
Isabelle/Isar quick reference

A.1 Proof commands

A.1.1 Primitives and basic syntax

fix x	augment context by $\bigwedge x. \square$
assume $a: \varphi$	augment context by $\varphi \implies \square$
then	indicate forward chaining of facts
have $a: \varphi$	prove local result
show $a: \varphi$	prove local result, refining some goal
using a	indicate use of additional facts
unfolding a	unfold definitional equations
proof $m_1 \dots$ qed m_2	indicate proof structure and refinements
{ ... }	indicate explicit blocks
next	switch blocks
note $a = b$	reconsider facts
let $p = t$	abbreviate terms by higher-order matching
write $c \ (mx)$	declare local mixfix syntax

proof = *prfx** **proof** *method*? *stmt** **qed** *method*?
 | *prfx** **done**

prfx = **apply** *method*
 | **using** *facts*
 | **unfolding** *facts*

stmt = **{** *stmt** **}**
 | **next**
 | **note** *name* = *facts*
 | **let** *term* = *term*
 | **write** *name* (*mixfix*)
 | **fix** *var*⁺
 | **assume** *name*: *props*
 | **then**? *goal*

goal = **have** *name*: *props* *proof*
 | **show** *name*: *props* *proof*

A.1.2 Abbreviations and synonyms

by m_1 m_2	\equiv	proof m_1 qed m_2
..	\equiv	by <i>rule</i>
.	\equiv	by <i>this</i>
hence	\equiv	then have
thus	\equiv	then show
from a	\equiv	note a then
with a	\equiv	from a and <i>this</i>
from <i>this</i>	\equiv	then
from <i>this</i> have	\equiv	hence
from <i>this</i> show	\equiv	thus

A.1.3 Derived elements

also ₀	\approx	note <i>calculation</i> = <i>this</i>
also _{$n+1$}	\approx	note <i>calculation</i> = <i>trans</i> [<i>OF</i> <i>calculation</i> <i>this</i>]
finally	\approx	also from <i>calculation</i>
moreover	\approx	note <i>calculation</i> = <i>calculation</i> <i>this</i>
ultimately	\approx	moreover from <i>calculation</i>
presume $a: \varphi$	\approx	assume $a: \varphi$
def $a: x \equiv t$	\approx	fix x assume $a: x \equiv t$
obtain x where $a: \varphi$	\approx	... fix x assume $a: \varphi$
case c	\approx	fix x assume $c: \varphi$
sorry	\approx	by <i>cheating</i>

A.1.4 Diagnostic commands

pr	print current state
thm a	print fact
prop φ	print proposition
term t	print term
typ τ	print type

A.2 Proof methods

Single steps (forward-chaining facts)

<i>assumption</i>	apply some assumption
<i>this</i>	apply current facts
<i>rule a</i>	apply some rule
<i>rule</i>	apply standard rule (default for proof)
<i>contradiction</i>	apply \neg elimination rule (any order)
<i>cases t</i>	case analysis (provides cases)
<i>induct x</i>	proof by induction (provides cases)

Repeated steps (inserting facts)

—	no rules
<i>intro a</i>	introduction rules
<i>intro_classes</i>	class introduction rules
<i>elim a</i>	elimination rules
<i>unfold a</i>	definitional rewrite rules

Automated proof tools (inserting facts)

<i>iprover</i>	intuitionistic proof search
<i>blast, fast</i>	Classical Reasoner
<i>simp, simp_all</i>	Simplifier (+ Splitter)
<i>auto, force</i>	Simplifier + Classical Reasoner
<i>arith</i>	Arithmetic procedures

A.3 Attributes

Rules

<i>OF a</i>	rule resolved with facts (skipping “_”)
<i>of t</i>	rule instantiated with terms (skipping “_”)
<i>where x = t</i>	rule instantiated with terms, by variable name
<i>symmetric</i>	resolution with symmetry rule
<i>THEN b</i>	resolution with another rule
<i>rule_format</i>	result put into standard rule format
<i>elim_format</i>	destruct rule turned into elimination rule format

Declarations

<i>simp</i>	Simplifier rule
<i>intro, elim, dest</i>	Pure or Classical Reasoner rule
<i>iff</i>	Simplifier + Classical Reasoner rule
<i>split</i>	case split rule
<i>trans</i>	transitivity rule
<i>sym</i>	symmetry rule

A.4 Rule declarations and methods

	<i>rule</i>	<i>iprover</i>	<i>blast</i> <i>fast</i>	<i>simp</i> <i>simp_all</i>	<i>auto</i> <i>force</i>
<i>Pure.elim! Pure.intro!</i>	×	×			
<i>Pure.elim Pure.intro</i>	×	×			
<i>elim! intro!</i>	×		×		×
<i>elim intro</i>	×		×		×
<i>iff</i>	×		×	×	×
<i>iff?</i>	×				
<i>elim? intro?</i>	×				
<i>simp</i>				×	×
<i>cong</i>				×	×
<i>split</i>				×	×

A.5 Emulating tactic scripts

A.5.1 Commands

apply <i>m</i>	apply proof method at initial position
apply_end <i>m</i>	apply proof method near terminal position
done	complete proof
defer <i>n</i>	move subgoal to end
prefer <i>n</i>	move subgoal to beginning
back	backtrack last command

A.5.2 Methods

<i>rule_tac insts</i>	resolution (with instantiation)
<i>erule_tac insts</i>	elim-resolution (with instantiation)
<i>drule_tac insts</i>	destruct-resolution (with instantiation)
<i>frule_tac insts</i>	forward-resolution (with instantiation)
<i>cut_tac insts</i>	insert facts (with instantiation)
<i>thin_tac</i> φ	delete assumptions
<i>subgoal_tac</i> φ	new claims
<i>rename_tac</i> <i>x</i>	rename innermost goal parameters
<i>rotate_tac</i> <i>n</i>	rotate assumptions of goal
<i>tactic text</i>	arbitrary ML tactic
<i>case_tac</i> <i>t</i>	exhaustion (datatypes)
<i>induct_tac</i> <i>x</i>	induction (datatypes)
<i>ind_cases</i> <i>t</i>	exhaustion + simplification (inductive predicates)