

An argument is *logically valid* just if there's no possible situation in which the premises are true and the conclusion false

A *counterexample* to an argument is a possible situation in which its premises are T and its conclusion F.

An argument is *sound* just if it is logically valid and its premises are true

Identity: two principles

If $b=c$ then anything true of b is also true of c
 $a=a$ is never false

Truth tables for \wedge, \vee, \neg

Rough guide:
' \wedge ' means and
' \vee ' means or
' \neg ' means not

P	$\neg P$
T	F
F	T

P	Q	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$
T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T
F	T	F	T
F	F	F	F

The *truth value* of a sentence is true (T) when the sentence is true and false (F) when the sentence is false.

Truth tables can be used to show that an argument is valid. For example:

$P \vee Q$	// It went up the left fork or it went up the right fork
$\neg P$	// It didn't go up the left fork
Q	// It went up the right fork

Truth tables for this argument

P	Q	$P \vee Q$	$\neg P$	Q
T	T	T	F	T
T	F	T	F	F
F	T	T	T	T
F	F	F	T	F
		\wedge	\wedge	\wedge
		premise	premise	conclusion

Terminology

A *connective* joins one or more sentences to make a new sentence. E.g. 'because', ' \neg '. The sentences joined by a connective are called *constituent sentences*.

E.g. in ' $P \vee Q$ ',
 \vee is the connective
P, Q are the constituent sentences

Complex truth table example

P	Q	R	$(P \wedge Q) \vee R$
T	T	T	
T	T	F	
T	F	T	
T	F	F	
F	T	T	
F	T	F	
F	F	T	
F	F	F	

Logical Validity

Argument 3

1. $(P \wedge Q) \vee R$
2. $P \vee \neg P$

Argument 3b

1. $P \vee \neg P$
2. $P \vee \neg P$

Argument 4

1. $P \wedge \neg P$
2. $(P \wedge Q) \vee R$

$P \vee \neg P$ is a *logical truth*

logical truth defined p. 568

$P \wedge \neg P$ is a *contradiction*

contradiction defined p. 564