

# TT-consequence and logical consequence, redux

- Why does TT-consequence suffice for logical consequence?
  - Suppose that  $Q$  is *not* a logical consequence of  $\{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$ . Then there is some possible situation in which  $P_1 \dots P_n$  are true and  $Q$  is false.
  - But every possible situation corresponds to some line in the joint truth-table

# Informal proofs and the Boolean connectives

- Cardinal rule: in an informal proof, you're allowed to make any inference whose validity you can legitimately assume to be obvious to your audience.

# Some *very* obviously valid inferences

- Conjunction introduction: from any two premises  $P, Q$ , you may infer the conclusion  $P \wedge Q$ .
- Conjunction elimination: from the single premise  $P \wedge Q$ , you may infer either  $P$  or  $Q$ .
- Disjunction introduction: from any premise  $P$ , you may infer  $P \vee Q$  for *any*  $Q$ .

# Other useful valid inferences

- Important tautological equivalences, such as
  - De Morgan's Laws:
    - $\neg(P \wedge Q) \Leftrightarrow \neg P \vee \neg Q$
    - $\neg(P \vee Q) \Leftrightarrow \neg P \wedge \neg Q$
  - Idempotence:
    - $P \wedge P \Leftrightarrow P \Leftrightarrow P \vee P$
  - Distribution:
    - $P \wedge (Q \vee R) \Leftrightarrow (P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge R)$
    - $P \vee (Q \wedge R) \Leftrightarrow (P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R)$

- Important tautologies, such as  $P \vee \neg P$ 
  - These can be introduced into your informal proofs at any time, since a logical truth follows from everything.

# Indirect proof: proof by cases

- Suppose we want to prove  $\neg(a = b)$ , given the premise  $(\text{Cube}(a) \wedge \text{Tet}(b)) \vee (\text{Tet}(a) \wedge \text{Dodec}(b))$ . How do we do it?
- **Proof:** Suppose  $\text{Cube}(a) \wedge \text{Tet}(b)$ . Then it follows that  $\neg(a = b)$ , since nothing can be both a cube and a tetrahedron. Suppose on the other hand that  $\text{Tet}(a) \wedge \text{Dodec}(b)$ . Then again, it follows that  $\neg(a = b)$ , since nothing can be both a tetrahedron and a dodecahedron. So in either case,  $\neg(a = b)$ .

- What we're relying on here is the following fact: if a sentence follows from  $P$  together with certain other premises, and the same sentence follows from  $Q$  together with those premises, then it follows from  $P \vee Q$  and those same premises.
- When we say 'Suppose...', we're beginning a *subproof*.
- An indirect proof is a proof that uses subproofs.