

How to think of proofs of arguments:

Think of a proof as a *path* from premises to a conclusion, i.e., as a way for getting to the conclusion from the premises. Each line in the proof (each step you take down the path) **must** be allowed by a rule.

This means that in order to offer a proof of an argument you need two skills that we have used before and one new skill: (i) recognizing that a formula might be an instance of different forms, (ii) identifying which forms a formula is an instance of, and (iii) making a plan for the proof (i.e., sketching the path).

- For each of the following formulas, give at least two statements with metavariables¹ that the formula is an instance of:

(a) $p \rightarrow ((\neg p \wedge s) \vee q)$ **e.g., $\phi \rightarrow \psi$ and $\phi \rightarrow ((\neg\phi \wedge \chi) \vee \psi)$**

(b) $(q \rightarrow r) \wedge (r \vee p)$ **e.g., $\phi \wedge \psi$ and $(\phi \rightarrow \psi) \wedge (\psi \vee \chi)$**

(c) $\neg(r \vee t) \vee t$ **e.g., $\phi \vee \psi$ and $\neg\phi \vee \psi$**

- See the following rules:

l	$\varphi \wedge \psi$		l	ϕ		l	$\phi \rightarrow \psi$	
n	φ	$E\wedge 1$	m	ψ		m	ϕ	
l	$\varphi \wedge \psi$		n	$\phi \wedge \psi$	$I\wedge 1, m$	n	ψ	$E\rightarrow 1, m$
m	ψ	$E\wedge 1$						
			l	$\varphi \vee \psi$		l	φ	
l	ϕ		m	$\varphi \rightarrow \chi$		m	$\varphi \vee \psi$	$IV 1$
m	ψ		n	$\psi \rightarrow \chi$		l	φ	
n	$\phi \rightarrow \psi$	$I\rightarrow 1-m$	p	χ	$E\vee 1, m, n$	m	$\psi \vee \varphi$	$IV 1$

¹Greek letters like ϕ , ψ and χ

Now, determine which of the following proofs have a correct instance of the rule in question (i.e., which of the following applications of rules have no mistakes).

(a) $I\wedge$

✗

✗

✓

	\vdots	
7	p	...
8	$q \rightarrow r$	...
	\vdots	
13	$(q \rightarrow r) \wedge p$	$I\wedge$ 1, 13

1	$s \rightarrow p$	Ass.
2	$u \vee r$	Ass.
	\vdots	
23	$s \wedge u$	$I\wedge$ 1, 2

1	$s \wedge u$	Ass.
	\vdots	
10	$q \vee \neg r$	....
	\vdots	
16	$(q \vee \neg r) \wedge (s \wedge u)$	$I\wedge$ 1, 10

(b) $E\wedge$

✓

✗

✗

1	$(p \wedge q) \wedge r$	Ass.
	\vdots	
	\vdots	
13	r	$E\wedge$ 1
14	$p \wedge q$	$E\wedge$ 1

	\vdots	
16	$(p \wedge q) \wedge r$	...
17	q	$E\wedge$ 16
18	r	$E\wedge$ 16
	\vdots	

1	$p \rightarrow (q \wedge u)$	Ass.
2	$(q \wedge u) \rightarrow r$	Ass.
	\vdots	
3	p	Ass.
4	$q \wedge u$	$E\rightarrow$ 1,3
5	r	$E\rightarrow$ 2,4
6	$p \rightarrow r$	$I\rightarrow$ 3-5
7	q	$E\wedge$ 4

(c) $E\rightarrow$

✗

✗

✓

1	$(q \vee t) \rightarrow p$	Ass.
2	q	Ass.
	\vdots	
13	p	$E\rightarrow$ 1,2

	\vdots	
4	$(p \wedge q)$	...
5	$p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$	...
	\vdots	
13	r	$E\rightarrow$ 4,5

1	$(w \vee s) \rightarrow t$	Ass.
	\vdots	
8	$w \vee s$	...
	\vdots	
27	t	$E\rightarrow$ 1, 8

(d) IV

✗

	⋮	
16	$(p \wedge q) \wedge r$	...
17	$r \vee s$	IV 16
	⋮	

✗

	⋮	
4	p	Ass.
	⋮	
8	$(p \vee q) \vee r$	IV 4

✓

1	p	Ass.
2	$q \vee p$	IV 1

(e) $I \rightarrow$

✓

	⋮	
6	$(p \wedge q) \wedge r$	...
7	u	Ass.
8	r	E \wedge 6
9	$u \rightarrow r$	$I \rightarrow$ 7-8
	⋮	

✓

	⋮	
11	$r \rightarrow s$	...
12	$(p \wedge q) \wedge r$	...
13	u	Ass.
14	r	E \wedge 12
15	s	E \rightarrow 11, 14
16	$u \rightarrow s$	$I \rightarrow$ 14-15
	⋮	

✓

1	p	Ass.
2	q	Ass.
3	q	Rep. 2
4	$q \rightarrow q$	$I \rightarrow$ 2-3

(f) EV

✓

	⋮	
13	$(r \vee t) \rightarrow p$	...
14	$s \rightarrow p$	...
15	$u \wedge t$	...
16	$(r \vee t) \vee s$	...
17	p	EV 13,14,16
18	u	E \wedge 15
19	$u \wedge p$	I \wedge 17,18
	⋮	

✓

1	$r \rightarrow s$	Ass.
2	$(p \wedge q) \rightarrow s$	Ass.
3	t	Ass.
4	$(p \wedge q) \vee r$	Ass.
5	s	EV 1,2,4
	⋮	

3. Offer a proof for the following arguments:

(a) $s, s \rightarrow p, (p \wedge q) \rightarrow r, q \vdash r$

1	s	Assumption
2	$s \rightarrow p$	Assumption
3	$(p \wedge q) \rightarrow r$	Assumption
4	q	Assumption
5	p	$E \rightarrow 1,2$
6	$p \wedge q$	$I \wedge 4,5$
7	r	$E \rightarrow 3,6$

(b) $(p \vee q) \rightarrow s, p \vdash s$

1	$(p \vee q) \rightarrow s$	Assumption
2	p	Assumption
3	$p \vee q$	$I \vee 2$
4	s	$E \rightarrow 1,3$

(c) $s \rightarrow t, r \rightarrow t, p \wedge (s \vee r) \vdash t$

1	$s \rightarrow t$	Assumption
2	$r \rightarrow t$	Assumption
3	$p \wedge (s \vee r)$	Assumption
4	$s \vee r$	E \wedge 3
5	t	E \vee 1,2,4

(d) $r \rightarrow q, s, (q \wedge s) \rightarrow u \vdash r \rightarrow u$

1	$r \rightarrow q$	Assumption
2	s	Assumption
3	$(q \wedge s) \rightarrow u$	Assumption
4	r	Assumption
5	q	E \rightarrow 1,4
6	$q \wedge s$	I \wedge 2,5
7	u	E \rightarrow 3,6
8	$r \rightarrow u$	I \rightarrow 3-7

(e) **Hard:** $s \rightarrow r, q \rightarrow r, u \rightarrow q, (r \vee u) \rightarrow p, s \vee u \vdash (w \rightarrow r) \wedge r$ ²

1	$s \rightarrow r$	Assumption
2	$q \rightarrow r$	Assumption
3	$u \rightarrow q$	Assumption
4	$(r \vee u) \rightarrow p$	Assumption
5	$s \vee u$	Assumption
6	u	Assumption
7	q	E \rightarrow 3,6
8	r	E \rightarrow 2,7
9	$u \rightarrow r$	I \rightarrow 6-8
10	r	E \vee 1,5,9
11	w	Assumption
12	r	Repetition 10
13	$w \rightarrow r$	I \rightarrow 11-12
14	$(w \rightarrow r) \wedge r$	I \wedge 10, 13

²This is easier with the rule Repetition.