# SIGPL Summer School — Exercises

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# 1 Basic commands and tactics/tacticals

### Commands

- Section and End.
- Variable and Variables.
- Theorem and Lemma.
- Proof and Qed.
- check, print, and inspect.

### Tactics

- intro and intros.
- apply.
- assumption and exact.
- split.
- left and right.
- elim.
- auto, trivial, and tauto. (Don't use!)
- cut.
- clear.

### Tacticals

- $T_1; T_2 (T_1 \text{ then } T_2).$
- $T; [T_1 | T_2 | \cdots | T_3].$

The following table shows tactics corresponding to inferences rules in the natural deduction system.

	->	$\wedge$	\/	True	False	~
Introduction	intro, intros	split	left, right			intro
Elimination	apply	elim	elim		elim	elim

Complete PartOne in the Coq script.

# 2 Negation and classical logic

### Negation

Complete PartTwo (Negation) in the Coq script.

- $(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (^B \rightarrow ^A)$ . This is known as a *contrapositive* in logic.
- A -> ~~A. If A is true, it is safe to assert that it is not that A is not true.
- ~~~A -> ~A. Although ~~A -> A is not true in general, ~~~A -> ~A is true for any proposition A.
- ~~(~~A  $\rightarrow$  A). This is tantamount to saying that ~~A  $\rightarrow$  A is not untrue.

### Classical logic

Classical logic is a logic obtained by adding one of the following rules to constructive logic:

$$\overline{A \lor \neg A \ true} \ \mathsf{EM} \qquad \overline{\neg \neg A \supset A \ true} \ \mathsf{DNE} \qquad \overline{((A \supset B) \supset A) \supset A \ true} \ \mathsf{Peirce}$$

The rule EM, called the law of excluded middle, asserts that for any proposition A, either A true or  $\neg A$  true must hold regardless of the existence of an actual proof. The rule DNE, called the law of doublenegation elimination, asserts that if A cannot be false, it must be true. The rule Peirce, called Peirce's law, says that a proof of A true may freely assume  $A \supset B$  true for an arbitrary proposition B. The three rules above are all equivalent to each other in that the addition of any of these rules renders the other two rules derivable.

Complete PartTwo (Classical logic) in the Coq script.

- $(A \lor \neg A) \supset (((A \supset B) \supset A) \supset A)$  true. That is, EM implies Peirce.
- $(((A \supset \bot) \supset A) \supset A) \supset (\neg \neg A \supset A)$  true. That is, Peirce implies DNE where we set  $B = \bot$ .
- $(\neg \neg (B \lor \neg B) \supset (B \lor \neg B)) \supset (B \lor \neg B)$  true. That is, DNE implies EM where we set A in DNE to  $B \lor \neg B$ .

# 3 Proof terms

 $Coq < Theorem id : A \rightarrow A.$ 

Previously we exploited tactics and tacticals of Coq to prove theorems in propositional logic. Since proof terms are compact representations of proofs, we can translate all these proofs into corresponding proof terms. In fact, we can just use the Coq command Print to displays all such proof terms. For example, we can print the proof term for  $A \rightarrow A$  once we complete its proof using tactics as follows:

In order to use a proof term in proving a theorem, we use the command **Definition**. For example, we can define **id** by directly providing a proof term for it as follows:

Coq < Definition id : A  $\rightarrow$  A := fun x : A  $\Rightarrow$  x. id is defined

Coq < Print id. id = fun x : A => x : A -> A

Definition uses the following syntax:

Definition  $\langle identifier \rangle$  :  $\langle proposition \rangle := \langle proof \ term \rangle$ .

Proof terms for propositional logic in Coq use slightly different syntax from the simply typed  $\lambda$ -calculus. The following table shows how to convert proof terms in the simply typed  $\lambda$ -calculus into Coq:

Simply-typed $\lambda$ -calculus	Coq
$\lambda x : A. M$	fun $x : A \Rightarrow M$
$\lambda x : A. \lambda y : B. M$	fun $(x : A)$ $(y : B) \Rightarrow M$
$\lambda x : A. \lambda y : B. \cdots \lambda z : C. M$	fun $(x : A)$ $(y : B)$ $\cdots$ $(z : C) \Rightarrow M$
M N	M N
(M,N)	conj $M$ $N$
fst $M$ where $M: A \wedge B$	and_ind (fun (p : $A$ ) (q : $B$ ) => p) $M$
snd $M$ where $M: A \wedge B$	and_ind (fun (p : $A$ ) (q : $B$ ) => q) $M$
$\operatorname{inl}_A M$	or_introl $A$ $M$
$\operatorname{inr}_A M$	or_intror $A$ $M$
case M of inl $x. N_1 \mid \text{inr } y. N_2$ where $M : A \lor B$	or_ind (fun $x$ : $A \Rightarrow N_1$ ) (fun $y$ : $B \Rightarrow N_2$ ) $M$
()	I
abort $_C M$	${ t False\_ind} \ C \ M$

Note that Coq provides just a single term **and\_ind** for eliminating conjunction, which can be thought of as combining the two elimination rules for conjunction. To see how **and\_ind** works, **Check** it out!

Coq < Check and\_ind. and\_ind

: forall A B P : Prop, (A -> B -> P) -> A /\ B -> P

Also Check out other terms such as conj, or\_introl, or\_intror, or\_ind, and False\_ind. Complete PartThree in the Coq script.

# 4 First-order logic

#### Tactics for universal and existential quantifications

The following table shows tactics for universal and existential quantifications in first-order logic:

	$\forall$ (forall)	$\exists (\texttt{exists})$
Introduction	intro	exists
Elimination	apply, apply with $term_1 term_2 \cdots term_n$	elim

Here is my Coq program transcribing the proofs of the following examples given in the supplementary notes:

 $\begin{array}{l} (\forall x.A \land B) \supset (\forall x.A) \land (\forall x.B) \ true \\ \exists x. \neg A \supset \neg \forall x.A \ true \\ \forall y. (\forall x.A) \supset (\exists x.A) \ true \end{array}$ 

```
Section FirstOrder.
Variable Term : Set.
Variables A B : Term -> Prop.
Theorem forall_and :
(forall x : Term, A \times / B \times) -> (forall x : Term, A \times) // (forall x : Term, B \times).
Proof.
intro w.
split; (intro a; elim (w a); intros; assumption).
Qed.
Theorem exist_neg : (exists x : Term, \tilde{A} x) -> (\tilde{a} forall x : Term, A x).
Proof.
intro w; intro z; elim w; intros a y; elim y; apply z.
Qed.
Theorem not_weird : forall y : Term, (forall x : Term, A x) -> (exists x : Term, A x).
Proof.
intro a; intro w; exists a; apply w.
Qed.
End FirstOrder.
```

First we declare a set Term which we will use as the set of terms:

Variable Term : Set.

We do not actually specify elements of the set **Term** because pure first-order logic does not assume a particular set of terms.

Next we declare two propositions A and B:

Variables A B : Term -> Prop.

A and B are both given type Term -> Prop to indicate that they are parameterized over elements of the set Term, or terms. What this means in practice is that if A contains a term variable x, we write A x, which has type Prop, for the proposition. Note that all term variables in my Coq program are assigned type Term so that they can be used as arguments to A and B.

### Sets, propositions, and types

You might well be confused about the differences between **Set** for sets, **Prop** for propositions, and **Type** for types in Coq. To tell the truth, these are all types and also terms in Coq — what a convoluted system it is! For now, we only need the following facts. The invariant is that everything in Coq has its type!

- A proof term M, or equivalently a proof, has a certain type A, and we call A a proposition. So we have a relation M : A.
- A proposition A has type Prop, and we call Prop a *sort* in order to differentiate it from types in the general sense. So we have a relation A : Prop, which literally says that A belongs to the set Prop of propositions.
- A term t has a certain type  $\tau$ , and we call  $\tau$  a datatype. So we have a relation  $t:\tau$ .
- A datatype  $\tau$  has type Set, and we also call Set a *sort* in order to differentiate it from types in general sense. So we have a relation  $\tau$ : Set, which literally says that  $\tau$  belongs to the set Set of datatypes.
- Both Type and Set have type Type!

We can summarize the above relations as follows:

term t : datatype  $\tau$  : Set : Type proof term M : proposition A : Prop : Type

### Declarations and definitions

The following table shows how to declare term variables with only their datatypes, and how to define term variables with terms as well as their datatypes. Global declarations and definitions are exported to the outside of sections (beginning with Section and ending with End), while local declarations and definitions are not.

	declaration	definition
global	Parameter v : $\tau$ , Parameters	Definition c : $\tau$ := $t$ .
local	Variable v : $ au,$ Variables	Let c : $\tau$ := $t$ .

It turns out that these definitions and declarations can be used not only for terms but also for proof terms and even for datatypes and propositions! For example, we have seen an example of declaring a datatype like

Variable Term : Set.

or declaring a proposition like

Variable P : Prop.

For proofs and proof terms, Coq provides the following specialized forms for declarations and definitions. An opaque definition hides its proof M and makes only H and A visible for later use. A transparent definition makes visible its proof M as well. If you do not understand what the difference is, just use opaque definitions in your Coq program and you will never run into trouble!

	declaration	definition
global	Axiom H : $A$	Lemma H : A. Proof $M.$ — opaque
	(Parameter H : $A$ — not recommended)	Theorem H : $A$ . Proof $M$ . — opaque
		(Definition $H : A := M$ .
		— transparent, not recommended)
local	Hypothesis H : $A$ , Hypotheses	Let $H : A := M$ . — transparent
	(Variable H : $A$ — not recommended)	

### apply, elim, and exact

So far, we have used only variables or labels as arguments to these tactics. In general, their arguments can be proof terms as long as they have proper types. Here are a few examples.

- apply (Ltn O (S O)). Instead of specifying a label, we use a proof term Ltn O (S O).
- elim (EM (exists x, P x)). Instead of specifying a label, we use a proof term EM (exists x, P x)
- exact (Eqi a). Instead of specifying a label, we use use a proof term Eqi a.

### Properties of natural numbers

We use the following axioms to characterize natural numbers.

We translate these axioms into Coq declarations as follows:

```
Variable Term : Set.
Variable 0 : Term.
Variable S : Term -> Term.
Variable Nat : Term -> Prop.
Variable Eq : Term -> Term -> Prop.
Variable Lt : Term -> Term -> Prop.
Hypothesis Zero : Nat 0.
Hypothesis Succ : forall x : Term, Nat x -> Nat (S x).
Hypothesis Eqi : forall x : Term, Eq x x.
Hypothesis Eqt : forall (x : Term) (y : Term) (z: Term), (Eq x y /\ Eq x z) -> Eq y z.
Hypothesis Lts : forall x : Term, Lt x (S x).
Hypothesis Ltn : forall (x : Term) (y : Term), Eq x y -> ~ Lt x y.
```

Complete PartFour in the Coq script:

 $\begin{aligned} \forall x. Nat(x) \supset (\exists y. Nat(y) \land Eq(x, y)) \ true \\ \forall x. \forall y. Eq(x, y) \supset Eq(y, x) \ true \\ \neg \exists x. Eq(x, \mathbf{0}) \land Eq(x, \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{0})) \ true \end{aligned}$ 

#### More properties of natural numbers

Complete PartFour in the Coq script:

 $\begin{array}{l} \forall x. Nat(x) \supset Nat(\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{s}(x))) \ true \\ \forall x. \forall y. Lt(x,y) \supset \neg Eq(x,y) \ true \\ \neg \exists x. \exists y. Eq(x,y) \land Lt(x,y) \ true \end{array}$ 

# 5 Inductive datatypes and equality

Here is a summary of the commands and tactics that you need. Examples of using these commands and tactics are also given.

### Commands

• Fixpoint facilitates defining primitive recursive functions.

```
Fixpoint plus (m n:nat) struct m : nat :=
match m with
| 0 => n
| S m' => S (plus m' n)
end.
```

• Inductive allows us to define inductive datatypes. Later we will use Inductive to define inductive predicates.

```
Inductive nat : Set :=
| 0 : nat
| S : nat -> nat.
```

### Tactics

```
    rewrite

  rewrite e requires e to be of type forall (x1:T1) (x2:T2) \dots (xn:Tn), a = b. Then apply-
  ing rewrite e to a goal of the form P(a) rewrites it as P(b).
     rewrite Heq
     rewrite <- plus_n_0
     rewrite -> plus_n_0 (which is equivalent to rewrite plus_n_0)
     rewrite <- (plus_n_0 n0)
     rewrite -> (plus_n_0 n0) (which is equivalent to rewrite (plus_n_0 n0))
• replace
  replace e with e' replaces e in the current goal by e' and creates a new goal e' = e.
     replace (f 1) with 0
     replace (f 1) with (f 0)
• reflexivity (not in the Coq Tutorial)
  Applying this tactic to a goal of t1 = t2 immediately completes the proof if t1 and t2 can be
  converted to each other (e.g., 6*6=9*4).
• symmetry (not in the Coq Tutorial)
  Applying this tactic to a goal of t = s changes the goal to s = t.
• unfold
  unfold x expands x into its definition.
     unfold subset
     unfold element at 1
     unfold element in H
• red
  red unfolds the head occurrence of the current goal.
• simple induction
  simple induction is an abbreviation of intro; elim. When applied to a goal of the form forall
  x:T, A(x), it creates new subgoals according to the definition of type T.
     simple induction n
• simpl
  simpl simplifies terms in the current goal using the definition of its subterms. For example, it
  simplifies plus 0 n to n.
     simpl
     simpl plus
     simpl plus at 1
• change
  If the current goal can be converted to a term e, change e changes the current goal to e.
     change (Is_S O)
     change False with (Is_S 0)
     change False at 2 with (Is_S 0)
• discriminate
  Applying this tactic to a hypothesis of the form a = b immediately completes the proof if a and b
  cannot be converted to each other.
```

# Primitive recursion

Use the Fixpoint command to implement the following functions as primitive recursive functions (Part-Five in the Coq script).

- plus2 : nat -> (nat -> nat)
   plus2 m returns a function f such that f n returns m + n.
- double : nat -> nat double *m* returns 2 \* *m*.
- mult : nat -> nat -> nat
   mult m n returns m \* n. You may use plus in its definition.
- sum\_n : nat → nat
   sum\_n n returns Σ<sup>n</sup><sub>i=0</sub>i. You may use plus in its definition.

### Properties of plus

Prove the following lemmas in Coq (PartFive in the Coq script). Do not use the **auto** tactic or any similar tactic.

```
Lemma plus_n_0 : forall n:nat, n = plus n 0.
Lemma plus_n_S : forall n m:nat, S (plus n m) = plus n (S m).
Lemma plus_com : forall n m:nat, plus n m = plus m n.
```

Lemma plus\_assoc : forall (m n l:nat), plus (plus m n) l = plus m (plus n l).

Proving  $2 * \sum_{i=0}^{n} i = n + n * n$ 

Prove the following lemmas in Coq (PartFive in the Coq script). Do not use the **auto** tactic or any similar tactic.

```
Theorem sum_n_plus : forall n:nat, double (sum_n n) = plus n (mult n n).
```

Your proof may use any lemma from the previous part. You will need to introduce extras lemmas to complete the proof. The sample solution, for examples, introduces three lemmas, one of which is:

Lemma double\_plus2 : forall n:nat, double n = plus n n.

# 6 Inductive predicates

### Commands

• Inductive allows us to define inductive datatypes.

```
Inductive nat : Set :=
| 0 : nat
| S : nat -> nat.
```

This definition automatically declares a term **nat\_ind** of the following type:

```
nat_ind
    : forall P : nat -> Prop,
        P 0 -> (forall n : nat, P n -> P (S n)) -> forall n : nat, P n
```

Be sure to understand that  $nat_ind$  corresponds to the rule  $natE_I$  given in the supplementary notes.

• Inductive also allows us to define inductive predicates.

```
Inductive eq : nat -> nat -> Prop :=
| eq_0 : eq 0 0
| eq_S : forall (m n:nat), eq m n -> eq (S m) (S n).
```

This definition is a transcription of the definition of the predicate  $m =_{N} n$  given in the supplementary notes. It also automatically declares a term eq\_ind of the following type:

eq\_ind
 : forall P : nat -> nat -> Prop,
 P 0 0 ->
 (forall m n : nat, eq m n -> P m n -> P (S m) (S n)) ->
 forall n n0 : nat, eq n n0 -> P n n0

Be sure to understand that  $eq_ind$  corresponds to the rule  $=_N E_I$  given in the supplementary notes. Also remember that we can use  $eq_0$  and  $eq_s$  as terms of the types specified in the above definition.

Section 2.2 of the Coq Tutorial gives an example of an inductive predicate 1e (a parameterized inductive type in the Coq terminology), which might be challenging to understand at first reading. Section 1.3.3 (Inductive definitions) of the Coq Reference Manual might be more helpful where you can find a simpler example of inductive datatype even : nat -> Prop.

```
Inductive even : nat -> Prop :=
| even_0 : even 0
| even_SS : forall n:nat, even n -> even (S (S n)).
even_ind
        : forall P : nat -> Prop,
        P 0 ->
        (forall n : nat, even n -> P n -> P (S (S n))) ->
        forall n : nat, even n -> P n
```

This part uses another inductive predicate lt whose definition is a transcription of the definition of the predicate m < n given in the supplementary notes.

```
Inductive lt : nat -> nat -> Prop :=
| lt_0 : forall n:nat, lt 0 (S n)
| lt_S : forall (m:nat) (n:nat), lt m n -> lt (S m) (S n).
lt_ind
        : forall P : nat -> nat -> Prop,
        (forall n : nat, P 0 (S n)) ->
        (forall m n : nat, lt m n -> P m n -> P (S m) (S n)) ->
        forall n n0 : nat, lt n n0 -> P n n0
```

### Tactics

inversion

In Coq, you give only introduction rules and not elimination rules because Coq provides the tactic inversion.

Let us assume that e holds a proof of a predicate A. inversion e basically applies appropriate elimination rules to the predicate A and generates new hypotheses. Since elimination rules are all derived from introduction rules, we can think of inversion e as inverting the introduction rules to derive all the necessary conditions that should hold in order for the predicate A to be proved. Thus, whenever you need to apply an elimination rule to a judgment, you may need to consider this tactic.

Here is an example:

```
Lemma test_inversion : forall (x y:nat), eq (S x) (S y) -> eq x y.
Proof.
intros x y H.
inversion H.
assumption.
Qed.
```

At the time when we apply the inversion tactic, we have H : eq (S x) (S y). As we want to apply the elimination rule  $=_{N}E_{s}$  to H, we apply the inversion tactic, which will generate a new hypothesis of type x = y, which is the only necessary and sufficient condition for eq (S x) (S y) to hold. Try it yourself!

• elim

The elim tactic can be applied to *any* term of an inductive type. For example, it may be applied to a term of type nat which is defined using the Inductive command, or to a term of type eq m n which is also defined using the Inductive command. (The reason that we can use this tactic extensively in propositional logic and pure first-order logic is that it is actually applied to a term whose type is inductively defined.)

When applied to a term of an inductive type, the elim tactic applies the corresponding elimination rule based on induction after analyzing the current goal. For example, when applied to a term of type nat, it automatically applies nat\_ind, or the rule  $natE_I$  in effect. Or when applied to a term of type eq m n, it automatically applies eq\_ind, or the rule  $=_NE_I$  in effect. So, in order to learn how this tactic works, you want to understand the two kinds of elimination rules based on induction that are given in the supplementary notes!

For this part, do not use the auto tactic or any similar tactic.

### Examples from the supplementary notes

Prove the following lemmas in Coq (PartSix in the Coq script). For exists\_greater and eq\_nat, do not use the elim and induction tactics. For others, you may use the elim and induction tactics.

```
Lemma lt_one_two : lt (S 0) (S (S 0)).
Lemma no_lt_zero : forall (m:nat), ~(lt m 0).
Lemma exists_greater : forall (x:nat), exists y:nat, lt x y.
(* use nat_ind; do not use elim/induction. *)
Lemma exists_greater' : forall (x:nat), exists y:nat, lt x y.
(* may use elim/induction. *)
Lemma eq_nat : forall x:nat, eq x x.
(* use nat_ind; do not use elim/induction. *)
Lemma eq_nat' : forall x:nat, eq x x.
(* may use elim/induction. *)
Lemma eq_trans : forall x:nat, eq x x.
(* may use elim/induction. *)
Lemma eq_trans : forall (x y z:nat), eq x y -> eq y z -> eq x z.
Lemma eq_succ : forall x:nat, ~(eq x 0) -> exists y:nat, eq (S y) x.
```

### Inductive predicates

Assume the following inductive predicate le (standing for "less than or equal to"), and prove the following lemmas in Coq (PartSix in the Coq script). For le\_n\_S and lt\_le, do not use the elim and induction tactics. For others, you may use the elim and induction tactics.

```
Inductive le : nat -> nat -> Prop :=
| le_n : forall n, le n n
| le_S : forall (m n:nat), le m n -> le m (S n).
Lemma le_zero : forall n:nat, le 0 n.
Lemma le_n_S : forall n m:nat, le n m -> le (S n) (S m).
(* use le_ind; do not use elim/induction. *)
Lemma lt_le : forall (m n:nat), lt m n -> le m n.
(* use lt_ind; do not use elim/induction. *)
Lemma lt_le' : forall (m n:nat), lt m n -> le m n.
(* may use elim/induction. *)
```

### Less-than-or-equal-to means less-than or equal-to.

Prove the following theorem in Coq (PartSix in the Coq script). You may introduce a few lemmas if needed. You may use the elim and induction tactics.

Theorem le\_lt\_eq : forall (m n:nat), le m n  $\rightarrow$  lt m n  $\setminus$  eq m n.

### Another definition of less-than

Here is a copy of the definition of le from Section 2.2 of the Coq Tutorial:

Inductive le' (n:nat) : nat -> Prop :=
| le\_n' : le' n n
| le\_S' : forall m:nat, le' n m -> le' n (S m).

Show that le given above and le' are logically equivalent. You may use the elim and induction tactics.

Lemma le\_le' : forall (m n:nat), le m n -> le' m n.

Lemma le'\_le : forall (m n:nat), le' m n -> le m n.

# 7 Strings of matched parentheses

We use the following inference rules to prove the two theorems shown below:

$$\frac{s \text{ mparen}}{\epsilon \text{ mparen}} Meps \quad \frac{s \text{ mparen}}{(s) \text{ mparen}} Mpar \quad \frac{s_1 \text{ mparen}}{s_1 s_2 \text{ mparen}} Mseq$$

$$\frac{1}{\epsilon \text{ lparen}} Leps \quad \frac{s_1 \text{ lparen}}{(s_1) s_2 \text{ lparen}} Lseq$$

**Theorem 7.1.** If s mparen, then s lparen.

**Theorem 7.2.** If s lparen, then s mparen.

We provide a definition for strings of parentheses (S) and a function for concatenating two strings of parentheses (concat). Your task is to define two inductive judgments mparen and lparen according to the inference rules shown above, and to give proofs of theorems mparen2lparen and lparen2mparen.

```
Inductive E : Set :=
| LP : E
| RP : E.
```

```
Inductive S : Set :=
| eps : S
| cons : E -> S -> S.
Fixpoint concat (s1 s2:S) {struct s1} : S :=
match s1 with
| eps => s2
| cons e s2' => cons e (concat s2' s2) end.
Inductive mparen : S -> Prop := ...
Inductive lparen : S -> Prop := ...
Theorem mparen2lparen : forall s:S, mparen s -> lparen s.
Theorem lparen2mparen : forall s:S, lparen s -> mparen s.
```

You may introduce additional lemmas to simplify the proof. You may also need to prove some properties of concat, *e.g.*, concat s eps = s. Feel free to introduce any auxiliary definitions that are necessary to complete the proofs. All that I care about is your definitions of mparen and lparen and your proofs of mparen2lparen and lparen2mparen.

# 8 Complete induction

We have learned the principle of complete induction, which appears to be more powerful than mathematical induction, but turns out to be a derived notion. In this part, you will give a proof of the principle of complete induction in Coq. The goal is to give a proof of the theorem nat\_complete\_ind shown below:

```
Inductive nat : Set :=
| 0 : nat
| S : nat -> nat.
Inductive lt : nat -> nat -> Prop :=
| lt_0 : forall n:nat, lt 0 (S n)
| lt_S : forall (m:nat) (n:nat), lt m n -> lt (S m) (S n).
Variable P : nat -> Prop.
Theorem nat_complete_ind :
    P 0 -> (forall n:nat, (forall z:nat, lt z n -> P z) -> P n) -> forall x:nat, P x.
```

The theorem can be written in our notation as follows:

 $P(\mathbf{0}) \supset (\forall n \in \mathsf{nat.}(\forall z \in \mathsf{nat.}z < n \supset P(z)) \supset P(n)) \supset \forall x \in \mathsf{nat.}P(x) \ true$ 

Here are a few hints that you might find useful.

- Remember that complete induction is a principle derived from mathematical induction. This implies that your proof should contain an application of nat\_ind somewhere.
- Then the whole problem boils down to finding an appropriate predicate, say A n where n is a natural number, for the application of nat\_ind. Then this application of nat\_ind will prove forall n:nat, A n. This is the key part of your proof.
- A n should *not* be P n. Instead you have to generalize the goal statement so that forall n:nat, A n would *imply* forall n:nat, P n. Letting A n = P n will fail!

- Before starting to write a proof in Coq, try to find a mathematical proof. Without a solid understanding of how the proof works, it might be very difficult to complete the proof in Coq in an interactive manner. That is, Coq helps you a lot especially when you know how to complete the proof yourself.
- You can simplify the presentation by explicitly defining the predicate A, as in:

Let A : nat -> Prop := fun k:nat => ...

• This is a line copied directly from the sample solution:

apply (nat\_ind A AO (Aind H)).

• You will have to prove some properties of lt.