

# The Point of Truth Tables

## 1. Truth Value Assignments (TVA)

1) Truth Tables show which Conditions make a statement True or False.

2) Such conditions are called: TVA.

3) A particular TVA is also called a Valuation.

eg. what TVA makes the following True?

$P \wedge Q.$

P	Q	$P \wedge Q.$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

$\therefore P = \bar{T} \quad Q = \bar{T}$

## 2. Truth Table allow us to analyze the Semantic Properties of:

1) Statements

2) Sets of Statements, and.

3) Argument.

## 3. A Compact Style of Truth Table.

P	Q	$(P \wedge \sim Q)$	$\rightarrow$	$\sim(Q \vee P)$
T	T	F	T	F
T	F	T	F	F
F	T	F	T	T
F	F	F	T	T

— : 1<sup>st</sup> step

— : 2<sup>nd</sup> step

— : 3<sup>rd</sup> step

— : final step.

4. Tautology: a sentence that is true in every row of the truth table.

e.g.  $\sim(P \wedge Q) \leftrightarrow (\sim P \vee \sim Q)$

P	Q	$\sim$	$(P \wedge Q)$	$\leftrightarrow$	$(\sim P \vee \sim Q)$
T	T	F	T	T	T
T	F	T	F	T	T
F	T	T	F	T	T
F	F	T	F	T	T

Unsatisfiable



false in every row of its truth table.

5. Satisfiable: A sentence is true in some row

e.g.  $((P \wedge \sim Q) \rightarrow \sim(Q \vee P))$

P	Q	$((P \wedge \sim Q) \rightarrow \sim(Q \vee P))$
T	T	F
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	T

1) Unsatisfiable: false in every row of the truth table.

2) Jointly Satisfiable (two or more sentences):  
if there is at least one row of the truth table such that, all of the sentences are true in that row

6. Invalidating Row: a row of the truth table in which all of the premises are true and the conclusion is false.

e.g.  $P \rightarrow Q \vee R. ((\sim Q \rightarrow P) \rightarrow P) \wedge (R \rightarrow P) \therefore P \vee R$

Premise 1:								Premise 2:								Conclusion:				
P	Q	R	P	→	Q	∨	R	((~	Q	→	P)	→	P)	∧	(R	→	P)	P	∨	R
T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
T	T	F	T	T	T	T	F	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	F
T	F	T	T	T	F	T	T	T	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	F	F	F	F	T	F	T	T	T	T	T	F	T	T	T	T	F
F	T	T	F	T	T	T	T	F	T	T	F	F	F	F	T	F	F	F	T	T
F	T	F	F	T	T	T	F	F	T	T	F	F	F	F	F	T	F	F	F	T
F	F	T	F	F	T	T	T	T	F	F	F	F	F	F	T	F	F	F	T	T
F	F	F	F	T	F	F	F	T	F	F	F	T	F	T	F	T	F	F	F	F

Handwritten blue arrow pointing to the last row (F, F, F, F, T, F, F, F, T, F, F, F, T, F, T, F, T, F, F, F, F) with the text "OK" written next to it.

1) Tautologically Valid Argument: an argument with no invalidating row.

2) Tautologically Invalid Argument: an argument with at least one invalidating row.

## 7. Shortened Truth Tables

1) Steps.

① Identify the main connectives and the truth value that needed (under the relevant main connectives)

② Work the way backwards from what need to what can establish.

③ Prioritize connectives with the fewest possible cases first — don't guess unless have to

④ If establish the truth value for an atomic sentence anywhere in shortened truth table: apply that truth value everywhere in STT

→ an atomic sentence: a type of declarative sentence which is either true or false and cannot be broken down into other simple sentences.

e.g. The dog ran: atomic.

The dog ran and the cat hid: molecular.

Use STT when question already says the final truth-value.

2) STT example 1:

$(P \leftrightarrow \sim(Q \vee R)) \wedge \sim(P \rightarrow Q)$  is Satisfiable.

	T 2nd	T 3rd	F 4th			T 1st	T 2nd	F 3rd		
P	$\leftrightarrow$	$\sim$	(Q	$\vee$	R))	$\wedge$	$\sim$	(P	$\rightarrow$	Q)
T	T	T	F	F	F	T	T	T	F	F

— : 1st.

— : 4th.

— : 2nd.

— : 5th.

— : 3rd.

TVA:  $P = T, Q = F, R = F$

3) Example 2:

the argument  $P \vee \sim Q, P \rightarrow Q \therefore \sim Q$  is invalid.

P	$\vee$	$\sim$	Q	P	$\rightarrow$	Q	$\sim$	Q
1st T				1st T			1st F	

T T F T || T T T || F T

TVA:  $P = T$ ,  $Q = T$

