Direct Proofs

## Recommended Reading

Albrieflhistorylof

## INFINITY

The Quest to Think the Unthinkable


BRIAN CLEGG

A Brief History of Infinity


The Mystery of the Aleph

DAVID FOSTER WALLACE

A Compact History of
$\infty$


EVERYTHING AND MORE
$\uparrow$ gripping guide to the rendern amiag of thr infinite--No lied Jiet Mods Rever

Everything and More

## Recommended Courses

Math 161: Set Theory

## Outline for Today

- What is a Proof?
- Direct Proofs
- Universal and Existential Statements
- Extended Example: XOR


## What is a Proof?

A proof is an argument that demonstrates why a conclusion is true.

A mathematical proof is an argument that demonstrates why a mathematical statement is true.

## Structure of a Mathematical Proof

- Despite what you might think, mathematical proofs are not supposed to be jumbles of dense symbols.
- Good mathematical proofs read like argumentative essays that happen to use math to convey their arguments.
- Typically, proofs begin with a set of assumptions, combine those assumptions together in a series of steps, and ultimately arrive at the conclusion.
- They're best explored by example.


## Two Quick Definitions

- An integer $n$ is even if there is some integer $k$ such that $n=2 k$.
- This means that 0 is even.
- An integer $n$ is odd if there is some integer $k$ such that $n=2 k+1$.
- We'll assume the following for now:
- Every integer is either even or odd.
- No integer is both even and odd.


## Our First Direct Proof

Theorem: If $n$ is an even integer, then $n^{2}$ is even. Proof: Let $n$ be an even integer.

Since $n$ is even, there is some integer $k$ such that $n=2 k$.

This means that $n^{2}=(2 k)^{2}=4 k^{2}=2\left(2 k^{2}\right)$.
From this, we see that there is an integer $m$ (namely, $2 k^{2}$ ) where $n^{2}=2 m$.
Therefore, $n^{2}$ is even.

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Since $n$ such that \(\begin{gathered}To prove a statement of the<br>form\end{gathered}\)<br>This med<br>From th<br>"If $P$, then $Q^{\prime \prime}$<br>$m$ (name Assume that $\boldsymbol{P}$ is true, then show<br>Therefor that $\boldsymbol{Q}$ must be true as well.

## Our First Direct Proof

Theorem: If $n$ is an even integer, then $n^{2}$ is even. Proof: Let $n$ be an even integer.

Since $n$ is even, there is some integer $k$ such that $n=2 k$.
This means th This is the definition of an ${ }^{2}$ ).
From this, we even integer. When writing $m$ (namely, 27 Therefore, $n^{2}$
a mathematical proof, it's common to call back to the definitions.

## Our First Direct Proof

Theorem: If $n$ is an even integer, then $n^{2}$ is even. Proof: Let $n$ be an even integer.

Since $n$ is even, there is some integer $k$ such that $n=2 k$.

This means that $n^{2}=(2 k)^{2}=4 k^{2}=2\left(2 k^{2}\right)$.
Fr Notice how we use the value of $\boldsymbol{k}$ that we $m$ obtained above. Giving names to quantities, Th even if we aren't fully sure what they are, allows us to manipulate them. This is similar to variables in programs.

## Our First Direct Proof

## Theorem: If $n$ Our ultimate goal is to prove that Proof: Let $n \mathrm{~b} \quad n^{2}$ is even. This means that we need to find some $\boldsymbol{m}$ such that $n^{2}=2 m$. Here, we're explicitly showing how we can do that.

From this, we see that there is an integer $m$ (namely, $2 k^{2}$ ) where $n^{2}=2 m$.

Therefore, $n^{2}$ is even.

## Our First Direct Proof

Theorem: If $n$ is an even integer, then $n^{2}$ is even. Proof: Let $n$ be an even integer.

Since $n$ is even, there is some integer $k$ such thar.

This med Hey, that's what we were trying
From th to show: Were done now. m (name

Therefore, $n^{2}$ is even.

That wasn't so bad! Let's do another one.

## Some Helpful Set Theory

- Set equality is defined as follows:

If $A$ and $B$ are sets, then $A=B$ precisely when every element of $A$ is an element of $B$ and vice-versa.

- In practice, this definition is a bit tricky to work with.
- It's often easier to use the following result to show that two sets are equal:

For any sets $A$ and $B$, if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$, then $A=B$.

Theorem: For any sets $A$ and $B$, if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$, then $A=B$.

How do we prove that this is true for any choice of sets?

## Proving Something Always Holds

- Many statements have the form


## For any $\boldsymbol{x}$, [some-property] holds of $\boldsymbol{x}$.

- Examples:

For all integers $n$, if $n$ is even, $n^{2}$ is even.
For any sets $A$ and $B$, if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$, then $A=B$.
For all sets $S,|S|<|\wp(S)|$.
Everything that drowns me makes me wanna fly.

- How do we prove these statements when there are (potentially) infinitely many cases to check?


## Arbitrary Choices

- To prove that some property holds true for all possible $x$, show that no matter what choice of $x$ you make, that property must be true.
- Start the proof by making an arbitrary choice of $x$ :
- "Let $x$ be chosen arbitrarily."
- "Let $x$ be an arbitrary even integer."
- "Let $x$ be an arbitrary set containing 137."
- "Consider any x."
- Demonstrate that the property holds true for this choice of $x$.

Theorem: For any sets $A$ and $B$, if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$, then $A=B$. Proof: Let $A$ and $B$ be arbitrary sets where $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { We're showing here that } \\
\text { regardless of what } \boldsymbol{A} \text { and } \\
\boldsymbol{B} \text { you pick, the result will } \\
\text { still be true. }
\end{gathered}
$$

Theorem: For any sets $A$ and $B$, if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$, then $A=B$. Proof: Let $A$ and $B$ be arbitrary sets where $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$.

## To prove a statement of the form

## "If $P$, then $Q^{\prime \prime}$

Assume that $\boldsymbol{P}$ is true, then show that $\boldsymbol{Q}$ must be true as well.

Theorem: For any sets $A$ and $B$, if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$, then $A=B$. Proof: Let $A$ and $B$ be arbitrary sets where $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$. Because $A \subseteq B$, if we take an arbitrary $x \in A$, we know that $x \in B$. Similarly, since $B \subseteq A$, if we take an arbitrary $x \in B$, we'll see that $x \in A$ as well.

Therefore, every element of $A$ is an element of $B$ and every element of $B$ is an element of $A$. Therefore, by definition of set equality, we see that $A=B$.

## An Incorrect Proof

Theorem: If $A$ and $B$ are sets, then $A \subseteq A \cap B$.
Proof: Consider two arbitrary sets, say, $A=\varnothing$ and $B=\mathbb{N}$. Since $\varnothing$ is a subset of every set and $A=\varnothing$, we see that $A \subseteq A \cap B$. Since our choices of $A$ and $B$ were arbitrary, we conclude that if $A$ and $B$ are any sets, then $A \subseteq A \cap B$. $\square$

## An Incorrect Proof

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## ar•bi•trar•y adjective /'ärbi,trerē/

1. Based on random choice or personal whim, rather than any reason or system - "his mealtimes were entirely arbitrary"
2. (of power or a ruling body) Unrestrained and autocratic in the use of authority - "arbitrary rule by King and bishops has been made impossible"
3. (of a constant or other quantity) Of unspecified value
```
Use this
definition...
```

To prove something is true for all $x$, don't choose an $x$ and base the proof off of your choice.

Instead, leave $x$ unspecified and show that no matter what $x$ is, the specified property must hold.

## Another Incorrect Proof

Theorem: If $A$ and $B$ are sets, then $A \subseteq A \cap B$.
Proof: We need to show that if $x \in A$, then $x \in A \cap B$ as well.

Consider any arbitrary $x \in A \cap B$. This means that $x \in A$ and $x \in B$.

In particular, we see that $x \in A$, as required. ■

## Another Incorrect Proof

Theorem: If $A$ and $B$ are sets, then $A \subseteq A \cap B$.
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Consider any arbitrary $x \in A \cap B$. This means that $x \in A$ and $x \in B$.

In particular, we see that $x \in A$, as required.

## If you want to prove that $P$ implies $Q$, assume $P$ and prove $Q$.

Don't assume $Q$ and then prove $P$ !

## An Entirely Different Proof

Theorem: There exists a natural number $n>0$ such that the sum of all natural numbers less than $n$ is equal to $n$.

This is a fundamentally different
type of proof that what we re done before. Instead of showing
that every object has some property, we want to show that some object has a given property.

## Universal vs. Existential Statements

- A universal statement is a statement of the form

$$
\text { For all } x \text {, [some-property] holds for } x \text {. }
$$

- We've seen how to prove these statements.
- An existential statement is a statement of the form
There is some $x$ where [some-property] holds for $x$.
- How do you prove an existential statement?


## Proving an Existential Statement

- We will see several different ways to prove an existential statement.
- Simple approach: Just go and find some $x$ where the property is true.
- In our case, we need to find a positive natural number $n$ such that that sum of all smaller natural numbers is equal to $n$.
- Can we find one?


## An Entirely Different Proof

Theorem: There exists a natural number $n>0$ such that the sum of all natural numbers less than $n$ is equal to $n$.
Proof: $\quad$ Take $n=3$.
The three natural numbers smaller than three are 0,1 , and 2 .

Notice that $0+1+2=3$.
Therefore, three is a natural number greater than zero equal to the sum of all smaller natural numbers.

## Time-Out for Announcements!

## Piazza

- We now have a Piazza site for CS103.
- Sign in to www.piazza.com and search for the course CS103 to sign in.
- Feel free to ask us questions!
- Use the site to find partners for the problem sets!
- You can also email the staff list with questions: cs103-spr1415-staff@lists.stanford.edu.



Lecture by Professor Taylor
Thursday, April 2
Hewlett 201 @ 4pm
Reception and Group Discussion Gates 211 and 219 @ 5 pm

Valerie Taylor is the Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Royce E. Wisenbaker Professor at the Texas A\&M School of Computer Science and Engineering. She has worked tirelessly to promote diversity in $C S$, and is frequently a speaker at the Richard Tapia and Grace Hopper Conferences.

## Join Diversity Base and the CS

 Department to hear her take on what we can do to increase diversity in computing fields. Afterwards, at we will have a reception where we can discuss actions we can take at Stanford (over delicious food, of course!)
## CS + Social Good Board

- Interested in making a difference at the intersection of technology and social good? Apply for the CS+SG Board!
- Application online at
https://docs.google.com/a/stanford.edu/forms/d/1HrceGe 5uE5AgeXiZqIiyZGgcVqvik7pjztrjCwYTPfE/viewform?c=0\&w=1
- Applications due on April 10.

Back to CS103!

Extended Example: XOR

## Logical Operators

- A bit is a value that is either 0 or 1.
- The set $\mathbb{B}=\{0,1\}$ is the set of all bits.
- A logical operator is an operator that takes in some number of bits and produces a new bit as output.
- Example: the logical not operator, denoted $\neg x$, flips 0s to 1s and vice-versa:

$$
\neg 0=1 \quad \neg 1=0
$$

## Logical XOR

- The exclusive OR operator (called XOR for short) operates on two bits and produces 0 if the bits are the same and 1 if they are different.
- Since XOR operates on two values, it is called a binary operator.
- We denote the XOR of $a$ and $b$ by $\boldsymbol{a} \oplus \boldsymbol{b}$.
- Formally, XOR is defined as follows:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
0 \oplus 0=0 & 0 \oplus 1=1 \\
1 \oplus 0=1 & 1 \oplus 1=0
\end{array}
$$

## Fun with XOR

- The XOR operator has numerous uses throughout computer science.
- Applications in cryptography, data structures, error-correcting codes, networking, machine learning, etc.
- XOR is useful because of four key properties:
- XOR has an identity element.
- XOR is self-inverting.
- XOR is associative.
- XOR is commutative.


## Identity Elements

- An identity element for a binary operator $\star$ is some value $z$ such that for any $a$ :

$$
a \star z=z \star a=a
$$

## Identity Elements

## An identity element for a binary operator * is some value $z$ such that for any $a$ :

$$
a \star z=z \star a=a
$$

In math-speak, the term "for any $a^{\text {" }}$ is synonymous with "for every a" or
"for every possibly choice of a." It does not mean
"for some specific choice of a."

## Identity Elements

- An identity element for a binary operator $\star$ is some value $z$ such that for any $a$ :

$$
a \star z=z \star a=a
$$

- Example: 0 is an identity element for + :

$$
a+0=0+a=a
$$

- Example: 1 is an identity element for $\times$ :

$$
a \times 1=1 \times a=a
$$

Theorem: 0 is an identity element for $\oplus$.
Proof: We will prove that for any $b \in \mathbb{B}$ that $b \oplus 0=b$ and that $0 \oplus b=b$. To do this, consider an arbitrary $b \in \mathbb{B}$. We consider two cases:

Case 1: $b=0$.

Case 2: $b=1$.

This is called a proof by cases
(alternatively, a proof by exhaustion) and works by showing that the theorem is true regardless of what specific outcome arises.

Theorem: 0 is an identity element for $\oplus$.
Proof: We will prove that for any $b \in \mathbb{B}$ that $b \oplus 0=b$ and that $0 \oplus b=b$. To do this, consider an arbitrary $b \in \mathbb{B}$. We consider two cases:

## Case 1: $b=0$. Then we have



In both cases, we find $b \oplus 0=0 \oplus b=b$.

Theorem: 0 is an identity element for $\oplus$.
Proof: We will prove that for any $b \in \mathbb{B}$ that $b \oplus 0=b$ and that $0 \oplus b=b$. To do this, consider an arbitrary $b \in \mathbb{B}$. We consider two cases:

Case 1: $b=0$. Then we have

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
b \oplus 0 & =0 \oplus 0 & 0 \oplus b & =0 \\
& =0 & & =0 \\
& =b & & =b
\end{array}
$$

Case 2: $b=1$. Then we have

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
b \oplus 0 & =1 \oplus 0 & 0 \oplus b & =0 \oplus 1 \\
& =1 & & =1 \\
& =b & & =b
\end{array}
$$

In both cases, we find $b \oplus 0=0 \oplus b=b$. Thus 0 is an identity element for $\oplus$.

## Self-Inverting Operators

- A binary operator $\star$ with identity element $z$ is called self-inverting when for any $a$, we have

$$
a \star a=z
$$

- Is + self-inverting?
- Is - self-inverting?
- Tricky tricky: minus doesn't have an identity element, so it can't be self-inverting.


## XOR is Self-Inverting

Theorem: $\oplus$ is self-inverting.
Proof: Since $\oplus$ has identity element 0 , we will prove for any $b \in \mathbb{B}$ that $b \oplus b=0$. To do this, consider any $b \in \mathbb{B}$. We consider two cases:

Case 1: $b=0$. Then $b \oplus b=0 \oplus 0=0$.
Case 2: $b=1$. Then $b \oplus b=1 \oplus 1=0$.
In both cases we have $b \oplus b=0$, so $\oplus$ is self-inverting. $\quad$

## Associative Operators

- A binary operator $\star$ is called associative when for any $a, b$ and $c$, we have

$$
a \star(b \star c)=(a \star b) \star c
$$

- Is + associative?
- Is - associative?
- Is $\times$ associative?

Theorem: $\oplus$ is associative.
Proof: Consider any $a, b, c \in \mathbb{B}$. We will prove that $a \oplus(b \oplus c)=(a \oplus b) \oplus c$. To do this, we consider two cases:

Case 1: $c=0$. Then we have that

$$
\begin{aligned}
a \oplus(b \oplus c) & =a \oplus(b \oplus 0) & & \\
& =a \oplus b & & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an identity) } \\
& =(a \oplus b) \oplus 0 & & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an identity) } \\
& =(a \oplus b) \oplus c & &
\end{aligned}
$$

Case 2: $c=1$. Then we have that

$$
\begin{aligned}
a \oplus(b \oplus c) & =a \oplus(b \oplus 1) \\
& =?
\end{aligned}
$$

## When You Get Stuck

- When writing proofs, you are bound to get stuck at some point.
- When this happens, it can mean multiple things:
- What you're proving is incorrect.
- You are on the wrong track.
- You're on the right track, but you need to prove an additional result to get to your goal.
- Unfortunately, there is no general way to determine which case you are in.
- You'll build this intuition through experience.


## Where We're Stuck

- Right now, we have the expression

$$
a \oplus(b \oplus 1)
$$

and we don't know how to simplify it.

- Let's focus on the ( $b \oplus 1$ ) part and see what we find:
- $\mathbf{0} \oplus 1=\mathbf{1}$
- $\mathbf{1} \oplus 1=\mathbf{0}$
- It seems like $b \oplus 1=\neg b$. Could we prove it?


## Relations Between Proofs

- Proofs often build off of one another: large results are almost often accomplished by building off of previous work.
- Like writing a large program - split the work into smaller methods, across different classes, etc. instead of putting the whole thing into main.
- A result that is proven specifically as a stepping stone toward a larger result is called a lemma.
- Our result that $b \oplus 1=\neg b$ serves as a lemma in our larger proof that $\oplus$ is associative.

Lemma 1: For any $b \in \mathbb{B}$, we have $b \oplus 1=\neg b$. Proof: Consider any $b \in \mathbb{B}$. We consider two cases:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Case 1: } b=0 . \text { Then } \\
& \qquad \begin{aligned}
b \oplus 1 & =0 \oplus 1 \\
& =1 \\
& =\neg 0 \\
& =\neg b .
\end{aligned}
\end{aligned}
$$

Case 2: $b=1$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
b \oplus 1 & =1 \oplus 1 \\
& =0 \\
& =\neg 1 \\
& =\neg b .
\end{aligned}
$$

In both cases, we find that $b \oplus 1=\neg b$, which is what we needed to show.

Theorem: $\oplus$ is associative. Proof: Consider any $a, b, c \in \mathbb{B}$. We will prove that $a \oplus(b \oplus c)=(a \oplus b) \oplus c$. To do this, we consider two cases:

Case 1: $c=0$. Then we have that

$$
\begin{aligned}
a \oplus(b \oplus c) & =a \oplus(b \oplus 0) & & \\
& =a \oplus b & & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an identity) } \\
& =(a \oplus b) \oplus 0 & & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an identity) } \\
& =(a \oplus b) \oplus c & &
\end{aligned}
$$

Case 2: $c=1$. Then we have that

$$
\begin{aligned}
a \oplus(b \oplus c) & =a \oplus(b \oplus 1) \\
& =a \oplus \neg b \\
& =? ?
\end{aligned}
$$

(by lemma 1)

Lemma 2: For any $a, b \in \mathbb{B}$, we have $a \oplus \neg b=\neg(a \oplus b)$. Proof: Consider any $a, b \in \mathbb{B}$. We consider two cases:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Case 1: } b=0 \text {. Then } \\
& \left.\begin{array}{rlrl}
a \oplus \neg b & =a \oplus \neg 0 & & \\
& =a \oplus 1 & & \\
& =\neg a & & \text { (using lemma 1) } \\
& =\neg(a \oplus 0) & & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an identity) } \\
& =\neg(a \oplus b) & &
\end{array}>\begin{array}{rlrl} 
&
\end{array}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Case 2: $b=1$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
a \oplus \neg b & =a \oplus \neg 1 & & \\
& =a \oplus 0 & & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an ide } \\
& =a & & \\
& =\neg(\neg a) & & \text { (using lemma } 1) \\
& =\neg(a \oplus 1) & & \\
& =\neg(a \oplus b) & &
\end{aligned}
$$

In both cases, we find that $a \oplus \neg b=\neg(a \oplus b)$, as required.

Theorem: $\oplus$ is associative.
Proof: Consider any $a, b, c \in \mathbb{B}$. We will prove that $a \oplus(b \oplus c)=(a \oplus b) \oplus c$. We consider two cases:

Case 1: $c=0$. Then we have that

$$
\begin{aligned}
a \oplus(b \oplus c) & =a \oplus(b \oplus 0) & & \\
& =a \oplus b & & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an identity) } \\
& =(a \oplus b) \oplus 0 & & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an identity) } \\
& =(a \oplus b) \oplus c & &
\end{aligned}
$$

Case 2: $c=1$. Then we have that

$$
\begin{aligned}
a \oplus(b \oplus c) & =a \oplus(b \oplus 1) & & \\
& =a \oplus \neg b & & \text { (using lemma 1) } \\
& =\neg(a \oplus b) & & \text { (using lemma 2) } \\
& =(a \oplus b) \oplus 1 & & \text { (using lemma 1) } \\
& =(a \oplus b) \oplus c & &
\end{aligned}
$$

In both cases we have $a \oplus(b \oplus c)=(a \oplus b) \oplus c$, and therefore $\oplus$ is associative.

## Commutative Operators

- A binary operator $\star$ is called commutative when the following is always true:

$$
a \star b=b \star a
$$

- Is + commutative?
- Is - commutative?

Theorem: $\oplus$ is commutative.
Proof: Consider any $a, b \in \mathbb{B}$. We will prove $a \oplus b=b \oplus a$.
To do this, let $x=a \oplus b$. Then

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
x=a \oplus b & \\
x \oplus b=(a \oplus b) \oplus b & \\
x \oplus b=a \oplus(b \oplus b) & \text { (since } \oplus \text { is associative) } \\
x \oplus b=a \oplus 0 & \text { (since } \oplus \text { is self-inverting) } \\
x \oplus b=a & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an identity of } \oplus \text { ) } \\
x \oplus(x \oplus b)=x \oplus a & \text { (since } \oplus \text { is associative) } \\
(x \oplus x) \oplus b=x \oplus a & \text { (since } \oplus \text { is self-inverting) } \\
0 \oplus b=x \oplus a & \text { (since } \text { is an identity of } \oplus \text { ) } \\
b=x \oplus a & \\
b \oplus a=(x \oplus a) \oplus a & \\
b \oplus a=x \oplus(a \oplus a) & \text { (since } \oplus \text { is associative) } \\
b \oplus a=x \oplus 0 & \text { (since } \oplus \text { is self-inverting) } \\
b \oplus a=x & \text { (since } 0 \text { is an identity of } \oplus \text { ) }
\end{array}
$$

This means that $a \oplus b=x=b \oplus a$. Therefore, $\oplus$ is commutative.

Theorem: $\oplus$ is commutative.
Proof: Consider any $a, b \in \mathbb{B}$. We will prove $a \oplus b=b \oplus a$.
To do this, let $x=a \oplus b$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x=a \oplus b \\
& x \oplus b=(a \oplus b) \oplus b \\
& x \oplus b=a \oplus(b \oplus b) \\
& x \oplus b=a \oplus 0 \\
& x \oplus b=a \\
& x \oplus(x \oplus b)=x \oplus a \\
& (x \oplus x) \oplus b=x \oplus a \\
& 0 \oplus b=x \oplus a \\
& b=x \oplus a \\
& b \oplus a=(x \oplus a) \oplus a \\
& b \oplus a=x \oplus(a \oplus a) \\
& b \oplus a=x \oplus 0 \\
& b \oplus a=x
\end{aligned}
$$

This means that $a \oplus b=$

The only properties of $\oplus$ that we used here are that it is associative, has an identity, and is self-inverting. This same proof works for any operator with these three properties:

Binary operators that have this property give rise to boolean groups (but you don't need to know that for this class). commutative.

Application: Encryption

## Bitstrings

- A bitstring is a finite sequence of zero or more 0 s and 1 s .
- Internally, computers represent all data as bitstrings.
- For details on how, take CS107 or CS143.


## Bitstrings and $\oplus$

- We can generalize the $\oplus$ operator from working on individual bits to working on bitstrings.
- If $A$ and $B$ are bitstrings of length $n$, then we'll define $A \oplus B$ to be the bitstring of length $n$ formed by applying $\oplus$ to the corresponding bits of $A$ and $B$.
- For example:

$$
\begin{array}{r}
110110 \\
\oplus 011010 \\
\hline 101100
\end{array}
$$

## Encryption

- Suppose that you want to send me a secret bitstring $M$ of length $n$.
- You should be able to read the message, but anyone who intercepts the secret message should not be able to read it.
- How might we accomplish this?


## $\oplus$ and Encryption

- In advance, you and I share a randomly-chosen bitstring $K$ of length $n$ (called the key) and keep it secret.
- To send me message $M$ secretly, you send me the string $C=M \oplus K$.
- $C$ is called the ciphertext.
- To decrypt the ciphertext $C$, I compute the string $C \oplus K$. This is

$$
\begin{aligned}
C \oplus K & =(M \oplus K) \oplus K \\
& =M \oplus(K \oplus K) \\
& =M
\end{aligned}
$$

## An Example

## PUPPIES

M 01010000010101010101000001010000010010010100010101010011
K 11011100101110111100010011010101111001101111011111000010
C 10001100111011101001010010000101101011111011001010010001

## An Example

$$
\mathbb{F}_{1}^{\prime \prime} . \ldots{ }^{2}
$$

C 10001100111011101001010010000101101011111011001010010001
K 11011100101110111100010011010101111001101111011111000010
M 01010000010101010101000001010000010010010100010101010011

## PUPPIES

## An Example

$$
\mathbb{F}_{1}^{\prime \prime} . .{ }^{\prime}{ }^{2}
$$

C 10001100111011101001010010000101101011111011001010010001
K? 11000000101000011101100011000011111011101111101111011101
$M^{?} 01001100010011110100110001000110010000010100100101001100$

## LOLFAIL

## Some Caveats

- This scheme is insecure if you encrypt multiple messages using the same key.
- Good exercise: Figure out why this is!
- This scheme guarantees security if the key is random, but it isn't tamperproof.
- Good exercise: Figure out why this is!
- General good advice: never implement your own cryptography!
- Take CS255 for more details!


## Next Time

- Indirect Proofs
- Proof by contradiction.
- Proof by contrapositive.

