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*Isar — A language for structured proofs*

# *Apply scripts*

---

- unreadable

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---

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- hard to maintain

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- do not scale

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No structure!

# *Apply scripts versus Isar proofs*

---

Apply script = assembly language program

# *Apply scripts versus Isar proofs*

---

Apply script = assembly language program

Isar proof = structured program with comments

# *Apply scripts versus Isar proofs*

---

Apply script = assembly language program

Isar proof = structured program with comments

But: **apply** still useful for proof exploration



# A typical Isar proof

---

**proof**

**assume**  $formula_0$

**have**  $formula_1$  **by** *simp*

⋮

**have**  $formula_n$  **by** *blast*

**show**  $formula_{n+1}$  **by** ...

**qed**

# A typical Isar proof

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**show**  $formula_{n+1}$  **by** ...

**qed**

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

# Overview

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- Basic Isar
- Propositional logic
- Predicate logic

# *Isar core syntax*

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

# *Isar core syntax*

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

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

# Isar core syntax

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

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

**statement** = **fix** variables  $(\wedge)$   
| **assume** proposition  $(\implies)$   
| [**from** name<sup>+</sup>] (**have** | **show**) proposition proof

# Isar core syntax

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

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

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

# Isar core syntax

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**proof** = **proof** [method] statement\* **qed**  
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**method** = (*simp* ...) | (*blast* ...) | (*rule* ...) | ...

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**proposition** = [name:] formula



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***Demo: propositional logic, introduction rules***

# *Basic proof methods*

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Basic atomic proof:

**by** *method*

apply *method*, then prove all subgoals by assumption

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Basic atomic proof:

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Basic proof method:

**rule**  $\vec{a}$

apply a rule in  $\vec{a}$ ;

if  $\vec{a}$  is empty: apply a standard elim or intro rule.

Abbreviations:

. = **by** do-nothing

.. = **by** *rule*

---

***Demo: propositional logic, elimination rules***

# *Elimination rules / forward reasoning*

---

- Elim rules are triggered by facts fed into a proof:  
**from  $\vec{a}$  have *formula* proof**

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- *rule*: tries elim rules first (if there are incoming facts  $\vec{a}$ !)

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- **from**  $\vec{a}$  **have** *formula* **proof** (*rule rule*)

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## *Elimination rules / forward reasoning*

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- Elim rules are triggered by facts fed into a proof:  
**from**  $\vec{a}$  **have** *formula* **proof**
- **proof** alone abbreviates **proof rule**
- *rule*: tries elim rules first (if there are incoming facts  $\vec{a}$ !)
- **from**  $\vec{a}$  **have** *formula* **proof** (*rule rule*)  
 $\vec{a}$  must prove the first  $n$  premises of *rule*, in the right order  
the others are left as new subgoals

# Abbreviations

---

<i>this</i>	=	the previous proposition proved or assumed
then	=	from <i>this</i>
thus	=	then show
hence	=	then have
with $\vec{a}$	=	from $\vec{a}$ <i>this</i>

# *using*

---

First the what, then the how:

(have|show) proposition **using** facts

# *using*

---

First the what, then the how:

(have|show) proposition **using** facts  
=  
from facts (have|show) proposition



# *using*

---

First the what, then the how:

(have|show) proposition **using** facts  
=  
from facts (have|show) proposition

Can be mixed:

from major-facts (have|show) proposition **using** minor-facts

# *using*

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First the what, then the how:

(have|show) proposition **using** facts  
=  
from facts (have|show) proposition

Can be mixed:

from major-facts (have|show) proposition **using** minor-facts  
=  
from major-facts minor-facts (have|show) proposition

---

## ***Demo: avoiding duplication***

# *Schematic term variables*

---

?A

# *Schematic term variables*

---

$?A$

- Defined by pattern matching:

$$x = 0 \wedge y = 1 \text{ (is } ?A \wedge \_)$$

# Schematic term variables

---

*?A*

- Defined by pattern matching:

$$x = 0 \wedge y = 1 \text{ (is } ?A \wedge \_)$$

- Predefined: *?thesis*  
The last enclosing **show** formula

---

## ***Demo: predicate calculus***

# *obtain*

---

Syntax:

**obtain variables where proposition proof**



# *Mixing proof styles*

---

**from . . .**

**have . . .**

**apply -**      make incoming facts assumptions

**apply(...)**

**:**

**apply(...)**

**done**

---

***Advanced Isar***

# Overview

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- Case distinction
- Induction
- Computational reasoning

---

## ***Case distinction***

# ***Boolean case distinction***

---

**proof cases**

**assume** *formula*

⋮

**next**

**assume**  $\neg$ *formula*

⋮

**qed**

# Boolean case distinction

---

**proof cases**

**assume** *formula*

⋮

**next**

**assume**  $\neg$ *formula*

⋮

**qed**

**proof** (*cases formula*)

**case** *True*

⋮

**next**

**case** *False*

⋮

**qed**

# Boolean case distinction

---

**proof cases**

**assume** *formula*

⋮

**next**

**assume**  $\neg$ *formula*

⋮

**qed**

**proof** (*cases formula*)

**case** *True*

⋮

**next**

**case** *False*

⋮

**qed**

**case** *True*  $\equiv$

**assume** *True*: *formula*

---

## ***Demo: case distinction***



# Datatype case distinction

---

```
proof (cases term)  
  case Constructor1  
  ∴  
next  
∴  
next  
  case (Constructork  $\vec{x}$ )  
  ...  $\vec{x}$  ...  
qed
```

# Datatype case distinction

---

**proof** (*cases term*)  
  **case** *Constructor*<sub>1</sub>  
  ⋮

**next**

⋮

**next**

**case** (*Constructor*<sub>*k*</sub>  $\vec{x}$ )

  ...  $\vec{x}$  ...

**qed**

**case** (*Constructor*<sub>*i*</sub>  $\vec{x}$ ) ≡

**fix**  $\vec{x}$  **assume** *Constructor*<sub>*i*</sub>: *term* = (*Constructor*<sub>*i*</sub>  $\vec{x}$ )

---

# ***Induction***

# Overview

---

- Structural induction
- Rule induction
- Induction with recdef

# Structural induction for type *nat*

---

```
show  $P(n)$ 
proof (induction n)
  case 0
  ...
  show ?case
next
  case (Suc n)
  ...
  ...  $n$  ...
  show ?case
qed
```

# Structural induction for type *nat*

---

show  $P(n)$

proof (*induction n*)

case 0  $\equiv$  let *?case* =  $P(0)$

...

show *?case*

next

case (*Suc n*)

...

... *n* ...

show *?case*

qed

# Structural induction for type *nat*

---

**show**  $P(n)$

**proof** (*induction n*)

**case**  $0$   $\equiv$  **let**  $?case = P(0)$

...

**show**  $?case$

**next**

**case** ( $Suc\ n$ )  $\equiv$  **fix**  $n$  **assume**  $Suc: P(n)$

...

...  $n$  ...

**show**  $?case$

**qed**

---

## ***Demo: structural induction***



# Structural induction with $\implies$ and $\wedge$

---

show  $\wedge x. A(n) \implies P(n)$

proof (*induction n*)

case 0

...

show ?case

next

case (*Suc n*)

...

... *n* ...

...

show ?case

qed

# Structural induction with $\implies$ and $\wedge$

show  $\wedge x. A(n) \implies P(n)$

proof (*induction n*)

case 0

...

show ?case

next

case (*Suc n*)

...

... *n* ...

...

show ?case

qed

$\equiv$  fix *X* assume 0: *A*(0)  
let ?case = *P*(0)

# Structural induction with $\implies$ and $\wedge$

show  $\wedge x. A(n) \implies P(n)$

proof (*induction n*)

case 0

...

show ?case

next

case (*Suc n*)

...

... *n* ...

...

show ?case

qed

$\equiv$  fix *x* assume 0:  $A(0)$

let ?case =  $P(0)$

$\equiv$  fix *n x*

assume *Suc*:  $\wedge x. A(n) \implies P(n)$

$A(\text{Suc } n)$

let ?case =  $P(\text{Suc } n)$

## *A remark on style*

---

- **case** (*Suc n*) ... **show ?case**  
is easy to write and maintain

## A remark on style

---

- **case**  $(Suc\ n)$  ... **show** *?case*  
is easy to write and maintain
- **fix**  $n$  **assume** *formula* ... **show** *formula'*  
is easier to read:
  - all information is shown locally
  - no contextual references (e.g. *?case*)

---

***Demo: structural induction with  $\implies$  and  $\wedge$***

---

# ***Rule induction***

# *Inductive definition*

---

**inductive**  $S$

**intros**

$rule_1: \llbracket s \in S; A \rrbracket \implies s' \in S$

$\vdots$

$rule_n: \dots$



# Rule induction

---

show  $x \in S \implies P(x)$

proof (*induct rule: S.induct*)

case  $rule_1$

...

show ?case

next

⋮

next

case  $rule_n$

...

show ?case

qed

# *Implicit selection of induction rule*

---

assume  $A: x \in S$

⋮

show  $P(x)$

using  $A$  proof *induct*

⋮

qed

## *Implicit selection of induction rule*

---

assume  $A: x \in S$

⋮

show  $P(x)$

using  $A$  proof *induct*

⋮

qed

lemma assumes  $A: x \in S$  shows  $P(x)$

using  $A$  proof *induct*

⋮

qed

# Renaming free variables in rule

---

case  $(rule_i x_1 \dots x_k)$

Renames the (alphabetically!) first  $k$  variables in  $rule_i$  to  $X_1 \dots X_k$ .

---

## ***Demo: rule induction***

# *Induction with recdef*

---

Definition:

**recdef**  $f$

⋮

# *Induction with recdef*

---

Definition:

**recdef**  $f$

⋮

Proof:

**show** ...  $f(\dots)$  ...

**proof** (*induction*  $x_1 \dots x_k$  *rule: f.induct*)

# *Induction with recdef*

---

Definition:

**recdef**  $f$

⋮

Proof:

**show** ...  $f(\dots)$  ...

**proof** (*induction*  $x_1 \dots x_k$  *rule: f.induct*)

**case** *1*

⋮



# Induction with recdef

---

Definition:

**recdef**  $f$

⋮

Proof:

**show** ...  $f(\dots)$  ...

**proof** (*induction*  $x_1 \dots x_k$  *rule: f.induct*)

**case**  $1$

⋮

Case  $i$  refers to equation  $i$  in the definition of  $f$

# Induction with recdef

---

Definition:

**recdef**  $f$

⋮

Proof:

**show** ...  $f(\dots)$  ...

**proof** (*induction*  $x_1 \dots x_k$  *rule: f.induct*)

**case**  $1$

⋮

Case  $i$  refers to equation  $i$  in the definition of  $f$

More precisely: to equation  $i$  in  $f.simps$

---

## ***Demo: induction with recdef***

---

# ***Computational Reasoning***

# Overview

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- Accumulating facts
- Chains of equations and inequations

## *moreover*

---

**have** *formula*<sub>1</sub> . . .

**moreover**

**have** *formula*<sub>2</sub> . . .

**moreover**

⋮

**moreover**

**have** *formula*<sub>*n*</sub> . . .

**ultimately show** . . .

— pipes facts *formula*<sub>1</sub> . . . *formula*<sub>*n*</sub> into the proof

**proof**

⋮

**also**

---

have " $t_0 = t_1$ " . . . .

**also**

have " $\dots = t_2$ " . . . .

**also**

⋮

**also**

have " $\dots = t_n$ " . . . .

**also**

---

have " $t_0 = t_1$ " . . . .

**also**

have " $\dots = t_2$ " . . . .  $\dots \equiv t_1$

**also**

⋮

**also**

have " $\dots = t_n$ " . . . .



**also**

---

have " $t_0 = t_1$ " . . . .

**also**

have " $\dots = t_2$ " . . . .  $\dots \equiv t_1$

**also**

⋮

**also**

have " $\dots = t_n$ " . . . .  $\dots \equiv t_{n-1}$

**also**

---

**have** " $t_0 = t_1$ " . . . .

**also**

**have** " $\dots = t_2$ " . . . .  $\dots \equiv t_1$

**also**

⋮

**also**

**have** " $\dots = t_n$ " . . . .  $\dots \equiv t_{n-1}$

**finally show** . . . .

— pipes fact  $t_0 = t_n$  into the proof

**proof**

⋮

...

---

“...” is merely an abbreviation

---

***Demo: moreover and also***

## Variations on also

---

Transitivity:

have " $t_0 = t_1$ " . . . .

also have " $\dots = t_2$ " . . . .

also/finally  $\rightsquigarrow$

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## Variations on also

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Transitivity:

have " $t_0 = t_1$ " . . . .

also have " $\dots = t_2$ " . . . .

also/finally  $\rightsquigarrow t_0 = t_2$

Substitution:

have " $P(s)$ " . . . .

also have " $s = t$ " . . . .

also/finally  $\rightsquigarrow$

## Variations on also

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Transitivity:

have " $t_0 = t_1$ " . . . .

also have " $\dots = t_2$ " . . . .

also/finally  $\rightsquigarrow t_0 = t_2$

Substitution:

have " $P(s)$ " . . . .

also have " $s = t$ " . . . .

also/finally  $\rightsquigarrow P(t)$



# ***From = to $\leq$ and $<$***

---

Transitivity:

**have** " $t_0 \leq t_1$ " . . . . .

**also have** " $\dots \leq t_2$ " . . . . .

**also/finally**  $\rightsquigarrow$

# *From = to $\leq$ and $<$*

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Transitivity:

**have** " $t_0 \leq t_1$ " . . . . .

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Transitivity:

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Substitution:

**have** " $r \leq f(s)$ " . . . . .

**also have** " $s < t$ " . . . . .

**also/finally**  $\rightsquigarrow$

## ***From = to $\leq$ and $<$***

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Transitivity:

**have** " $t_0 \leq t_1$ " . . . . .

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**also/finally**  $\rightsquigarrow t_0 \leq t_2$

Substitution:

**have** " $r \leq f(s)$ " . . . . .

**also have** " $s < t$ " . . . . .

**also/finally**  $\rightsquigarrow (\bigwedge x. x < y \implies f(x) < f(y)) \implies r < f(t)$

## ***From = to $\leq$ and $<$***

---

Transitivity:

**have** " $t_0 \leq t_1$ " . . . . .

**also have** " $\dots \leq t_2$ " . . . . .

**also/finally**  $\rightsquigarrow t_0 \leq t_2$

Substitution:

**have** " $r \leq f(s)$ " . . . . .

**also have** " $s < t$ " . . . . .

**also/finally**  $\rightsquigarrow (\bigwedge x. x < y \implies f(x) < f(y)) \implies r < f(t)$

Similar for all other combinations of =,  $\leq$  and  $<$ .

## *All about also*

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To view all combinations in Proof General:

Isabelle/Isar → Show me → Transitivity rules

---

## ***Demo: monotonicity reasoning***