

## Some Laws of Logic

### 1. Law of Detachment

If the conditional  $p \rightarrow q$  is true and the hypothesis of the conditional ( $p$ ) is true, then the conclusion ( $q$ ) of the conditional is true.

Written symbolically:

$$\begin{array}{l} p \rightarrow q \\ p \\ \hline \therefore q \end{array}$$

### 2. Law of Contrapositive

If the conditional  $p \rightarrow q$  is true then, the contrapositive of the conditional  $\sim q \rightarrow \sim p$  is true.

### 3. Law of Modulus Tollens

If the conditional  $p \rightarrow q$  is true and negation of the conclusion of the conditional is true, then the negation of the hypothesis is true.

Written symbolically:

$$\begin{array}{l} p \rightarrow q \\ \sim q \\ \hline \therefore \sim p \end{array}$$

### 4. Chain rule

If  $p \rightarrow q$  and  $q \rightarrow r$  are two true conditionals such that the conclusion of the first is the hypothesis of the second, then the conditional  $p \rightarrow r$  formed by connecting the hypothesis of the first conditional and the conclusion of the second conditional is also true.

Written symbolically

$$\begin{array}{l} p \rightarrow q \\ q \rightarrow r \\ \hline \therefore p \rightarrow r \end{array}$$

## 5. Law of Disjunctive Inference

If the disjunctive  $b \vee n$  is true and the negation of one of the disjuncts is true, then the other disjunct is true.

Written symbolically:

$$\begin{array}{l} b \vee n \\ \sim n \\ \hline \therefore b \end{array}$$

## 6. DeMorgan's Law

- Negation of a conjunction

The negation of a conjunction of two statements is logically equivalent to the disjunction of the negation of the two statements.

Written symbolically:

$$\sim(p \wedge r) \leftrightarrow \sim p \vee \sim r$$

- Negation of a disjunction

The negation of a disjunction of two statements is logically equivalent to the conjunction of the negation of the two statements.

Written symbolically:

$$\sim(p \vee r) \leftrightarrow \sim p \wedge \sim r$$

## 7. Law of Simplification

If a single conjunctive premise is true, it follows that each of the individual conjuncts must be true:

Written symbolically:

If  $(p \wedge q)$  is true, then

$$p \wedge q \rightarrow p \text{ or } p \wedge q \rightarrow q$$

## 8. Law of Conjunction

When two given premises are true, the conjunction of these premises is true.

Written symbolically:

If  $p$  is true and  $q$  is true, then

$(p \wedge q)$  is true.