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csci54 – discrete math & functional programming  
proofs: example, counterexample, direct, contrapositive

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# discrete math so far

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- ▶ sets
- ▶ introductions to propositional and predicate logic
- ▶ reflections on what it means to prove something
  
- ▶ this week:
  - ▶ proof techniques
  - ▶ group meeting Thursday/Friday
  - ▶ problem set due this Sunday
    - ▶ can discuss ideas, but must not look at anyone else's written up solution (in latex, on a whiteboard, etc)



# Negating nested quantifiers

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- ▶ Consider the following statement:

$$\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} : [\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} : (i \neq j) \wedge (A[i] = A[j])]$$

- ▶ Simplify the negation:

$$\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} : [\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} : (i \neq j) \wedge (A[i] = A[j])]$$



$$\forall x \in S : [P(x) \vee \neg P(x)]$$

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$$\neg[\forall x \in S : P(x)] \Leftrightarrow [\exists x \in S : \neg P(x)]$$

De Morgan's Laws (quantified form)

$$\neg[\exists x \in S : P(x)] \Leftrightarrow [\forall x \in S : \neg P(x)]$$

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$$[\forall x \in S : P(x)] \Rightarrow [\exists x \in S : P(x)]$$

*if the set S is nonempty*

$$\forall x \in \emptyset : P(x)$$

Vacuous quantification

$$\neg \exists x \in \emptyset : P(x)$$

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$$[\exists x \in S : P(x) \vee Q(x)] \Leftrightarrow [\exists x \in S : P(x)] \vee [\exists x \in S : Q(x)]$$

$$[\forall x \in S : P(x) \wedge Q(x)] \Leftrightarrow [\forall x \in S : P(x)] \wedge [\forall x \in S : Q(x)]$$

$$[\exists x \in S : P(x) \wedge Q(x)] \Rightarrow [\exists x \in S : P(x)] \wedge [\exists x \in S : Q(x)]$$

$$[\forall x \in S : P(x) \vee Q(x)] \Leftarrow [\forall x \in S : P(x)] \vee [\forall x \in S : Q(x)]$$

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$$[\forall x \in S : P(x) \Rightarrow Q(x)] \wedge [\forall x \in S : P(x)] \Rightarrow [\forall x \in S : Q(x)]$$

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$$[\forall x \in \{y \in S : P(y)\} : Q(x)] \Leftrightarrow [\forall x \in S : P(x) \Rightarrow Q(x)]$$

$$[\exists x \in \{y \in S : P(y)\} : Q(x)] \Leftrightarrow [\exists x \in S : P(x) \wedge Q(x)]$$



# On proofs

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- ▶ A proof of a proposition is a convincing argument that the proposition is true.
- ▶ Assumes that you are trying to convince a particular audience
  - ▶ For this class assume you are writing for a classmate



## some definitions

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- ▶ an integer  $k$  is even if and only if there exists an integer  $r$  such that  $k=2r$
- ▶ an integer  $k$  is odd if and only if there exists an integer  $r$  such that  $k=2r+1$
- ▶  $k|m$  if and only if there exists an integer  $r$  such that  $m=kr$ . This is equivalent to saying that " $m \bmod k = 0$ " or that " $k$  evenly divides  $m$ ".
- ▶ an integer  $k>1$  is prime if the only positive integers that evenly divide  $k$  are  $1$  and  $k$  itself.
- ▶ an integer  $k>1$  is composite if it is not prime.
- ▶ an integer  $k$  is a perfect square if and only if there exists an integer  $r$  such that  $k=r^2$

## proof techniques ( by giving an example )

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- ▶ proof by construction / proof by example:

- ▶ given a claim that there exists  $x$  such that  $P(x)$  is true, can prove by constructing such an  $x$

there exists a prime number larger than 20

- ▶ disproof by counterexample:

- ▶ given a claim that some  $P(x)$  is true for all  $x$ , can disprove by showing there exists an element  $y$  where  $P(y)$  is not true.

for all positive integers  $n$ ,  
 $2n = n^2$





# proof techniques

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- ▶ **direct proof:**

- ▶ start with known facts. repeatedly infer additional new facts until can conclude what you want to show.
- ▶ may divide work into cases

- ▶ **proof of the contrapositive**

- ▶ if trying to prove an implication, prove the contrapositive instead

- ▶ **proof by contradiction**

- ▶ if trying to prove a statement, assume the statement is not true and prove something that is clearly false. From this conclude that the original statement must be true.



# proof techniques

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- ▶ **direct proof:**

- ▶ start with known facts. repeatedly infer additional new facts until can conclude what you want to show.
- ▶ may divide work into cases

- ▶ **proof of the contrapositive:**

- ▶ if trying to prove an implication, prove the contrapositive instead

- ▶ **proof by contradiction**

- ▶ if trying to prove a statement, assume the statement is not true and prove something that is clearly false. From this conclude that the original statement must be true.



## direct proof + cases : example

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- ▶ claim: let  $n$  be any integer. Then  $n(n+1)^2$  is even. state the proof technique (unless it's a direct proof)
- ▶ proof: The proof is by cases. Given an integer  $n$ ,  $n$  is either even or odd.
  - ▶ If  $n$  is even, then  $n=2r$  for some integer  $r$ . Then  $n(n+1)^2 = 2r(2r+1)^2 = 2(r(2r+1)^2)$ , which is even. break up the proof visually
  - ▶ If  $n$  is odd, then  $n=2r+1$  for some integer  $r$ . Then  $n(n+1)^2 = (2r+1)(2r+2)^2 = (2r+1)(2r+2)(2r+2) = 2((2r+1)(r+1)(2r+2))$ , which is even.
- ▶ Since  $n(n+1)^2$  is even regardless of whether  $n$  is even or odd,  $n(n+1)^2$  is even for all integers  $n$ . conclude by stating what you've shown



## direct proof : example

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- ▶ claim: the binary representation of any odd integer ends with a 1.



# representing numbers in different bases

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- ▶ In base10 (decimal), every number is written as a sum of powers of 10.

- ▶ For example,  $205 = 2*10^2 + 0*10^1 + 5*10^0$

- ▶ More generally, in base 10:

... ..

- ▶ In base2 (binary), every number is written a a sum of powers of 2.

- ▶ For example,  $101 = 1*2^2 + 0*2^1 + 1*2^0$

- ▶ More generally, in base 2:

... ..



# practice with decimal and binary

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## write in decimal

1. 1
2. 10
3. 100
4. 1011
5. 1100
6. 10101

## write in binary

1. 3
2. 8
3. 10
4. 22
5. 37
6. 47



## direct proof : example

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- ▶ claim: If a number is odd, then its binary representation ends with a 1.
  - ▶ proof:
    - ▶ Let  $k$  be an arbitrary odd integer.
    - ▶ Then there exists an integer  $r$  such that  $k=2r+1$ .
    - ▶ Now let  $d_n\dots d_2d_1d_0$  be the binary representation of  $r$ .
    - ▶ The binary representation of  $2r$  is then  $d_n\dots d_2d_1d_00$ , and
    - ▶ The binary representation of  $k=2r+1= d_n\dots d_2d_1d_01$ .
  - ▶ conclusion: Therefore the binary representation of any odd integer ends with a 1.
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# proof techniques

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- ▶ direct proof:
  - ▶ start with known facts. repeatedly infer additional new facts until can conclude what you want to show.
  - ▶ may divide work into cases
- ▶ proof of the contrapositive:
  - ▶ if trying to prove an implication, prove the contrapositive instead
- ▶ proof by contradiction
  - ▶ if trying to prove a statement, assume the statement is not true and prove something that is clearly false. From this conclude that the original statement must be true.



## proof of the contrapositive : example

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- ▶ claim: If a number is odd, then its binary representation ends with a 1.
- ▶ proof: The claim states that if an integer  $k$  is odd, then its binary representation ends with a 1. We prove the contrapositive: if the binary representation of a number  $k$  ends with a 0 then  $k$  is even.

- ▶ Let  $k$  be an integer whose binary representation ends with a 0. Let  $d_n \dots d_3 d_2 d_1 0$  be the binary representation of  $k$ . Since the digits in a binary number represent powers of 2, this means

$$\begin{aligned} k &= d_n \cdot 2^n + d_{n-1} \cdot 2^{n-1} + \dots + d_2 \cdot 2^2 + d_1 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^0 \\ &= 2(d_n \cdot 2^{n-1} + d_{n-1} \cdot 2^{n-2} + \dots + d_2 \cdot 2^1 + d_1) \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Therefore  $k$  is even.
- ▶ We have proven the contrapositive and, therefore, the binary representation of any odd integer ends with a 1.

## if and only if: example

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- ▶ prove the following claim by proving each direction separately. Use a direct proof in one direction and a proof of the contrapositive in the other.
- ▶ claim: let  $n$  be any integer. Then  $n$  is even if and only if  $n^2$  is even.

