

**Proof Technique 1** (Direct proof). To prove a statement of the form

$$\forall x \in S, P(x) \implies Q(x)$$

you may use the following template:

- (i) Assume  $x$  is an element of  $S$  and  $P(x)$  is true.
- (ii) Do logical reasoning under these assumptions to conclude  $Q(x)$  is true.

**Problem 1.1.** What should you do if you want to prove  $\forall x, Q(x)$ ?

**Problem 1.2.** Prove that if  $A, B,$  and  $C$  are sets such that  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C$  then  $A \subset C$ .

**Proof Technique 2** (Example / Counterexample). To prove a statement of the form

$$\exists x \in S, P(x)$$

construct an element  $x$  of  $S$  such that  $P(x)$  is true.

To *disprove* a statement of the form

$$\forall x \in S, P(x) \implies Q(x)$$

construct an element  $x \in S$  such that  $P(x)$  is true and  $Q(x)$  is false.

**Problem 2.1.** Prove that it is possible for an integer to be divisible by 2, 3, and 7 and have remainder 3 when divided by 5.

*Solution.* 168

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**Problem 2.2.** Disprove the assertion that every integer is either prime or composite.

**Proof Technique 3** (Contradiction). To prove a statement  $P$ :

- (i) Assume that  $\neg P$  is true.
- (ii) Make logical deductions to arrive at a contradiction.

**Problem 3.1.** Prove there are infinitely many prime numbers.