

# Practical examples of writing programs and proving theorems in Idris.

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# Preliminaries

# Propositional Logic

- ▶ Concerned with statements of verifiable facts.
- ▶ Used daily by programmers when reasoning about Boolean values.

Symbol	Meaning	Example
T, F	True, False	Boolean values.
$p, q, r, \dots$	Propositions	Let $p = \text{"It is raining."}$
$\neg$	Negation (Not)	$\neg p$
$\wedge$	Conjunction (And)	$p \wedge q$
$\vee$	Disjunction (Or)	$p \vee q$
$\rightarrow$	Implication (If)	$p \rightarrow q$
$\leftrightarrow$	Bi Implication (Iff)	$p \leftrightarrow q$
$\equiv$	Equivalence	$p \equiv q$
$\top$	Tautology	$p \vee \neg p \equiv \top$
$\perp$	Contradiction	$p \wedge \neg p \equiv \perp$

# Definitions of Connectives

Conjunction (And)

$p$	$q$	$p \wedge q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

Disjunction (Or)

$p$	$q$	$p \vee q$
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

Negation (Not)

$p$	$\neg p$
T	F
F	T

Implication (If)

$p$	$q$	$p \rightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

Bi Implication (Iff)

$p$	$q$	$p \leftrightarrow q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	T

Logical Equivalence

$p$	$q$	$p \equiv q$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	T

# Proof Techniques

## By Exhaustion

Idea: Prove by enumerating all possible cases.

Prove:  $(\neg p \vee q) \leftrightarrow (p \rightarrow q)$ .

$p$	$q$	$\neg p$	$\neg p \vee q$	$p \rightarrow q$	$(\neg p \vee q) \leftrightarrow (p \rightarrow q)$
T	T	F	T	T	T
T	F	F	F	F	T
F	T	T	T	T	T
F	F	T	T	T	T

# Proof Techniques

## By Appeal to Lemma

Idea: Introduce pre-proven smaller proofs (called a Lemma) to prove a larger proof.

► **Lemma 1.**  $p \vee \neg p \equiv \top$ .

► **Lemma 2.**  $(p \equiv q) \equiv (p \leftrightarrow q)$ .

Prove:  $(p \leftrightarrow q) \vee \neg(p \equiv q) \leftrightarrow \top$ .

$$(p \leftrightarrow q) \vee \neg(p \equiv q) \leftrightarrow \top$$

$$(p \equiv q) \vee \neg(p \equiv q) \equiv \top$$

$$\top \equiv \top$$

Premise.

Lemma 2.

Lemma 1.



# First Order (or Predicate) Logic

Extends propositional logic from reasoning about propositions to reasoning about sets.

Symbol	Meaning	Example
$X, Y, Z, \dots$	Set Variables	Let $Y = \{2, 3, 4\}$ .
$x, y, z, \dots$	Member Variables	Let $z = 2$ .
$P(x), Q(y), \dots$	Predicate Variables	Let $Q(y) = y > 1$ .
$\forall x \in X, P(x)$	Universal Quantifier	$\forall y \in Y, Q(y)$
$\exists x \in X, P(x)$	Existential Quantifier	$\exists z \in Y, z = 2$

# Proof Techniques

## Induction

- ▶ Allows us to prove that a property  $P(x)$  holds  $\forall x \in X$ .  
Provided  $X$  is well-founded.
- ▶ Informally well-founded means “no infinite decreasing chains”.

Prove:  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}(\exists y \in \mathbb{N}, y = n + 1)$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= 0 + 1 \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Base Case.  $n = 0$



$$\begin{aligned}y &= (k + 1) + 1 \\ &= k + 2\end{aligned}$$

Inductive Step.  $n = k + 1$





# Why should I care?

- ▶ Types are just sets with flavour!
- ▶ **Bool** =  $\{True, False\}$
- ▶ **Int** =  $\{-\infty, \dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, \infty\}$
- ▶ Mixing of flavours is not allowed!
- ▶  $\{True, -2, "Hello", 1\}$  Can really only be said to be a "thing" flavoured set.

# Propositions as Types. Proofs as Programs

# Curry-Howard in Idris

What is truth?

# Vacuous Truths

Statements that are true because the premise cannot be satisfied.  
Often arise as a base case in proofs by induction.

- ▶  $F \rightarrow q \equiv T$
- ▶  $\forall x \in \{\} P(x)$ .

# Natural Numbers

## Some small examples in Idris