

Logic and the set theory

Lecture 4: Refutation trees

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About this lecture

- Refutation tree and valid argument

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- Grading and so on in the moodle. **Ask questions in moodle.**

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- <http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/linguistics-and-philosophy/24-241-logic-i-fall-2005/readings/> See also "The Search-for-Counterexample Test for Validity" This a slightly different one.

Refutation tree and valid argument

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- Note that I did not supply a proof that this works always.

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- $\surd P \vee Q,$
 - $\neg P,$
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 - (i) P or (ii) $Q.$

Refutation tree example

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $P \vee Q,$ • $\neg P$ • $\vdash Q.$ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $\checkmark P \vee Q,$ • $\neg P,$ • $\neg Q,$ • (i) P or (ii) $Q.$ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $\checkmark P \vee Q,$ • $\neg P,$ • $\neg Q,$ • (i) P (X) (ii) $Q.$ (X) • The nonchecked atomic items cannot all be true. • Thus valid. |
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- See 3.27 and 3.28.

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- 1. $B \rightarrow \neg A$
- 2 $\neg B \rightarrow C$.
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- 7 (i)(i) $\neg\neg B$ (X) (i)(ii) C (X) from 5.
- Now complete. valid

Open tree case

If open path arises without X , then invalid.

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- 3. $\neg B$.
- (i) $\neg A$ (ii) B . (X).
- (i) is still alive.
- Invalid case: $\neg A, \neg B$ is the counter example.

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- ϕ is a tautology if and only if all path in the finished tree are closed.

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 - (i) $\neg(\neg(A \vee B))$, (ii) $\neg(A \vee B)$
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- Completeness of the test: If we obtain invalidity from the test, then we can trust it: we even get counter-examples.
- We need proof: Omit proof in R. Jeffery, Formal logic page 34.