

# Logic and the set theory

## Lecture 13: Proofs in How to Prove It.

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- Grading and so on in the moodle. Ask questions in moodle.

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- There are some controversies as to whether the ZFC is the only foundation.
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- Because of these differences of standards, it is often very hard to communicate with other fields.



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 $\neg P, P \wedge Q, P \vee Q, P \rightarrow Q, P \leftrightarrow Q, \forall xP(x), \exists xP(x), \exists!xP(x).$

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- for a goal of form:  
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- This means breaking down the proof into smaller and smaller pieces which are easier to prove or already proven by someone else.
- Never assert anything until you can justify it fully using hypothesis or the conclusions reached earlier.
- The basic assumption we will have in mathematics is the ZFC.
- $\mathbb{N}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and  $\mathbb{R}$  are the important sets.

# To prove the form $P \rightarrow Q$

- First method: Assume  $P$  and prove  $Q$ . Or add  $P$  to the list of hypothesis and prove  $Q$ .

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| ----- | $P \rightarrow Q$ |
| ----- |                   |

- Change to

Given	Goal
-----	$Q$
-----	
$P$	

- Example  $0 < a < b \rightarrow a^2 < b^2$ .

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Given	Goal
-----	$0 < a < b \rightarrow a^2 < b^2$
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Given	Goal
-----	-----
$0 < a < b$	$a^2 < b^2$
-----	-----

- Change to

Given	Goal
-----	-----
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-----	-----

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Given	Goal
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$0 < a < b$	$a^2 < b^2$
-----	-----

- Change to

Given	Goal
-----	-----
$0 < a < b$	$a^2 < b^2$
-----	-----



Given	Goal
$0 < a < b$	$a^2 < b^2$
$0 < a^2 < ab$	
$0 < ab < b^2$	

# To prove $P \rightarrow Q$

- $P \rightarrow Q \leftrightarrow \neg Q \rightarrow \neg P.$

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Given	Goal
-----	$P \rightarrow Q$
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Given	Goal
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-----	

- Change to

Given	Goal
-----	$\neg P$
-----	
$\neg Q$	

- Example: Let  $a > b$ . Then if  $ac \leq bc$ , then  $c \leq 0$ .

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Given	Goal
$a, b, c$ are real numbers	$(ac \leq bc) \rightarrow (c \leq 0)$
$a > b$	



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Given	Goal
$a, b, c$ are real numbers	$ac > bc$
$a > b$	
$c > 0$	

# Write this in English

- Theorem: Let  $a > b$ . Then if  $ac \leq bc$ , then  $c \leq 0$ .

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- Theorem: Let  $a > b$ . Then if  $ac \leq bc$ , then  $c \leq 0$ .
- Proof: We will prove this by contrapositives. To prove  $ac \leq bc \rightarrow c \leq 0$ . It is sufficient to prove  $c > 0 \rightarrow ac > bc$ . Suppose  $c > 0$ . Then  $ac > bc$  by  $a > b$ .  $\square$

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Given	Goal
$A \cap C \subset B$	$a \notin A - B$
$a \in C$	

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Given	Goal
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$a \in C$	

- We change  $a \notin A - B$ .
- $a \notin A - B \leftrightarrow \neg(a \in A \wedge b \notin B)$ .  $\leftrightarrow (a \notin A \vee a \in B)$ .  $\leftrightarrow (a \in A \rightarrow a \in B)$ .



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Given	Goal
$A \cap C \subset B$	$a \in A \rightarrow a \in B$
$a \in C$	

Given      Goal  
 $A \cap C \subset B$      $a \in B$   
 $a \in C$   
 $a \in A$

Given      Goal  
 $A \cap C \subset B$     $a \in B$   
 $a \in C$   
 $a \in A$

- Theorem: Suppose that  $A \cap C \subset B$  and  $a \in C$ . Prove  $a \notin A - B$ .

Given	Goal
$A \cap C \subset B$	$a \in B$
$a \in C$	
$a \in A$	

- Theorem: Suppose that  $A \cap C \subset B$  and  $a \in C$ . Prove  $a \notin A - B$ .
- Proof: To show  $a \notin A - B$ , it is equivalent to show  $a \in A \rightarrow a \in B$ . (See above). Assume  $a \in A$ . Since  $A \cap C \subset B$  and  $a \in C$ , it follows that  $a \in B$ . □

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Given	Goal
$A \cap C \subset B$	$a \notin A - B$
$a \in C$	

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- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Given                | Goal             |
| $A \cap C \subset B$ | $a \notin A - B$ |
| $a \in C$            |                  |

- |                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Given                | Goal          |
| $A \cap C \subset B$ | contradiction |
| $a \in C$            |               |
| $a \in A - B$        |               |



# To prove a goal of the form $\neg P$ .



Given	Goal
$A \cap C \subset B$	contradiction
$a \in C$	
$a \in A - B$	
$a \in (A \cap C) - B$	
$a \in \emptyset$	

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- |          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| Given    | Goal                 |
| $\neg P$ | <i>contradiction</i> |
| ---      |                      |

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- |          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| Given    | Goal                 |
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| -----    |                      |

- Change to

Given	Goal
$\neg P$	$P$
-----	

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|----------|----------------------|
| Given    | Goal                 |
| $\neg P$ | <i>contradiction</i> |
| -----    |                      |

- Change to

Given	Goal
$\neg P$	$P$
-----	

- Second method: re-express in some other form (positive form)

# To use the given of the form $P \rightarrow Q$

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- Example: Suppose  $A \subset B$ ,  $a \in A$ , and  $a$  and  $b$  are not both elements of  $B$ . Prove  $b \notin B$ .



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- 

Given	Goal
$A \subset B$	$b \notin B$
$a \in A$	
$\neg(a \in B \wedge b \in B)$	

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Given                      Goal  
 $A \subset B$                        $b \notin B$   
 $a \in A$   
 $\neg(a \in B \wedge b \in B)$

Given                      Goal  
 $A \subset B$                        $b \notin B$   
 $a \in A$   
 $(a \in B \rightarrow b \notin B)$



Given

$$A \subset B$$

$$a \in A$$

$$(a \in B \rightarrow b \notin B)$$

$$a \in B$$

Goal

$$b \notin B$$



Given	Goal
$A \subset B$	$b \notin B$
$a \in A$	
$(a \in B \rightarrow b \notin B)$	
$a \in B$	

- Theorem: Suppose  $A \subset B$ ,  $a \in A$ , and  $a$  and  $b$  are not both elements of  $B$ . Then  $b \notin B$ .

Given	Goal
$A \subset B$	$b \notin B$
$a \in A$	
$(a \in B \rightarrow b \notin B)$	
$a \in B$	

- Theorem: Suppose  $A \subset B$ ,  $a \in A$ , and  $a$  and  $b$  are not both elements of  $B$ . Then  $b \notin B$ .
- Proof: Since  $a$  and  $b$  are not both elements of  $B$ , it follows that if  $a$  is an element of  $B$ , then  $b$  is not an element of  $B$ . Since  $a \in A$ , we have  $a \in B$ . Thus  $b$  is not an element of  $B$ . □

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- We introduce some arbitrary variable  $x$  in the assumption and prove  $P(x)$ .

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Given	Goal
— — — —	$\forall xP(x)$
— — — —	

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- We introduce some arbitrary variable  $x$  in the assumption and prove  $P(x)$ .

- |       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|
| Given | Goal            |
| ----- | $\forall xP(x)$ |
| ----- |                 |

- |       |        |
|-------|--------|
| Given | Goal   |
| ----- | $P(x)$ |
| ----- |        |

$x$  is an arbitrary variable.



# Examples

- $A, B, C$  are sets.  $A - B \subset C$ . Prove  $A - C \subset B$ .

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- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Given             | Goal              |
| $A - B \subset C$ | $A - C \subset B$ |

# Examples

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- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Given             | Goal              |
| $A - B \subset C$ | $A - C \subset B$ |

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Given  | Goal   |
| $\forall x(x \in A - B \rightarrow x \in C)$ | $\forall x(x \in A - C \rightarrow x \in B)$ |

# Examples

- $A, B, C$  are sets.  $A - B \subset C$ . Prove  $A - C \subset B$ .

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{Given} & \text{Goal} \\ A - B \subset C & A - C \subset B \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{Given} & \text{Goal} \\ \forall x(x \in A - B \rightarrow x \in C) & \forall x(x \in A - C \rightarrow x \in B) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{Given} & \text{Goal} \\ \forall x(x \in A - B \rightarrow x \in C) & x \in A - C \rightarrow x \in B \\ x \text{ arbitrary} & \end{array}$$

# Examples



Given	Goal
$\forall x(x \in A - B \rightarrow x \in C)$	$x \in B$
$x$ arbitrary	
$x \in A - C$	

# Examples



Given	Goal
$\forall x(x \in A - B \rightarrow x \in C)$	$x \in B$
$x$ arbitrary	
$x \in A - C$	



Given	Goal
$\forall x(x \in A - B \rightarrow x \in C)$	contradiction
$x \in A$	
$x \notin C$	
$x \notin B$	

Given                      Goal

$\forall x(x \in A - B \rightarrow x \in C)$      $x \in C$

$x \in A$

$x \notin C$

$x \notin B$



Given	Goal
$\forall x(x \in A - B \rightarrow x \in C)$	$x \in C$
$x \in A$	
$x \notin C$	
$x \notin B$	

- Read the English proof also.



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Given	Goal
— — — —	$\exists xP(x)$
— — — —	

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- |       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|
| Given | Goal            |
| ----- | $\exists xP(x)$ |
| ----- |                 |

- |       |        |
|-------|--------|
| Given | Goal   |
| ----- | $P(x)$ |
| ----- |        |

$x$  the value you decided

- $\exists x, |x^2 - 1| < 1/2.$

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Given	Goal
$x \in \mathbb{R}$	$\exists x,  x^2 - 1  < 1/2$

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Given	Goal
$x \in \mathbb{R}$	$\exists x,  x^2 - 1  < 1/2$



Given	Goal
$x \in \mathbb{R}$	$\exists x,  x^2 - 1  < 1/2$
$x = 1.1$	$(x^2 = 1.21,  x^2 - 1  = 0.21 < 1/2)$

## To use a given of form $\exists xP(x)$ or $\forall xP(x)$

- $\exists xP(x)$ : Introduce new variable  $x_0$ .  $P(x_0)$  is true (existential instantiation)

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- Example:  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$  families of sets. Suppose that  $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $\bigcap \mathcal{F} \subset \bigcup \mathcal{G}$ .
- 

Given	Goal
$\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$	$\forall x(x \in \bigcap \mathcal{F} \rightarrow x \in \bigcup \mathcal{G})$

Given      Goal

$$\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset \quad x \in \bigcup \mathcal{G}$$
$$x \in \bigcap \mathcal{F}$$

Given	Goal
$\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$	$x \in \bigcup \mathcal{G}$
$x \in \bigcap \mathcal{F}$	

Given	Goal
$\exists A(A \in \mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G})$	$\exists A \in \mathcal{G}(x \in A)$
$\forall A \in \mathcal{F}(x \in A)$	

Given	Goal
$\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$	$x \in \bigcup \mathcal{G}$
$x \in \bigcap \mathcal{F}$	

Given	Goal
$\exists A(A \in \mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G})$	$\exists A \in \mathcal{G}(x \in A)$
$\forall A \in \mathcal{F}(x \in A)$	

Given	Goal
$A_0 \in \mathcal{F}$	$\exists A \in \mathcal{G}(x \in A)$
$A_0 \in \mathcal{G}$	
$\forall A \in \mathcal{F}(x \in A)$	
$x \in A_0$	

Given                      Goal

$A_0 \in \mathcal{F}$                        $\exists A \in \mathcal{G}(x \in A)$

$A_0 \in \mathcal{G}$

$\forall A \in \mathcal{F}(x \in A)$

$x \in A_0$                       ( Use  $A = A_0$ )



Given	Goal
$A_0 \in \mathcal{F}$	$\exists A \in \mathcal{G}(x \in A)$
$A_0 \in \mathcal{G}$	
$\forall A \in \mathcal{F}(x \in A)$	
$x \in A_0$	( Use $A = A_0$ )

- Theorem: Suppose  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  are families of sets.  $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G} = \emptyset$ . Then  $\bigcap \mathcal{F} \subset \bigcup \mathcal{G}$ .



Given	Goal
$A_0 \in \mathcal{F}$	$\exists A \in \mathcal{G}(x \in A)$
$A_0 \in \mathcal{G}$	
$\forall A \in \mathcal{F}(x \in A)$	
$x \in A_0$	( Use $A = A_0$ )

- Theorem: Suppose  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  are families of sets.  $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G} = \emptyset$ . Then  $\bigcap \mathcal{F} \subset \bigcup \mathcal{G}$ .
- Proof: Suppose  $x \in \bigcap \mathcal{F}$ . Since  $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $A_0$  be the common element. Then  $A_0 \in \mathcal{F}$ . Thus,  $x \in A_0$  as  $A_0 \in \mathcal{F}$ . Since  $A_0 \in \mathcal{G}$ , then  $x \in \bigcup \mathcal{G}$ . □



# Proofs involving conjunctions and biconditionals

- To prove a goal of the form  $P \wedge Q$ : Prove  $P$  and  $Q$  separately.

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- To prove a goal  $P \leftrightarrow Q$ : Prove  $P \rightarrow Q$  and  $Q \rightarrow P$ .

# Proofs involving conjunctions and biconditionals

- To prove a goal of the form  $P \wedge Q$ : Prove  $P$  and  $Q$  separately.
- To use  $P \wedge Q$ : Regard as  $P$  and  $Q$ .
- To prove a goal  $P \leftrightarrow Q$ : Prove  $P \rightarrow Q$  and  $Q \rightarrow P$ .
- To use  $P \leftrightarrow Q$ : Treat as two givens  $P \rightarrow Q$  and  $Q \rightarrow P$ .

# Example

- Prove  $\forall x \neg P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg \exists x P(x)$ .

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- Prove  $\rightarrow$ :  $\forall x \neg P(x) \rightarrow \neg \exists x P(x)$

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- 

Given	Goal
$\forall x \neg P(x)$	contradiction
$\exists x P(x)$	

# Example

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- Prove  $\rightarrow$ :  $\forall x \neg P(x) \rightarrow \neg \exists x P(x)$

- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Given                 | Goal          |
| $\forall x \neg P(x)$ | contradiction |
| $\exists x P(x)$      |               |

- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Given                 | Goal          |
| $\forall x \neg P(x)$ | contradiction |
| $P(x_0)$              |               |



# Example

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Given                      Goal  
 $\forall x \neg P(x)$               contradiction  
 $\exists x P(x)$

Given                      Goal  
 $\forall x \neg P(x)$               contradiction  
 $P(x_0)$

Given                      Goal  
 $\forall \neg P(x)$                 contradiction  
 $P(x_0)$   
 $\neg P(x_0)$

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- Prove  $\leftarrow: \neg \exists x P(x) \rightarrow \forall x \neg P(x)$

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- Prove  $\leftarrow: \neg \exists x P(x) \rightarrow \forall x \neg P(x)$
- 

Given	Goal
$\neg \exists x P(x)$	$\forall x \neg P(x)$

# Example

- Prove  $\forall x \neg P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg \exists x P(x)$ .
- Prove  $\leftarrow: \neg \exists x P(x) \rightarrow \forall x \neg P(x)$

- | Given                 | Goal                  |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| $\neg \exists x P(x)$ | $\forall x \neg P(x)$ |

- | Given                 | Goal        |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| $\neg \exists x P(x)$ | $\neg P(x)$ |
| $x$ arbitrary         |             |

# Example

- Prove  $\forall x \neg P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg \exists x P(x)$ .
- Prove  $\leftarrow: \neg \exists x P(x) \rightarrow \forall x \neg P(x)$

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Given                 | Goal                  |
| $\neg \exists x P(x)$ | $\forall x \neg P(x)$ |

- |                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Given                 | Goal        |
| $\neg \exists x P(x)$ | $\neg P(x)$ |
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- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Given                 | Goal          |
| $\neg \exists x P(x)$ | contradiction |
| $x$ arbitrary         |               |
| $P(x)$                |               |

Given                      Goal  
 $\neg \exists x P(x)$              $\exists x P(x)$   
 $x$  arbitrary  
 $P(x)$

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Given               | Goal            |
| $\neg\exists xP(x)$ | $\exists xP(x)$ |
| $x$ arbitrary       |                 |
| $P(x)$              |                 |

- Theorem:  $\forall x\neg P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg\exists xP(x)$ .





Given	Goal
$\neg\exists xP(x)$	$\exists xP(x)$
$x$ arbitrary	
$P(x)$	

- Theorem:  $\forall x\neg P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg\exists xP(x)$ .
- Proof: ( $\rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $\forall x\neg P(x)$  and suppose  $\exists xP(x)$ . We choose  $x_0$  such that  $P(x_0)$  is true. Since  $\forall x\neg P(x)$ , we know  $\neg P(x_0)$ . This is a contradiction. Thus,  $\forall x\neg P(x) \rightarrow \neg\exists xP(x)$ .

Given	Goal
$\neg\exists xP(x)$	$\exists xP(x)$
$x$ arbitrary	
$P(x)$	

- Theorem:  $\forall x\neg P(x) \leftrightarrow \neg\exists xP(x)$ .
- Proof: ( $\rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $\forall x\neg P(x)$  and suppose  $\exists xP(x)$ . We choose  $x_0$  such that  $P(x_0)$  is true. Since  $\forall x\neg P(x)$ , we know  $\neg P(x_0)$ . This is a contradiction. Thus,  $\forall x\neg P(x) \rightarrow \neg\exists xP(x)$ .
- Proof: ( $\leftarrow$ ) Suppose  $\neg\exists xP(x)$ . Let  $x$  be arbitrary. Suppose that  $P(x)$ . Then  $\exists xP(x)$ . This is a contradiction. Thus  $\neg P(x)$  is true. Since  $x$  was arbitrary, we have  $\forall x\neg P(x)$ . □