

1.7 Introduction to Proofs

- we say $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ is even iff there exists $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $n = 2k$.

$$\exists k : n = 2k \quad (n \text{ true})$$

- we say $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ is odd iff there exists $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $n = 2k + 1$

$$\exists k : n = 2k + 1 \quad (n \text{ true})$$

Note: every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ is either even or odd, and no n is both. Proof later.

- we say $d \in \mathbb{Z} (d \neq 0)$ divides $n \in \mathbb{Z}$
iff there exists $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t.
 $n = kd$.

$$(d \neq 0) \wedge (\exists k: n = kd) \quad (n, d \text{ free})$$

Notation: $d \mid n$

- we say $x \in \mathbb{R}$ is rational iff
there exist $a, b \in \mathbb{Z} (b \neq 0)$ s.t.
 $x = \frac{a}{b}$.

$$\exists a \exists b: (b \neq 0) \wedge x = \frac{a}{b} \quad (x \text{ free})$$

In general, if $P(x)$ is a Prop.

fcn. on universe U , then

$P(x)$ defines a property possessed by some elements $x \in U$.

Direct Proof of $P \rightarrow Q$

Assume P is true. Use inference rules (i.e. logical identities) and previously proved theorems to show that Q is also true.

Ex.

show that for any $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$,
 if both n and m are even,
 then $n \cdot m$ is even.

$$\forall n \forall m : \underbrace{\text{Even}(n) \wedge \text{Even}(m)}_P \rightarrow \underbrace{\text{Even}(n \cdot m)}_Q$$

Proof

Let $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$. Assume both n and m are even. Then there exist $k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $n = 2k_1$ and $m = 2k_2$.
 Therefore

$$n \cdot m = 2k_1 \cdot 2k_2 = 2(2k_1 k_2),$$

Since $2k_1 k_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have $n \cdot m$
 is even. ▀

Exercise

Prove each row of the table

n	m	$n+m$	$n \cdot m$
odd	odd	even	odd
odd	even	odd	even
even	odd	odd	even
even	even	even	even ✓

note: $n+m=m+n$, $n \cdot m=m \cdot n$ don't need to be proved

Ex.

show that if n is even, then n^2 is also even.

$$\forall n : \text{Even}(n) \rightarrow \text{Even}(n^2)$$

Proof

Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Assume n is even.

Let $m = n$ in the previous theorem.

It follows that $n^2 = n \cdot m$ is also even. 

Indirect Proof of $P \rightarrow Q$ (contraposition)

Prove (directly) the contrapositive statement : $\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$.

Ex. $\forall n : \text{Odd}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{Odd}(n)$

Proof

□

Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. we will show that if n is not odd, then n^2 is not even. Recall every $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ is either even or odd, but not both. Thus it's sufficient to show that if n is even, then n^2 is even. But this was previously proved. 

Ex $f_n : \text{Even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{Even}(n)$

Proof (contradiction)

we show if n is odd, then n^2 is odd.

Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Assume n is odd.

Then there exists $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t.

$$n = 2k + 1. \text{ Therefore}$$

$$n^2 = (2k+1)^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1$$

$$= 2(2k^2 + 2k) + 1,$$

Since $2k^2 + 2k \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have that n^2 is odd. 

Ex. $\forall n : \text{Odd}(5n+4) \rightarrow \text{Odd}(n)$

Proof (contraposition)

we show: $\forall n : \text{Even}(n) \rightarrow \text{Even}(5n+4).$

Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Assume n is even.

Then $n = 2k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 5n + 4 &= 5 \cdot 2k + 4 \\ &= 10k + 4 \\ &= 2(5k + 2) \end{aligned}$$

Since $5k + 2 \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have

$5n + 4$ is even. 

Ex.
show that for all $n, a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$,
if $n = ab$, then either $a \leq \sqrt{n}$ or
 $b \leq \sqrt{n}$.

P-oot. (indirect)

[10]

Let n, a, b be positive integers.

Assume both $a > \sqrt{n}$ and $b > \sqrt{n}$.

Then

$$a \cdot b > \sqrt{n} \cdot \sqrt{n} = n,$$

showing that $ab \neq n$. Therefore

we have if $n = ab$, then either

$$a \leq \sqrt{n} \text{ or } b \leq \sqrt{n}.$$



Ex.

for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, if x, y are rational, then $x+y$ is rational.

Proof (direct)

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. Assume x and y are rational. Then

$$x = \frac{a}{b} \text{ and } y = \frac{c}{d}$$

where $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $b \neq 0, d \neq 0$.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} x + y &= \frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} \\ &= \frac{ad + bc}{bd} \end{aligned}$$

since $ad + bc \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $bd \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $bd \neq 0$, we have $x + y$ rational.



Exercise

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ be rational. show

(1) $x + y$ is rational

(2) $x - y$ " "

(3) $x \cdot y$ " "

(4) if $y \neq 0$, then $\frac{x}{y}$ is rational.

Notation

$$\mathbb{Q} = \{ \text{rational numbers} \}$$

$$\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q} = \{ \text{irrational numbers} \}$$

Proof by contradiction

To prove a Proposition P by contradiction, we prove

$$\neg P \rightarrow q$$

where q is a contradiction,
usually q is of the form
 $q = r \wedge \neg r$.

note : $\neg P \rightarrow F \equiv P$

check : $(\neg P \rightarrow F) \leftrightarrow P$ is a tautology.

Ex. show $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.

we must show that there do not exist $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$, $b \neq 0$ s.t.

$$\frac{a}{b} = \sqrt{2}$$

Proof (contradiction)

Assume $\sqrt{2}$ is rational, i.e.

assume a, b as above do exist.

If a and b have any common factors, we may cancel them.

Assume this is done, so

15

$a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$, $b \neq 0$, and a, b have
no common factors, and

$$\frac{a}{b} = \sqrt{2}$$

Then

$$\frac{a^2}{b^2} = 2$$

$$\therefore a^2 = 2b^2$$

$$\therefore a^2 \text{ is even}$$

$$\therefore \underline{a \text{ is even}} \quad (\text{Previous thm.})$$

Thus $a = 2k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\therefore (2k)^2 = 2b^2$$

$$\therefore 4k^2 = 2b^2$$

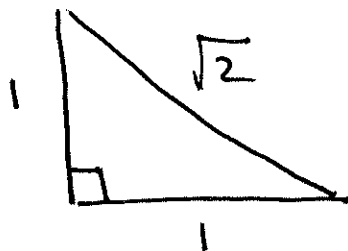
$$\therefore 2k^2 = b^2$$

$\therefore b^2$ is even

$\therefore$ b is even (previous thm)

we've shown both a and b are even. But also a and b have no common factor.

This contradiction shows our assumption was false, Therefore $\sqrt{2}$ is not rational. 



Fact (Proof in chap. 4)

for any $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, exactly one of the following is true

- $n = 3k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$] $3 \mid n$
- $n = 3k+1$ " " "] $3 \nmid n$
- $n = 3k+2$ " " "] $3 \nmid n$

Exercise

using above

$$(1) \quad 3 \mid n \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{iff} \quad 3 \mid n^2 \xleftarrow{\quad}$$

(2) $\sqrt{3}$ is irrational