

If you have **questions** you are welcome to unmute and interrupt, or ask in chat (publicly or privately is fine!).

If there are any **technical difficulties** (for example, I am writing offscreen) please let me know right away!

My **website** is <http://www.math.emory.edu/~dzb/>

The **course** website is <https://www.math.emory.edu/~dzb/teaching/250Spring2022/>

The **syllabus** is available here

<https://www.math.emory.edu/~dzb/teaching/250Spring2022/syllabus-math-250-spring-2022.pdf>

This **Miro** board is available at <https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVOXdsj8c=/>

The **Overleaf** board is available at <https://www.overleaf.com/read/rcpfxdbhdgsh>

**Office hours** are Mondays, 4:30-5:30 via Zoom. **Link is on the syllabus.** If you cannot make it to these office hours, please email me to set up an alternative time. (Preferrably email me 24 hours in advance, and please suggest a big list of times that you are available.)

Rewrites

For all

$\dots$

Some



there exists at least one. ~~\*~~

Proof by Contradiction.

Prove that if  $x + y > 20$ , then  $x > 10$   
or  $y > 10$ .

P

Proof. Proceed by contradiction.

Suppose  $x + y > 20$ . Suppose  $x \leq 10$  and

$\neg P$

$y \leq 10$ . Then  $x + y \leq 20$ . This contradicts

our assumption that  $x + y > 20$ . Thus

$x > 10$  or  $y > 10$ .  $\square$

valid proof that  $\neg P \Rightarrow Q$

We want to prove  $P$ .

"There are 2 cases": either

$P$  is true or  $P$  is false.

(i.e.  $\neg P$  is true)

If we can "eliminate"  $\neg P$ ,

then the only possibility is that

$P$  is true.

It is  $\rightarrow P$  is false, then P

B tree.

# Template for proof by contradiction

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Want to prove  $P$ .

① Assume  $\neg P$ .

② Do stuff. (Give a proof that  $\neg P \Rightarrow Q$ )

③ Observe that  $Q$  is false.

(or prove)

④ Conclude that  $P$  is true.

Prove that  $x^2 - y^2 = 1$  has no positive integer solutions.

It is proven that there do not exist positive integers  $x$  and  $y$  s.t.

$$x^2 - y^2 = 1$$

Why use contradiction?

A: The negation is

more useful as a hypothesis.

Proof: Proceed by contradiction.

Assume that there do exist positive integers  $x$  and  $y$  s.t.  $x^2 - y^2 = 1$ . 7P

Then  $(x-y)(x+y) = 1$ . Then either

$$x-y=1 \text{ and } x+y=1, \text{ or}$$

$$x-y=-1 \text{ and } x+y=-1.$$



In the 1<sup>st</sup> case, adding gives  $2x = 2$ , thus  $x = 1$ . Then  $-y = 0$ ,  
so  $y = 0$ . This contradicts that  $y$  is positive. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> case,  
adding gives  $2x = -2$ , thus  $x = -1$ .  
This contradicts positivity of  $x$ .  
We conclude that there are no such  $x, y, z$ .

We proved  $\neg P \Rightarrow (y=0 \text{ or } x=-1)$

$\neg P \Rightarrow (Q_1 \text{ or } Q_2)$

Both  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are false.

Hieroglyph:

$$\left( (\neg P \Rightarrow Q) \wedge \neg Q \right) \Rightarrow P$$

$\neg$

Step 1  $\leftrightarrow$

$\neg$

Step 3

Note: You can prove this w/  
a truth table.

Prove that the equation  
 $x^2 = 4y + 3$  has no integer  
solutions.

Proof. Proceed by contradiction.  
Assume that there exist integers  
 $x$  and  $y$  s.t.  $x^2 = 4y + 3$ .

Either  $x$  is even or  $x$  is odd.

If  $x$  is even, then  $x^2$  is even.

(Then the LHS of (\*) is even,  
but the RHS is odd). This

is a contradiction.  $Q.E.D.$

If  $x$  is odd, then there is  
an integer  $t$  s.t.  $x = 2t + 1$ .

Then  $(2t+1)^2 = 4t^2 + 4t + 1 = 4y + 3$ ,

then  $(4t^2 + 4t - 4y = 2)$  This is a

contradiction because the LHS

is divisible by 4 and the RHS

is not.  $\square$

This is a valid proof that

$$\neg P \Rightarrow (Q_1 \vee Q_2).$$

But  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are both false.

Thus  $\neg P$  is false,

Thus  $P$  is true.

Euclid's theorem: there are infinitely  
many prime numbers.

Note:  $7+1=8$  not prime  
 $11+1=12$



Proof. Proceed by cont realization.

Assume that there are only  
finitely many primes.

Label them as  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r$

with  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_r$ .

↑  
Final  
prime.

(IE  $p_1 = 2$   $p_2 = 3$   $p_3 = 5$   $p_4 = 7, \dots$ )

Then let  $N = \underline{P_1 P_2 \dots P_r} + 1$ .

Note:  $N$  cannot be prime, because

$N > P_r$  and we assumed  $P_r$

was the final prime.

Since  $N$  is composite, it

must have some prime factor

$P_i$ . Since  $P_i$  appears in the product

$P_1 \cdots P_r$ ,  $P_i \mid P_1 \cdots P_r$  by

transitivity. But  $P_i \mid N$ , so

by the 2 out of 3 rule,

$P_i \mid 1$ . This is a contradiction,

since 1 has no prime divisors.  $\square$

Warning: this doesn't prove

that  $P_1 \rightarrow P_{r+1} \exists P_{1k}$ .