

# Immanuel Kant's contradictory subtlety of four syllogistic figures

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This paper adopts and keys to the translated arguments (following) by the anonymous author of:

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_contradictory\\_Subtlety\\_of\\_the\\_Four\\_Syllogistic\\_Figures](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_contradictory_Subtlety_of_the_Four_Syllogistic_Figures)

for Immanuel Kant (1762), "The contradictory subtlety of the four syllogistic figures proved", (Die falsche spitzfindigkeit der vier syllogistischen figuren erwiese).

The Meth8 modal logic prover checks five models using system VL4, a variant of Łukasiewicz' quaternary logic. Symbols are:

~ Not, & And, > Imply, = Equivalent, + Or, # necessity (all), % possibility (some),  
vt tautologous, nvt not tautologous, T Tautologous, E Evaluated (designated truth values)

## Section III Of pure and mixed ratiocination

III: LET: p thing, q immortal, r man, s Socrates

$$(((\sim p=r)>(\sim r=q))\&(s=r))>(\sim s=q) ; \quad \text{nvt} \quad (\text{III.1})$$

FTTT TTTT TTTT TTTT EEEE	UEEE EEEE EEEE EEEU	UEEE EEEE EEEE EEEU	UEEE EEEE EEEE EEEU	UEEE EEEE EEEE EEEU
Model 1	Model 2.1	Model 2.2	Model 2.3.1	Model 2.3.2

$$(((\sim p\&q)=r)\&(s=r))>(s=q) ; \quad \text{nvt} \quad (\text{III.2.1})$$

TTTF TTTT TTTT TTTT EEEE	EEUU EEEE EEEE EEEE	EEUU EEEE EEEE EEEE	EEUU EEEE EEEE EEEE	EEUU EEEE EEEE EEEE
Model 1	Model 2.1	Model 2.2	Model 2.3.1	Model 2.3.2

$$((((\sim p\&q)=r)>(\sim r=q))\&(s=r))>(s=q) ; \quad \text{nvt} \quad (\text{III.2.2})$$

TTTF TTTT TTTT FTTT UUEE	EEUU EEEE EEEE UUEE	EEUU EEEE EEEE UUEE	EEUU EEEE EEEE UUEE	EEUU EEEE EEEE UUEE
Model 1	Model 2.1	Model 2.2	Model 2.3.1	Model 2.3.2

**Section IV** In the so-called first figure only pure ratiocinations are possible, in the remaining figures only mixed ratiocinations are possible.

IV.1: LET: p A, q B, r C

$$((r=q)\&(p=r))>(p=q) ; \quad \text{vt} \quad (\text{IV.1})$$

IV.2: LET p A, q B, r C

$$((\sim q=r)\&(p=r))>(p=\sim q) ; \quad \text{vt} \quad (\text{IV.2})$$

IV.3: LET: p mammals, q air breathers, r animals

$((\#p=q)\&(\#p=r)) > (\%p=q) ;$				nvt (IV.3.1)
NNTT TTTT NNTT TTTT EEEE Model 1	EEEE EEEE EEEE EEEE Model 2.1	UUEE EEEE UUEE EEEE Model 2.2	IIEE EEEE IIEE EEEE Model 2.3.1	PPEE EEEE PPEE Model 2.3.2

$((\#p=q)\&(\#p=r)) > (\%r=p)) > (\%r=q);$				nvt (IV.3.2)
TNCC FFTT TNCC FFTT UUEE Model 1	EEUU UUEE EEUU UUEE Model 2.1	EUEE UUEE EUEE UUEE Model 2.2	EIPP UUEE EIPP UUEE Model 2.3.1	EPII UUEE EPII Model 2.3.2

IV.4: LET: p man, p+p persons, q learned, r stupid, s pious

$((\sim r\&p)=q) \& ((\%q\&(p+p))=s)) > ((\%s\&(p+p))=\sim r) ;$				nvt (IV.4.1)
FTTT TTTT TTTT TTTT EPEE Model 1	UEEE EEEE EEEE EEEE Model 2.1	UUEE EEEE EEEE EUEE Model 2.2	UEEE EEEE EEEE EIEE Model 2.3.1	UEEE EEEE EEEE Model 2.3.2

$((\sim r\&p)=q)>((\sim q\&(p+p))=r)) \& (((\%q\&(p+p))=s)>((\%s\&(p+p))=q))) > ((\%s\&(p+p))=\sim r) ;$				nvt (IV.4.2)
FCTC TNTN FTFT TCTF EIEU Model 1	UUEU EEEE UEUE EUEU Model 2.1	UEEE EUEU UEUE EEEU Model 2.2	UPEP EIEI UEUE EPEU Model 2.3.1	UIEI EPEP UEUE Model 2.3.2

$((\sim r\&p)=q)>((\sim q\&(p+p))=r)) \& (((\%q\&(p+p))=s)>((\%s\&(p+p))=q))) > ((\%s\&(p+p))=\sim r) ;$				nvt (IV.4.2)
FCTC TNTN FTFT TCTF EIEU Model 1	UUEU EEEE UEUE EUEU Model 2.1	UEEE EUEU UEUE EEEU Model 2.2	UPEP EIEI UEUE EPEU Model 2.3.1	UIEI EPEP UEUE Model 2.3.2

Eq IV.1 and IV.2 are tautologous; all others are not tautologous.

This shows that the comments in the article as to how to fix up the syllogisms are mistaken, but nevertheless renders Kant's essay as a historical record to bear the logic of the time.