

Assumptions

⋮

$P_1 \vee P_2$

⋮

Goal

$Q$

## The use of disjunction:

To use a disjunctive assumption

$P_1 \vee P_2$

to establish a goal  $Q$ , consider the following two cases in turn: (i) assume  $P_1$  to establish  $Q$ , and (ii) assume  $P_2$  to establish  $Q$ .

Assumptions

⋮  
 $P_1$   
⋮

Goal  
 $Q$

Assumptions

⋮  
 $P_2$   
⋮

Goal  
 $Q$

## Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

Q

⋮

$P_1 \vee P_2$

After using the strategy

Assumptions

Goal

Q

Assumptions

Goal

Q

⋮

$P_1$

⋮

$P_2$

## Proof pattern:

In order to prove  $Q$  from some assumptions amongst which there is

$$P_1 \vee P_2$$

**write:** We prove the following two cases in turn: (i) that assuming  $P_1$ , we have  $Q$ ; and (ii) that assuming  $P_2$ , we have  $Q$ . Case (i): Assume  $P_1$ . **and provide a proof of  $Q$  from it and the other assumptions.** Case (ii): Assume  $P_2$ . **and provide a proof of  $Q$  from it and the other assumptions.**

$$\binom{p}{m} = C_m^p = \frac{p!}{m!(p-m)!} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq m \leq p$$

A little arithmetic

**Lemma 27** For all positive integers  $p$  and natural numbers  $m$ , if  $m = 0$  or  $m = p$  then  $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

PROOF: Let  $p$  be a pos. int. Let  $m$  be a nat. number.

RTP:  $(m=0 \text{ or } m=p) \Rightarrow \binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

Assume:  $m=0$  or  $m=p$

RTP:  $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

Assume:  $m=0$

Then  $\binom{p}{m} = \binom{p}{0} = 1$

and we are done.

Assume:  $m=p$

Then  $\binom{p}{m} = \binom{p}{p} = 1$

and we are done  $\square$

**Lemma 28** For all integers  $p$  and  $m$ , if  $p$  is prime and  $0 < m < p$  then  $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ .

PROOF: Let  $p$  and  $m$  be int.

Assume: ①  $p$  is prime  
and ②  $0 < m < p$

RTP:  $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ; That is,  $\binom{p}{m}$  is a multiple of  $p$ .

$$\binom{p}{m} = \frac{p!}{m!(p-m)!} = p \cdot \left[ \frac{(p-1)!}{m!(p-m)!} \right]$$

$$\binom{p}{m} = \frac{p!}{m!(p-m)!}$$

$$\Rightarrow p \cdot (p-1)! = \binom{p}{m} \cdot m! (p-m)!$$

$$\text{So } p \mid \binom{p}{m} \cdot [m!(p-m)!]$$

TBP:  
 $(p \mid a \cdot b \Rightarrow (p \mid a \vee p \mid b))$

$$(p \mid a \cdot b \wedge p \nmid a \Rightarrow p \mid b)$$

By TBP:  $p \mid \binom{p}{m}$ .

By assumption  
 $0 < m < p$

$$m! = m \cdot (m-1) \cdot \dots \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

and so  $p \nmid m!$

and  $p \nmid (p-m)!$



**Proposition 29** For all prime numbers  $p$  and integers  $0 \leq m \leq p$ , either  $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  or  $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

PROOF: Let  $p$  be a prime and  $m$  an integer  $0 \leq m \leq p$ .

RTP  $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  or  $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

Consider the cases:

①  $m=0$  or  $m=p$ : Then  $\binom{p}{m} = 1 \pmod{p}$

② otherwise: Then  $\binom{p}{m} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$



# Binomial Theorem

$$(m+n)^p = \sum_{k=0}^p \binom{p}{k} \cdot m^{p-k} \cdot n^k$$

$$= m^p + n^p + \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \underbrace{\binom{p}{k}}_{\equiv 0 \pmod{p}} \cdot m^{p-k} \cdot n^k$$

$$\equiv m^p + n^p \pmod{p}$$

$p$  prime

$$a \equiv a' \\ b \equiv b'$$

$$\pmod{m} \Rightarrow$$

$$a+b \equiv a'+b' \\ a \cdot b \equiv a' \cdot b' \pmod{m}$$



## A little more arithmetic

**Corollary 33 (The Freshman's Dream)** *For all natural numbers  $m$ ,  $n$  and primes  $p$ ,*

$$(m + n)^p \equiv m^p + n^p \pmod{p} .$$

PROOF:

**Corollary 34 (The Dropout Lemma)** For all natural numbers  $m$  and primes  $p$ ,

$$(m + 1)^p \equiv m^p + 1 \pmod{p} .$$

**Proposition 35 (The Many Dropout Lemma)** For all natural numbers  $m$  and  $i$ , and primes  $p$ ,

$$(m + i)^p \equiv m^p + i \pmod{p} .$$

PROOF: Idea:

$$(m+i)^p = (m + \underbrace{1+1+\dots+1}_{i \text{ times}})^p \equiv (m + \underbrace{1+\dots+1}_{i-1 \text{ times}})^p + 1$$

$$\equiv (m + \underbrace{1+\dots+1}_{i-2 \text{ times}})^p + 1 + 1 \equiv \dots \equiv (m + 1)^p + \underbrace{1+\dots+1}_{i-1 \text{ times}} \equiv m^p + \underbrace{1+\dots+1}_{i \text{ times}}$$

$$\equiv m^p + i \quad \square$$

# Fermat's Little Theorem

The Many Dropout Lemma (Proposition 35) gives the first part of the following very important theorem as a corollary.

**Theorem 36 (Fermat's Little Theorem)** *For all natural numbers  $i$  and primes  $p$ ,*

1.  $i^p \equiv i \pmod{p}$ , and

2.  $i^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  whenever  $i$  is not a multiple of  $p$ .

$$\begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow p \mid (i^{p-1} - 1) \cdot i \\ \text{and if } p \nmid i \Rightarrow p \mid (i^{p-1} - 1) \\ \Leftarrow \end{array}$$

The fact that the first part of Fermat's Little Theorem implies the second one will be proved later on .

if  $p \nmid i$

Then  $i^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

$$i \cdot (i^{p-2}) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

the reciprocal of  $i$  is a  $j$  such that  $i \cdot j \equiv 1$

Every natural number  $i$  not a multiple of a prime number  $p$  has a *reciprocal* modulo  $p$ , namely  $i^{p-2}$ , as  $i \cdot (i^{p-2}) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

## Btw

1. Fermat's Little Theorem has applications to:
  - (a) primality testing<sup>a</sup>,
  - (b) the verification of floating-point algorithms, and
  - (c) cryptographic security.

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<sup>a</sup>For instance, to establish that a positive integer  $m$  is not prime one may proceed to find an integer  $i$  such that  $i^m \not\equiv i \pmod{m}$ .

# Negation

Negations are statements of the form

not  $P$

or, in other words,

$P$  is not the case

or

$P$  is absurd

or

$P$  leads to contradiction

or, in symbols,

$\neg P$

## A first proof strategy for negated goals and assumptions:

If possible, reexpress the negation in an *equivalent* form and use instead this other statement.

### Logical equivalences

$$\begin{aligned}\neg(P \implies Q) &\iff P \wedge \neg Q \\ \neg(P \iff Q) &\iff P \iff \neg Q \\ \neg(\forall x. P(x)) &\iff \exists x. \neg P(x) \\ \neg(P \wedge Q) &\iff (\neg P) \vee (\neg Q) \\ \neg(\exists x. P(x)) &\iff \forall x. \neg P(x) \\ \neg(P \vee Q) &\iff (\neg P) \wedge (\neg Q) \\ \neg(\neg P) &\iff P \\ \neg P &\iff (P \implies \mathbf{false})\end{aligned}$$



**Theorem 37** For all statements  $P$  and  $Q$ ,

$$(P \implies Q) \implies (\neg Q \implies \neg P) .$$

PROOF: Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be statements.

Assume: <sup>②</sup>  $P \implies Q$

RTP:  $\neg Q \implies \neg P$

Assume: <sup>③</sup>  $\neg Q \iff (Q \implies \text{false})$

RTP:  $\neg P \iff (P \implies \text{false})$

Assume: <sup>①</sup>  $P$

RTP: false.

By ① and ②, we have <sup>④</sup>  $Q$ . By ④ and ③ we are done  $\square$

# Proof by contradiction

Amongst the equivalences for negation, we have postulated the somewhat controversial:

$$\neg\neg P \iff P$$

which is *classically* accepted.

In this light,

to prove  $P$

one may equivalently

prove  $\neg P \implies \text{false}$  ;

that is,

assuming  $\neg P$  leads to contradiction .

This technique is known as *proof by contradiction*.

## The strategy for proof by contradiction:

To prove a goal  $P$  by contradiction is to prove the equivalent statement  $\neg P \implies \text{false}$

### Proof pattern:

In order to prove

$P$

1. **Write:** We use proof by contradiction. So, suppose  $P$  is false.
2. **Deduce a logical contradiction.**
3. **Write:** This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $P$  must be true.

## Scratch work:

Before using the strategy

Assumptions

⋮

Goal

$P$

After using the strategy

Assumptions

⋮

$\neg P$

Goal

contradiction

**Theorem 39** For all statements  $P$  and  $Q$ ,

$$(\neg Q \implies \neg P) \implies (P \implies Q) .$$

PROOF: Let  $P$  and  $Q$  be statements.

Assume: <sup>①</sup>  $\neg Q \implies \neg P$

Assume: <sup>②</sup>  $P$

By contradiction, assume: <sup>③</sup>  $\neg Q$

By <sup>③</sup> and <sup>①</sup>, we have <sup>④</sup>  $\neg P$

<sup>②</sup> and <sup>④</sup> are a contradiction.

