

# Rules of Inferences

① Modus ponens or Rule of detachment

Premises  $p, p \rightarrow q$

Conclusion  $q$

i.e.  $(p \wedge (p \rightarrow q)) \rightarrow q$  tautology

$$\frac{p \quad p \rightarrow q}{\therefore q}$$

② Modus tollens

Premises  $\sim q, p \rightarrow q$

Conclusion  $\sim p$

i.e.  $(\sim q \wedge (p \rightarrow q)) \rightarrow \sim p$  tautology

$$\frac{\sim q \quad p \rightarrow q}{\therefore \sim p}$$

③ Hypothetical Syllogism or Chain rule

Premises  $p \rightarrow q, q \rightarrow r$

Conclusion  $p \rightarrow r$

i.e.  $((p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow r)) \rightarrow (p \rightarrow r)$  tautology

$$\frac{p \rightarrow q \quad q \rightarrow r}{\therefore p \rightarrow r}$$

④ Disjunctive Syllogisms

Premises  $\sim p, p \rightarrow q$

Conclusion  $q$

i.e.  $(\sim p \wedge (p \rightarrow q)) \rightarrow q$  tautology

$$\frac{\sim p \quad p \rightarrow q}{\therefore q}$$

⑤ Addition

Premise  $p$

Conclusion  $p \vee q$

$$\frac{p}{\therefore p \vee q}$$

$$\therefore p \rightarrow (p \vee q) \text{ tautology}$$

⑥ Simplification

Premise  $p \wedge q$

Conclusion  $p$

$$\frac{p \wedge q}{\therefore p}$$

i.e.  $p \wedge q \rightarrow p$  tautology

⑦ Conjunction

Premises  $p, q$

Conclusion  $p \wedge q$

$$\frac{p}{q} \\ \hline \therefore p \wedge q$$

i.e.  $(p) \wedge (q) \rightarrow p \wedge q$  tautology

⑧ Resolution

Premises  $p \vee q, \sim p \vee r$

Conclusion  $q \vee r$

$$\frac{p \vee q}{\sim p \vee r} \\ \hline \therefore q \vee r$$

i.e.  $(p \vee q) \wedge (\sim p \vee r) \rightarrow (q \vee r)$  tautology

Q:  $\rightarrow$  Determine the validity of the following without using truth tables

"Either I will pass the exam or I will not be graduate. If I do not graduate, I will go to USA. I failed. Thus, I will go to USA."

sol:  $\rightarrow$  Let  $p$ : I will pass the exam

$q$ : I will graduate

$r$ : I will go to USA

Premises

$$P_1: p \vee \sim q$$

$$P_2: \sim q \rightarrow r$$

$$P_3: \sim p$$

Conclusion  $Q: r$

Argument  $p \vee \sim q, \sim q \rightarrow r, \sim p \vdash r$

- |     |                        |                             |
|-----|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1)  | $p \vee \sim q$        | Premise                     |
| ✓2) | $\sim q \rightarrow r$ | Premise                     |
| 3)  | $\sim p$               | Premise                     |
| ✓4) | $\sim q$               | Simplification of 1) and 3) |
| 5)  | $r$                    | Modus ponens of 2) and 4)   |

Q:  $\rightarrow$  Let the following statements

"It is snowing. If it is warm, then it is not snowing. If it is not warm then I cannot go for swimming." Show that the statement "I cannot go for swimming" is a true statement."

sol: - Let  $p$ : It is snowing

$q$ : It is warm

$r$ : I can go for swimming

Premises

$$P_1: p$$

$$P_2: q \rightarrow \sim p$$

B :  $\sim q \rightarrow \sim r$   
Conclusion A :  $\sim r$

1) $p$	Premise
2) $q \rightarrow \sim p$	Premise
3) $p \rightarrow \sim q$	Contrapositive 2)
4) $\sim q \rightarrow \sim r$	Premise
5) $p \rightarrow \sim r$	Hypothetical syllogism of 3) and 4)
6) $\sim r$	Modus tollens of 1) and 5)

$$\boxed{p \rightarrow q \equiv \sim q \rightarrow \sim p}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} p \rightarrow q \\ q \rightarrow r \\ \hline \therefore p \rightarrow r \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} p \\ p \rightarrow q \\ \hline \therefore q \end{array}$$