

# Introduction to Proofs

## Section 1.7

# Proofs of Mathematical Statements

A *proof* 증명 is a valid argument 유효한 주장 that establishes the truth of a statement.

Proofs have many practical applications:

- 프로그램이 correct
- OS 가 secure
- AI 추론 프로그램
- 시스템 명세가 일관됨

# Forms of Theorems

universal quantifier 전칭 한정자 생략된 형태

예:

“If  $x > y$ , where  $x$  and  $y$  are positive real numbers, then  $x^2 > y^2$ ”

는 정확히 적으면

“For all positive real numbers  $x$  and  $y$ , if  $x > y$ , then  $x^2 > y^2$ .”

# Proving Conditional Statements: $p \rightarrow q$

*Trivial Proof:* If we know  $q$  is true, then

$p \rightarrow q$  is true as well.

“If it is raining then  $1=1$ .”

*Vacuous Proof:* If we know  $p$  is false then

$p \rightarrow q$  is true as well.

“If I am both rich and poor then  $2 + 2 = 5$ .”

# Proving Conditional Statements: $p \rightarrow q$

*Direct Proof:*  $p$  가 참이라고 가정하고 출발해서 ...  $q$  가 참이  
된다는 것을 보임

**Example:** Give a direct proof of the theorem “If  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n^2$  is odd.”

**Solution:** Assume that  $n$  is odd. Then  $n = 2k + 1$  for an integer  $k$ . Squaring both sides of the equation, we get:

$$n^2 = (2k + 1)^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 = 2(2k^2 + 2k) + 1 = 2r + 1,$$

where  $r = 2k^2 + 2k$ , an integer.

We have proved that if  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $n^2$  is an odd integer.

(marks the end of the proof. Sometimes **QED** is used instead.)

# Proving Conditional Statements: $p \rightarrow q$

*Proof by Contraposition:* Assume  $\neg q$  and show  $\neg p$  is true also. This is sometimes called an *indirect proof* method. If we give a direct proof of  $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$  then we have a proof of  $p \rightarrow q$ .

**Example:** Prove that if  $n$  is an integer and  $3n + 2$  is odd 홀수, then  $n$  is odd.

**Solution:** Assume  $n$  is even. So,  $n = 2k$  for some integer  $k$ . Thus

$$3n + 2 = 3(2k) + 2 = 6k + 2 = 2(3k + 1) = 2j \text{ for } j = 3k + 1$$

Therefore  $3n + 2$  is even. Since we have shown  $\neg q \rightarrow \neg p$ ,  $p \rightarrow q$  must hold as well. If  $n$  is an integer and  $3n + 2$  is odd (not even), then  $n$  is odd (not even).

# Theorems that are Biconditional Statements 쌍조건문

To prove a theorem that is a biconditional statement, that is, a statement of the form  $p \leftrightarrow q$ , we show that  $p \rightarrow q$  and  $q \rightarrow p$  are both true.

**Example:** Prove the theorem: “If  $n$  is an integer, then  $n$  is odd if and only if  $n^2$  is odd.”

**Solution:** We have already shown (previous slides) that both  $p \rightarrow q$  and  $q \rightarrow p$ . Therefore we can conclude  $p \leftrightarrow q$ .

Sometimes *iff* is used as an abbreviation for “if and only if,” as in

“If  $n$  is an integer, then  $n$  is odd iff  $n^2$  is odd.”

# Proof Methods and Strategy

## Section 1.8



# Proof by Cases<sub>1</sub>

To prove a conditional statement of the form:

$$(p_1 \vee p_2 \vee \dots \vee p_n) \rightarrow q$$

Use the tautology

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[ (p_1 \vee p_2 \vee \dots \vee p_n) \rightarrow q \right] \leftrightarrow \\ & \left[ (p_1 \rightarrow q) \wedge (p_2 \rightarrow q) \wedge \dots \wedge (p_n \rightarrow q) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Each of the implications  $p_i \rightarrow q$  is a *case*.

# Proof by Cases<sub>2</sub>

**Example:** Let  $a @ b = \max\{a, b\} = a$  if  $a \geq b$ , otherwise  
 $a @ b = \max\{a, b\} = b$ .

Show that for all real numbers  $a, b, c$

$$(a @ b) @ c = a @ (b @ c)$$

(This means the operation  $@$  is associative 결합법칙 성립.)

**Proof:** Let  $a, b$ , and  $c$  be arbitrary real numbers.

Then 아래 6가지 경우

1.  $a \geq b \geq c$
2.  $a \geq c \geq b$
3.  $b \geq a \geq c$
4.  $b \geq c \geq a$
5.  $c \geq a \geq b$
6.  $c \geq b \geq a$

*Continued on next slide →*

# Proof by Cases<sub>3</sub>

Case 1:  $a \geq b \geq c$

$$(a @ b) = a, a @ c = a, b @ c = b$$

$$\text{Hence } (a @ b) @ c = a = a @ (b @ c)$$

그러므로, 성립.

6가지 모두 성립함을 보이면 됨

# Existence Proofs



Srinivasa  
Ramanujan  
(1887-1920)

Proof of theorems of the form  $\exists xP(x)$  .

**Constructive** existence proof:

- Find an explicit value of  $c$ , for which  $P(c)$  is true.
- Then  $\exists xP(x)$  is true by Existential Generalization (EG).

**Example:** Show that there is a positive integer that can be written as the sum of cubes of positive integers in two different ways:

**Proof:** 1729 is such a number since

$$1729 = 10^3 + 9^3 = 12^3 + 1^3$$



Godfrey Harold Hardy  
(1877-1947)

# Counterexamples 반례

**Example:** “Every positive integer is the sum of the squares of 3 integers.” The integer 7 is a counterexample. So the claim is false.

# Uniqueness Proofs

Some theorems assert the existence of a unique element with a particular property. The two parts of a *uniqueness proof* are

- *Existence*: We show that an element  $x$  with the property exists.
- *Uniqueness*: We show that if  $y \neq x$ , then  $y$  does not have the property.

**Example:** Show that if  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers and  $a \neq 0$ , then there is a unique 유일한 real number 실수  $r$  such that  $ar + b = 0$ .

## Solution:

- *Existence*: The real number  $r = -b/a$  is a solution of  $ar + b = 0$  because  $a(-b/a) + b = -b + b = 0$ .
- *Uniqueness*: Suppose that  $s$  is a real number such that  $as + b = 0$ . Then  $ar + b = as + b$ , where  $r = -b/a$ . Subtracting  $b$  from both sides and dividing by  $a$  shows that  $r = s$ .

# Additional Proof Methods

- 수학적 귀납법 Mathematical induction, which is a useful method for proving statements of the form  $\forall n P(n)$ , where the domain consists of all positive integers.