



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



Rough timeline  
[1]

- Intro & motivation, getting started [1]
- Foundations & Principles
  - Lambda Calculus, natural deduction [2,3,4<sup>a</sup>]
  - Higher Order Logic [5,6<sup>b</sup>,7]
  - Term rewriting [8,9,10<sup>c</sup>]
- Proof & Specification Techniques
  - Isar [11,12<sup>d</sup>]
  - Inductively defined sets, rule induction [13<sup>e</sup>,15]
  - Datatypes, recursion, induction [16,17<sup>f</sup>,18,19]
  - Calculational reasoning, mathematics style proofs [20]
  - Hoare logic, proofs about programs [21<sup>g</sup>,22,23]

<sup>a</sup>a1 out; <sup>b</sup>a1 due; <sup>c</sup>a2 out; <sup>d</sup>a2 due; <sup>e</sup>session break; <sup>f</sup>a3 out; <sup>g</sup>a3 due

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#### Isar

- |                      |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>apply scripts</b> | <b>What about..</b>           |
| → unreadable         | → Elegance?                   |
| → hard to maintain   | → Explaining deeper insights? |
| → do not scale       | → 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]  $\Rightarrow$  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 :: nat) + 1 = 1 + x"

**proof** -

**have** A: "x + 1 = Suc x" **by** simp

**have** B: "1 + x = Suc x" **by** simp

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

**qed**

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## DEMO



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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

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**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

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## Fancy Abbreviations

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**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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DEMO



## Moreover and Ultimately

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**have**  $X_1: P_1 \dots$

**have**  $X_2: P_2 \dots$

$\vdots$

**have**  $X_n: P_n \dots$

**from**  $X_1 \dots X_n$  **show**  $\dots$

**have**  $P_1 \dots$

**moreover have**  $P_2 \dots$

$\vdots$

**moreover have**  $P_n \dots$

**ultimately show**  $\dots$

wastes lots of brain power

on names  $X_1 \dots X_n$

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## General Case Distinctions

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**show** *formula*

**proof** -

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

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

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

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

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

**qed**

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

{ **assume**  $P_1$  ... **have**  $P$  <proof> }  
stands for  $P_1 \implies P$

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## Mixing proof styles

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**from** ...

**have** ...

**apply** - make incoming facts assumptions

**apply** (...)

⋮

**apply** (...)

**done**

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