



# Direct Proof

CSE 311: Foundations of  
Computing I  
Lecture 6

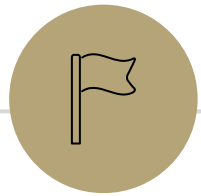
# Announcements

- HW1 solutions at the front
- HW2 due Wednesday, 11:59 pm
- Thank you for your feedback!

# Review: Predicate Logic

## 3 Parts

1. Predicate – Function that outputs true or false.  
Prime( $x$ ) :=  $x$  is prime
2. Domain of Discourse – Set of possible inputs to a predicate.  
E.g. Integers
3. Quantifiers – A statement about when a predicate is true  
For all:  $\forall$       There exists:  $\exists$



# Theorems and Proofs

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# Theorems and Proofs

Definition:

A **theorem** is a statement that can be shown to be true.

A **proof** is a valid argument that establishes a statement to be true.

# Theorems and Proofs

Examples of theorems include...

- Given a right triangle with side lengths  $a, b$  and hypotenuse  $c$ ,  
 $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$
- There are infinitely many prime numbers.
- There exists a problem that cannot be solved by a program.

# Integer

Definition:

An **integer** is a real number with no fractional part.

e.g.  $-17, 0, 1, 53$

# Odd and Even

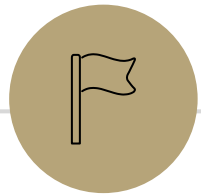
## Definitions:

An integer  $x$  is **even** iff there exists an integer  $k$  such that  $x = 2k$ .

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

An integer  $x$  is **odd** iff there exists an integer  $k$  such that  $x = 2k + 1$ .

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



## **Proof Strategy: Direct Proof**

# Direct Proof

Direct proof is one strategy for proving statements of the form  $\forall x (P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$ .

# Our First Direct Proof

**Prove:** "For all integers  $x$ , if  $x$  is even, then  $x^2$  is even."

What's the claim in logic?  $\forall x \left( \text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2) \right)$

How would we prove this claim? **Direct Proof!**

# Our First Direct Proof

## Definitions

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

**Prove:** "For all integers  $x$ , if  $x$  is even, then  $x^2$  is even."  $\forall x (\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2))$

Let  $x$  be an arbitrary integer. Suppose that  $x$  is even. Then by definition of even, there exists some integer  $k$  such that  $x = 2k$ . Squaring both sides, we see that:

$$x^2 = (2k)^2 = 4k^2 = 2 \cdot 2k^2$$

Because  $k$  is an integer, then  $2k^2$  is also an integer. So  $x^2$  is two times an integer. So by definition of even,  $x^2$  is even.

Since  $x$  was an arbitrary integer, we can conclude that for all integers  $x$ , if  $x$  is even then  $x^2$  is even.

# Direct Proof Template

Declare an arbitrary variable for each  $\forall$ .

Assume the left side of the implication.

Unroll the predicate definitions.

Manipulate towards the goal.

Reroll definitions into the right side of the implication.

Conclude that you have proved the claim.

Prove:  $\forall x \left( \text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(x^2) \right)$

Let  $x$  be an arbitrary integer.

Suppose that  $x$  is even.

Then by definition of even, there exists some integer  $k$  such that  $x = 2k$ .

Squaring both sides, we see that:

$$x^2 = (2k)^2 = 4k^2 = 2 \cdot 2k^2$$

Because  $k$  is an integer, then  $2k^2$  is also an integer. So  $x^2$  is two times an integer.

So by definition of even,  $x^2$  is even.

Since  $x$  was an arbitrary integer, we can conclude that for all integers  $x$ , if  $x$  is even then  $x^2$  is even.

# Direct Proof Template

- Declare an arbitrary variable for each  $\forall$  quantifier
- Assume the left side of the implication
- Unroll the predicate definitions
- Manipulate towards the goal (using creativity, algebra, etc.)
- Reroll definitions into the right side of the implication
- Conclude that you have proved the claim

# Another Direct Proof

**Prove:** "The product of two odd integers is odd."

What's the claim in logic?  $\forall x \forall y \left( (\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Odd}(xy) \right)$

How would we prove this claim?

Direct Proof. In particular, we'll let  $x, y$  be arbitrary integers. We'll suppose  $x, y$  are odd. We'll show that  $x \cdot y$  is odd.

# Another Direct Proof

## Definitions

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

Prove: "The product of two odd integers is odd."

$$\forall x \forall y \left( (\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Odd}(xy) \right)$$

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be arbitrary integers. Suppose that  $x$  and  $y$  are odd. Then by definition of odd, there exists some integer  $k$  such that  $x = 2k + 1$ , and some integer  $j$  such that  $y = 2j + 1$ .

Then multiplying  $x$  and  $y$ , we can see that:

$$xy = (2k + 1) \cdot (2j + 1) = 4kj + 2j + 2k + 1 = 2(2kj + j + k) + 1$$

Since  $k, j$  are integers,  $2kj + j + k$  is an integer. So by definition of odd,  $xy$  is odd. Since  $x, y$  were arbitrary, we have shown that the product of two odd integers is odd.

# A note on Domain of Discourse

"The product of two odd integers is odd."

Domain: Integers

Translation:

$$\forall x \forall y \left( (\text{Odd}(x) \wedge \text{Odd}(y)) \rightarrow \text{Odd}(xy) \right)$$

Proof Outline:

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be arbitrary integers.

Suppose  $x$  and  $y$  are odd.

Show  $xy$  is odd.

Domain: Odd Integers

Translation:

$$\forall x \forall y (\text{Odd}(xy))$$

Proof Outline:

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be arbitrary odd integers.

Show  $xy$  is odd.

# A note on Translation to Logic

- We first translate the claim to predicate logic because:
  - The translation makes it precise what we are proving
  - The translation hints at the structure of the proof  
e.g. for each  $\forall$ , introduce an arbitrary variable
- In practice, computer scientists identify the proof claim and structure without predicate logic translation
- Eventually we'll stop asking you to translate to logic first

# Square

Definition:

An integer  $x$  is **square** iff there exists an integer  $k$  such that  $x = k^2$ .

$$\text{Square}(x) := \exists k (x = k^2)$$

# Yet Another Direct Proof

## Definitions

$$\text{Square}(x) := \exists k (x = k^2)$$

**Prove:** The product of two square integers is square.

What's the claim in logic?

$$\forall n \forall m \left( (\text{Square}(n) \wedge \text{Square}(m)) \rightarrow \text{Square}(nm) \right)$$

Prove this claim.

# Yet Another Direct Proof

## Definitions

$$\text{Square}(x) := \exists k (x = k^2)$$

**Prove:** "The product of two square integers is square."

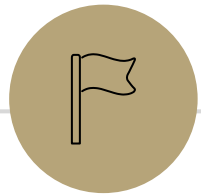
$$\forall n \forall m \left( (\text{Square}(n) \wedge \text{Square}(m)) \rightarrow \text{Square}(nm) \right)$$

Let  $n$  and  $m$  be arbitrary integers. Suppose that  $n$  and  $m$  are square. Then by definition of square,  $n = k^2$  for some integer  $k$ , and  $m = j^2$  for some integer  $j$ .

Then multiplying  $n$  and  $m$ , we can see:

$$nm = k^2 \cdot j^2 = (kj)^2$$

Since  $k$  and  $j$  are integers,  $kj$  is an integer. So by definition of square,  $nm$  is square. Since  $n$  and  $m$  were arbitrary, we have shown that the product of two square integers is square.



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## **Proof Strategy: Contrapositive**

# A Direct Proof?

## Definitions

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

**Prove:** For an integer  $x$ , if  $3x + 2$  is odd, then  $x$  is odd.

What's the claim in logic?  $\forall x(\text{Odd}(3x + 2) \rightarrow \text{Odd}(x))$

Prove this claim.

Let  $x$  be an arbitrary integer. Suppose that  $3x + 2$  is odd. Then  $3x + 2 = 2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ . Subtracting both sides by 2, we have  $3x = 2k - 1$ . Then  $x = \frac{2k-1}{3} \dots?$

# Proof by Contrapositive

Proof by contrapositive is another strategy for proving statements of the form  $\forall x(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x))$ .

The strategy is to prove the contrapositive, i.e. prove  $\forall x(\neg Q(x) \rightarrow \neg P(x))$

# Proof by Contrapositive

## Definitions

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

**Prove:** For an integer  $x$ , if  $3x + 2$  is odd, then  $x$  is odd.

$$\forall x(\text{Odd}(3x + 2) \rightarrow \text{Odd}(x)) \equiv \forall x(\text{Even}(x) \rightarrow \text{Even}(3x + 2))$$

We prove by contrapositive. Let  $x$  be an arbitrary integer. Suppose that  $x$  is even. Then by definition of even,  $x = 2k$  for some integer  $k$ . Consider  $3x + 2$ :

$$3x + 2 = 3(2k) + 2 = 6k + 2 = 2(3k + 1)$$

Since  $k$  is an integer,  $3k + 1$  is an integer. So by definition of even,  $3x + 2$  is even. Since  $x$  was arbitrary, we have shown that for all integers  $x$ , if  $x$  is even then  $3x + 2$  is even. Thus the contrapositive also holds: for all integers  $x$ , if  $3x + 2$  is odd, then  $x$  is odd.

# Another Proof by Contrapositive

## Definitions

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

**Prove by Contrapositive:** For an integer  $n$ , if  $n^3$  is even, then  $n$  is even.

$$\forall n \left( \text{Even}(n^3) \rightarrow \text{Even}(n) \right) \equiv \forall n \left( \text{Odd}(n) \rightarrow \text{Odd}(n^3) \right)$$

We prove by contrapositive. Let  $n$  be an arbitrary integer. Suppose that  $n$  is odd. Then by definition of odd,  $n = 2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ . Consider  $n^3$ :

$$n^3 = (2k + 1)^3 = 8k^3 + 8k^2 + 4k + 1 = 2(4k^3 + 4k^2 + 2k) + 1$$

Since  $k$  is an integer,  $4k^3 + 4k^2 + 2k$  is an integer. Thus by definition of odd,  $n^3$  is odd. Since  $n$  was arbitrary, we have shown that for all integers  $n$ , if  $n$  is odd then  $n^3$  is odd. Thus the contrapositive also holds: for all integers  $n$ , if  $n^3$  is even, then  $n$  is even.