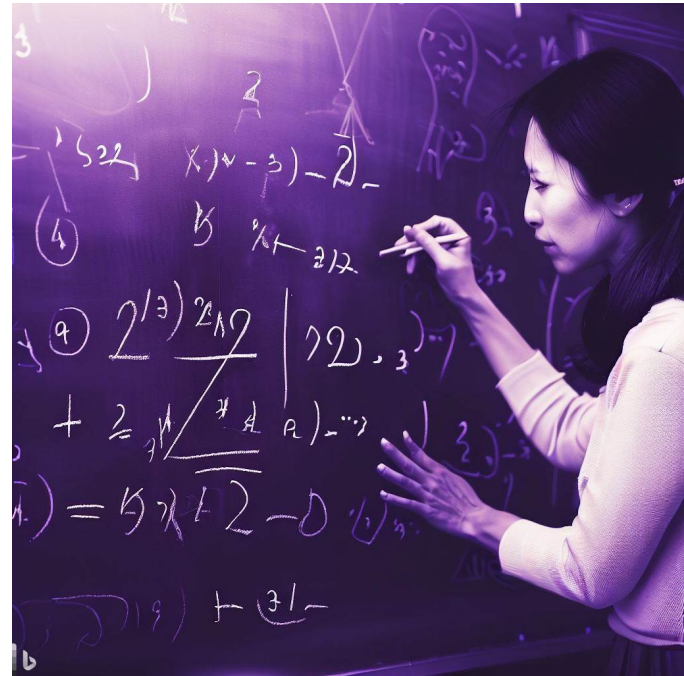


CSE 331

Basics of Reasoning

Kevin Zatloukal



Review

- **These three lectures**
 1. **Data types** (data)
 2. **Functions** (code)
 3. **Proofs** (reasoning)
- **Saw inductive data types**
 - most primitive way to build new types
- **Structurally recursive functions**
 - safest type of recursion
 - only works for recursion on inductive types

Facts

- **Basic inputs to reasoning are “facts”**
 - things we know to be true about the variables
 - typically, “=” or “<” or “≤”

```
// n must be a natural number
function f(n: number): number {
  const m = 2*n;
  return (m + 1) * (m - 1);
}
```

- **At the return statement, we know these facts:**
 - $n \in \mathbb{N}$ (or $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $n \geq 0$)
 - $m = 2n$

Facts

- **Basic inputs to reasoning are “facts”**
 - things we know to be true about the variables
 - typically, “=” or “<” or “≤”

```
// n must be a natural number
function f(n: number): number {
  const m = 2*n;
  return (m + 1) * (m - 1);
}
```

- **No need to include the fact that n is a number ($n \in \mathbb{R}$)**
 - that is true, but the type checker takes care of that
 - no need to repeat reasoning done by the type checker

Implications

- We can use the facts we know to prove more facts
 - If we can prove R using facts P and Q , we say that R “follows from” / “is implied by” P and Q
 - checking correctness is just proving implications
 - other reasoning tools output implications for us to prove
 - The techniques we will learn are
 - proof by calculation
 - proof by cases
 - structural induction
- } gives us two implications, each usually proven by calculation

Proof by Calculation

- **Proves an implication**
 - fact to be shown is an equation or inequality
- **Uses known facts and definitions**
 - latter includes, e.g., the fact that $\text{len}(\text{nil}) = 0$

Example Proof by Calculation

- **Given $x = y$ and $z < 10$, prove that $x + z < y + 10$**
 - show the third fact follows from the first two
- **Start from the left side of the inequality to be proved**

$$x + z$$

Example Proof by Calculation

- **Given $x = y$ and $z < 10$, prove that $x + z < y + 10$**
 - show the third fact follows from the first two
- **Start from the left side of the inequality to be proved**

$x + z$	$= y + z$	since $x = y$
	$< y + 10$	since $z < 10$

- “calculation block”, includes explanations in right column

Calculation Blocks

- Chain of “=” shows first = last

$$\begin{aligned} a &= b \\ &= c \\ &= d \end{aligned}$$

- proves that $a = d$
- all 4 of these are the same number

Calculation Blocks

- Chain of “=” and “<” shows first < last

$$\begin{array}{lll} x + z & = y + z & \text{since } x = y \\ & < y + 10 & \text{since } z < 10 \\ & = y + 3 + 7 & \\ & < w + 7 & \text{since } y + 3 < w \end{array}$$

- each number is equal or strictly larger than previous
last number is strictly larger than the first number
- likewise for “=” and “≤”
numbers are equal or larger, so last number is largest
- analogous for “>” and “≥” cases

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are positive integers
// Returns a positive integer.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- **Known facts “ $x > 0$ ” and “ $y > 0$ ”**
- **Correct if the return value is a positive integer**

$x + y$

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are positive integers
// Returns a positive integer.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- **Known facts “ $x > 0$ ” and “ $y > 0$ ”**
- **Correct if the return value is a positive integer**

$$\begin{array}{lll} x + y & > x + 0 & \text{since } y > 0 \\ & = x & \\ & > 0 & \text{since } x > 0 \end{array}$$

- calculation shows that $x + y > 0$

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are positive integers
// Returns a positive integer.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- Known facts “ $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ ” and “ $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ ”
- Correct if the return value is a positive integer
 - we know that “ $x + y$ ” is an integer
 - should be second nature from Java programming
 - unless there is *division* involved, we will skip this

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are integers with  $x > 9$  and  $y > -9$ 
// Returns a positive integer.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- **Known facts “ $x > 9$ ” and “ $y > -9$ ”**
- **Correct if the return value is a positive integer**

$x + y$

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are integers with x > 9 and y > -9
// Returns a positive integer.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- **Known facts “ $x > 9$ ” and “ $y > -9$ ”**
- **Correct if the return value is a positive integer**

$$\begin{array}{lll} x + y & > x + -9 & \text{since } y > -9 \\ & > 9 - 9 & \text{since } x > 9 \\ & = 0 & \end{array}$$

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are integers with x > 3 and y > 4
// Returns an integer that is 10 or larger.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- **Known facts “ $x > 3$ ” and “ $y > 4$ ”**
- **Correct if the return value is 10 or larger**

$x + y$

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are integers with x > 3 and y > 4
// Returns an integer that is 10 or larger.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- Known facts “ $x > 3$ ” and “ $y > 4$ ”
- Correct if the return value is 10 or larger

$$\begin{array}{lll} x + y & > x + 4 & \text{since } y > 4 \\ & > 3 + 4 & \text{since } x > 3 \\ & = 7 & \end{array}$$

proof doesn't work because
the code is wrong!

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are integers with  $x > 8$  and  $y > -9$ 
// Returns a positive integer.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- **Known facts “ $x > 8$ ” and “ $y > -9$ ”**
- **Correct if the return value is a positive integer**

$x + y$

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are integers with x > 8 and y > -9
// Returns a positive integer.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- Known facts “ $x > 8$ ” and “ $y > -9$ ”
- Correct if the return value is a positive integer

$$\begin{array}{lll} x + y & > x + -9 & \text{since } y > -9 \\ & > 8 - 9 & \text{since } x > 8 \\ & = -1 & \end{array}$$

**proof doesn't work because
the proof is insufficient**

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are integers with  $x > 8$  and  $y > -9$ 
// Returns a positive integer.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- **Known facts “ $x > 8$ ” and “ $y > -9$ ”**
 - equivalent (since these are integers) to $x \geq 9$ and $y \geq -8$
- **Correct if the return value is a positive integer**

$x + y$

Using Calculation to Prove Correctness

```
// Inputs x and y are integers with x > 8 and y > -9
// Returns a positive integer.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  return x + y;
}
```

- **Known facts “ $x > 8$ ” and “ $y > -9$ ”**
 - equivalent (since these are integers) to $x \geq 9$ and $y \geq -8$
- **Correct if the return value is a positive integer**

$$\begin{array}{ll} x + y & \geq x + -8 & \text{since } y \geq -8 \\ & \geq 9 - 8 & \text{since } x \geq 9 \\ & = 1 \\ & > 0 \end{array}$$

What We Get from Reasoning

- If the proof works, the code is correct
 - why reasoning is useful for finding bugs
- If the code is incorrect, the proof will not work
- If the proof does not work, then either
 1. the code is wrong or
 2. the proof is insufficient (too weak)
 - need to **think** to figure out which
 - (but it's usually because the code is wrong)

Proving Correctness with Conditionals

```
// Inputs x and y are integers.  
// Returns a number less than x.  
function f(x: number, y, number): number {  
  if (y < 0) {  
    return x + y;  
  } else {  
    return x - 1;  
  }  
}
```

- Known fact in then branch “ $y < 0$ ”

$x + y$

Proving Correctness with Conditionals

```
// Inputs x and y are integers.
// Returns a number less than x.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  if (y < 0) {
    return x + y;
  } else {
    return x - 1;
  }
}
```

- Known fact in then branch “ $y < 0$ ”

$$\begin{array}{ll} x + y & < x + 0 & \text{since } y < 0 \\ & = x & \end{array}$$

Proving Correctness with Conditionals

```
// Inputs x and y are integers.  
// Returns a number less than x.  
function f(x: number, y, number): number {  
  if (y < 0) {  
    return x + y;  
  } else {  
    return x - 1;  
  }  
}
```

- Known fact in else branch “ $y \geq 0$ ”

$x - 1$

Proving Correctness with Conditionals

```
// Inputs x and y are integers.
// Returns a number less than x.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  if (y < 0) {
    return x + y;
  } else {
    return x - 1;
  }
}
```

- Known fact in else branch “ $y \geq 0$ ”

$$\begin{array}{l} x - 1 < x + 0 \\ \quad = x \end{array} \quad \text{since } -1 < 0$$

Proving Correctness with Conditionals

```
// Inputs x and y are integers.
// Returns a number less than x.
function f(x: number, y, number): number {
  if (y < 0) {
    return x + y;
  } else {
    return x - 1;
  }
}
```

- **Conditionals give us extra known facts**
 - get known facts from
 1. specification
 2. conditionals
 3. constant declarations

Using Definitions in Calculations

- **Most useful with function calls**
 - cite the definition of the function to get the return value

- **For example**

`func` $\text{sum}(\text{nil}) \quad := 0$
 $\text{sum}(\text{cons}(x, L)) \quad := x + \text{sum}(L)$ for any $x \in \mathbb{Z}$
and any $L \in \text{List}$

- **Can cite facts such as**
 - $\text{sum}(\text{nil}) = 0$
 - $\text{sum}(\text{cons}(a, \text{cons}(b, \text{nil}))) = a + \text{sum}(\text{cons}(b, \text{nil}))$

second case of definition with $x = a$ and $L = \text{cons}(b, \text{nil})$

Using Definitions in Calculations

```
func sum(nil)           := 0
    sum(cons(x, L))    := x + sum(L)    for any  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ 
                                         and any  $L \in \text{List}$ 
```

- Consider this code

```
// Inputs a and b must be integers.
// Returns a non-negative integer.
function f(a: number, b: number): number {
    const L: List = cons(a, cons(b, nil));
    if (a >= 0 && b >= 0)
        return sum(L);
    ...
}
```

- Known facts include “ $a \geq 0$ ”, “ $b \geq 0$ ”, and “ $L = \text{cons}(\dots)$ ”

Using Definitions in Calculations

`func sum(nil) := 0`
`sum(cons(x, L)) := x + sum(L)` for any $x \in \mathbb{Z}$
and any $L \in \text{List}$

- Know “ $a \geq 0$ ”, “ $b \geq 0$ ”, and “ $L = \text{cons}(a, \text{cons}(b, \text{nil}))$ ”
- Prove the return value is non-negative

`sum(L)`

