0'''x + 0''x'$ ; thus  $1'' = 0'''1 + 0''1'$ , and  $1 = 1''$ . Hence  $1' = 1'''$  and  $0 = 0''$ .

**THEOREM 2.**  $x'' = x$ .

$$\textit{Proof: } x'' = 0'''x + 0''x' = 0'x + 0x' = x.$$

From Theorem 1 and the definition of 1, we have  $0' = 1$ , and thus

$$0/0 = 0' = 1, \quad \text{and} \quad 1/1 = 1' = 0.$$

**THEOREM 3.**  $1/0 = 0/1 = 1$ .

*Proof:* From III and the definitions, we have

$$1 = 0'1 + 01' = 0/0 + 1/1 = 1 + 0 = (1/0)';$$

$$0 = 1/0.$$

$$0' = 0''0 + 0'0' = 1/1 + 0/0 = 0 + 1 = (0/1)';$$

$$0 = 0/1.$$

**THEOREM 4.**  $0+0=0$ ,  $1+0=1$ ,  $0+1=1$ ,  $1+1=1$ ,  $00=0$ ,  $10=0$ ,  $01=0$ , and  $11=1$ .

*Proof:* These equations follow immediately upon using the results of the preceding theorems in the definitions of  $+$  and  $\cdot$ .

In the following theorems the equations are obtained by letting  $f(x)$  equal the left-hand side.

**THEOREM 5.**  $1x = x = x1 = 0 + x = x + 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{Proof: } \quad 1x &= (1 \ 1)x + (1 \ 0)x' = 1x + 0x', \\ x &= 1x + 0x', \\ x1 &= (1 \ 1)x + (0 \ 1)x' = 1x + 0x', \\ 0 + x &= (0 + 1)x + (0 + 0)x' = 1x + 0x', \\ x + 0 &= (1 + 0)x + (0 + 0)x' = 1x + 0x'; \end{aligned}$$

since all five are equal to  $1x + 0x'$ , the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 6.**  $0x = x0 = 0 = xx'$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{Proof: } \quad 0x &= (0 \ 1)x + (0 \ 0)x' = 0x + 0x', \\ x0 &= (1 \ 0)x + (0 \ 0)x' = 0x + 0x', \\ 0 &= 0x + 0x', \\ xx' &= (1 \ 1')x + (0 \ 0')x' = 0x + 0x'; \end{aligned}$$

since all four are equal to  $0x + 0x'$ , the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 7.**  $1 + x = x + 1 = 1 = x + x'$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{Proof: } \quad 1 + x &= (1 + 1)x + (1 + 0)x' = 1x + 1x', \\ x + 1 &= (1 + 1)x + (0 + 1)x' = 1x + 1x', \\ 1 &= 1x + 1x', \\ x + x' &= (1 + 1')x + (0 + 0')x' = 1x + 1x'; \end{aligned}$$

since all four are equal to  $1x+1x'$ , the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 8.**  $ax = xa$ .

*Proof:*  $ax = (a \ 1)x + (a \ 0)x' = (1 \ a)x + (0 \ a)x' = xa$ .

**THEOREM 9.**  $a+x = x+a$ .

*Proof:*  $a+x = (a+1)x + (a+0)x' = (1+a)x + (0+a)x' = x+a$ .

**THEOREM 10.**  $x+bc = (x+b)(x+c)$ .

*Proof:*  $(x+b)(x+c) = (1+b)(1+c)x + (0+b)(0+c)x'$   
 $= (1)(1)x + (b)(c)x' = 1x + bc \ x'$   
 $= (1+bc)x + (0+bc)x' = x+bc$ .

**THEOREM 11.**  $xb+xc = x(b+c)$ .

*Proof:*  $xb+xc = (1b+1c)x + (0b+0c)x' = (b+c)x + 0x'$   
 $= (b+c)x = x(b+c)$ .

The postulates we have given are known to be true in a Boolean Algebra, therefore they are necessary. We shall show that they are sufficient by showing that Huntington's postulates are derivable from them.

2. *Huntington's Postulates and their Derivation.* The following is Huntington's set of postulates; to each is appended a brief indication of its derivation from those of our set.

1. (a) *If  $a$  and  $b$  are elements of  $K$ , then  $a+b$  is an element of  $K$ .* By definition,  $a+b = (a/b)' = (a/b)/(a/b)$ ; by Postulate I, if  $a$  and  $b$  are elements of  $K$ ,  $a/b$  is an element, and  $a+b$  is an element.

(b) *If  $a$  and  $b$  are elements of  $K$ , then  $a \cdot b$  is an element of  $K$ .* By definition,  $a \cdot b = a'/b' = (a/a)/(b/b)$  is an element of  $K$  as above.

2. (a) *There exists an element 0 in  $K$  such that  $a+0=a$ .*

(b) *There exists an element 1 in  $K$  such that  $a \cdot 1=a$ .*

Theorem 5.

3. (a) *If  $a, b, a+b, b+a$  belong to  $K$ , then  $a+b=b+a$ .*

Theorem 9.

(b) *If  $a, b, ab, ba$  belong to  $K$ , then  $ab=ba$ .*

Theorem 8.

4. (a) *If  $a, b, c, bc, a+bc, a+b, a+c$ , and  $(a+b)(a+c)$  belong to  $K$ , then  $a+bc = (a+b)(a+c)$ .*

Theorem 10.

(b) If  $a, b, c, b+c, a(b+c), ab, ac,$  and  $ab+ac$  belong to  $K$ , then  $ab+ac=a(b+c)$ .

Theorem 11.

5. If 0 and 1 exist and are unique, then for every element  $a$  belonging to  $K$  there exists an element  $a'$  in  $K$  such that  $a+a'=1$  and  $aa'=0$ .

Theorems 1, 6, and 7.

6. There are at least two distinct elements in  $K$ .

Postulate I.

3. *A Two Element Boolean Algebra.* A set of postulates for a two element Boolean Algebra can be obtained by changing Postulate I to: " $K$  contains two and only two elements."

4. *Independence Examples:*

1.  $K = \{\alpha\}, \quad \alpha/\alpha = \alpha.$
2.  $K = \{0, \beta\}, \quad \begin{array}{c|cccc} & 0 & \beta & \gamma & \delta \\ \hline 0 & \delta & \gamma & \beta & 0 \\ \beta & \gamma & \gamma & 0 & 0 \\ \gamma & \beta & 0 & \beta & 0 \\ \delta & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}.$
3.  $K = \{\alpha, \beta\}, \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} & \alpha & \beta \\ \hline \alpha & \alpha & \alpha \\ \beta & \alpha & \alpha \end{array}.$