

Exercise Class 3

Natural Deduction for Propositional Logic

For this exercise class, we'll be writing natural deduction proofs using the set of inference rules covered in Lecture 5 (these are shown overleaf). We have not yet discussed proof strategies in much detail, but the titles of some of the questions will give you a hint as to which rules(s) to apply.

Construct a proof of validity for each of the propositional logic arguments below:

1. A simple problem

$$P, P \rightarrow Q : P \wedge (Q \vee R)$$

2. Implications

$$P \rightarrow (Q \wedge R) : P \rightarrow Q$$

3. Nested implications

$$P \rightarrow (Q \rightarrow R) : Q \rightarrow (P \rightarrow R)$$

4. Or what?

$$P \vee (Q \wedge R), S : (S \wedge P) \vee Q$$

5. Suppose the contrary

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

6. An absurd problem

$$\neg P \rightarrow Q, \neg Q : P$$

7. A tough problem¹

$$P \vee Q, P \rightarrow R, \neg S \rightarrow \neg Q : R \vee S$$

¹Don't forget that modus tollens is not on the list of inference rules.

Inference Rules

$\frac{A \quad B}{A \wedge B} \wedge\text{-introduction}$ $\frac{A \wedge B}{A} \wedge\text{-elimination} \quad \frac{A \wedge B}{B} \wedge\text{-elimination}$	$\frac{A}{A \vee B} \vee\text{-introduction} \quad \frac{A}{B \vee A} \vee\text{-introduction}$ $\frac{A \vee B \quad A \vdash C \quad B \vdash C}{C} \vee\text{-elimination}$
$\frac{A \vdash B}{A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow\text{-introduction}$ $\frac{A \rightarrow B \quad A}{B} \rightarrow\text{-elimination}$	$\frac{A \vdash \perp}{\neg A} \neg\text{-introduction}$ $\frac{\neg\neg A}{A} \neg\neg\text{-elimination}$