

# 11. Proof by Induction



Language & Logic

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# Last two weeks

- Final topic: proofs of program correctness
  - (see also connections to Elements of Functional Computing)
- This week (week 10)
  - Mon 4pm: lecture
  - Tue 11am: lecture
  - nothing on Thursday
- Next week (week 11)
  - Mon: no lecture
  - Tue 11am and Thu 10am: exercise classes
- Continuous assessment
  - assignment 3 (due 5pm this Friday 1 Dec)

# Assignment 3 questions

- Q1 b: “them”; “either”
  - (b) Everyone who loves Bella also loves either Claire or Daisy, and none of them speak French, but at least one person who loves Daisy speaks German.
- Q1 /2: sentences vs. arguments vs. theorems
- Prove or disprove equivalences in both directions

# Today & tomorrow

- Predicate calculus proofs
  - common questions/errors
- Propositional logic, predicate calculus, proof
  - applications elsewhere in maths & computer science
- Proof by induction
  - mathematical induction
- Structural induction
  - correctness of programs on recursive data structures

# Predicate calculus proofs

- Disproof via counterexample

- how to find? how to present?
- see e.g. Exercise 8 Q4

$$\neg \exists x[P(x)] \wedge \forall x[\forall y[(P(x) \wedge P(y)) \rightarrow (x = y)]] : \neg \forall x[P(x)]$$

- $\forall$ -introduction and  $\exists$ -elimination

- take care with the usage restrictions
- learn/remember the intuition behind them
- think about the roles of the constants
- sometimes need several, e.g. Exercise 8 Q5

$$\exists x[\forall y[P(y) \rightarrow (x = y)]] : \forall x[\forall y[(P(x) \wedge P(y)) \rightarrow (x = y)]]$$

# Logic & proof (so far)

- Propositional logic & predicate calculus
  - Boolean connectives ( $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\rightarrow$ )
  - quantifiers ( $\forall$ ,  $\exists$ ), variables, predicates, identity
  - formulas, arguments, theorems, equivalences
  - translation from natural language
  - formal proof using natural deduction
- Applications of logic & proof
  - program correctness
    - verification, model checking, SAT solvers, theorem provers
  - circuit design, artificial intelligence, knowledge representation
  - basis for formal proofs in mathematics & computer science

# Mathematical proofs

- Ingredients of predicate logic are essential for representing mathematical facts, theorems, proofs, e.g.:
- Predicates
  - $\text{even}(x)$  =  $x$  is even;  $\text{mult}(a,b,x)$  =  $x$  is equal to  $a$  times  $b$
- Definitions
  - even integers are multiples of 2,  
i.e.  $\text{even}(x) \equiv \exists y [ \text{mult}(2,y,x) ]$
- Theorems
  - if  $n^2$  is even then  $n$  is even too,  
i.e.  $\forall n [ \text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n) ]$
- Proof techniques
  - proof by contradiction ( $\neg$ -introduction)
  - proof by cases ( $\vee$ -elimination)
  - ...

# Proof by contradiction

- Theorem:

- if  $n^2$  is even then  $n$  is even too, i.e.  $\forall n [ \text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n) ]$

- Proof:

1.	[	$\text{even}(n^2)$	Hypothesis
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.		$\text{even}(n)$	
9.		$\text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n)$	$\rightarrow$ -introduction <sub>1,8</sub>
10.		$\forall n [ \text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n) ]$	$\forall$ -introduction <sub>9</sub>



# Proof by contradiction

- Theorem:

- if  $n^2$  is even then  $n$  is even too, i.e.  $\forall n [ \text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n) ]$

- Proof:

1.	[	$\text{even}(n^2)$	Hypothesis
2.	[	$\neg \text{even}(n)$	Hypothesis
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.		$\neg \neg \text{even}(n)$	$\neg$ -introduction <sub>2,6</sub>
8.		$\text{even}(n)$	$\neg \neg$ -elimination <sub>7</sub>
9.		$\text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n)$	$\rightarrow$ -introduction <sub>1,8</sub>
10.		$\forall n [ \text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n) ]$	$\forall$ -introduction <sub>9</sub>

# Proof by contradiction

- Theorem:

- if  $n^2$  is even then  $n$  is even too, i.e.  $\forall n [ \text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n) ]$

- Proof:

1.	[	$\text{even}(n^2)$	Hypothesis
2.	[	$\neg \text{even}(n)$	Hypothesis
3.		$n = 2k+1$	(since $n$ is odd)
4.		$n^2 = (2k+1)^2 = 4k^2+4k+1 = 2(2k^2+2k)+1$	(expansion)
5.		$\neg \text{even}(n^2)$	(from above)
6.		$\perp$	$\wedge$ -introduction <sub>1,5</sub>
7.		$\neg \neg \text{even}(n)$	$\neg$ -introduction <sub>2,6</sub>
8.		$\text{even}(n)$	$\neg \neg$ -elimination <sub>7</sub>
9.		$\text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n)$	$\rightarrow$ -introduction <sub>1,8</sub>
10.		$\forall n [ \text{even}(n^2) \rightarrow \text{even}(n) ]$	$\forall$ -introduction <sub>9</sub>

# Proof by induction

- **Mathematical induction**
  - proof technique for statements of the form  $\forall n [ P(n) ]$
  - where  $n$  is a natural number
- **Two steps:**
  - 1. Base case:
    - e.g. prove that  $P(0)$  is true
  - 2. Inductive step:
    - assume that  $P(k)$  is true, prove that  $P(k+1)$  is true
    - $P(k)$  is called the **inductive hypothesis**
- **Conclude**
  - $P(n)$  is true for all  $n$

# Proof by induction

- Inference rule:

$$\frac{P(0) \quad \forall k [ P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1) ]}{\forall n [ P(n) ]} \quad \text{by induction}$$

- Why it works:

1.	$P(0)$	Premise
2.	$\forall k [ P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1) ]$	Premise
3.	$P(0) \rightarrow P(1)$	$\forall$ -elimination
4.	$P(1)$	$\rightarrow$ -elimination
5.	$P(1) \rightarrow P(2)$	$\forall$ -elimination
6.	$P(2)$	$\rightarrow$ -elimination
7.	...	...

# Mathematical induction – Example

- Prove:  $\forall n [ \sum_{i=0 \dots n} i = n(n+1)/2 ]$ 
  - i.e.  $\forall n [ P(n) ]$  where  $P(n): \sum_{i=0 \dots n} i = n(n+1)/2$
- Base case ( $n=0$ ):
  - LHS:  $\sum_{i=0 \dots n} i = 0$
  - RHS:  $n(n+1)/2 = (0 \times 1)/2 = 0$
  - so  $P(0)$  is true
- Inductive step
  - assume **inductive hypothesis**  $P(k): \sum_{i=0 \dots k} i = k(k+1)/2$
  - then prove  $P(k+1)$ , i.e.  $\sum_{i=0 \dots k+1} i = (k+1)(k+2)/2$
  - $\sum_{i=0 \dots k+1} i = (0+1+\dots+k+k+1) = (\sum_{i=0 \dots k} i) + (k+1)$ 
    - $= k(k+1)/2 + (k+1)$  (using **inductive hypothesis**)
    - $= (k(k+1) + 2(k+1))/2 = (k^2+3k+2)/2 = (k+1)(k+2)/2$
  - so  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$  and therefore  $\forall n [ P(n) ]$

# Next up: Structural induction

- Inference rule:

$\frac{P(0) \quad \forall k [ P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1) ]}{\forall n [ P(n) ]} \quad \text{by induction}$
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- We could rewrite this as:

$$\frac{P(0) \quad \forall k [ P(k) \rightarrow P(\text{succ}(k)) ]}{\forall n [ P(n) ]}$$

- And in fact “succ” could be any recursive definition...