

CSE 311: Foundations of Computing

Lecture 9: English Proofs & Proof Strategies



Last class: Inference Rules for Quantifiers

Intro \exists $\frac{P(c) \text{ for some } c}{\therefore \exists x P(x)}$

Elim \forall $\frac{\forall x P(x)}{\therefore P(a) \text{ for any } a}$

Elim \exists $\frac{\exists x P(x)}{\therefore P(c) \text{ for some } \textit{special}^{**} c}$

**** c is a NEW name.**

Intro \forall $\frac{\text{“Let } a \text{ be arbitrary”}^* \dots P(a)}{\therefore \forall x P(x)}$

*** in the domain of P.**

A Not so Odd Example

Domain of Discourse
Integers

Predicate Definitions
Even(x) := $\exists y (x = 2 \cdot y)$
Odd(x) := $\exists y (x = 2 \cdot y + 1)$

Prove “There is an even number”

Formally: prove $\exists x \text{ Even}(x)$

A Not so Odd Example

Domain of Discourse

Integers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Even}(x) := \exists y (x = 2 \cdot y)$

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Prove “There is an even number”

Formally: prove $\exists x \text{ Even}(x)$

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | $2 = 2 \cdot 1$ | Algebra |
| 2. | $\exists y (2 = 2 \cdot y)$ | Intro \exists : 1 |
| 3. | $\text{Even}(2)$ | Definition of Even: 2 |
| 4. | $\exists x \text{ Even}(x)$ | Intro \exists : 3 |

A Prime Example

Domain of Discourse

Integers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Even}(x) := \exists y (x = 2 \cdot y)$

$\text{Odd}(x) := \exists y (x = 2 \cdot y + 1)$

$\text{Prime}(x) := "x > 1 \text{ and } x \neq a \cdot b \text{ for}$
all integers a, b with $1 < a < x"$

Prove “There is an even prime number”

Formally: prove $\exists x (\text{Even}(x) \wedge \text{Prime}(x))$

A Prime Example

Domain of Discourse

Integers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Even}(x) := \exists y (x = 2 \cdot y)$

$\text{Odd}(x) := \exists y (x = 2 \cdot y + 1)$

$\text{Prime}(x) := "x > 1 \text{ and } x \neq a \cdot b \text{ for all integers } a, b \text{ with } 1 < a < x"$

Prove “There is an even prime number”

Formally: prove $\exists x (\text{Even}(x) \wedge \text{Prime}(x))$

1. $2 = 2 \cdot 1$

2. $\exists y (2 = 2 \cdot y)$

3. $\text{Even}(2)$

4. $\text{Prime}(2)^*$

5. $\text{Even}(2) \wedge \text{Prime}(2)$

6. $\exists x (\text{Even}(x) \wedge \text{Prime}(x))$

Algebra

Intro \exists : 1

Def of Even: 3

Property of integers

Intro \wedge : 2, 4

Intro \exists : 5

* Later we will further break down “Prime” using quantifiers to prove statements like this

Inference Rules for Quantifiers: First look

$$\boxed{\text{Intro } \exists} \frac{P(c) \text{ for some } c}{\therefore \exists x P(x)}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Elim } \forall} \frac{\forall x P(x)}{\therefore P(a) \text{ (for any } a)}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Elim } \exists} \frac{\exists x P(x)}{\therefore P(c) \text{ for some } \textit{special}^{**} c}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Intro } \forall} \frac{\text{“Let } a \text{ be arbitrary”} \dots P(a)}{\therefore \forall x P(x)}$$

** By special, we mean that c is a name for a value where $P(c)$ is true. We can't use anything else about that value, so c has to be a NEW name!

* in the domain of P

Even and Odd

Even(x) := $\exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) := $\exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Intro \forall “Let a be arbitrary*” ...P(a)
 $\therefore \forall x P(x)$

Elim \exists $\exists x P(x)$
 $\therefore P(c)$ for some *special*** c

Prove: “The square of any even number is even.”

Formal proof of: $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$

3. $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$



Even and Odd

Even(x) := $\exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) := $\exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Intro \forall “Let a be arbitrary*” ...P(a)
 $\therefore \forall x P(x)$

Elim \exists $\exists x P(x)$
 $\therefore P(c)$ for some *special*** c

Prove: “The square of any even number is even.”

Formal proof of: $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$

1. Let **a** be an arbitrary integer

2. $\text{Even}(a) \rightarrow \text{Even}(a^2)$

3. $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$



Intro \forall : 1,2

Even and Odd

Even(x) := $\exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) := $\exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

1. Let a be an arbitrary integer.	Assumption
2.1 Even(a)	Assumption
2.6 Even(a ²)	
2. Even(a) \rightarrow Even(a ²)	Direct proof rule
3. $\forall x (Even(x) \rightarrow Even(x^2))$	Intro \forall : 1,2

1. Let a be an arbitrary integer	Assumption
2.1 Even(a)	Assumption
2.6 Even(a ²)	
2. Even(a) \rightarrow Even(a ²)	Direct proof rule
3. $\forall x (Even(x) \rightarrow Even(x^2))$	Intro \forall : 1,2

Prove: “The square of any even number is even.”

Formal proof of: $\forall x (Even(x) \rightarrow Even(x^2))$

1. Let **a** be an arbitrary integer

2.1 Even(**a**) Assumption

2.6 Even(**a**²)

2. Even(**a**) \rightarrow Even(**a**²)

3. $\forall x (Even(x) \rightarrow Even(x^2))$



Direct proof

Intro \forall : 1,2

Even and Odd

Even(x) := $\exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) := $\exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Intro \forall “Let a be arbitrary*” ...P(a)
 $\therefore \forall x P(x)$

Elim \exists $\exists x P(x)$
 $\therefore P(c)$ for some *special*** c

Prove: “The square of any even number is even.”

Formal proof of: $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$

1. Let **a** be an arbitrary integer

2.1 $\text{Even}(\mathbf{a})$ Assumption

2.2 $\exists y (\mathbf{a} = 2y)$ Definition of Even

2.5 $\exists y (\mathbf{a}^2 = 2y)$

2.6 $\text{Even}(\mathbf{a}^2)$

2. $\text{Even}(\mathbf{a}) \rightarrow \text{Even}(\mathbf{a}^2)$

3. $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$



Definition of Even

Direct Proof

Intro \forall : 1,2

Even and Odd

Even(x) := $\exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) := $\exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Intro \forall “Let a be arbitrary*” ...P(a)
 $\therefore \forall x P(x)$

Elim \exists $\exists x P(x)$
 $\therefore P(c)$ for some *special*** c

Prove: “The square of any even number is even.”

Formal proof of: $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$

1. Let **a** be an arbitrary integer


2.1 $\text{Even}(\mathbf{a})$

Assumption

2.2 $\exists y (\mathbf{a} = 2y)$

Definition of Even

2.5 $\exists y (\mathbf{a}^2 = 2y)$

Intro \exists : 

Need $\mathbf{a}^2 = 2c$
for some **c**

2.6 $\text{Even}(\mathbf{a}^2)$

Definition of Even

2. $\text{Even}(\mathbf{a}) \rightarrow \text{Even}(\mathbf{a}^2)$

Direct proof

3. $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$

Intro \forall : 1,2

Even and Odd

Even(x) := $\exists y (x=2y)$
 Odd(x) := $\exists y (x=2y+1)$
 Domain: Integers

Intro \forall

“Let a be arbitrary” ...P(a)

$\therefore \forall x P(x)$

1. Let **a** be an arbitrary integer

2.1 Even(**a**)

2.2 $\exists y (a = 2y)$

2.3 **a** = 2**b**

Assumption
 Definition of Even
 Elim \exists : **b**

2.5 $\exists y (a^2 = 2y)$

2.6 Even(**a**²)

Intro \exists :
 Definition of Even
 Direct proof
 Intro \forall : 1,2

2. Even(**a**) \rightarrow Even(**a**²)

3. $\forall x (Even(x) \rightarrow Even(x^2))$

Prove: “The square of any even number is even.”

Formal proof of: $\forall x (Even(x) \rightarrow Even(x^2))$

1. Let **a** be an arbitrary integer

2.1 Even(**a**)

Assumption


2.2 $\exists y (a = 2y)$

Definition of Even

2.3 **a** = 2**b**

Elim \exists : **b**

2.5 $\exists y (a^2 = 2y)$

Intro \exists : 

Need **a**² = 2**c**
 for some **c**

2.6 Even(**a**²)

Definition of Even

2. Even(**a**) \rightarrow Even(**a**²)

Direct proof

3. $\forall x (Even(x) \rightarrow Even(x^2))$

Intro \forall : 1,2

Even and Odd

Even(x) := $\exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) := $\exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Intro \forall “Let a be arbitrary*” ...P(a)
 $\therefore \forall x P(x)$

Elim \exists $\exists x P(x)$
 $\therefore P(c)$ for some *special*** c

Prove: “The square of any even number is even.”

Formal proof of: $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$

1. Let **a** be an arbitrary integer

2.1 **Even(a)**

Assumption

2.2 $\exists y (a = 2y)$

Definition of Even

2.3 **a = 2b**

Elim \exists : **b**

2.4 **a² = 4b² = 2(2b²)**

Algebra

2.5 $\exists y (a^2 = 2y)$

Intro \exists

Used **a² = 2c** for **c=2b²**

2.6 **Even(a²)**

Definition of Even

2. **Even(a) \rightarrow Even(a²)**

Direct Proof

3. $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$

Intro \forall : 1,2

There are extra conditions on using these rules:

- * in the domain of P. No other name in P depends on a

**** c is a NEW name.**
List all dependencies for c.

Without those rules, it is possible to infer claims that are false

Formal Proofs

- In principle, formal proofs are the standard for what it means to be “proven” in mathematics
 - almost all math (and theory CS) done in Predicate Logic
- But they are tedious and impractical
 - e.g., applications of commutativity and associativity
 - Russell & Whitehead’s formal proof that $1+1 = 2$ is *several hundred pages* long
 - we allowed ourselves to cite “Arithmetic”, “Algebra”, etc.
- Similar situation exists in programming...

Programming

```
a := ADD(i, 1)
b := MOD(a, n)
c := ADD(arr, b)
d := LOAD(c)
e := ADD(arr, i)
STORE(e, d)
```

Assembly Language

```
arr[i] = arr[(i+1) % n];
```

High-level Language

Programming vs Proofs

$a := \text{ADD}(i, 1)$

$b := \text{MOD}(a, n)$

$c := \text{ADD}(arr, b)$

$d := \text{LOAD}(c)$

$e := \text{ADD}(arr, i)$

$\text{STORE}(e, d)$

**Assembly Language
for Programs**

Given

Given

Elim \wedge : 1

Double Negation: 4

Elim \vee : 3, 5

Modus Ponens: 2, 6

**Assembly Language
for Proofs**

Proofs

Given

Given

\wedge Elim: 1

Double Negation: 4

\vee Elim: 3, 5

MP: 2, 6

**Assembly Language
for Proofs**

**what is the “Java”
for proofs?**

**High-level Language
for Proofs**

Proofs

Given

Given

\wedge Elim: 1

Double Negation: 4

\vee Elim: 3, 5

MP: 2, 6

English?

**Assembly Language
for Proofs**

**High-level Language
for Proofs**

Proofs

Given

Given

\wedge Elim: 1

Double Negation: 4

\vee Elim: 3, 5

MP: 2, 6

Math English

**Assembly Language
for Proofs**

**High-level Language
for Proofs**

Proofs

- **Formal proofs follow simple well-defined rules and should be easy for a machine to check**
 - as assembly language is easy for a machine to execute
- **English proofs correspond to those rules but are designed to be easier for humans to read**
 - also easy to check with practice
(almost all actual math and theory CS is done this way)
 - **English proof is correct if the reader believes they could translate it into a formal proof**
(the reader is the “compiler” for English proofs)

Last class: Even and Odd

Even(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Prove: “The square of every even number is even.”

Formal proof of: $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$

1. Let **a** be an arbitrary integer
 - 2.1 **Even(a)** Assumption
 - 2.2 $\exists y (a = 2y)$ Definition of Even
 - 2.3 **a = 2b** Elim \exists
 - 2.4 **a² = 4b² = 2(2b²)** Algebra
 - 2.5 $\exists y (a^2 = 2y)$ Intro \exists
 - 2.6 **Even(a²)** Definition of Even
2. **Even(a) \rightarrow Even(a²)** Direct Proof
3. $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$ Intro \forall

English Proof: Even and Odd

Even(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Prove “The square of every even integer is even.”

Let **a** be an arbitrary integer.  1. Let **a** be an arbitrary integer

Suppose **a** is even.   2.1 **Even(a)** Assumption

Then, by definition, **a = 2b** for  2.2 $\exists y (a = 2y)$ Definition


some integer **b**.  2.3 **a = 2b** Elim \exists

Squaring both sides, we get  2.4 **a² = 4b² = 2(2b²)** Algebra

a² = 4b² = 2(2b²).

So **a²** is, by definition, even.  2.5 $\exists y (a^2 = 2y)$ Intro \exists

2.6 **Even(a²)** Definition

Since **a** was arbitrary, we have shown that the square of every even number is even. 

2. **Even(a) \rightarrow Even(a²)** Direct Proof

3. **$\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$** Intro \forall

English Proof: Even and Odd

Even(x) $\equiv \exists y \ (x=2y)$
Odd(x) $\equiv \exists y \ (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Prove “The square of every even integer is even.”

Proof: Let a be an arbitrary integer.

Suppose a is even. Then, by definition, $a = 2b$ for some integer b . Squaring both sides, we get $a^2 = 4b^2 = 2(2b^2)$. So a^2 is, by definition, is even.

Since a was arbitrary, we have shown that the square of every even number is even. ■

English Proof: Even and Odd

Even(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Prove “The square of every even integer is even.”

Proof: Let **a** be an arbitrary **even** integer.

Then, by definition, **a** = **2b** for some integer **b**. Squaring both sides, we get **a**² = **4b**² = **2(2b**²**)**. So **a**² is, by definition, is even.

Since **a** was arbitrary, we have shown that the square of every even number is even. ■

$$\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$$

Even and Odd

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Even}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y)$

$\text{Odd}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y + 1)$

Domain of Discourse

Integers

Prove “The sum of two odd numbers is even.”

Formally, prove $\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$

Even and Odd

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Even}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y)$

$\text{Odd}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y + 1)$

Domain of Discourse

Integers

Prove “The sum of two odd numbers is even.”

Formally, prove $\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$

Let x and y be arbitrary integers.

1. Let x be an arbitrary integer
2. Let y be an arbitrary integer

Since x and y were arbitrary, the sum of any odd integers is even.

3. $(\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y)$
4. $\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$ Intro \forall

Even and Odd

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Even}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y)$

$\text{Odd}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y + 1)$

Domain of Discourse

Integers

Prove “The sum of two odd numbers is even.”

Formally, prove $\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$

Let x and y be arbitrary integers.

1. Let x be an arbitrary integer

2. Let y be an arbitrary integer

Suppose that both are odd.

3.1 $\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)$ Assumption

so $x+y$ is even.

3.9 $\text{Even}(x+y)$

Since x and y were arbitrary, the sum of any odd integers is even.

3. $(\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y)$ DPR

4. $\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$ Intro \forall

Even and Odd

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Even}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y)$

$\text{Odd}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y + 1)$

Domain of Discourse

Integers

Prove “The sum of two odd numbers is even.”

Formally, prove $\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$

Let x and y be arbitrary integers.

Suppose that both are odd.

so $x+y$ is even.

Since x and y were arbitrary, the sum of any odd integers is even.

1. Let x be an arbitrary integer

2. Let y be an arbitrary integer

3.1 $\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)$ Assumption

3.2 $\text{Odd}(x)$ Elim \wedge : 2.1

3.3 $\text{Odd}(y)$ Elim \wedge : 2.1

3.9 $\text{Even}(x+y)$

3. $(\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y)$ DPR

4. $\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$ Intro \forall

English Proof: Even and Odd

Even(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Prove “The sum of two odd numbers is even.”

Let x and y be arbitrary integers.

1. Let x be an arbitrary integer
2. Let y be an arbitrary integer

Suppose that both are odd.

- 3.1 Odd(x) \wedge Odd(y) Assumption
- 3.2 Odd(x) Elim \wedge : 2.1
- 3.3 Odd(y) Elim \wedge : 2.1

Then, we have $x = 2a+1$ for some integer a and $y = 2b+1$ for some integer b .

- 3.4 $\exists z (x = 2z+1)$ Def of Odd: 2.2
- 3.5 $x = 2a+1$ Elim \exists : 2.4
- 3.6 $\exists z (y = 2z+1)$ Def of Odd: 2.3
- 3.7 $y = 2b+1$ Elim \exists : 2.5

so $x+y$ is, by definition, even.

- 3.9 $\exists z (x+y = 2z)$ Intro \exists : 2.4
- 3.10 Even($x+y$) Def of Even

Since x and y were arbitrary, the sum of any odd integers is even.

3. (Odd(x) \wedge Odd(y)) \rightarrow Even($x+y$) DPR
4. $\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$ Intro \forall

English Proof: Even and Odd

Even(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y)$
Odd(x) $\equiv \exists y (x=2y+1)$
Domain: Integers

Prove “The sum of two odd numbers is even.”

Let x and y be arbitrary integers.

1. Let **x** be an arbitrary integer
2. Let **y** be an arbitrary integer

Suppose that both are odd.

- 3.1 **Odd(x) \wedge Odd(y)** Assumption
- 3.2 **Odd(x)** Elim \wedge : 2.1
- 3.3 **Odd(y)** Elim \wedge : 2.1

Then, we have $x = 2a+1$ for some integer a and $y = 2b+1$ for some integer b.

- 3.4 **$\exists z (x = 2z+1)$** Def of Odd: 2.2
- 3.5 **$x = 2a+1$** Elim \exists : 2.4
- 3.6 **$\exists z (y = 2z+1)$** Def of Odd: 2.3
- 3.7 **$y = 2b+1$** Elim \exists : 2.5

Their sum is $x+y = \dots = 2(a+b+1)$

- 3.8 **$x+y = 2(a+b+1)$** Algebra

so $x+y$ is, by definition, even.

- 3.9 **$\exists z (x+y = 2z)$** Intro \exists : 2.4
- 3.10 **Even(x+y)** Def of Even

Since x and y were arbitrary, the sum of any odd integers is even.

3. **$(\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y)$** DPR
4. **$\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$** Intro \forall

Even and Odd

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Even}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y)$

$\text{Odd}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y + 1)$

Domain of Discourse

Integers

Prove “The sum of two odd numbers is even.”

Proof: Let x and y be arbitrary integers.

Suppose that both are odd. Then, we have $x = 2a+1$ for some integer a and $y = 2b+1$ for some integer b . Their sum is $x+y = (2a+1) + (2b+1) = 2a+2b+2 = 2(a+b+1)$, so $x+y$ is, by definition, even.

Since x and y were arbitrary, the sum of any two odd integers is even. ■

Even and Odd

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Even}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y)$

$\text{Odd}(x) \equiv \exists y (x = 2y + 1)$

Domain of Discourse

Integers

Prove “The sum of two odd numbers is even.”

Proof: Let x and y be arbitrary **odd** integers.

Then, $x = 2a+1$ for some integer a and $y = 2b+1$ for some integer b . Their sum is $x+y = (2a+1) + (2b+1) = 2a+2b+2 = 2(a+b+1)$, so $x+y$ is, by definition, even.

Since x and y were arbitrary, the sum of any two odd integers is even.



$$\forall x \forall y ((\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x+y))$$

Rational Numbers

Domain of Discourse
Real Numbers

- A real number x is *rational* iff there exist integers a and b with $b \neq 0$ such that $x = a/b$.

$$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (((\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b)) \wedge (x = a/b)) \wedge b \neq 0)$$

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “The product of two rationals is rational.”

Formally, prove $\forall x \forall y ((\text{Rational}(x) \wedge \text{Rational}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Rational}(xy))$

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “The product of two rationals is rational.”

Proof: Let x and y be arbitrary rationals.

Since x and y were arbitrary, we have shown that the product of any two rationals is rational. ■

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “The product of two rationals is rational.”

Proof: Let x and y be arbitrary rationals.

Then, $x = a/b$ for some integers a, b , where $b \neq 0$, and $y = c/d$ for some integers c, d , where $d \neq 0$.

By definition, then, xy is rational.

Since x and y were arbitrary, we have shown that the product of any two rationals is rational. ■

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “The product of two rationals is rational.”

Proof: Let x and y be arbitrary rationals.

Then, $x = a/b$ for some integers a, b , where $b \neq 0$, and $y = c/d$ for some integers c, d , where $d \neq 0$.

Multiplying, we get that $xy = (a/b)(c/d) = (ac)/(bd)$.

Since b and d are both non-zero, so is bd . Furthermore, ac and bd are integers. By definition, then, xy is rational.

Since x and y were arbitrary, we have shown that the product of any two rationals is rational. ■

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “The product of two rationals is rational.”

OR “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

Recall that unquantified variables (not constants) are implicitly for-all quantified.

$\forall x \forall y ((\text{Rational}(x) \wedge \text{Rational}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Rational}(xy))$

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

Proof: ~~Let x and y be arbitrary rationals.~~

Suppose x and y are rational.

Then, $x = a/b$ for some integers a, b , where $b \neq 0$, and $y = c/d$ for some integers c, d , where $d \neq 0$.

Multiplying, we get that $xy = (a/b)(c/d) = (ac)/(bd)$.

Since b and d are both non-zero, so is bd . Furthermore, ac and bd are integers. By definition, then, xy is rational.

~~Since x and y were arbitrary, we have shown that the product of any two rationals is rational. ■~~

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

Suppose x and y are rational.

1.1 $\text{Rational}(x) \wedge \text{Rational}(y)$ **Assumption**

Then, $x = a/b$ for some integers a, b, where $b \neq 0$ and $y = c/d$ for some integers c, d, where $d \neq 0$.

1.4 $\exists p \exists q ((x = p/q) \wedge \text{Integer}(p) \wedge \text{Integer}(q) \wedge (q \neq 0))$

Def Rational: 1.2

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge \text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

Elim \exists : 1.4

1.6 $\exists p \exists q ((x = p/q) \wedge \text{Integer}(p) \wedge \text{Integer}(q) \wedge (q \neq 0))$

Def Rational: 1.3

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge \text{Integer}(c) \wedge \text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)$

Elim \exists : 1.4

...

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

Suppose x and y are rational.

1.1 $\text{Rational}(x) \wedge \text{Rational}(y)$ **Assumption**

??

Then, $x = a/b$ for some integers a, b, where $b \neq 0$ and $y = c/d$ for some integers c, d, where $d \neq 0$.

1.4 $\exists p \exists q ((x = p/q) \wedge \text{Integer}(p) \wedge \text{Integer}(q) \wedge (q \neq 0))$

Def Rational: 1.2

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge \text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

Elim \exists : 1.4

1.6 $\exists p \exists q ((x = p/q) \wedge \text{Integer}(p) \wedge \text{Integer}(q) \wedge (q \neq 0))$

Def Rational: 1.3

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge \text{Integer}(c) \wedge \text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)$

Elim \exists : 1.4

...

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

Suppose x and y are rational.

Then, $x = a/b$ for some integers a, b, where $b \neq 0$ and $y = c/d$ for some integers c, d, where $d \neq 0$.

...

1.1 $\text{Rational}(x) \wedge \text{Rational}(y)$ **Assumption**

1.2 $\text{Rational}(x)$ **Elim \wedge : 1.1**

1.3 $\text{Rational}(y)$ **Elim \wedge : 1.1**

1.4 $\exists p \exists q ((x = p/q) \wedge \text{Integer}(p) \wedge \text{Integer}(q) \wedge (q \neq 0))$

Def Rational: 1.2

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge \text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

Elim \exists : 1.4

1.6 $\exists p \exists q ((x = p/q) \wedge \text{Integer}(p) \wedge \text{Integer}(q) \wedge (q \neq 0))$

Def Rational: 1.3

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge \text{Integer}(c) \wedge \text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)$

Elim \exists : 1.4

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

...

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge \text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

...

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge \text{Integer}(c) \wedge \text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)$

Multiplying, we get $xy = (ac)/(bd)$.

1.10 $xy = (a/b)(c/d) = (ac/bd) = (ac)/(bd)$

Algebra

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

...

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge \text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

...

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge \text{Integer}(c) \wedge \text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)$

??

Multiplying, we get $xy = (ac)/(bd)$.

1.10 $xy = (a/b)(c/d) = (ac/bd) = (ac)/(bd)$

Algebra

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

...

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge \text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

...

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge \text{Integer}(c) \wedge \text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)$

1.8 $x = a/b$ **Elim \wedge : 1.5**

1.9 $y = c/d$ **Elim \wedge : 1.7**

Multiplying, we get $xy = (ac)/(bd)$.

1.10 $xy = (a/b)(c/d) = (ac/bd) = (ac)/(bd)$

Algebra

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

...

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge \text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

...

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge \text{Integer}(c) \wedge \text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)$

...

1.11 $b \neq 0$

Elim \wedge : **1.5***

1.12 $d \neq 0$

Elim \wedge : **1.7**

Since b and d are non-zero, so is bd.

1.13 $bd \neq 0$

Prop of Integer Mult

* Oops, I skipped steps here...

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

...

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge (\text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)))$

...

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge (\text{Integer}(c) \wedge (\text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)))$

...

1.11 $\text{Integer}(a) \wedge (\text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Elim \wedge : **1.5**

1.12 $\text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

Elim \wedge : **1.11**

1.13 $b \neq 0$

Elim \wedge : **1.12**

We left out the parentheses...

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

...

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge \text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

...

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge \text{Integer}(c) \wedge \text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)$

...

1.13 $b \neq 0$

Elim \wedge : **1.5**

...

1.16 $d \neq 0$

Elim \wedge : **1.7**

Since b and d are non-zero, so is bd.

1.17 $bd \neq 0$

Prop of Integer Mult

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

...

1.5 $(x = a/b) \wedge \text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (b \neq 0)$

...

1.7 $(y = c/d) \wedge \text{Integer}(c) \wedge \text{Integer}(d) \wedge (d \neq 0)$

...

1.19 $\text{Integer}(a)$

Elim \wedge : **1.5***

...

1.22 $\text{Integer}(b)$

Elim \wedge : **1.5***

...

1.24 $\text{Integer}(c)$

Elim \wedge : **1.7***

...

1.27 $\text{Integer}(d)$

Elim \wedge : **1.7***

1.28 $\text{Integer}(ac)$

Prop of Integer Mult

1.29 $\text{Integer}(bd)$

Prop of Integer Mult

Furthermore, ac and bd are integers.

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

...

$$\mathbf{1.10} \quad xy = (a/b)(c/d) = (ac/bd) = (ac)/(bd)$$

...

$$\mathbf{1.17} \quad bd \neq 0 \quad \text{Prop of Integer Mult}$$

...

$$\mathbf{1.28} \quad \text{Integer}(ac) \quad \text{Prop of Integer Mult}$$

$$\mathbf{1.29} \quad \text{Integer}(bd) \quad \text{Prop of Integer Mult}$$

$$\mathbf{1.30} \quad \text{Integer}(bd) \wedge (bd \neq 0) \quad \text{Intro } \wedge: \mathbf{1.29}, \mathbf{1.17}$$

$$\mathbf{1.31} \quad \text{Integer}(ac) \wedge \text{Integer}(bd) \wedge (bd \neq 0) \\ \text{Intro } \wedge: \mathbf{1.28}, \mathbf{1.30}$$

$$\mathbf{1.32} \quad (xy = (a/b)/(c/d)) \wedge \text{Integer}(ac) \wedge \\ \text{Integer}(bd) \wedge (bd \neq 0) \quad \text{Intro } \wedge: \mathbf{1.10}, \mathbf{1.31}$$

$$\mathbf{1.33} \quad \exists p \exists q ((xy = p/q) \wedge \text{Integer}(p) \wedge \text{Integer}(q) \wedge (q \neq 0))$$

Intro \exists : **1.32**

$$\mathbf{1.34} \quad \text{Rational}(xy) \quad \text{Def of Rational: } \mathbf{1.3}$$

By definition, then, xy is rational.

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

Suppose x and y are rational.

1.1 $\text{Rational}(x) \wedge \text{Rational}(y)$ Assumption

...

1.10 $xy = (a/b)(c/d) = (ac/bd) = (ac)/(bd)$

...

1.17 $bd \neq 0$

Prop of Integer Mult

...

1.28 $\text{Integer}(ac)$

Prop of Integer Mult

Furthermore, ac and bd are integers.

1.29 $\text{Integer}(bd)$

Prop of Integer Mult

...

By definition, then, xy is rational.

1.34 $\text{Rational}(xy)$

Def of Rational: 1.32

And finally...

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

Suppose x and y are rational.

1.1 $\text{Rational}(x) \wedge \text{Rational}(y)$ Assumption

...

1.10 $xy = (a/b)(c/d) = (ac/bd) = (ac)/(bd)$

...

1.17 $bd \neq 0$

Prop of Integer Mult

...

1.28 $\text{Integer}(ac)$

Prop of Integer Mult

Furthermore, ac and bd are integers.

1.29 $\text{Integer}(bd)$

Prop of Integer Mult

...

By definition, then, xy is rational.

1.34 $\text{Rational}(xy)$

Def of Rational: 1.32

1. $\text{Rational}(x) \wedge \text{Rational}(y) \rightarrow \text{Rational}(xy)$

Direct Proof

Rationality

Domain of Discourse

Real Numbers

Predicate Definitions

$\text{Rational}(x) := \exists a \exists b (\text{Integer}(a) \wedge \text{Integer}(b) \wedge (x = a/b) \wedge (b \neq 0))$

Prove: “If x and y are rational, then xy is rational.”

Proof: Suppose x and y are rational.

Then, $x = a/b$ for some integers a, b, where $b \neq 0$, and $y = c/d$ for some integers c, d, where $d \neq 0$.

Multiplying, we get that $xy = (ac)/(bd)$. Since b and d are both non-zero, so is bd. Furthermore, ac and bd are integers. By definition, then, xy is rational. ■

vs more than 35 lines of formal proof

English Proofs

- High-level language let us work more quickly
 - should not be necessary to spill out every detail
 - reader checks that the writer is not skipping too much
 - examples so far
 - skipping Intro \wedge and Elim \wedge
 - not stating existence claims (immediately apply Elim \exists to name the object)
 - not stating that the implication has been proven (“Suppose X... Thus, Y.” says it already)
 - (list will grow over time)
- English proof is correct if the reader believes they could translate it into a formal proof
 - the reader is the “compiler” for English proofs