

# Inferencing involving Assumptions

- Assumption: Axiom that tentatively introduced.
  - Will be denoted by placing sq. bracket around it.
  - Also all deductions using it will be indented.

- Reduction to absurdity:

$$\frac{[p]}{\text{FALSE}}$$

Assuming p to be TRUE, later established  $\neg p$  FALSE, then  $\rightarrow p$  holds.

- $\rightarrow$  introduction:

$$\frac{[p] \quad q}{p \rightarrow q}$$

Assuming p to be TRUE, later establishes q, then  $p \rightarrow q$  holds.

- Example: Prove  $((p \vee q) \wedge \neg p) \rightarrow q$

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|----|--|
| 1. | $[(p \vee q) \wedge \neg p]$               |
| 2. | $p \vee q$                                 |
| 3. | $\neg p$                                   |
| 4. | $p \rightarrow q$                          |
| 5. | $q \rightarrow q$                          |
| 6. | $q$  |
| 7. | $((p \vee q) \wedge \neg p) \rightarrow q$ |

assumption  
 $\wedge$  elimination in 1  
 $\wedge$  elimination in 1  
vacuous proof from 3.  
tautology  
case analysis from 2, 4, 5  
 $\rightarrow$  introduction from 1, 6