

## Re: Tautologies Then and Now

**Source:** <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.logic/2004-12/1178.html>

---

**From:** Stephen Harris ([cyberguard1048-usenet\\_at\\_yahoo.com](mailto:cyberguard1048-usenet_at_yahoo.com))

**Date:** 12/13/04

Date: Mon, 13 Dec 2004 15:13:14 GMT

"paul" <[paul8801@on-ramp.nl](mailto:paul8801@on-ramp.nl)> wrote in message  
news:0h8rr0d231cbni3igb77p404a19anqi93v@4ax.com...  
> Chris Menzel <[cmenzel@remove-this.tamu.edu](mailto:cmenzel@remove-this.tamu.edu)> wrote:  
>  
>> On Mon, 13 Dec 2004 00:44:52 GMT, Stephen Harris said:  
>>> ...  
>>> I could have used Modal logic as another counter example; where the  
>>> term tautology is applied outside of propositional logic.  
>>  
>> Hm, nothing I saw in what you quoted supports this claim. Did I miss a  
>> quote where the validities of propositional modal logic are referred to  
>> as "tautologies" by someone?  
>  
>  
> Stephen seems to see support in any data for his notion that the term  
> "tautology" is wide ranging. Even after you explained that it is not  
>  
> <http://groups-beta.google.com/group/sci.logic/msg/66d18bd9ec10c304>  
>  
> he responded as if you supported his view and then he goes on  
> promoting it, frenetically posting hundreds of lines of material.  
>

I never disputed your claim that full predicate logic did not use  
TT and the term "tautology". I claimed that monadic predicate logic did.

paul also claimed:

>> original) ... "that support what I said --  
>> that the term "tautology" is not applied outside propositional logic"

which paul revised to:

> new) "My question is why is "tautology"  
> not normally used outside sentential logic? There must be a reason."

SH: I disputed both of these claims. I did try to educate you so that  
you would see why you are wrong. There is no reason why the term

## sci.logic: Re: Tautologies Then and Now

"tautology" is not normally used outside sentential logic, because it is normally used outside of propositional logic. You came away from school without the most important lesson: the ability to think critically.

No more energy for you,  
Stephen

"Well, truth tables are not theoretically necessary, but they provide students with a nice gentle introduction to the ideas of formal languages and their interpretation, and to the idea of logical truth -- which, as noted countless times now, is in this context indicated by the term "tautology"."