

How can we prove this?

"everything is possible"



$\neg P$
"possible"

$\neg Q$
"everything"

Goals for today:

- prove an implication using the contrapositive,
- prove by assuming a contradiction,
- prove an if-and-only-if.

But first: proving with examples.

Which could be proved using an example?

example
or maybe a counterexample?

1. $\forall x \in S, p(x)$ ✗

2. $\forall x \in S, \neg p(x)$ ✗

3. $\neg \exists x \in S: p(x)$ $\forall x \in S, \neg p(x)$ ✗

4. $\neg \forall x \in S, p(x)$ $\exists x \in S: \neg p(x)$ ✓

Proof Method #3: contrapositive.

remember rule #3 $\frac{P \rightarrow Q}{\therefore \neg Q \rightarrow \neg P}$

Example: If a^2 is not divisible by 4, then a is odd.

proof: We prove the contrapositive.

Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ and suppose a is even,
which means $a = 2k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

This means $a^2 = (2k)^2 = 4k^2 = 4m$ for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}$,
which means a^2 is divisible by 4.

Therefore, if a^2 is not divisible by 4, then a is odd.

□

$\neg P$ a^2 is divisible by 4
 $\neg Q$ a is even.

Prove: If a^2 is even, then a is even.

Proof: We prove the ^Pcontrapositive.

Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ be an odd integer, meaning $a = 2k + 1$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\text{Then } a^2 = (2k + 1)^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1 = 2(2k^2 + 2k) + 1$$

Therefore, ^{if} a^2 is even, then a is even.
 $= 2m + 1$ for $m \in \mathbb{Z}$.
 (which means a^2 is odd).

□

Proof Method #4: contradiction.

Example: Prove that $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.

P

- Assume $\neg P$
- try to show a contradiction happens
- therefore, P must be true.

proof:

We use a proof by contradiction.

Suppose $\sqrt{2}$ is rational. This means $\exists m, n \in \mathbb{Z} : \frac{m}{n} = \sqrt{2}$.

Without loss of generality assume $\frac{m}{n}$ is simplified to lowest terms.

Then $m^2 = 2n^2$, meaning m^2 is even and m is also even. (by lemma on last slide)

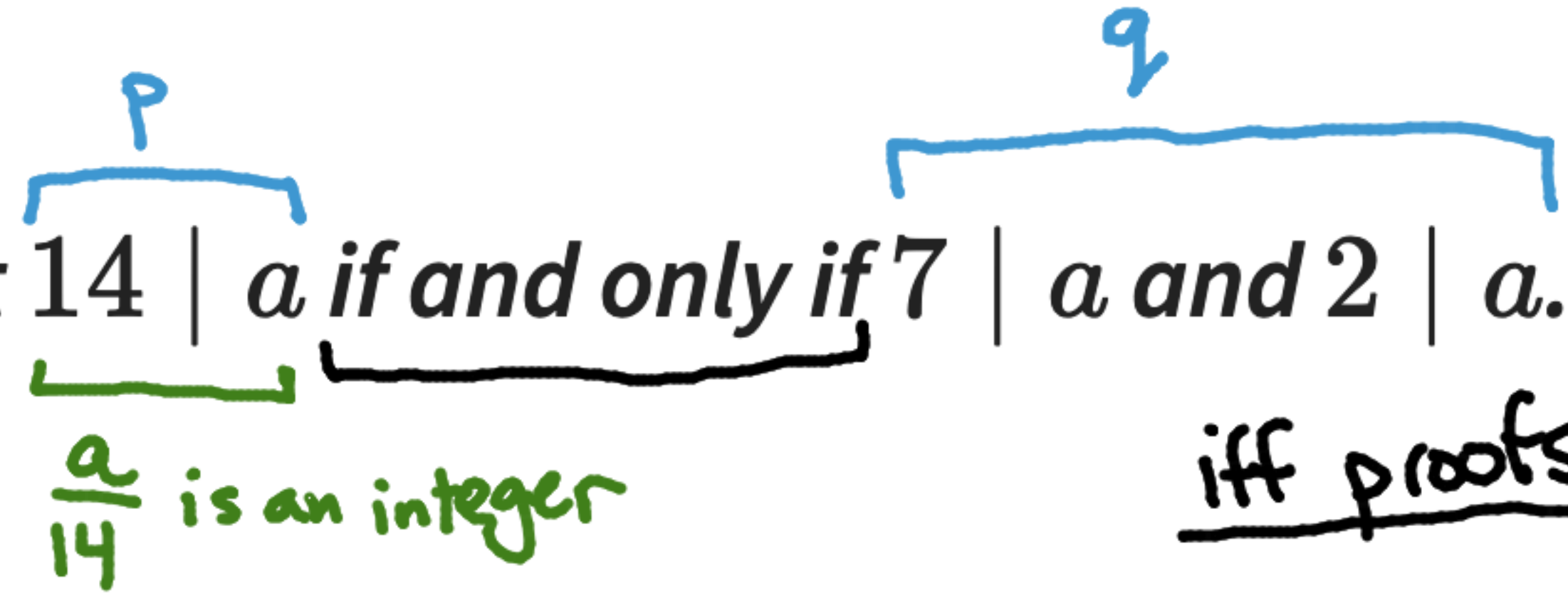
This means $m = 2k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $(2k)^2 = 2n^2$, so $2k^2 = n^2$ which means n^2 is even, so n is also even. This

means $n = 2a$ for $a \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $\sqrt{2} = \frac{2k}{2a}$, which is a contradiction since we said $\frac{m}{n}$ was simplified. contradiction

Therefore, $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational. □

[Exercise 1]

Suppose $a \in \mathbb{Z}$. Prove that $14 \mid a$ if and only if $7 \mid a$ and $2 \mid a$.



$\frac{a}{14}$ is an integer

iff proofs:

$P \rightarrow Q \wedge Q \rightarrow P$
① ②

proof. SKETCH

① assume $14 \mid a$, so $a = 14k$ $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$a = (2)(7)k = 2m = 7n$$

(Note: In the original image, '2' is underlined and '7' is boxed, with 'm' written below the '2' and 'n' written above the '7'.)

② assume $7 \mid a$ and $2 \mid a$, show $14 \mid a$ so $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$a = 7k \quad k \in \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow a = 7k \text{ is even} \wedge k \text{ is even, } k = 2n$$

$$a = 2m \quad m \in \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow a \text{ is even.} \quad a = 7(2n) = 14n.$$

