

# Arguments & Validity

1. Arguments: a set of sentences (statements), the Premises, together with a single sentence, the conclusion and such that, the premises (deductively) support the conclusion.

1) Arguments are made of statements.

① Statement are sentences that have a truth-value. (that are true or false)

↳ T (true) & F (false)

2) Structure

① Premises

② Conclusion.

③ Collectively the Premises support the Conclusion.

3) Kinds of Arguments.

← how support determine the kinds

fallible  
(never be certain that the conclusion is true)

① Inductive Argument: The premises increase the probability / make it more likely that the conclusion is true

② Abductive Argument: The Premises are best explained by the conclusion.

get certainty  
(logically qua-

③ Deductive Argument: The Premises necessitate / make certain that the conclusion

(antece)

is true.

→ A good ~~Def~~ is valid & sound. <sup>or</sup>

## 2. Validity

1) A deductive argument is valid if and only

if:

It is not possible for all of the premises to be true and for the conclusion to be false.

e.g. (Pr1)  $P \text{ or } Q$  T(Hyp.)  
(Pr2)  $Q$  T(Hyp.)  
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(C)  $P$  Not sure.

Invalid (Pr all T but C not sure)

(Pr1)  $P \text{ or } Q$  T(Hyp.)  
(Pr2)  $Q \text{ or } R$  T(Hyp.)  
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(C)  $R$  Not sure.

Invalid

(Pr1)  $P \text{ or } Q$  T(Hyp.)  
(Pr2) not  $Q$  T(Hyp.)  
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(C)  $P$  T

valid.

2) Validity is not dependent upon actual truth-values; dependent upon hypothetical / possible truth-values.

3) Soundness

whenever the premises are true, the conclusion must be true also.

① A deductive argument is sound if and only if:

The argument is valid and all of its premises are actually true.