

Analyse et Conception Formelles

Lesson 4

Proofs with a proof assistant



Prove logic formulas ... to prove programs

```
fun nth:: "nat => 'a list => 'a"
where
  "nth 0 (x#_) = x" |
  "nth x (y#ys) = (nth (x - 1) ys)"

fun index:: "'a => 'a list => nat"
where
  "index x (y#ys) = (if x=y then 1 else 1+(index x ys))"

lemma nth_index: "nth (index e l) l = e"
```

How to prove the lemma `nth_index`? (Recall that everything is logic!)

What we are going to prove is thus a formula of the form:



Outline

- 1 Finding counterexamples
 - `nitpick`
 - `quickcheck`
- 2 Proving true formulas
 - Proof by cases: `apply (case_tac x)`
 - Proof by induction: `apply (induct x)`
 - Combination of decision procedures: `apply auto` and `apply simp`
 - Solving theorems in the Cloud: `sledgehammer`

Acknowledgements: some material is borrowed from T. Nipkow's lectures and from Concrete Semantics by Nipkow and Klein, Springer Verlag, 2016.

More details (in french) about those proof techniques can be found in:

- <http://people.irisa.fr/Thomas.Genet/ACF/TPs/pc.thy>
- CM4 video and "Principes de preuve avancés" video

Finding counterexamples

Why? because «90% of the theorems we write are false!»

- Because this is not what we want to prove!
- Because the formula is imprecise
- Because the function is false
- Because there are typos...

Before starting a proof, always first search for a counterexample!

Isabelle/HOL offers two counterexample finders:

- `nitpick`: uses finite model enumeration
 - + Works on any logic formula, any type and any function
 - Rapidly exhausted on large programs and properties
- `quickcheck`: uses random testing, exhaustive testing and narrowing
 - Does not covers all formula and all types
 - + Scales well even on large programs and complex properties

Nitpick

To build an interpretation I such that $I \not\models \phi$ (or $I \models \neg\phi$) nitpick

nitpick principle: build an interpretation $I \models \neg\phi$ on a finite domain D

- Choose a **cardinality** k
- Enumerate **all possible** domains D_τ of size k for all types τ in $\neg\phi$
- Build all possible interpretations of functions in $\neg\phi$ on all D_τ
- Check if one interpretation satisfy $\neg\phi$ (this is a counterexample for ϕ)
- If not, **there is no counterexample on a domain of size k for ϕ**

nitpick algorithm:

- Search for a counterexample to ϕ with **cardinalities 1 upto n**
- Stops when I such that $I \models \neg\phi$ is found (counterex. to ϕ), **or**
- Stops when maximal cardinality n is reached (10 by default), **or**
- Stops after 30 seconds (default timeout)

Nitpick (II)

Exercise 1

By hand, iteratively check if there is a counterexample of cardinality 1, 2, 3 for the formula ϕ , where ϕ is `length la <= 1`.

Remark 1

- The types occurring in ϕ are 'a and 'a list
- **One** possible domain $D_{'a}$ of cardinality 1: $\{a_1\}$
- **One** possible domain $D_{'a \text{ list}}$ of cardinality 1: $\{[]\}$ $\{\{a_1\}\}$
Domains have to be **subterm-closed**, thus $\{\{a_1\}\}$ is not valid
- **One** possible domain $D_{'a}$ of cardinality 2: $\{a_1, a_2\}$
- **Two** possible domains $D_{'a \text{ list}}$ of cardinality 2: $\{[], [a_1]\}$ and $\{[], [a_2]\}$
- **One** possible domain $D_{'a}$ of cardinality 3: $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$
- **Twelve** possible domains $D_{'a \text{ list}}$ of cardinality 3: $\{[], [a_1], [a_1, a_1]\}$, $\{[], [a_1], [a_2]\}$, $\{[], [a_1], [a_3, a_1]\}$, ... $\{[], [a_1], [a_3, a_2]\}$ (Demo!)

Nitpick (III)

nitpick options:

- `timeout=t`, set the timeout to t seconds (`timeout=none` possible)
- `show_all`, displays the domains and interpretations for the counterex.
- `expect=s`, specifies the expected outcome where s can be **none** (no counterexample) or **genuine** (a counterexample exists)
- `card=i-j`, specifies the cardinalities to explore

For instance:

```
nitpick [timeout=120, show_all, card=3-5]
```

Exercise 2

- Explain the counterexample found for `rev 1 = 1`
- Is there a counterexample to the lemma `nth_index`?
- Correct the lemma and definitions of `index` and `nth`
- Is the lemma `append_commut` true? really?

Quickcheck

To build an interpretation I such that $I \not\models \phi$ (or $I \models \neg\phi$) quickcheck

quickcheck principle: **test** ϕ with automatically generated values of **size k**

Either with a generator

- Random: values are generated randomly (Haskell's QuickCheck)
- Exhaustive: (almost) all values of size k are generated (TP4bis)
- Narrowing: like exhaustive but taking advantage of symbolic values

No exhaustiveness guarantee!! with any of them

quickcheck algorithm:

- Export Haskell code for functions and lemmas
- Generate test values of size 1 upto n and, test ϕ using Haskell code
- Stops when a counterexample is found, **or**
- Stops when max. size of test values has been reached (default 5), **or**
- Stops after 30 seconds (default timeout)

Quickcheck (II)

quickcheck options:

- `timeout=t`, set the timeout to `t` seconds
- `expect=s`, specifies the expected outcome where `s` can be `no_counterexample`, `counterexample` or `no_expectation`
- `tester=tool`, specifies generator to use where `tool` can be `random`, `exhaustive` or `narrowing`
- `size=i`, specifies the maximal size of testing values

For instance: `quickcheck [tester=narrowing,size=6]`

Exercise 3 (Using quickcheck)

- find a counterexample on `TP0` (`solTP0.thy`, `CM4_TP0`)
- find a counterexample for `length_slice`

Remark 2

Quickcheck first generates values and *then* does the tests. As a result, it may not run the tests if you choose bad values for `size` and `timeout`.

Counter-example finders – the quiz

Quiz 1 (On (N)itpick and (Q)uickcheck counter-example finders)

- If Q/N finds a counter-example on ϕ

V	ϕ is contradictory
R	ϕ is not valid

- If Q/N do not find a cex on ϕ

V	ϕ is valid
R	We do not know anything

- Which of Q/N is the most powerful?

V	Q
R	N

Quiz 2 (If Isabelle/HOL accepts lemma ϕ closed by done)

- Then

V	ϕ is valid
R	ϕ is satisfiable

- There may remain some counter-example

V	True
R	False

What to do next?

When no counterexample is found what can we do?

- Increase the timeout and size values for nitpick and quickcheck?
- ... go for a proof!

Any proof is **faster** than an infinite time nitpick or quickcheck

Any proof is **more reliable** than an infinite time nitpick or quickcheck
(They make approximations or assumptions on infinite types)

The five proof tools that we will focus on:

- 1 apply case_tac
- 2 apply induct
- 3 apply auto
- 4 apply simp
- 5 sledgehammer

How do proofs look like?

A formula of the form $A_1 \wedge \dots \wedge A_n$ is represented by the proof goal:

```
goal (n subgoals):  
1.  $A_1$   
...  
n.  $A_n$ 
```

Where each **subgoal** to prove is either a formula of the form

$\bigwedge x_1 \dots x_n. B$ meaning prove B , or

$\bigwedge x_1 \dots x_n. B \implies C$ meaning prove $B \implies C$, or

$\bigwedge x_1 \dots x_n. B_1 \implies \dots B_n \implies C$ meaning prove $B_1 \wedge \dots \wedge B_n \implies C$

and $\bigwedge x_1 \dots x_n$ means that those variables are **local** to this subgoal.

Example 1 (Proof goal)

```
goal (2 subgoals):
```

```
1. contains e []  $\implies$  nth (index e []) [] = e
```

```
2.  $\bigwedge a$  1. e  $\neq$  a  $\implies$  contains e (a # 1)  $\implies$   
    $\neg$  contains e 1  $\implies$  nth (index e 1) 1 = e
```

Proof by cases

... possible when the proof can be split into a finite number of cases

Proof by cases on a formula F

Do a proof by cases on a formula F `apply (case_tac "F")`
Splits the current goal in two: one with assumption F and one with $\neg F$

Example 2 (Proof by case on a formula)

With `apply (case_tac "F::bool")`

goal (1 subgoal):	becomes	goal (2 subgoals):
1. $A \implies B$		1. $F \implies A \implies B$
		2. $\neg F \implies A \implies B$

Exercise 4

Prove that for any natural number x , if $x < 4$ then $x * x < 10$.

Proof by cases (II)

Proof by cases on a variable x of an enumerated type of size n

Do a proof by cases on a variable x `apply (case_tac "x")`
Splits the current goal into n goals, one for each case of x.

Example 3 (Proof by case on a variable of an enumerated type)

In Course 3, we defined datatype `color= Black | White | Grey`
With `apply (case_tac "x")`

goal (1 subgoal):	becomes	goal (3 subgoals):
1. $P(x::color)$		1. $x = Black \implies P x$
		2. $x = White \implies P x$
		3. $x = Grey \implies P x$

Exercise 5

On the color enumerated type of course 3, show that for all color x if the `notBlack x` is true then x is either white or grey.

Proof by induction

«Properties on recursive functions need proofs by induction»

Recall the basic induction principle on naturals:

$$P(0) \wedge \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. (P(x) \rightarrow P(x+1)) \rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. P(x)$$

All recursive datatype have a similar induction principle, e.g. 'a lists:

$$P([]) \wedge \forall e \in 'a. \forall l \in 'a \text{ list}. (P(l) \rightarrow P(e\#l)) \rightarrow \forall l \in 'a \text{ list}. P(l)$$

Etc...

Example 4

datatype 'a binTree= Leaf | Node 'a "'a binTree" "'a binTree"

$$P(\text{Leaf}) \wedge \forall e \in 'a. \forall t1 t2 \in 'a \text{ binTree}. (P(t1) \wedge P(t2) \rightarrow P(\text{Node } e t1 t2)) \rightarrow \forall t \in 'a \text{ binTree}. P(t)$$

Proof by induction (II)

$$P([]) \wedge \forall e \in 'a. \forall l \in 'a \text{ list}. (P(l) \rightarrow P(e\#l)) \rightarrow \forall l \in 'a \text{ list}. P(l)$$

Example 5 (Proof by induction on lists)

Recall the definition of the function `append`:

- (1) `append [] l = l`
- (2) `append (x\#xs) l = x\#(append xs l)`

To prove $\forall l \in 'a \text{ list}. (\text{append } l [] = l)$ by induction on l, we prove:

- 1 `append [] [] = []`, proven by the first equation of `append`
- 2 $\forall e \in 'a. \forall l \in 'a \text{ list}. (\text{append } l [] = l \rightarrow (\text{append } (e\#l) [] = (e\#l)))$
using the second equation of `append`, it becomes
 $(\text{append } l [] = l \rightarrow e\#(\text{append } l [])) = (e\#l)$
using the (induction) hypothesis, it becomes
 $(\text{append } l [] = l \rightarrow e\#l = (e\#l))$

Proof by induction: apply (induct x)

To apply induction principle on variable x apply (induct x)

Conditions on the variable chosen for induction (induction variable):

- The variable x has to be of an inductive type (nat, datatypes, ...)
Otherwise apply (induct x) fails
- The terms built by induction cases should easily be reducible!

Example 6 (Choice of the induction variable)

(1) append [] l = l

(2) append (x#xs) l = x#(append xs l)

To prove $\forall l_1 l_2 \in 'a \text{ list}. (\text{length} (\text{append } l_1 l_2)) \geq (\text{length } l_2)$

An induction proof on l_1 , instead of l_2 , is more likely to succeed:

- an induction on l_1 will require to prove:
 $(\text{length} (\text{append } (e\#l_1) l_2)) \geq (\text{length } l_2)$
- an induction on l_2 will require to prove:
 $(\text{length} (\text{append } l_1 (e\#l_2))) \geq (\text{length } (e\#l_2))$

Proof by induction: apply (induct x) (II)

Exercise 6

Recall the datatype of binary trees we defined in lecture 3. Define and prove the following properties:

- 1 If contains x t, then there is at least one node in the tree t.
- 2 Relate the fact that x is a sub-tree of y and their number of nodes.

Exercise 7

Recall the functions sumList, sumNat and makeList of lecture 3. Try to state and prove the following properties:

- 1 Relate the length of list produced by makeList i and i
- 2 Relate the value of sumNat i and i
- 3 Give and try to prove the property relating those three functions

Proof by induction: generalize the goals

By default apply induct may produce too weak induction hypothesis

Example 7

When doing an apply (induct x) on the goal P (x::nat) (y::nat)

goal (2 subgoals):

1. P 0 y
 2. $\forall x. P x y \implies P (\text{Suc } x) y$
- In the subgoals, y is fixed/constant!

Example 8

With apply (induct x arbitrary:y) on the same goal

goal (2 subgoals):

1. $\forall y. P 0 y$
 2. $\forall x y. P x y \implies P (\text{Suc } x) y$
- The subgoals range over any y

Exercise 8

Prove the sym lemma on the leq function.

Proof by induction: : induction principles

Recall the basic induction principle on naturals:

$$P(0) \wedge \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. (P(x) \longrightarrow P(x+1)) \longrightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. P(x)$$

In fact, there are infinitely many other induction principles

- $P(0) \wedge P(1) \wedge \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. ((x > 0 \wedge P(x)) \longrightarrow P(x+1)) \longrightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. P(x)$
- ...
- Strong induction on naturals
 $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N}. ((y < x \wedge P(y)) \longrightarrow P(x)) \longrightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. P(x)$
- Well-founded induction on any type having a well-founded order \ll
 $\forall x, y. ((y \ll x \wedge P(y)) \longrightarrow P(x)) \longrightarrow \forall x. P(x)$

Proof by induction: : induction principles (II)

Apply an induction principle adapted to the function call (f x y z)
..... `apply (induct x y z rule:f.induct)`

Apply strong induction on variable x of type nat
..... `apply (induct x rule:nat_less_induct)`

Apply well-founded induction on a variable x
..... `apply (induct x rule:wf_induct)`

Exercise 9

Prove the lemma on function divBy2.

Combination of decision procedures auto and simp

Automatically solve or simplify **all subgoals** `apply auto`

`apply auto` does the following:

- Rewrites using **equations** (function definitions, etc)
- Applies a bit of **arithmetic, logic reasoning and set reasoning**
- **On all subgoals**
- Solves them all or stops when stuck and shows the remaining subgoals

Automatically simplify **the first subgoal** `apply simp`

`apply simp` does the following:

- Rewrites using **equations** (function definitions, etc)
- Applies a bit of **arithmetic**
- **on the first subgoal**
- Solves it or stops when stuck and shows the simplified subgoal

Combination of decision procedures auto and simp (II)

Want to know what those tactics do?

- Add the command using `[[simp_trace=true]]` in the proof script
- Look in the output buffer

Example 9

Switch on tracing and try to prove the lemma:

```
lemma "(index (1::nat) [3,4,1,3]) = 2"  
using [[simp_trace=true]]  
apply auto
```

Sledgehammer

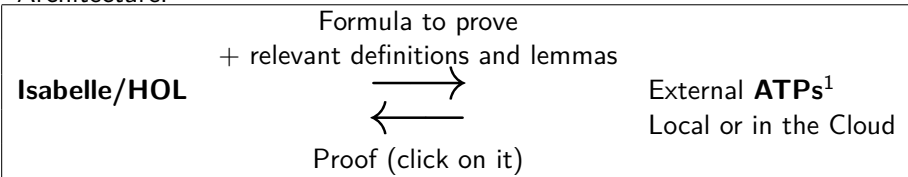


«Sledgehammers are often used in destruction work...»

Sledgehammer

«Solve theorems in the Cloud»

Architecture:



Prove the first subgoal using state-of-the-art² ATPs [sledgehammer](#)

- Call to local or distant ATPs: SPASS, E, Vampire, CVC4, Z3, etc.
- Succeeds or stops on timeout (can be extended, e.g. [timeout=120])
- Provers can be explicitly selected (e.g. [provers= z3 spass])
- A proof consists of applications of lemmas or definition using the Isabelle/HOL tactics: metis, smt, simp, fast, etc.

¹Automatic Theorem Provers

²See <http://www.tptp.org/CASC/>.

Sledgehammer (II)

Remark 3

By default, *sledgehammer* does not use all available provers. But, you can remedy this by defining, once for all, the set of provers to be used:

```
sledgehammer_params [provers=cvc4 spass z3 e vampire]
```

Exercise 10

Finish the proof of the property relating `nth` and `index`

Exercise 11

Recall the functions `sumList`, `sumNat` and `makeList` of lecture 3. Try to state and prove the following properties:

- 1 Prove that there is no repeated occurrence of elements in the list produced by `makeList`
- 2 Finish the proof of the property relating those three functions

Hints for building proofs in Isabelle/HOL

When stuck in the proof of `prop1`, add relevant intermediate lemmas:

- 1 In the file, define a lemma **before** the property `prop1`
- 2 **Name** the lemma (say `lem1`) (to be used by *sledgehammer*)
- 3 Try to find a counterexample to `lem1`
- 4 If no counterexample is found, close the proof of `lem1` by `sorry`
- 5 Go back to the proof of `prop1` and check that `lem1` helps
- 6 If it helps then prove `lem1`. If not try to guess another lemma

To build correct theories, do not confuse `oops` and `sorry`:

- Always close an **unprovable** property by `oops`
- Always close an unfinished proof of a **provable** property by `sorry`

Example 10 (Everything is provable using contradictory lemmas)

We can prove that $1 + 1 = 0$ using a false lemma.