

Summary of proof methods

The following are valid ways to begin a proof of the statement,

$$\forall x \in D, P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)$$

1. Suppose for some $x \in D$, $P(x)$ is true.
 - ▶ This will be a GGP proof
 - ▶ Goal: SHOW (with some mathy stuff) that $Q(x)$ is true.
2. Suppose for some $x \in D$, $P(x)$ is TRUE, but $Q(x)$ is FALSE.
 - ▶ This will be a proof by contradiction
 - ▶ Goal: SHOW (with some mathy stuff) that the universe explodes.
3. Suppose for some $x \in D$, $Q(x)$ is FALSE (i.e. its negation is true).
 - ▶ This will be a proof by contrapositive
 - ▶ Goal: SHOW (with some mathy stuff) that $P(x)$ is also false (i.e. its negation is true)

IMPORTANT!!!

**IT IS NEVER EVER EVER HELPFUL TO ASSUME THAT
 $Q(x)$ IS TRUE.**

This is a proof-killing mistake. No good can come of it. Don't do it. You'll be sorry.

Also note: counter example
contradiction
contrapositive

> All are very different!!