

Chapter 1: Logic and Proof

**1.5**

# **Rules of Inference**

**1.6**

# **Introduction to Proofs**

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## **Agenda**

- Rules of Inference
- Rules of Inference for Quantifiers

# Recall...

- John is a cop. John knows first aid. Therefore, all cops know first aid



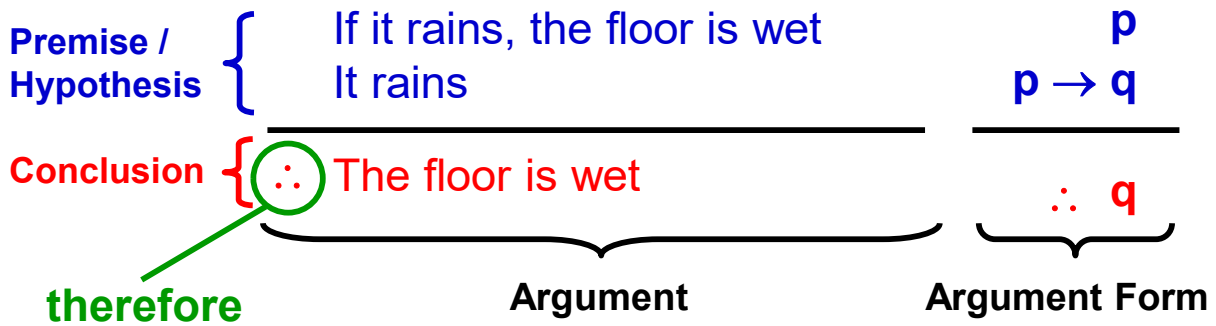
# Recall...

- Some students work hard to study. Some students fail in examination. So, some work hard students fail in examination.



# Argument

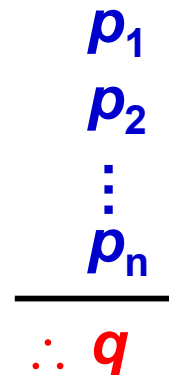
p: It rains  
q: The floor is wet



- **Argument** in propositional logic is a **sequence of propositions**
  - **Premises / Hypothesis:** All except the final proposition
  - **Conclusion:** The final proposition
- **Argument form** represents the argument by variables

# Argument: Valid?

- Given an argument, where
  - $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  be the premises
  - $q$  be the conclusion
- **The argument is valid** when  $(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) \rightarrow q$  is a tautology
  - When all premises are true, the conclusion should be true
  - When not all premises are true, the conclusion can be either true or false



p	q	$p \rightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

Focus on this case  
Check if it happens

# Argument

- Example:

Argument is valid

$p \rightarrow q$  If it rains, the floor is wet  
 $p$  It rains

---

$q \therefore$  The floor is wet

$( p \wedge (p \rightarrow q) ) \rightarrow q$

Tautology

Need to check if the conclusion is true or not

Must be true

p	q	$p \rightarrow q$	$p \wedge (p \rightarrow q)$	$(p \wedge (p \rightarrow q)) \rightarrow q$
T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	F	T
F	T	T	F	T
F	F	T	F	T

# Rules of Inference

- How to show an argument is valid?
  - Truth Table**
    - May be **tedious** when the number of variables is large
  - Rules of Inference**
    - Firstly **establish** the **validity** of some relatively **simple argument forms**, called **rules of inference**
    - These rules of inference can be used as building blocks to **construct more complicated valid argument forms**

# Rules of Inference

- **Modus Ponens**

- Affirm by affirming

$$\begin{array}{l} p \\ p \rightarrow q \\ \hline \therefore q \end{array}$$

- **Modus Tollens**

- Deny by denying

$$\begin{array}{l} \neg q \\ p \rightarrow q \\ \hline \therefore \neg p \end{array}$$

# Rules of Inference

- **Hypothetical Syllogism**

$$\begin{array}{l} p \rightarrow q \\ q \rightarrow r \\ \hline \therefore p \rightarrow r \end{array}$$

- **Disjunctive Syllogism**

$$\begin{array}{l} p \vee q \\ \neg p \\ \hline \therefore q \end{array}$$

# Rules of Inference

- Addition

$$\frac{p}{\therefore p \vee q}$$

- Simplification

$$\frac{p \wedge q}{\therefore p}$$

- Conjunction

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} p \\ q \end{array}}{\therefore p \wedge q}$$

# Rules of Inference

- Resolution

$p = T$	$p = F$
$q = T/F$	$q = T$
$r = T$	$r = T/F$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} p \vee q \\ \neg p \vee r \end{array}}{\therefore q \vee r}$$

- Example

- I go to swim or I play tennis
- I do not go to swim or I play football
- Therefore, I play tennis or I play football

# Rules of Inference ( $\rightarrow$ )

Modus Ponens	$((p \rightarrow q) \wedge (p)) \rightarrow q$
Modus Tollens	$((\neg q) \wedge (p \rightarrow q)) \rightarrow \neg p$
Hypothetical Syllogism	$((p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow r)) \rightarrow (p \rightarrow r)$
Disjunctive Syllogism	$((p \vee q) \wedge (\neg p)) \rightarrow q$
Addition	$(p) \rightarrow p \vee q$
Simplification	$((p) \wedge (q)) \rightarrow p$
Conjunction	$((p) \wedge (q)) \rightarrow (p \wedge q)$
Resolution	$((p \vee q) \wedge (\neg p \vee r)) \rightarrow (q \vee r)$

# Rules of Equivalence ( $\leftrightarrow$ )

- Recall...

Identify Laws	$p \wedge T \equiv p$ $p \vee F \equiv p$
Domination Laws	$p \vee T \equiv T$ $p \wedge F \equiv F$
Idempotent Laws	$p \vee p \equiv p$ $p \wedge p \equiv p$
Negation Laws	$p \vee \neg p \equiv T$ $p \wedge \neg p \equiv F$
Double Negation Law	$\neg(\neg p) \equiv p$
Commutative Laws	$p \vee q \equiv q \vee p$ $p \wedge q \equiv q \wedge p$
Associative Laws	$p \vee (q \vee r) \equiv (p \vee q) \vee r$ $p \wedge (q \wedge r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \wedge r$
Distributive Laws	$p \vee (q \wedge r) \equiv (p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)$ $p \wedge (q \vee r) \equiv (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$
Absorption Laws	$p \vee (p \wedge q) \equiv p$ $p \wedge (p \vee q) \equiv p$
De Morgan's Laws	$\neg(p \vee q) \equiv \neg p \wedge \neg q$ $\neg(p \wedge q) \equiv \neg p \vee \neg q$

# Comparison between Inference and Equivalence

- **Inference ( $p \rightarrow q$ )**
  - **Meaning:**  
If  $p$ , then  $q$
  - $p \rightarrow q$  does **not** mean  $q \rightarrow p$
  - Either **inference or equivalence rules** can be used
  - $p \leftrightarrow q$  implies  $p \rightarrow q$
  - $\Rightarrow$  is used in proof
- **Equivalence ( $p \leftrightarrow q$ )**
  - **Meaning:**  
 $p$  is equal to  $q$
  - $p \leftrightarrow q$  mean  $q \leftrightarrow p$
  - **Only equivalence rules** can be used
  - $p \leftrightarrow q$  can be proved by showing  $p \rightarrow q$  and  $q \rightarrow p$
  - $\Leftrightarrow$  is used in proof
- **Equivalence ( $\leftrightarrow$ )** is a **more restrictive** relation than **Inference ( $\rightarrow$ )**

## Using Rules of Inference

- Example 1:
  - **Given:**
    - It is not sunny this afternoon and it is colder than yesterday.
    - We will go swimming only if it is sunny
    - If we do not go swimming, then we will take a canoe trip
    - If we take a canoe trip, then we will be home by sunset
  - Can these propositions lead to the **conclusion** "**We will be home by sunset**" ?



Let

- p: It is sunny this afternoon
- q: It is colder than yesterday
- r: We go swimming
- s: We take a canoe trip
- t: We will be home by sunset

- $\neg p \wedge q$  ■ It is **not** sunny this afternoon **and** it is colder than yesterday
  - $r \rightarrow p$  ■ We will go swimming **only if** it is sunny
  - $\neg r \rightarrow s$  ■ **If** we do **not** go swimming, **then** we will take a canoe trip
  - $s \rightarrow t$  ■ **If** we take a canoe trip, **then** we will be home by sunset
- 
- t** ■ We will be home by sunset

## Using Rules of Inference

	Step	Reason
Hypothesis: $\neg p \wedge q$ $r \rightarrow p$ $\neg r \rightarrow s$ $s \rightarrow t$	1. $\neg p \wedge q$	Premise
	2. $\neg p$	Simplification using (1)
	3. $r \rightarrow p$	Premise
	4. $\neg r$	Modus tollens using (2) and (3)
	5. $\neg r \rightarrow s$	Premise
	6. $s$	Modus ponens using (4) and (5)
	7. $s \rightarrow t$	Premise
Conclusion: <b>t</b>	8. <b>t</b>	Modus ponens using (6) and (7)

Therefore, the propositions can lead to the conclusion  
We will be home by sunset

# Using Rules of Inference

- Or, another presentation method:

Hypothesis:

$$\begin{array}{l} \neg p \wedge q \\ r \rightarrow p \\ \neg r \rightarrow s \\ s \rightarrow t \end{array} \Rightarrow (\neg p \wedge q) \wedge (r \rightarrow p) \wedge (\neg r \rightarrow s) \wedge (s \rightarrow t)$$
$$\Rightarrow \neg p \wedge (r \rightarrow p) \wedge (\neg r \rightarrow s) \wedge (s \rightarrow t) \quad \text{By Simplification}$$
$$\Rightarrow \neg r \wedge (\neg r \rightarrow s) \wedge (s \rightarrow t) \quad \text{By Modus Tollens}$$
$$\Rightarrow s \wedge (s \rightarrow t) \quad \text{By Modus Ponens}$$

Conclusion:

$$t \Rightarrow t \quad \text{By Modus Ponens}$$

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- Given:**
  - If you send me an e-mail message, then I will finish writing the program
  - If you do not send me an e-mail message, then I will go to sleep early
  - If I go to sleep early, then I will wake up feeling refreshed
- Can these propositions lead to the **conclusion** "If I do not finish writing the program, then I will wake up feeling refreshed."

Let p: you send me an e-mail message  
 q: I will finish writing the program  
 r: I will go to sleep early  
 s: I will wake up feeling refreshed

- $p \rightarrow q$     ■ If you send me an e-mail message, then I will finish writing the program
  - $\neg p \rightarrow r$     ■ If you do not send me an e-mail message, then I will go to sleep early
  - $r \rightarrow s$         ■ If I go to sleep early, then I will wake up feeling refreshed
- 
- $\neg q \rightarrow s$     ■ If I do not finish writing the program, then I will wake up feeling refreshed

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

	Step	Reason
Hypothesis:	1. $p \rightarrow q$	Premise
	2. $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$	Contrapositive of (1)
	3. $\neg p \rightarrow r$	Premise
	4. $\neg q \rightarrow r$	Hypothetical Syllogism using (2) and (3)
	5. $r \rightarrow s$	Premise
Conclusion:	6. $\neg q \rightarrow s$	Hypothetical Syllogism using (4) and (5)

Therefore, the propositions can lead to the conclusion  
 If I do not finish writing the program,  
 then I will wake up feeling refreshed

# ☺ Small Exercise ☺

- Or, another presentation method:

Hypothesis:

$$p \rightarrow q$$

$$\neg p \rightarrow r$$

$$r \rightarrow s$$

$$(p \rightarrow q) \wedge (\neg p \rightarrow r) \wedge (r \rightarrow s)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\neg q \rightarrow \neg p) \wedge (\neg p \rightarrow r) \wedge (r \rightarrow s) \quad \text{Contrapositive}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\neg q \rightarrow r) \wedge (r \rightarrow s) \quad \text{By Hypothetical Syllogism}$$

Conclusion:

$$\neg q \rightarrow s$$

$$\Rightarrow (\neg q \rightarrow s) \quad \text{By Hypothetical Syllogism}$$

## Using Rules of Inference

# Fallacies

- Are the following arguments correct?

- Example 1 (Fallacy of affirming the conclusion)**

Hypothesis

- If you success, you work hard

$$p \rightarrow q$$

- You work hard

$$q$$

Conclusion

- You success

$$\therefore p$$



- Example 2 (Fallacy of denying the hypothesis)**

Hypothesis

- If you success, you work hard

$$p \rightarrow q$$

- You do not success

$$\neg p$$

Conclusion

- You do not work hard

$$\therefore \neg q$$



# Rules of Inference for Quantifiers

- **Universal Instantiation**

$$\frac{\forall x P(x)}{\quad}$$

$$\therefore P(a)$$

where  $a$  is a particular member of the domain

- **Existential Instantiation**

$$\frac{\exists x P(x)}{\quad}$$

$$\therefore P(c) \text{ for some element } c$$

- **Universal Generalization**

$$\frac{P(b) \text{ for an arbitrary } b}{\quad}$$

$$\therefore \forall x P(x)$$

Be noted that  $b$  that we select must be an arbitrary, and not a specific

- **Existential Generalization**

$$\frac{P(d) \text{ for some element } d}{\quad}$$

$$\therefore \exists x P(x)$$

# Rules of Inference for Quantifiers

- **Example 1**

- **Given**

- Everyone in this discrete mathematics class has taken a course in computer science
- Marla is a student in this class

- These premises imply the **conclusion**

"Marla has taken a course in computer science"

Let	DC(x):	x studies in discrete mathematics
	CS(x):	x studies in computer science
	Domain of x:	student

- $\forall x (DC(x) \rightarrow CS(x))$ 
  - **Everyone** in this discrete mathematics class has taken a course in computer science
- DC(Marla)
  - Marla is a student in this class

- CS(Marla)
  - Marla has taken a course in computer science

# Rules of Inference for Quantifiers

Premise:	Conclusion:
<span style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;"> <math>\forall x (DC(x) \rightarrow CS(x))</math>  DC(Marla) </span>	<span style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">CS(Marla)</span>

Step	Reason
1. <span style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;"> <math>\forall x (DC(x) \rightarrow CS(x))</math> </span>	Premise
2. <span style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;"> <math>DC(Marla) \rightarrow CS(Marla)</math> </span>	Universal Instantiation from (1)
3. <span style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">DC(Marla)</span>	Premise
4. <span style="color: blue; font-weight: bold;">CS(Marla)</span>	Modus ponens using (2) and (3)

Therefore, the propositions can lead to the conclusion  
Marla has taken a course in computer science

# Using Rules of Inference for Quantifiers

- Or, another presentation method:

Premise:

$\forall x (DC(x) \rightarrow CS(x))$   
 $DC(Marla)$

Conclusion:

$CS(Marla)$

$\forall x (DC(x) \rightarrow CS(x)) \wedge DC(Marla)$

By Universal Instantiation

$\Rightarrow (DC(Marla) \rightarrow CS(Marla)) \wedge DC(Marla)$

$\Rightarrow CS(Marla)$  By Modus ponens

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- Given
  - A student in this class has not read the book
  - Everyone in this class passed the first exam
- These premises imply the **conclusion**  
"Someone who passed the first exam has not read the book"

Let	C(x):	x in this class
	RB(x):	x reads the book
	PE(x):	x passes the first exam
	Domain of x:	any person

- $\exists x (C(x) \wedge \neg RB(x))$  ■ A student in this class has **not** read the book
- $\forall x (C(x) \rightarrow PE(x))$  ■ **Everyone** in this class passed the first exam

- $\exists x (PE(x) \wedge \neg RB(x))$  ■ **Someone** who passed the first exam has **not** read the book

We cannot define the domain as student in this class since the conclusion means anyone

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

Premise:  
 $\exists x (C(x) \wedge \neg RB(x))$   
 $\forall x (C(x) \rightarrow PE(x))$

Conclusion:  
 $\exists x (PE(x) \wedge \neg RB(x))$

Step	Reason
$\exists x (C(x) \wedge \neg RB(x))$	Premise
$C(a) \wedge \neg RB(a)$	Existential Instantiation from (1)
$C(a)$	Simplification from (2)
$\forall x (C(x) \rightarrow PE(x))$	Premise
$C(a) \rightarrow PE(a)$	Universal Instantiation from (4)
$PE(a)$	Modus ponens from (3) and (5)
$\neg RB(a)$	Simplification from (2)
$PE(a) \wedge \neg RB(a)$	Conjunction from (6) and (7)
$\exists x (PE(x) \wedge \neg RB(x))$	Existential Generalization from (8)

Therefore, the propositions can lead to the conclusion  
 Someone who passed the first exam has not read the book



# 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- Or, another presentation method:

$$(\exists x (C(x) \wedge \neg RB(x))) \wedge (\forall x (C(x) \rightarrow PE(x)))$$

$$\Rightarrow C(a) \wedge \neg RB(a) \wedge (\forall x (C(x) \rightarrow PE(x))) \quad \text{By Existential Instantiation}$$

$$\Rightarrow C(a) \wedge \neg RB(a) \wedge (C(a) \rightarrow PE(a)) \quad \text{By Universal Instantiation}$$

$$\Rightarrow PE(a) \wedge \neg RB(a) \quad \text{By Modus ponens}$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists x (PE(x) \wedge \neg RB(x)) \quad \text{By Existential Generalization}$$

Premise:

$$\exists x (C(x) \wedge \neg RB(x))$$

$$\forall x (C(x) \rightarrow PE(x))$$

Conclusion:

$$\exists x (PE(x) \wedge \neg RB(x))$$

## Combining Rules of Inference

- The rules of inference of Propositions and Quantified Statements can be combined

- Universal Modus Ponens**

$$\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

$P(a)$ , where  $a$  is a particular element in the domain

---


$$\therefore Q(a)$$

$$(\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))) \wedge (P(a))$$

By Universal Instantiation

$$\Rightarrow (P(a) \rightarrow Q(a)) \wedge (P(a))$$

$$\Rightarrow Q(a) \quad \text{By Modus Ponens}$$

- Universal Modus Ponens**

$$\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$$

$\neg Q(a)$ , where  $a$  is a particular element in the domain

---


$$\therefore \neg P(a)$$

$$(\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))) \wedge (\neg Q(a))$$

By Universal Instantiation

$$\Rightarrow (P(a) \rightarrow Q(a)) \wedge (\neg Q(a))$$

$$\Rightarrow \neg P(a) \quad \text{By Modus Tollens}$$

# Combining Rules of Inference

- Example:
  - **Given**
    - For all positive integers  $n$ ,  
if  $n$  is greater than 4, then  $n^2$  is less than  $2^n$   
is **true**.
  - **Show** that  $100^2 < 2^{100}$

# Combining Rules of Inference

- Example:

For **all** positive integers  $n$ ,  
**if**  $n$  is greater than 4, **then**  $n^2$  is less than  $2^n$

$$P(n): n > 4$$

$$Q(n): n^2 < 2^n$$

$$\forall n (P(n) \rightarrow Q(n))$$

$$P(100) \quad (\text{since } 100 > 4)$$

---

$$\therefore Q(100) \quad (100^2 < 2^{100}) \quad \text{By Universal Modus Ponens}$$

# Summary

- What we have learnt in previous lectures?
  - Proposition
  - Operator
  - Predicates
  - Quantifier
  - Truth Table
  - Rules of Equivalence
  - Rules of Inference
- This is called the **formal proof**
  - **very clear** and **precise**
  - **extremely long** and **hard to follow**

Show if an argument is valid

## Informal Proofs

- **Informal proofs** can often **explain to humans** why **theorems are true**
  - Proof of mathematical theorems
  - Applications to computer science
- **Move** from **formal proofs** toward more **informal proofs**



# Informal Proofs

- In **practice**, the **proofs of theorems** designed for human consumption are almost **always informal proofs**
  - **More than one rule** of inference may be used in each step
  - **Steps** may be **skipped**
  - The **axioms** being **assumed**
    - e.g. even number can be written as  $2k$ , where  $k$  is integer
  - The **rules** of inference used are **not explicitly stated**

# Proof for Theorems

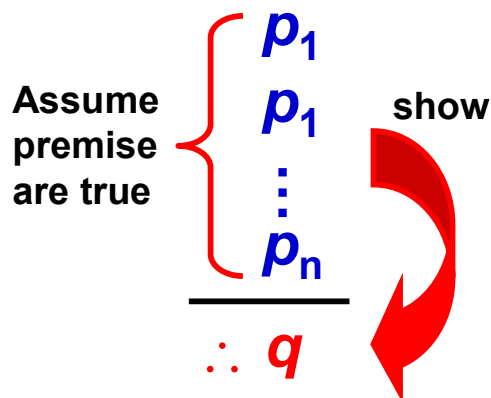
- **Types of Theorem**
  - Implication ( $P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)$ )
  - Equivalence ( $P(x) \leftrightarrow Q(x)$ )
  - Statement ( $P(x)$ )
- **Type of proof**
  - Universal Quantification (For all...)
  - Existential Quantification (For some...)
  - Uniqueness Quantification (Only one...)

# Proof for Theorems: Methods

- **Implication** ( $P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)$ )
  - **Direct Proof**  
Assume  $P(x)$  is true, show  $Q(x)$  is true
  - **Indirect Proof: Proof by Contraposition**  
Assume  $\neg Q(x)$  is true and show  $\neg P(x)$  is true
- **Equivalence** ( $P(x) \leftrightarrow Q(x)$ )
  - As  $P(x) \leftrightarrow Q(x) \equiv (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \wedge (Q(x) \rightarrow P(x))$
- **Statement** ( $P(x)$ )
  - **Indirect Proof: Proof by Contradiction**

## Universal Quantification: Proof of Theorems: Implication Direct Proof

- **Direct proofs** lead **from the hypothesis** of a theorem **to the conclusion**
  1. Assume the premises are true
  2. Show the conclusion is true



## Direct Proof: Example 1

- Prove “If  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n^2$  is odd”

■ Given,

- The integer  $n$  is **even**  
if there exists an **integer**  $k$  such that  $n = 2k$
- The integer  $n$  is **odd**  
if there exists an **integer**  $k$  such that  $n = 2k+1$

Show

If  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n^2$  is odd

1. Assume the hypothesis is true

“ $n$  is odd” is true

- By definition,  $n = 2k + 1$ , where  $k$  is a integer

2. Show the conclusion is correct

$n^2$  is odd

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

- By definition, as  $(2k^2 + 2k)$  is an **integer** we can conclude that  $n^2$  is an **odd integer**

- Therefore, “if  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n^2$  is an odd integer” has been proved

## Direct Proof: Example 2

- Prove “If  $m$  and  $n$  are both perfect squares, then  $nm$  is also a perfect square”

- Given

- An **integer  $a$**  is a **perfect square** if there is an **integer  $b$**  such that  $a = b^2$

Show

If  $m$  and  $n$  are both perfect squares, then  $nm$  is also a perfect square

1. Assume  $m$  and  $n$  are both perfect squares
    - By definition,  $m = a^2$  and  $n = b^2$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers
  2. Show that  $mn$  is a perfect square
    - $mn = a^2b^2 = (ab)^2$ , where  $ab$  is an integer
    - By the definition, we can conclude that  $mn$  is a perfect square
- Therefore, “An integer  $a$  is a perfect square if there is an integer  $b$  such that  $a = b^2$ ” has been proved

## Direct Proof: Example 3

- Prove “if  $n$  is an integer and  $3n + 2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd”
- Assume  $3n + 2$  is an odd integer
  - $3n + 2 = 2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$
- Show that  $n$  is odd

$$3n + 2 = 2k + 1$$

$$3n = 2k - 1$$

$$n = \frac{2k - 1}{3}$$

Dead end!  
We need another way!



## Indirect Proof

- Sometimes, direct proofs may reach dead ends
- Indirect proof may help
  - Prove theorems not directly
  - Do not start with the hypothesis and end with the conclusion



# Proof by Contraposition

- Recall, contrapositive:

$$p \rightarrow q \equiv \neg q \rightarrow \neg p$$

- $p \rightarrow q$  can be proved by showing  $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$  is true

- Assume the conclusion is not true
- Show either one premise is not true

$$(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n) \rightarrow q$$

$$\equiv \neg q \rightarrow \neg(p_1 \wedge p_2 \wedge \dots \wedge p_n)$$

$$\equiv \neg q \rightarrow (\neg p_1 \vee \neg p_2 \vee \dots \vee \neg p_n)$$

# Proof by Contraposition: Example 1

- Prove “if  $n$  is an integer and  $3n + 2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd”

- Assume the conclusion is false  
 $n$  is not odd

$$\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$$

- $n = 2k$ , where  $k$  is an integer

- Show that the premises are not correct  
 $3n + 2$  is not odd

- $3(2k) + 2 = 6k + 2 = 2(3k + 1)$

- As if  $n$  is not odd,  $3n + 2$  is not odd  
Therefore, if  $n$  is an integer and  $3n + 2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd

## Proof by Contraposition: Example 2

- Prove “if  $n = ab$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers, then  $a \leq \sqrt{n}$  or  $b \leq \sqrt{n}$  ”
- 1. Assume  $a > \sqrt{n}$  and  $b > \sqrt{n}$  is true
- 2. Show  $n \neq ab$ 
  - $ab > (\sqrt{n})^2 = n$
  - Therefore,  $ab \neq n$
- Therefore, if  $n = ab$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers, then  $a \leq \sqrt{n}$  or  $b \leq \sqrt{n}$

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- Prove that “the sum of two rational numbers is rational”
- Given
  - The real number  $r$  is **rational** if there exist **integers**  $p$  and  $q$  with  $q \neq 0$  such that  $r = p / q$
  - A real number that is **not rational** is called **irrational**

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

### ■ Direct Proof

- Suppose that  $r$  and  $s$  are rational numbers
  - $r = p / q$ ,  $s = t / u$ , where  $q \neq 0$  and  $u \neq 0$
- Show that  $r+s$  is rational number

$$r + s = \frac{p}{q} + \frac{t}{u} = \frac{pu + qt}{qu}$$

- As  $q \neq 0$  and  $u \neq 0$ ,  $qu \neq 0$
- Therefore,  $r + s$  is rational
- Therefore, direct proof succeeded

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- Prove “if  $n$  is an integer and  $n^2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd”

### ■ Direct proof

- Suppose that  $n$  is an integer and  $n^2$  is odd
  - Exists an integer  $k$  such that  $n^2 = 2k + 1$
- Show  $n$  is odd
  - Show  $(n = \pm \sqrt{2k + 1})$  is odd
  - May not be useful

# 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- **Proof by contraposition**
  - Suppose  $n$  is not odd
    - $n = 2k$ , where  $k$  is an integer
  - Show  $n^2$  is not even
    - $n^2 = (2k)^2 = 4k^2$
    - $n^2$  is even
  - Therefore, proof by contraposition succeeded

## Universal Quantification

# Proof of Theorems: Equivalence

- Recall,  $p \leftrightarrow q \equiv (p \rightarrow q) \wedge (q \rightarrow p)$
- To prove equivalence, we can show  $p \rightarrow q$  and  $q \rightarrow p$  are both true

## Equivalence: Example

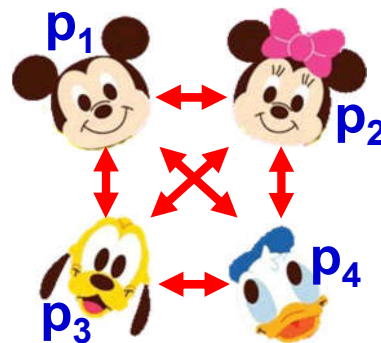
- Prove “If  $n$  is a positive integer, then  $n$  is odd **if and only if**  $n^2$  is odd”
- Two steps
  1. If  $n$  is a positive integer, **if**  $n$  is odd, **then**  $n^2$  is odd (shown in slides 43)
  2. If  $n$  is a positive integer, **if**  $n^2$  is odd, **then**  $n$  is odd (shown in slides 54)
- Therefore, it is true

## Universal Quantification

## Proof of Theorems: Equivalence

- How to show  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  and  $p_4$  are equivalence?

- $p_1 \leftrightarrow p_2$
- $p_1 \leftrightarrow p_3$
- $p_1 \leftrightarrow p_4$
- $p_2 \leftrightarrow p_3$
- $p_2 \leftrightarrow p_4$
- $p_3 \leftrightarrow p_4$



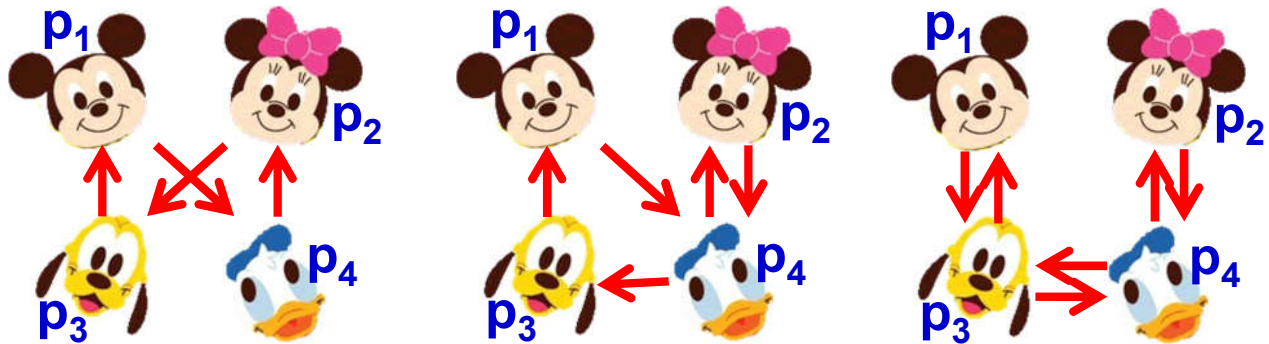
- **Not necessary**

- E.g. if  $p_1 \leftrightarrow p_2$  and  $p_2 \leftrightarrow p_3$ , then  $p_1 \leftrightarrow p_3$

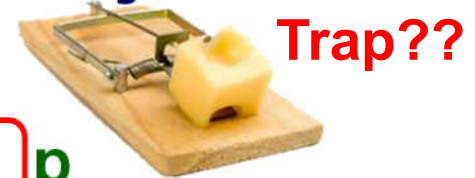
# Proof of Theorems: Equivalence

$$p_1 \leftrightarrow p_2 \leftrightarrow p_3 \leftrightarrow \dots \leftrightarrow p_n$$

- When proving a group of statements are equivalent, any **chain of conditional statements** can be established as long as it is possible to work through the chain to **go from anyone** of these statements to **any other statement**



## Statement: Example



Can you prove "You love me" ?  $p$

If you love me,  $p \rightarrow q$   
you will buy me iPhone5

How?



What does it mean if you...

- Buy iPhone  $q$  Prove nothing
- Do not buy iPhone

$$\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$$



# Statement: Example (Correct)

Can you prove "You love me" ?  $p$

If you do not love me, you will not buy me iphone5  $\neg p \rightarrow \neg q$

How?



What does it mean if you...

1. Buy iphone  $q \rightarrow p$
2. Do not buy iphone  $\neg q$  Prove nothing



# Proof by Contradiction

- By using **Proof by Contradiction**,  
If you want to **show p is true**, you need:

- $\neg p \rightarrow q$  is true
- $q$  is false

$\neg P$	$Q$	$\neg P \rightarrow Q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

- Recall, **Proof by Contradiction** of  $p \rightarrow q$  is  $\neg p \rightarrow q$

# Proof by Contradiction

- Procedures of Proof by Contradiction to prove  $p$  is correct :
  1. Understand the meaning of  $\neg p$
  2. Find out what  $\neg p$  implies ( $\neg p \rightarrow q$  is true)
  3. Show that  $q$  is not correct

## Proof by Contradiction: Example 1

- Prove  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational

Not “if... then...” format  
Only one statement

1. Understand the meaning of  $\neg p$

$\sqrt{2}$  is rational

2. Find out what  $\neg p$  implies

$q$

If  $\sqrt{2}$  is rational, there exist integers  $p$  and  $q$  with  $\sqrt{2} = p / q$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  have no common factors

- So that the fraction  $p / q$  is in lowest terms

3. Show that  $q$  is not correct

Show “there exist integers  $p$  and  $q$  with  $\sqrt{2} = p / q$ ” is not true



Show “there exist integers  $p$  and  $q$  with  $\sqrt{2} = p / q$ ” is not true

$$\sqrt{2} = p / q \quad , \text{ where } q \neq 0$$
$$2q^2 = p^2$$

- $p^2$  is an even number
- If  $p^2$  is even, so  $p = 2a$ , and  $a$  is an integer
$$2q^2 = 4a^2$$
$$q^2 = 2a^2$$
- $q$  is also even
- As  $p$  and  $q$  are even, they have a common factor  $2$ , which leads the **contradiction**
- Therefore, “ $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational” is true

Universal Quantification: Methods of Proving Theorems: Statement

## Proof by Contradiction: Example 2

- Show that at least four of any 22 days must fall on the same day of the week.

July

W	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
19						1	2
20	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
21	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
24	31						

Let  $p$ : "At least four of 22 chosen days fall on the same day of the week."

1. **Understand the meaning of  $\neg p$**

At most three of 22 chosen days fall on the same day of the week

2. **Find out what  $\neg p$  implies**

As at most three day fall on the same week day, therefore a week should have at least  $22 / 3$  days

3. **Show that  $q$  is not correct**

A week only has 7 days, therefore,  $q$  is not correct

Therefore,  $p$  is correct

Universal Quantification: Methods of Proving Theorems: Statement

## Proof by Contradiction

- Proof by Contradiction can also be used to show  $P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)$  (implication)
- Let  $S(x) : P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)$  and prove  $S(x)$  is correct
  - $S(x) : P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)$
  - $\neg S(x) \rightarrow (P(x) \wedge \neg Q(x))$  is true
  - $P(x) \wedge \neg Q(x)$  is false

$$\begin{aligned} \neg S(x) &= \neg(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \\ &= \neg(\neg P(x) \vee Q(x)) \\ &= P(x) \wedge \neg Q(x) \end{aligned}$$

## Proof by Contradiction: Example 3

- Show "If  $3n + 2$  is odd, then  $n$  is odd"  
*Be noted that proof by contraposition can be used (shown in slide 50)*
- Let  $P(n): Q(3n+2) \rightarrow Q(n)$ ,  
 where  $Q(n) : "n \text{ is odd}"$
- $\neg P(n)$  implies:
 
$$\begin{aligned} \neg P(n) &\equiv \neg(Q(3n+2) \rightarrow Q(n)) \\ &\equiv \neg(\neg Q(3n+2) \vee Q(n)) \\ &\equiv Q(3n+2) \wedge \neg Q(n) \end{aligned}$$

## Proof by Contradiction: Example 3

- $\neg P(n)$  implies " $Q(3n+2) \wedge \neg Q(n)$ "
  - $\neg Q(n)$  imply...
    - $n$  is even,  $n = 2k$ , where  $k$  is integer
    - $3n+2 = 3(2k)+2 = 2(3k+1)$
    - Therefore,  $3n+2$  is even ( $\neg Q(3n+2)$ )
    - $Q(3n+2) \wedge \neg Q(3n+2)$  is false
    - Therefore,  $\neg P(n)$  must be false
  - Therefore,
    - $Q(3n+2) \rightarrow Q(n)$  is true

## Exhaustive Proof and Proof by Cases

- Sometimes, a theorem **cannot be proved easily using** a single argument that holds for **all possible cases**
- Rather than considering  $(p \rightarrow q)$  directly, we can **consider different cases separately**
- This argument is named **Proof by Cases**:

$$(p_1 \vee p_2 \vee \dots \vee p_n) \rightarrow q \\ \equiv [(p_1 \rightarrow q) \wedge (p_2 \rightarrow q) \wedge \dots \wedge (p_n \rightarrow q)]$$

- E.g.  $x^2 \geq 0$ , we can  $x < 0$ ,  $x = 0$  and  $x > 0$

## Exhaustive Proof

- **Exhaustive Proofs**
  - **Prove all the possibilities**
  - Example
    - Prove that  $(n + 1)^3 > 3^n$  if  $n$  is a positive integer with  $n \leq 4$
    - Prove all the possibilities:  **$n = 1, 2, 3$  and  $4$**

# Exhaustive Proof: Example 1

- Prove that  $(n + 1)^3 \geq 3^n$  if  $n$  is a positive integer with  $n \leq 4$

When  $n = 1$

LHS:  $(n + 1)^3 = 8$

RHS:  $3^n = 3$

LHS > RHS

When  $n = 2$

LHS:  $(n + 1)^3 = 27$

RHS:  $3^n = 9$

LHS > RHS

When  $n = 3$

LHS:  $(n + 1)^3 = 64$

RHS:  $3^n = 27$

LHS > RHS

When  $n = 4$

LHS:  $(n + 1)^3 = 125$

RHS:  $3^n = 81$

LHS > RHS

- Therefore,  $(n + 1)^3 > 3^n$  is valid

# Exhaustive Proof: Example 2

- Given
  - An integer is a **perfect power** if it equals  $n^a$ , where  $a$  is an integer greater than 1
- Prove that the **only consecutive positive integers not exceeding 100** that are perfect powers are 8 and 9
  - By exhaustive proof, list all the perfect powers not exceeding 100

	n=1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
a=2	1	4	9	16	25	36	49	64	81	100
3	1	8	27	64						
4	1	32	81							
5	1	64								
>5	1									

- Therefore, only 8 and 9 are consecutive

## Proof by Cases

- **Drawback** of Exhaustive Proofs is to **check only a relatively small number** of instances of a statement
- **Proof by Cases**
  - **Prove all situations**
  - Example
    - Prove that if  $n$  is an integer, then  $n^2 > n$
    - Prove all the situations:  **$n$  is positive, equal and negative**

## Proof by Cases: Example 1

- Prove that if  $n$  is an **integer**, then  $n^2 \geq n$

**When  $n \geq 1$**

$$n^2 = n \times n \geq n \times 1 = n, \text{ therefore } n^2 \geq n$$

**When  $n = 0$**

$$n^2 = n = 0, \text{ therefore, } n^2 = n$$

**When  $n \leq -1$**

$$n^2 > 0 \text{ and } n < 0, \text{ therefore } n^2 \geq n$$

- Therefore, this theorem is valid

## Proof by Cases: Example 2

- Use a proof by cases to show that  $|x y| = |x| |y|$ , where  $x$  and  $y$  are real numbers

(Recall  $|a| = a$ , when  $a \geq 0$  ;  $|a| = -a$  when  $a < 0$ )

When  $x \geq 0$  and  $y \geq 0$

$$|x y| = x y = |x| |y|$$

When  $x < 0$  and  $y \geq 0$

$$|x y| = -x y = (-x) (y) = |x| |y|$$

When  $x \geq 0$  and  $y < 0$

$$|x y| = -x y = (x) (-y) = |x| |y|$$

When  $x < 0$  and  $y < 0$

$$|x y| = x y = (-x) (-y) = |x| |y|$$

- Therefore, this theorem is valid

## Existence Proofs

- We will **focus** on the theorems which are assertions that **objects of a particular type exist** ( $\exists$ )
  - A theorem of **this type** is a proposition of the form  $\exists x P(x)$ , where  $P$  is a **predicate**
  - The proof of this proposition is **Existence Proof**
    - By **finding an element**  $a$  such that  $P(a)$  is **true**

# Existence Proofs

- Example:
  - Show that **there is a positive integer** that can be written as **the sum of cubes of positive integers** in **two different ways**
  - After considerable computation (such as a computer search), we find that

$$1729 = 10^3 + 9^3 = 12^3 + 1^3$$

- An example is given, the proof is done

# Uniqueness Proof

- The **theorems** which assert **the existence of a unique element** with a particular property will be discussed
- The **two parts** of a uniqueness proof are:
  - **Existence** (**An element with the property exists**)
    - Show that an element  $x$  with the property exists
  - **Uniqueness** (**No other element has this property**)
    - Show that if  $y \neq x$ ,  $y$  does not have the property.
- Equivalently, we can show that if  $x$  and  $y$  both have the desired property, then  $x = y$

$$\underbrace{\exists x (P(x))}_{\text{Existence}} \wedge \underbrace{\forall y (P(y) \rightarrow (y = x))}_{\text{Uniqueness}}$$



# Uniqueness Proof: Example

- Show that if  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers and  $a \neq 0$ , then there is a **unique real number  $r$**  such that  $ar + b = 0$
- **Existence Part**
  - The real number  **$t = -b / a$**  is a **solution** of  $ar + b = 0$  because  $a(-b/a) + b = -b + b = 0$
  - Consequently, a real number  $t$  exists for which  $at + b = 0$
- **Uniqueness Part**
  - Suppose that  $s$  is a real number such that  **$as + b = 0$** 
$$at + b = as + b \quad t \text{ is } -b / a$$
$$at = as \quad a \text{ is nonzero}$$
$$t = s$$
  - This means that if  $s \neq t$ , then  **$as + b \neq 0$**

## Tips

- **DO NOT over simplify the proof**
  - “Obviously” or “clearly” in proofs indicate that steps have been **omitted** that the author **expects the reader to be able to fill in**
  - **Unfortunately**, this assumption is often **not warranted**
  - We will assiduously try to **avoid using these words** and try **not to omit too many steps**
- However, if we **included all steps** in proofs, our **proofs** would often be **too long**

