

Proof strategies

(Basically, deciding **what** to prove!)

- 1 Direct proof: assume P , prove Q ;
- 2 Contrapositive: assume $\neg Q$, prove $\neg P$;
- 3 Proof by contradiction: assume P and $\neg Q$, show this is absurd;
- 4 Induction (... hold off on this until later)
- 5 Break the main result into pieces (lemmas, corollaries...)