

# More on Natural Deduction for Propositional Logic

## 1 More rules

- Rules for introducing disjunction

$$\frac{\varphi}{\varphi \vee \psi} \text{ vi1}$$

$$\frac{\varphi}{\psi \vee \varphi} \text{ vi2}$$

v-introduction

- Rules for eliminating disjunction

$$\frac{\varphi \vee \psi \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \varphi \\ \hline \dots \\ \hline \chi \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \psi \\ \hline \dots \\ \hline \chi \\ \hline \end{array}}{\chi} \text{ ve}$$

v-elimination

- In order to apply the rule  $\vee e$ , we use boxes as previously
  - But now there is a box starting with each disjunct  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$
  - Each box needs to end with the same intended formula,  $\chi$

## 2 A proof using $\vee$ elimination

Here is a proof of the sequent  $q \Rightarrow r \vdash (p \vee q) \Rightarrow (p \vee r)$

1.	$q \Rightarrow r$	premise
2.	$p \vee q$	assumption
3.	$p$	assumption
4.	$p \vee r$	vi 3
5.	$q$	assumption
6.	$r$	$\Rightarrow e$ 1 5
7.	$p \vee r$	vi 6
8.	$p \vee r$	ve 2-i
9.	$(p \vee q) \Rightarrow (p \vee r)$	$\Rightarrow e$ 2-8

- Assume that  $p$  is true, so the RHS is true
- $p \vee r$  is true
- Open box assuming  $q$  is true
- Eliminate the implies symbol from the LHS
- Shown that no matter if  $p$  or  $q$  is true, the statement  $p \vee r$  will be true
- It has been shown that if  $p \vee q$  is true, that  $p \vee r$  is true, so  $(p \vee q) \Rightarrow (p \vee r)$  will always be true

Here is a proof of the sequent  $p \vee (q \vee r) \vdash (p \vee q) \vee r$

1.	$p \vee (q \vee r)$	premise
2.	$p$	assumption
3.	$p \vee q$	vi 2
4.	$(p \vee q) \vee r$	vi 3
5.	$q \vee r$	assumption
6.	$q$	assumption
7.	$p \vee q$	vi 6
8.	$(p \vee q) \vee r$	vi 7
9.	$r$	assumption
10.	$(p \vee q) \vee r$	vi 9
11.	$(p \vee q) \vee r$	ve 5-10
12.	$(p \vee q) \vee r$	ve 2-11

- Basically trying to build the RHS from the LHS

### 3 More rules

- Rules for negation

$$\frac{\perp}{\varphi} \perp e$$

$\perp$ -elimination

$$\frac{\varphi \quad \neg \varphi}{\perp} \neg e$$

$\neg$ -elimination

- The symbol  $\perp$ , known as bottom, represents a contradiction, in natural deduction if one has a contradiction then one can infer **any** formula
- Rules for introducing negation

$$\frac{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \varphi \\ \vdots \\ \perp \\ \hline \end{array}}{\neg \varphi} \neg i$$

$\neg$ -introduction

## 4 A proof using rules for negation

Here is a proof of the sequent  $x \vee \neg y \vdash y \Rightarrow x$ .

1.	$x \vee \neg y$	premise
2.	$x$	assumption
3.	$y$	assumption
4.	$x$	copy 2
5.	$y \Rightarrow x$	$\Rightarrow$ i 3-4
6.	$\neg y$	assumption
7.	$y$	assumption
8.	$\perp$	$\neg$ e 6 7
9.	$x$	$\perp$ e 8
10.	$y \Rightarrow x$	$\Rightarrow$ i 7-9
11.	$y \Rightarrow x$	$\vee$ e 1 2-5 6-10

- $p \wedge \neg p \Rightarrow \phi$  holds as  $p \wedge \neg p$  will always be false, and if the LHS of an implication is false, then the whole statement will be true
- Lines 2  $\rightarrow$  5 say  $x \Rightarrow (y \Rightarrow x)$

Here is a proof of the sequent  $x \Rightarrow (y \Rightarrow z), x, \neg z \vdash \neg y$ .

1.	$x \Rightarrow (y \Rightarrow z)$	premise
2.	$x$	premise
3.	$\neg z$	premise
4.	$y$	assumption
5.	$y \Rightarrow z$	$\Rightarrow$ e 1 2
6.	$z$	$\Rightarrow$ e 4 5
7.	$\perp$	$\neg$ e 3 6
8.	$\neg y$	$\neg$ i 4-7

## 5 A derived rule

- We can derive other rules in natural deduction
- Consider modus tollens  $\phi \Rightarrow \psi, \neg\psi \vdash \neg\phi$

1.	$\phi \Rightarrow \psi$	premise
2.	$\neg\psi$	premise
3.	$\phi$	assumption
4.	$\psi$	$\Rightarrow$ e 1 3
5.	$\perp$	$\neg$ e 2 4
6.	$\neg\phi$	$\neg$ i 3-5

- Note that we can use derived rules just as if they were rules of natural deduction
  - e.g., in a proof with
    - \* a line reading  $\phi \Rightarrow \psi$

- \* and another line reading  $\neg\psi$
- we could immediately infer  $\neg\psi$  and write modus tollens as an explaining remark

## 6 More derived rules

- Proof by contradiction is the principle "if from  $\neg\varphi$  I can prove  $\perp$  then I can deduce  $\varphi$ "
- Here is a proof that this principle can be applied in natural deduction

1.	$\neg\varphi \Rightarrow \perp$	premise
2.	$\neg\varphi$	assumption
3.	$\perp$	$\Rightarrow e$ 1 2
4.	$\neg\neg\varphi$	$\neg i$ 2-3
5.	$\varphi$	$\neg\neg e$ 4

- We denote reductio ad absurdum by RAA

## 7 More derived rules

- The law of excluded middle states that either  $\varphi$  is true or  $\neg\varphi$  is true
- Here is a proof of it

1.	$\neg(\varphi \vee \neg\varphi)$	assumption
2.	$\varphi$	assumption
3.	$\varphi \vee \neg\varphi$	$\vee i$ 2
4.	$\perp$	$\neg e$ 1 3
5.	$\neg\varphi$	$\neg i$ 2-4
6.	$\varphi \vee \neg\varphi$	$\vee i$ 5
7.	$\perp$	$\neg e$ 1 6
8.	$\neg\neg(\varphi \vee \neg\varphi)$	$\neg i$ 1-7
9.	$\varphi \vee \neg\varphi$	$\neg\neg e$ 8

- We denote the law of excluded middle by LEM

## 8 Some facts about Natural Deduction

- Natural deduction is sound and complete
- Let  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_m$  and  $\psi$  be formulae
- Soundness
  - If the sequent  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_m \vdash \psi$  is provable then the formula  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_m \Rightarrow \psi$  is a tautology
- Completeness
  - If  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_m \Rightarrow \psi$  is a tautology then the sequent  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_m \vdash \psi$  is provable
- A **theorem** is a formula  $\psi$  for which the sequent  $\vdash \psi$  is provable, thus, the soundness and completeness of natural deduction tells us that every theorem is a tautology and every tautology is a theorem

## 9 Proving Theorems

- Here is a proof that the sequent  $(p \Rightarrow (\neg p \vee q)) \vee (p \Rightarrow \neg q)$  is a theorem

1.	$q \vee \neg q$	LEM
2.	$q$	assumption
3.	$\neg p \vee q$	vi 2
4.	$p$	assumption
5.	$\neg p \vee q$	copy 3
6.	$p \Rightarrow (\neg p \vee q)$	$\Rightarrow$ i 4-5
7.	$(p \Rightarrow (\neg p \vee q)) \vee (p \Rightarrow \neg q)$	vi 6
8.	$\neg q$	assumption
9.	$p$	assumption
10.	$\neg q$	copy 8
11.	$p \Rightarrow \neg q$	$\Rightarrow$ i 9-10
12.	$(p \Rightarrow (\neg p \vee q)) \vee (p \Rightarrow \neg q)$	vi 11
13.	$(p \Rightarrow (\neg p \vee q)) \vee (p \Rightarrow \neg q)$	ve 1 2-7 8-12