

# Proof by Induction

Mathematical Induction is a special way of proving things. It has only 3 steps:

**Step 1.** Show it is true for the first one

**Step 2.**

**Step 3.** Show that if any one is true then the next one is true  
Then all will be true

# Proof by Induction : Example 1

- ▶ Use proof by induction to show that  $3^n - 1$  is a multiple of 2, for all values of the integer  $n$ .
- ▶ Is that true? Let us find out.

# Proof by Induction : Example 1

Step 1. Show it is true for  $n=1$

- ▶  $3^1 - 1 = 3 - 1 = 2$
- ▶ Yes 2 is a multiple of 2.
- ▶  $3^1 - 1$  is true

# Example 1

Step 2. Assume it is true for  $n = k$  i.e. assume that  $3^k - 1$  is true

This is an assumption that we treat as a fact for the rest of this exercise.

## Example 1

Now, prove that  $3^{k+1} - 1$  is a multiple of 2  
 $3^{k+1}$  is also  $3 \times 3^k$  And each of these are multiples of 2

## Example 1

Because:  $2 \cdot 3^k$  is a multiple of 2 (you are multiplying by 2)  
 $3^k - 1$  is true (we said that in the assumption above) So:  
 $3^{k+1} - 1$  is true

## Example 2

Example: Adding up Odd Numbers

$$1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2n - 1) = n^2$$

1. Show it is true for  $n=1$   $1 = 1^2$  is True
2. Assume it is true for  $n=k$

$$1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2k - 1) = k^2$$

## Example 2

Now, prove it is true for "k+1"

$$1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2k - 1) + (2(k + 1) - 1) = (k + 1)^2$$



## Example 2

We know that  $1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2k - 1) = k^2$   
(the assumption above), so we can do a replacement for all but the last term:

$$k^2 + (2(k + 1) - 1) = (k + 1)^2$$

## Example 2

- ▶ Now expand all terms:

$$k^2 + 2k + 2 - 1 = k^2 + 2k + 1$$

- ▶ And simplify:

$$k^2 + 2k + 1 = k^2 + 2k + 1$$

They are the same! So it is true.

## Example 2

So the following expression is true.

$$1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2(k + 1) - 1) = (k + 1)^2$$

# Proof by Induction

Prove by induction that the series  $3 + 7 + 11 + \dots$  has the sum to  $r$  terms given by  $S_r$ , where

$$S_r = 2r^2 + r.$$

# Proof by Induction

## Step 1

Demonstrate for  $r = 1$

- ▶ We know that first term is 3
- ▶  $S_1 = 2(1)^2 + 1 = 3$

# Proof by Induction

Step 2 : Make statement for  $r = k$



# Proof by Induction

Step 2 : Make statement for  $r = k + 1$

$$S_{k+1} = 2(k+1)^2 + (k+1)$$

- ▶  $(k+1)^2 = k^2 + 2k + 1$
- ▶  $2(k+1)^2 = 2k^2 + 4k + 2$

$$S_{k+1} = 2k^2 + 4k + 2 + (k+1) = 2k^2 + 5k + 3$$

# Proof by Induction

$$S_k = 2k^2 + k$$

$$S_{k+1} = 2k^2 + 4k + 2 + (k + 1) = 2k^2 + 5k + 3$$

Difference is  $4k + 3$  which is also expressed as  $4(k + 1) - 1$



# Proof By Induction

A sequence is defined by the recurrence relation

$$x_{n+2} = 3x_{n+1} - 2x_n$$

The initial terms are  $x_1=1$  and  $x_2=3$ .

Find the values of  $x_3$  and  $x_4$  showing your workings.

$$x_3 = 3x_2 - 2x_1 = 3(3) - 2(1) = 7$$

$$x_4 = 3x_3 - 2x_2 = 3(7) - 2(3) = 15$$

# Proof By Induction

Prove by induction that

$$x_n = 2^n - 1 \quad \text{for } n \geq 1$$

# Proof By Induction

Step 1 Show that statement is true for  $n = 1$ . (N.B.  $x_1 = 1$ ).

$$x_n = 2^n - 1$$

$$x_1 = 2^1 - 1 = 2 - 1 = 1$$

# Proof By Induction

Step 2 Assume that statement is true for  $n = k$ .

$$x_k = 2^k - 1$$

Similarly we will assume it for  $n = k - 1$ . (The reason for this will become obvious later on.)

$$x_{k-1} = 2^{k-1} - 1$$

# Proof By Induction

**Step 3** Show that statement is true for  $n = k + 1$ .

$$x_{k+1} = 2^{k+1} - 1$$

Re-expressing this

$$x_{k+1} = 2 \cdot 2^k - 1$$

# Proof By Induction

Recall

$$x_{k+1} = 3x_k - 2x_{k-1}$$

Looking at right hand side

- ▶ First Term:  $3x_k = 3(2^k - 1) = 3 \cdot 2^k - 3$
- ▶ Second Term:  $2x_{k-1} = 2(2^{k-1} - 1) = 2^k - 2$

$$x_{k+1} = (3 \cdot 2^k - 3) - (2^k - 2) = 2 \cdot 2^k + 1$$

$$x_{k+1} = 2 \cdot 2^k + 1 = 2^{k+1} + 1$$