



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



The Theory of Inference:

Argument:

An argument is a sequence of statements. All statements except the final one are called premises (or assumption or hypotheses). The final statement is called conclusion.

i.e., let P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n be a sequence of statements that yield conclusion Q . It is denoted by $(P_1 \wedge P_2 \wedge \dots \wedge P_n) \rightarrow Q$ is a tautology.

Valid Argument:

An argument is called valid if the conclusion is true when all premises are true.

Invalid Argument:

An argument is called invalid if it is not valid argument.

Rules of Inference:

Rule P: A premise may be introduced at any point in the derivation

Rule T: A formula S may be introduced at any point in a derivation of S if S is tautologically implied by any one or more of the preceding formula's

Rule CP: If we can derive Q from R and a set of premises, then we can derive $R \rightarrow Q$ from the set of premises alone.

Types of proof:

- i). Direct Proof
- ii). Indirect Proof (a). Proof by contradiction
- iii). Conditional proof
- iv). In consistent proof

Scanned with CamScanner



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



Direct Proof:

When a conclusion is derived from a set of premises by using accepted rules of reasoning then such a process of derivation is called direct proof.

Implication Rules:

1. Modus Ponens:

$$P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$$

2. Modus Tollens:

$$P \rightarrow Q, \neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$$

3. Disjunctive Syllogism:

$$\neg P, P \vee Q \Rightarrow Q$$

4. Hypothetical Syllogism:

$$P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R \Rightarrow P \rightarrow R$$

(a) chain Rule

5. Simplification Rule:

$$P, Q \Rightarrow P \wedge Q$$

$$P \wedge Q \Rightarrow P, Q$$

6. Addition Rule:

$$P, Q \Rightarrow P \vee Q$$

7. Equivalence Rule:

$$P \wedge Q \Rightarrow \neg (P \rightarrow \neg Q)$$

1. Show that R is valid from the premises $P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R$ and P.

Step	Premises	Rule
1.	$P \rightarrow Q$	P
2.	$Q \rightarrow R$	P
{1,2} 3.	$P \rightarrow R$	T [$P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R \Rightarrow P \rightarrow R$]
4.	P	P
{3,4} 5.	R	T [$P, P \rightarrow R \Rightarrow R$]

2. Show that RVS follows logically from the premises $C \vee D, (C \vee D) \rightarrow \neg H,$

$\neg H \rightarrow (A \wedge B),$ and $(A \wedge B) \rightarrow RVS$



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



Step	Premises	Rule
1.	CVD	P
2.	$(CVD) \rightarrow \neg H$	P
	$\neg H$	T
{1, 2}	$\neg H$	P
3.	$\neg H \rightarrow (A \wedge B)$	T
4.	$A \wedge B$	P
{3, 4}	$A \wedge B$	P
5.	$A \wedge B \rightarrow RVS$	T
6.	RVS	T
{5, 6}	RVS	T

3]. Show that $R \wedge (P \vee Q)$ is a valid conclusion from the premises $P \vee Q$, $Q \rightarrow R$, $P \rightarrow M$ and $\neg M$.

Step	Premises	Rule
1.	$\neg M$	P
2.	$P \rightarrow M$	P
	$\neg P$	T
{1, 2}	$\neg P$	P
3.	$P \vee Q$	T
4.	Q	T
{3, 4}	Q	P
5.	$Q \rightarrow R$	T
6.	R	T
{5, 6}	R	T
{4, 7}	$R \wedge (P \vee Q)$	T

4]. Show that $A \rightarrow B$, $C \rightarrow B$, $D \rightarrow (A \vee C)$, D is B.

Scanned with CamScanner



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



Step	Premises	Rule
		P
1.	$D \rightarrow (A \vee C)$	P
2.	D	T
{1,2}	AVC	$\wedge T [P \rightarrow Q \Leftrightarrow TP \vee Q]$
{3}	$\neg A \rightarrow C$	P
5.	$C \rightarrow B$	T $[P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R \Rightarrow P \rightarrow R]$
{4,5}	$\neg A \rightarrow B$	T $[P \rightarrow Q \Leftrightarrow \neg B \rightarrow \neg P]$
{6}	$\neg B \rightarrow A$	P
8.	$A \rightarrow B$	T $[P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R \Rightarrow P \rightarrow R]$
{7,8}	$\neg B \rightarrow B$	T $P \rightarrow Q \Leftrightarrow \neg P \vee Q$
{9}	$B \vee B$	T $P \vee P \Leftrightarrow P$
11.	B	

conclude TP from $\neg P \rightarrow \neg Q$

Indirect Proof:

If H_1, H_2, \dots, H_m are the given premises and C is the conclusion then by indirect proof we get $\neg C \wedge (H_1 \wedge H_2 \wedge \dots \wedge H_m) \Rightarrow F$, where F is the contradiction.

J. Prove by indirect method $\neg Q, P \rightarrow Q, P \vee R \Rightarrow R$

Step	Premises	Rule
1.	$\neg R$	negation of conclusion
2.	$P \vee R$	P
{1,2}	P	T, $TP, P \vee Q \Rightarrow Q$
4.	$P \rightarrow Q$	P
{3,4}	Q	T, $P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
6.	$\neg Q$	P
{5,6}	$Q \wedge \neg Q$	T, $P, Q \Rightarrow P \wedge Q$
{7}	F	T $A \wedge \neg A \Rightarrow F$

Scanned with CamScanner



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



1) Show that $\neg P \wedge \neg Q \Rightarrow \neg(P \wedge Q)$ by indirect proof.

Step	Premises	Rule
1.	$P \wedge Q$	negation of conclusion
{1} 2.	P	T $P \wedge Q \Rightarrow P$
3.	$\neg P \wedge \neg Q$	P
{3} 4.	$\neg P$	T $\neg P \wedge \neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$
{2,4} 5.	$P \wedge \neg P$	T $P, \neg P \Rightarrow P \wedge \neg P$
{5} 6.	F	T

2) Show that $R \rightarrow \neg Q, R \vee S, S \rightarrow \neg Q, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow \neg P$ by indirect method.

Step	Premises	Rule
1.	P	negation of conclusion
2.	$P \rightarrow Q$	P
{1,2} 3.	Q	T $P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
4.	$R \rightarrow \neg Q$	P
{3,4} 5.	$\neg R$	T $P \rightarrow Q, \neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$
6.	$R \vee S$	P
{5,6} 7.	S	T $\neg R, R \vee S \Rightarrow S$
8.	$S \rightarrow \neg Q$	P
{7,8} 9.	$\neg Q$	T $P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
{3,9} 10.	$Q \wedge \neg Q$	T $P, Q \Rightarrow P \wedge Q$
11.	F	T $P \wedge \neg P \Leftrightarrow F$

1) $\neg Q, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow \neg P$
 2) $\{(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge (R \rightarrow S), (Q \rightarrow \neg) \wedge (S \rightarrow \neg)\}, \neg(P \wedge \neg P), P \rightarrow P \Rightarrow \neg P$

Scanned with CamScanner



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



Conditional Proof:

7. Show that $R \rightarrow S$ can be derived from the Premises $P \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow S)$, $\neg R \vee P$ and Q .

Set	Premises	Rule	premise
1.	R (Assumed)	P (Assumed)	
2.	$\neg R \vee P$	P	
{1, 2}	3. P	T	$\neg P, P \vee Q \Rightarrow Q$
4.	$P \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow S)$	P	
{3, 4}	5. $Q \rightarrow S$	T	$P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
6.	Q	P	
{5, 6}	7. S	T	$P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
{1, 7}	8. $R \rightarrow S$	CP	

8. Derive the following using CP:

- i) $P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow P \rightarrow (P \wedge Q)$
- ii) $P, P \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow (R \wedge S)) \Rightarrow Q \rightarrow S$
- iii) $P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow \neg P \rightarrow (P \wedge Q)$
- iv) $\neg P \vee Q, \neg Q \vee R, R \rightarrow S \Rightarrow P \rightarrow S$

i) $P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow P \rightarrow (P \wedge Q)$

Step	Premises	Rule	
1.	P	P (Assumed premise)	
2.	$P \rightarrow Q$	P	
{1, 2}	3. Q	T	$P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
{1, 3}	4. $P \wedge Q$	T	$P, Q \Rightarrow P \wedge Q$
5.	$P \rightarrow (P \wedge Q)$	CP	

Scanned with CamScanner



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



ii). $P, P \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow (R \wedge S)) \Rightarrow Q \rightarrow S$

Step	Premises	Rule
1.	Q	P (Assumed premise)
2.	P	P
3.	$P \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow (R \wedge S))$	P
{2,3} 4.	$Q \rightarrow (R \wedge S)$	T $P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
{1,4} 5.	$R \wedge S$	T $P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
{5} 6.	S	T $P \wedge Q \Rightarrow Q$
{1,6} 7.	$Q \rightarrow S$	CP

iii). $P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow P \rightarrow (P \wedge Q) \vee P \vee Q, \neg Q \vee R, R \rightarrow S \Rightarrow P \rightarrow S$

Step	Premises	Rule
1.	P	P (Assumed premise)
2.	$\neg P \vee Q$	P
{2} 3.	$P \rightarrow Q$	T $\neg P \vee Q \Leftrightarrow P \rightarrow Q$
{1,3} 4.	Q	T $P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
5.	$\neg Q \vee R$	P
{5} 6.	$Q \rightarrow R$	T
{4,6} 7.	R	T $P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
8.	$R \rightarrow S$	P
{7,8} 9.	S	T
{9} 10.	$P \rightarrow S$	CP



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



Inconsistent proof:

A set of premises H_1, H_2, \dots, H_m is said to be inconsistent if $H_1 \wedge H_2 \wedge \dots \wedge H_m \Rightarrow F$ which stands for a contradiction.

E.g., $H_1 \wedge H_2 \wedge \dots \wedge H_m = A \wedge \neg A$, where A is any variable.

* II. Prove that the premises $P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R, R \rightarrow S, S \rightarrow \neg R$ and $P \wedge S$ are inconsistent.

Step	Premises	Rule
1.	$P \rightarrow Q$	P
2.	$Q \rightarrow R$	P
{1, 2} 3.	$P \rightarrow R$	T $P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R \Rightarrow P \rightarrow R$
4.	$S \rightarrow \neg R$	P
{A} 5.	$R \rightarrow \neg S$	T $P \rightarrow Q \Leftrightarrow \neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$
{3, 5} 6.	$P \rightarrow \neg S$	T $P \rightarrow R, R \rightarrow \neg S \Rightarrow P \rightarrow \neg S$
7.	$R \rightarrow S$	P
{6, 7} 8.	$\neg P \vee \neg S$	T $P \rightarrow \neg S \Leftrightarrow \neg P \vee \neg S$
{8} 9.	$\neg(P \wedge S)$	T $\neg P \vee \neg S \Leftrightarrow \neg(P \wedge S)$
10.	$P \wedge S$	P
{9, 10} 11.	$(P \wedge S) \wedge \neg(P \wedge S)$	T $P, S \Rightarrow P \wedge S$
12.	F	T

* III. Show that the premises $P \rightarrow Q, P \rightarrow \neg Q, Q \rightarrow \neg R, P$ are inconsistent.

1.	P	P
2.	$P \rightarrow Q$	P
{1, 2} 3.	Q	T $P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
4.	$Q \rightarrow \neg R$	P
{3, 4} 5.	$\neg R$	T $P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
6.	$P \rightarrow \neg Q$	P
{6} 7.	$\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$	T $P \rightarrow \neg Q \Leftrightarrow \neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$

Scanned with CamScanner



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



{5,7}	8.	$\neg P$	T	$P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
{1,8}	9.	$P \wedge T$	T	$P, Q \Rightarrow P \wedge Q$
	10.	F	T	$P \wedge T \Rightarrow F$

3] Prove that the premises $a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c)$, $d \rightarrow (b \wedge T C)$, and are inconsistent.

	1.	and	P	$P \wedge Q \Rightarrow P, Q$
{1}	2.	a	T	
	3.	$a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow c)$	P	$P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow P \rightarrow Q$
{2,3}	4.	$b \rightarrow c$	T	
{1}	5.	d	T	
	6.	$d \rightarrow (b \wedge T C)$	P	$P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
	7.	$b \wedge T C$	T	$\neg(P \rightarrow Q) \Leftrightarrow P \wedge \neg Q$
{5,6}	8.	$\neg(b \rightarrow c)$	T	$P, Q \Rightarrow P \wedge Q$
{4,8}	9.	$(b \rightarrow c) \wedge \neg(b \rightarrow c)$	T	
	10.	F	T	

4] Show that the following premises are inconsistent.

1. If Jack misses many classes through illness, then he fails high school.
2. If Jack fails high school, then he is uneducated.
3. If Jack reads a lot of books, then he is not uneducated.
4. Jack misses many classes through illness and reads a lot of books.

- P: Jack misses many classes through illness
- Q: Jack fails high school.
- R: Jack reads a lot of books
- S: Jack is uneducated.



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



The premises are

$$P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R, S \rightarrow TR, PAS.$$

Step	Premises	Rule
1.	$P \rightarrow Q$	P
2.	$Q \rightarrow R$	P
{1,2} 3.	$P \rightarrow R$	T $P \rightarrow Q, Q \rightarrow R \Rightarrow P \rightarrow R$
4.	$S \rightarrow TR$	P
{4} 5.	$R \rightarrow TS$	T $P \rightarrow Q \Leftrightarrow TR \rightarrow TP$
{3,5} 6.	$P \rightarrow TS$	T $P \rightarrow R, R \rightarrow TS \Rightarrow P \rightarrow TS$
{6} 7.	$TP \vee TS$	T $P \rightarrow Q \Leftrightarrow TP \vee Q$
{7} 8.	$\neg(P \wedge S)$	T $\neg(P \wedge Q) \Leftrightarrow TP \vee \neg Q$
9.	$P \wedge S$	P
{8,9} 10.	$(P \wedge S) \wedge \neg(P \wedge S)$	T $P, Q \Rightarrow P \wedge Q$
11.	F	T $P \wedge \neg P \Leftrightarrow F$

Ex. 1). If there is a ball game, then travelling was difficult.

ii). If they arrived on time then travelling was not difficult.

iii). They arrived on time

iv). Therefore there was no ball game.

Show that the above statements are valid statement.

Let P : There was a ball game

Q : Travelling was difficult

R : They arrived on time.

The premises are $P \rightarrow Q, R \rightarrow \neg Q, R,$

The conclusion is $\neg P$.

Scanned with CamScanner



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)
COIMBATORE - 35
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS



Step	Premises	Rule
1.	R	P
2.	$R \rightarrow \neg Q$	P
{1,2} 3.	$\neg Q$	$T \quad P, P \rightarrow Q \Rightarrow Q$
4.	$P \rightarrow Q$	P
{3,4} 5.	$\neg P$	$T \quad P \rightarrow Q, \neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$