

Types of Inference rules:

1. Modus Ponens:

The Modus Ponens rule is one of the most important rules of inference, and it states that if P and $P \rightarrow Q$ is true, then we can infer that Q will be true. It can be represented as:

Notation for Modus ponens: $\frac{P \rightarrow Q, P}{\therefore Q}$

Example:

Statement-1: "If I am sleepy then I go to bed" $\implies P \rightarrow Q$
 Statement-2: "I am sleepy" $\implies P$
 Conclusion: "I go to bed." $\implies Q$.
 Hence, we can say that, if $P \rightarrow Q$ is true and P is true then Q will be true.

Proof by Truth table:

P	Q	$P \rightarrow Q$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

2. Modus Tollens:

The Modus Tollens rule state that if $P \rightarrow Q$ is true and $\neg Q$ is true, then $\neg P$ will also true. It can be represented as:

Notation for Modus Tollens: $\frac{P \rightarrow Q, \sim Q}{\sim P}$

Statement-1: "If I am sleepy then I go to bed" $\implies P \rightarrow Q$
Statement-2: "I do not go to the bed." $\implies \sim Q$
Statement-3: Which infers that "I am not sleepy" $\implies \sim P$

Proof by Truth table:

P	Q	$\sim P$	$\sim Q$	$P \rightarrow Q$
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	1	0
1	1	0	0	1

3. Hypothetical Syllogism:

The Hypothetical Syllogism rule state that if $P \rightarrow R$ is true whenever $P \rightarrow Q$ is true, and $Q \rightarrow R$ is true. It can be represented as the following notation:

Example:

Statement-1: If you have my home key then you can unlock my home. $P \rightarrow Q$

Statement-2: If you can unlock my home then you can take my money. $Q \rightarrow R$

Conclusion: If you have my home key then you can take my money. $P \rightarrow R$

Proof by truth table:

P	Q	R	$P \rightarrow Q$	$Q \rightarrow R$	$P \rightarrow R$
0	0	0	1	1	1
0	0	1	1	1	1
0	1	0	1	0	1
0	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1

4. Disjunctive Syllogism:

The Disjunctive syllogism rule state that if $P \vee Q$ is true, and $\neg P$ is true, then Q will be true. It can be represented as:

Learn more

Notation of Disjunctive syllogism: $\frac{P \vee Q, \neg P}{Q}$

Example:

Statement-1: Today is Sunday or Monday. $==> P \vee Q$

Statement-2: Today is not Sunday. $==> \neg P$

Conclusion: Today is Monday. $==> Q$

Proof by truth-table:

P	Q	$\neg P$	$P \vee Q$
0	0	1	0
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	1
1	1	0	1

5. Addition:

The Addition rule is one the common inference rule, and it states that If P is true, then PVQ will be true.

Notation of Addition: $\frac{P}{P \vee Q}$

Example:

Statement-1: I have a vanilla ice-cream. $\implies P$

Statement-2: I have Chocolate ice-cream.

Conclusion: I have vanilla or chocolate ice-cream. $\implies (P \vee Q)$

Proof by Truth-Table:

P	Q	$P \vee Q$
0	0	0
1	0	1
0	1	1
1	1	1

6. Simplification:

The simplification rule state that if $P \wedge Q$ is true, then **Q or P** will also be true. It can be represented as:

Notation of Simplification rule: $\frac{P \wedge Q}{Q}$ Or $\frac{P \wedge Q}{P}$

Proof by Truth-Table:

P	Q	$P \wedge Q$
0	0	0
1	0	0
0	1	0
1	1	1

7. Resolution:

The Resolution rule state that if $P \vee Q$ and $\neg P \wedge R$ is true, then $Q \vee R$ will also be true. **It can be represented as**

$$\text{Notation of Resolution} \frac{P \vee Q, \neg P \wedge R}{Q \vee R}$$

Proof by Truth-Table:

P	$\neg P$	Q	R	$P \vee Q$	$\neg P \wedge R$	$Q \vee R$
0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	1	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	1	0	0
1	0	0	1	1	0	1
1	0	1	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	1	0	1