

Given an implication  $P \rightarrow Q$

we define  $Q \rightarrow P$  to be the converse of  $P \rightarrow Q$

we define  $\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$  to be the contrapositive

The contrapositive is equivalent. So  $P \rightarrow Q \iff \neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$   
 $\neg P \vee Q \qquad \neg \neg Q \vee \neg P$

(The converse is not equivalent)

$P \rightarrow Q$  and  $Q \rightarrow P \iff P \iff Q$

Direct Proof (the natural argument form of the deduction method)

Assume the premises and argue to the conclusion.

Show that the product of two even numbers is always even.

$[ \text{even}(x) \wedge \text{even}(y) \rightarrow \text{even}(xy) ]$

Proof Let  $x$  and  $y$  be two even numbers. Let  $j$  and  $k$  be numbers such that  $x = 2j$  and  $y = 2k$ . Then

$$xy = (2j)(2k) = 2(2jk) \text{ which is even since } 2jk \text{ is a number.}$$

Show if  $n^2$  is odd then  $n$  is odd.

idea consider the contrapositive

if  $n$  is ~~not odd~~ even then  $n^2$  is ~~not odd~~ even

$\Rightarrow$  a special case of previous slide.

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Proof by contradiction to show  $Q$ , assume  $\neg Q$  and derive  
any contradiction

Example. Prove there are no natural numbers  $p, q$   
s.t.  $\sqrt{2} = p/q$

Suppose not. [Suppose ~~no~~ such  $p, q$  exist, for contradiction]

$$\text{So } 2 = p^2/q^2 \text{ and so } \underline{2q^2} = p^2$$

$p^2$  has an even # of 2's in its factorization, and  
 $2q^2$  " " odd " " " " " " " " " " " "

So we have a number that is both even and odd. ~~\*\*\*~~

Technically proof by contradiction subsumes direct proof and direct proof of the contrapositive.

Goal  $P \rightarrow Q$

Direct proof

Assume

$P$

Show

$Q$

$\neg Q$

$\neg P$

D.P. of contrapositive

Proof by contradiction

$\neg(P \rightarrow Q)$

$P \wedge \neg Q$

any contradiction

(includes  $Q$  since  $\neg Q$  known  
includes  $\neg P$  since  $P$  known)

Showing equivalence between  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n$  ?

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Show  $P_1 \leftrightarrow P_2$  by showing  $P_1 \rightarrow P_2 \wedge P_2 \rightarrow P_1$ .

$$P_2 \leftrightarrow P_3$$

[then  $P_1 \leftrightarrow P_3$  would be implied]

$$\vdots$$
$$P_{n-1} \leftrightarrow P_n$$

total  $2(n-1)$   
 $\rightarrow$  proofs

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Alternative

Show  $P_1 \rightarrow P_2 \wedge P_2 \rightarrow P_3 \wedge \dots \wedge P_{n-1} \rightarrow P_n \rightarrow P_1$

total  $n \rightarrow$  proofs

2 Fallacies involving the converse.

Affirming the conclusion

$$(P \rightarrow Q) \wedge Q \not\equiv P$$

Denying the conclusion

$$P \rightarrow Q \wedge \neg P \not\equiv \neg Q$$

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another fallacy: circular reasoning.  
[sneakily assuming the goal]

Prove  $n$  is even:

Let  $k$  be a number such that  $n = 2k$ . Therefore  
 $n$  is even.