

1 1.7: Intro to Proofs

Technique	Assume	Show
direct proof	p	q
proof by contraposition	$\neg q$	$\neg p$
vacuous proof	(nothing)	$\neg p$ (p is always false)
trivial proof	(nothing)	q (q is always true)
proof by contradiction	$p \wedge \neg q$?

Prove $p \rightarrow q$.

- 1) Assume p is true.
- 2) Work in definitions. Do math, do logic.
- 3) q is then also true.

Definition. An integer n is even if there exists an integer k where $n = 2k$

Definition. An integer n is odd if there exists an integer k where $n = 2k + 1$

Direct proof: The sum of two even integers is even.

$p \rightarrow q$ $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$

p : a and b are even

q : $a + b$ is even.

a and b are even (assume p)

$a = 2k, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ (by definition even)

$b = 2k', k' \in \mathbb{Z}$ (by definition even)

$a+b = 2k + 2k'$ (add LHS, RHS)

$a+b = 2(k+k')$ (factor)

Note: by definition of even, $a+b$ is even, having form $a+b = 2k''$ where $k'' = k + k', k'' \in \mathbb{Z}$
Integers are closed with respect to addition.

Conclusion: I've shown that assuming p leads to q being true, hence $p \rightarrow q$.

Direct proof: If n is odd, then n^2 is odd.

Proof by contraposition: If n is an integer and $3n + 2$ is odd, then n is odd.

$p \rightarrow q$

p : $3n + 2$ is odd

q : n is odd ($n \in \mathbb{Z}$)

\neg (n is odd) (assume $\neg q$)

n is even (by definition of even and odd)

$n = 2k, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ (by definition of even)

$3n + 2$ Let's examine this.

$3(2k) + 2$ Substitute for n .

$2(3k + 1)$ Factor

Notice this is $\neg p$, the fact that $3n + 2$ is even.

Matching the format of $2k'$, where $k' = 3k + 1, k' \in \mathbb{Z}$

Conclusion: since $\neg q$ leads to $\neg p$, I've shown $p \rightarrow q$.