



**COMP 4161**  
NICTA Advanced Course

**Advanced Topics in Software Verification**

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# Isar

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**ISAR**

**A LANGUAGE FOR STRUCTURED PROOFS**

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## Content

- Intro & motivation, getting started [1]
- Foundations & Principles
  - Lambda Calculus, natural deduction [1,2]
  - Higher Order Logic [3<sup>a</sup>]
  - Term rewriting [4]
- Proof & Specification Techniques
  - Inductively defined sets, rule induction [5]
  - Datatypes, recursion, induction [6, 7]
  - Hoare logic, proofs about programs, C verification [8<sup>b</sup>, 9]
  - (mid-semester break)
  - Writing Automated Proof Methods [10]
  - Isar, codegen, typeclasses, locales [11<sup>c</sup>, 12]

<sup>a</sup>a1 due; <sup>b</sup>a2 due; <sup>c</sup>a3 due

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## Motivation

Is this true:  $(A \longrightarrow B) = (B \vee \neg A)$  ?

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## Motivation

Is this true:  $(A \rightarrow B) = (B \vee \neg A)$  ?

YES!

```
apply (rule iffI)
apply (cases A)
apply (rule disjI1)
apply (erule impE)
apply assumption
apply assumption
apply (rule disjI2)
apply assumption
apply (rule impI)
apply (erule disjE)
apply assumption
apply (erule notE)
apply assumption
done
```

or `by blast`

OK it's true. But WHY?

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## Motivation

WHY is this true:  $(A \rightarrow B) = (B \vee \neg A)$  ?

Demo

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## Isar

apply scripts

What about..

- unreadable
  - hard to maintain
  - do not scale
- Elegance?
  - Explaining deeper insights?
  - Large developments?

No structure.

Isar!

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## A typical Isar proof

**proof**

```
assume formula0
have formula1 by simp
:
have formulan by blast
show formulan+1 by ...
qed
```

proves  $formula_0 \implies formula_{n+1}$

(analogous to **assumes/shows** in lemma statements)

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## Isar core syntax



```
proof = proof [method] statement* qed
      | by method
```

```
method = (simp ...) | (blast ...) | (rule ...) | ...
```

```
statement = fix variables          ( $\wedge$ )
           | assume proposition      ( $\implies$ )
           | [from name+] (have | show) proposition proof
           | next                    (separates subgoals)
```

```
proposition = [name:] formula
```

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## proof and qed



```
proof [method] statement* qed
```

```
lemma "[A; B]  $\implies$  A  $\wedge$  B"
```

```
proof (rule conjI)
```

```
  assume A: "A"
```

```
  from A show "A" by assumption
```

```
next
```

```
  assume B: "B"
```

```
  from B show "B" by assumption
```

```
qed
```

- **proof** (<method>) applies method to the stated goal
- **proof** applies a single rule that fits
- **proof -** does nothing to the goal

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## How do I know what to Assume and Show?



Look at the proof state!

```
lemma "[A; B]  $\implies$  A  $\wedge$  B"
```

```
proof (rule conjI)
```

→ **proof** (rule conjI) changes proof state to

1.  $[A; B] \implies A$

2.  $[A; B] \implies B$

→ so we need 2 shows: **show** "A" and **show** "B"

→ We are allowed to **assume** A,  
because A is in the assumptions of the proof state.

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## The Three Modes of Isar



→ **[prove]:**

goal has been stated, proof needs to follow.

→ **[state]:**

proof block has opened or subgoal has been proved,  
new *from* statement, goal statement or assumptions can follow.

→ **[chain]:**

*from* statement has been made, goal statement needs to follow.

```
lemma "[A; B]  $\implies$  A  $\wedge$  B" [prove]
```

```
proof (rule conjI) [state]
```

```
  assume A: "A" [state]
```

```
  from A [chain] show "A" [prove] by assumption [state]
```

```
next [state] ...
```

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## Have

---

Can be used to make intermediate steps.

### Example:

**lemma** " $(x :: \text{nat}) + 1 = 1 + x$ "

**proof** -

**have** A: " $x + 1 = \text{Suc } x$ " **by** simp

**have** B: " $1 + x = \text{Suc } x$ " **by** simp

**show** " $x + 1 = 1 + x$ " **by** (simp only: A B)

**qed**

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## Backward and Forward

---

**Backward reasoning:** ... **have** " $A \wedge B$ " **proof**

→ **proof** picks an **intro** rule automatically

→ conclusion of rule must unify with  $A \wedge B$

**Forward reasoning:** ...

**assume** AB: " $A \wedge B$ "

**from** AB **have** "... " **proof**

→ now **proof** picks an **elim** rule automatically

→ triggered by **from**

→ first assumption of rule must unify with AB

**General case:** **from**  $A_1 \dots A_n$  **have**  $R$  **proof**

→ first  $n$  assumptions of rule must unify with  $A_1 \dots A_n$

→ conclusion of rule must unify with  $R$

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## Fix and Obtain

---

**fix**  $v_1 \dots v_n$

Introduces new arbitrary but fixed variables  
( $\sim$  parameters,  $\wedge$ )

**obtain**  $v_1 \dots v_n$  **where** <prop> <proof>

Introduces new variables together with property

DEMO

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## Fix and Obtain

---

**fix**  $v_1 \dots v_n$

Introduces new arbitrary but fixed variables  
( $\sim$  parameters,  $\wedge$ )

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Introduces new variables together with property

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## DEMO

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## Moreover and Ultimately

<b>have</b> $X_1: P_1 \dots$	<b>have</b> $P_1 \dots$
<b>have</b> $X_2: P_2 \dots$	<b>moreover have</b> $P_2 \dots$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
<b>have</b> $X_n: P_n \dots$	<b>moreover have</b> $P_n \dots$
<b>from</b> $X_1 \dots X_n$ <b>show</b> $\dots$	<b>ultimately show</b> $\dots$

wastes lots of brain power  
on names  $X_1 \dots X_n$

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## Fancy Abbreviations

**this** = the previous fact proved or assumed

**then** = **from this**

**thus** = **then show**

**hence** = **then have**

**with**  $A_1 \dots A_n$  = **from**  $A_1 \dots A_n$  **this**

**?thesis** = the last enclosing goal statement

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## General Case Distinctions

**show** *formula*

**proof** -

**have**  $P_1 \vee P_2 \vee P_3$  <proof>

**moreover** { **assume**  $P_1 \dots$  **have** ?thesis <proof> }

**moreover** { **assume**  $P_2 \dots$  **have** ?thesis <proof> }

**moreover** { **assume**  $P_3 \dots$  **have** ?thesis <proof> }

**ultimately show** ?thesis **by blast**

**qed**

{ ... } is a proof block similar to **proof** ... **qed**

{ **assume**  $P_1 \dots$  **have** P <proof> }

stands for  $P_1 \implies P$

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```
from ...  
have ...  
  apply - make incoming facts assumptions  
  apply (...)  
  :  
  apply (...)  
done
```

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