

# Introduction to Discrete Math

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Global Frontier College

- Mathematical Thinking
  - Convincing Arguments, Find Example, Recursion, Logic, Invariants
- Probability & Combinatorics
  - Counting, Probability, Random Variables
- Graph Theory
  - Graphs (cycles, classes, parameters)
- Number Theory & Cryptography
  - Arithmetic in modular form
  - Intro to Cryptography

Mathematical Thinking – Recursion & Induction

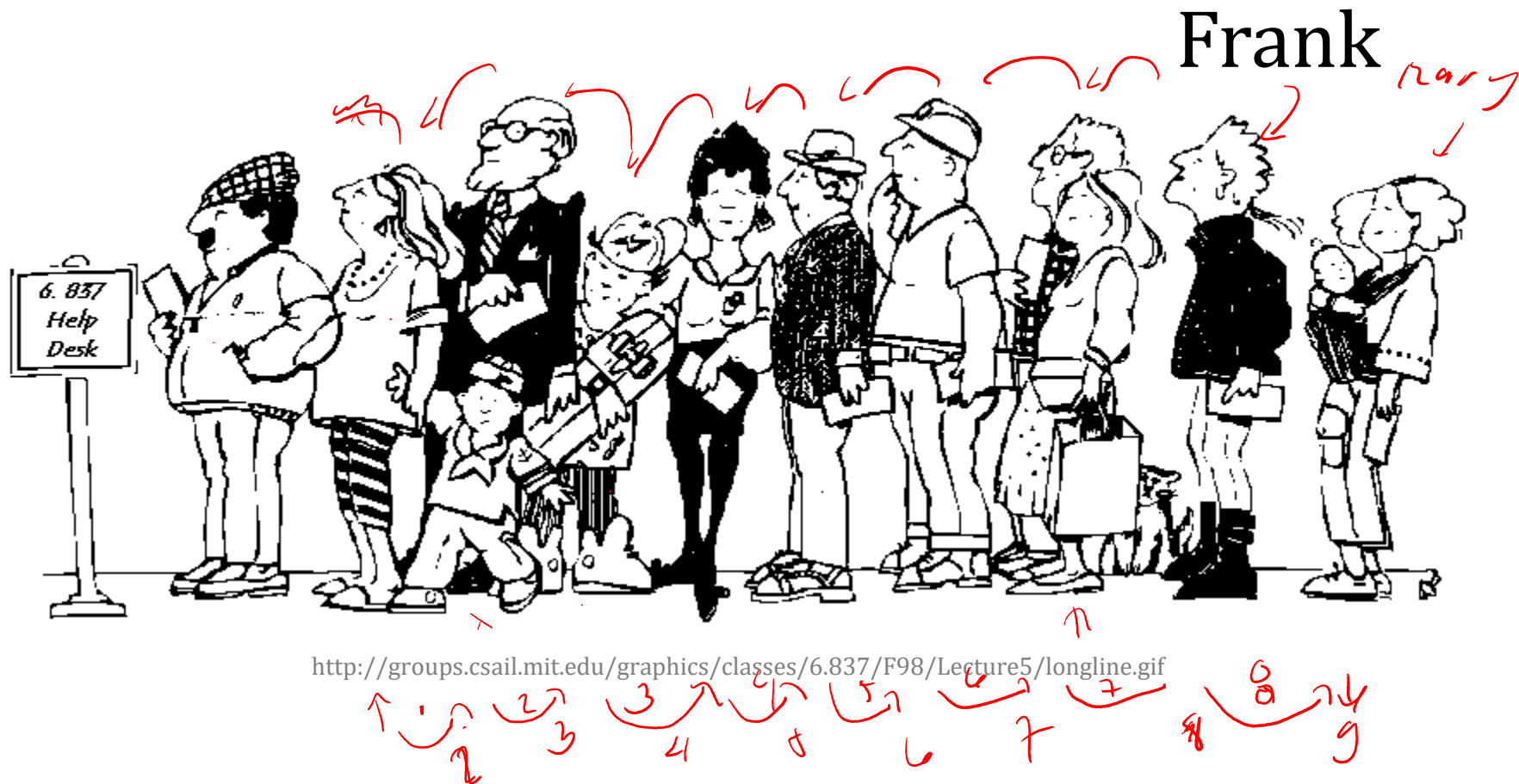
# **RECURSION**



- Recursion
- The Coin Problem
- Hanoi Towers



## Line to process a paper




## Compute Queue Length

- 1) Mary gets in line
- 2) She wonders how many people before her?
- 3) Mary asks Frank (in front of her)
  - *Could you please tell how many people ahead of you?*
- 4) Now, Frank has **the same problem**
  - But Frank was able to find out there are 8
- 5) Now Mary knows there are **9 people** in front

## Recursive Program

### Algorithm:

```
numberOfPeopleInFront(F):  
  if there is no one before A:  
    return 0  
  F ← number of people before A  
  return numberOfPeopleInFront(F) + 1
```



## Factorial Function

### Definition:

- For a positive integer  $n$ , its factorial is the product of integers from 1 to  $n$ .

$$5! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 = 120 = 4! \times 5$$

*(Handwritten red annotations: a bracket above 2 is labeled 2!, and a bracket below 1 to 4 is labeled 4!)*

### Recursive definition:

$$n! = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ n \times (n-1)! & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

*(Handwritten red annotations: a checkmark next to the first case, and a large red underline under the entire definition)*

$$n! = 4! = 4 \times 3!$$



# Iterative Program

'iterate'

```
def factorial(n):
```

```
    assert(n > 0)
```

```
    result = 1
```

```
    for i in range(1, n+1)
```

```
        result *= i
```

```
    return result
```

$\rightarrow result = result * i$

$res = res + 1 \Rightarrow res += 1$

$\sim 1 + 2 + \dots$

$res = res + 2$

$res = res + 3$

$res = res + n$



## Recursive Program

```
def factorial(n) :  
    assert(n > 0)  
    if n == 1  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return n * factorial(n - 1)
```

## Termination

- Must make sure that recursive program (or definition) terminates after finite number of steps
- Achieved by decreasing some parameter until it reaches the base case
  - line length: line of the length decreases by 1 with each recursive call, until it becomes 1
  - Factorial:  $n$  decreases by 1

## Example of Infinite Recursion

```
def infinite(n):  
    if n == 1  
        return 0  
    return n * infinite(n+1)
```

$n = 2$

if  $n == 50$ , stop

4 → 1

1: 1  
2: 2  
3: 3  
4: 4  
5: 5

- In theory:
  - will never stop, parameters increase to infinity
- In practice:
  - will cause error message
    - “Stack overload” or “Recursion depth exceeded”

## More Examples of Infinite Recursion

- No base case:

```
def factorial(n):  
    return n * factorial(n - 1)
```

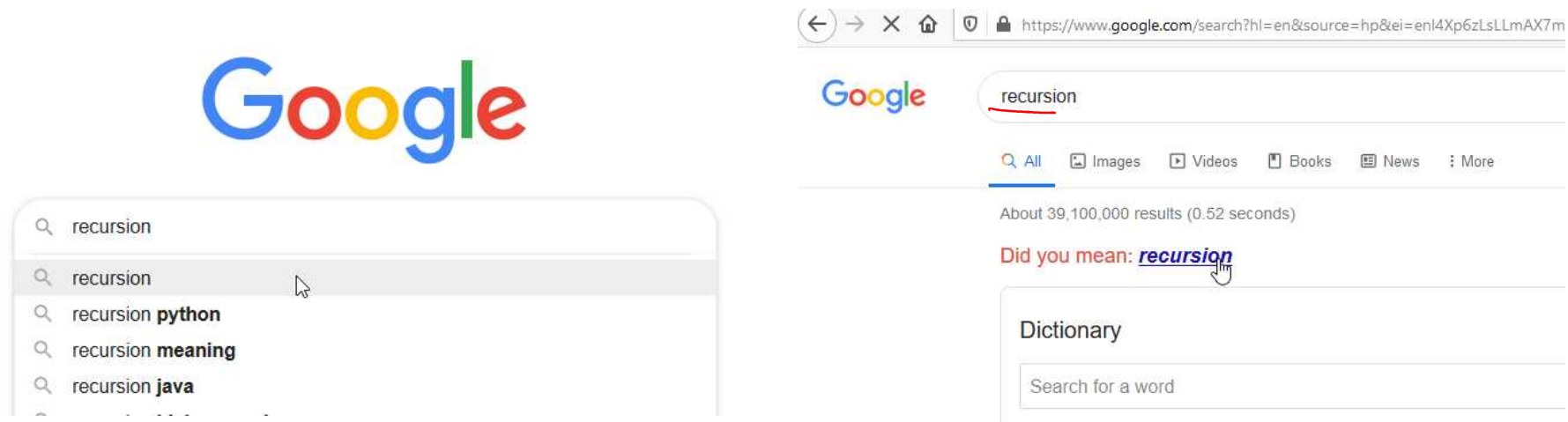
- Parameter do not change:

```
def infinite(n):  
    if n == 1:   
        return 0  
    return 1 + infinite(n)
```

*Handwritten notes:*  $n=1, n=2$   
 $1, 1 +$   
 $1, 1 +$   
 $1, 1$

## More Examples (Not so serious :D)

- To understand recursion, one must first understand recursion
- Google is even in with the fun



- Recursion
- The Coin Problem
- Hanoi Towers

# The Coin Problem

## Problem

Prove that any amount starting from 8 ewans can be paid for using only 3 ewans and 5 ewans.

- $8 = 3 + 5$ ,  $9 = 3 + 3 + 3$ ,  $10 = 5 + 5$ ,  $11 = 3 + 3 + 5$   $\rightarrow$ 
  - looks promising, seems possible
- How to be sure it will always be possible?  $\rightarrow$



## Speculation

- 8 can be definitely ~~be~~ done
  - 11 is also possible by adding one 3 ewan coin
    - $11 = 8 + 3$
    - same principle for 14, 17, 20, etc...
  - Same for 9, keep on adding a 3 ewan coin
    - will give 12, 15, 18, 21, etc
  - Checking 10 ewans, still keep adding 3 ewan coins
    - we'll get 13, 16, 19, 22, etc
- *Speculation* – forming a theory without firm, solid concrete proof or evidence

## Recursive Program

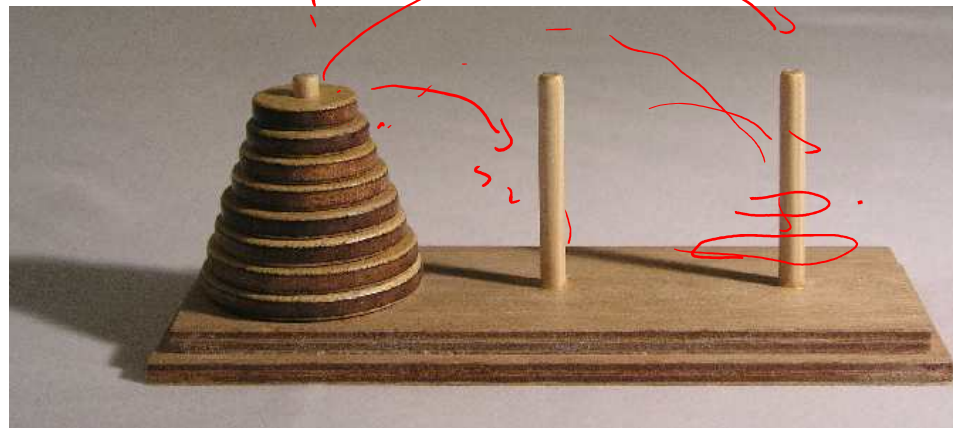
```
def change(amount):  
    assert(amount >= 8)  
    if amount == 8:  
        return [3, 5]  
    if amount == 9:  
        return [3, 3, 3]  
    if amount == 10:  
        return [5, 5]  
  
    coins = change(amount - 3)  
    coins.append(3)  
    return coins
```

- Recursion
- The Coin Problem
- Hanoi Towers

# Hanoi Towers

## Problem

There are 3 sticks with  $n$  discs sorted by size on one of the sticks. The goal is to move all  $n$  disks to another stick subject to 2 constraints: (1) move one disk at a time, and (2) don't put a larger disk over a smaller one.



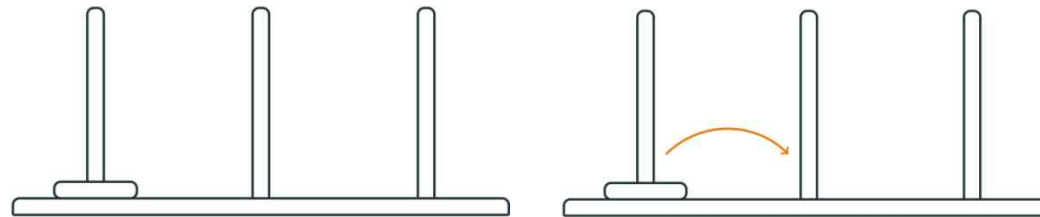
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tower\\_of\\_Hanoi#/media/File:Tower\\_of\\_Hanoi.jpeg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tower_of_Hanoi#/media/File:Tower_of_Hanoi.jpeg)

## Can it be done?

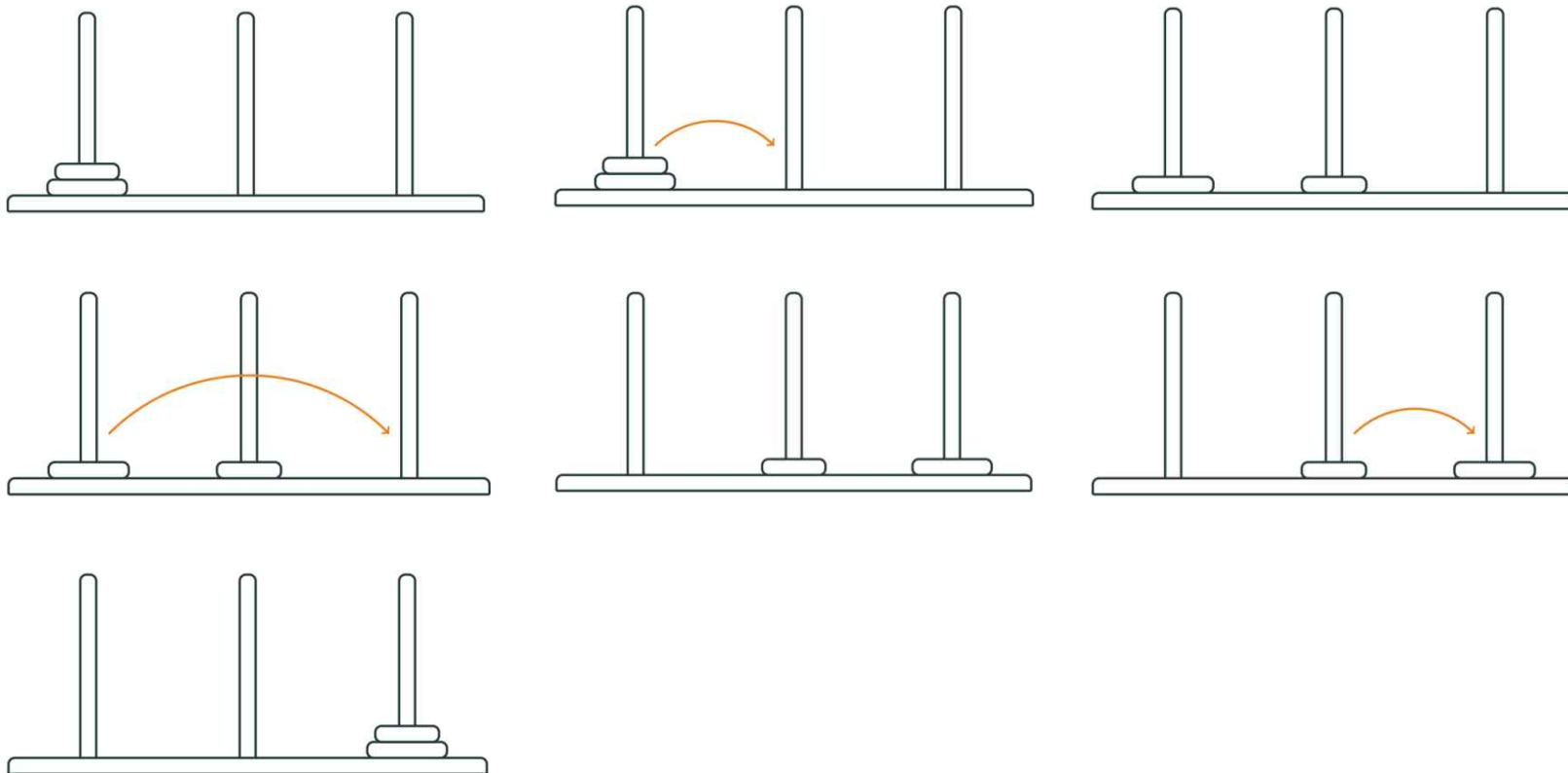
- For what value of  $n$  is this possible?
  - For all!
- How can we be sure?
  - Design a recursive program that will solve the puzzle for every value of  $n$



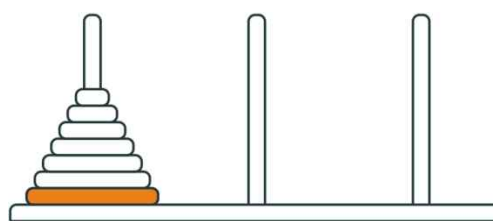
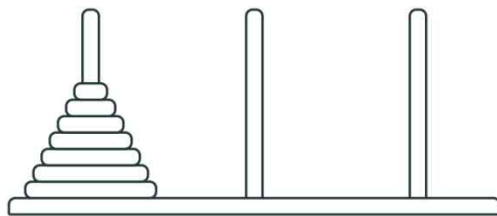
## Simplest scenario, $n=1$ disk



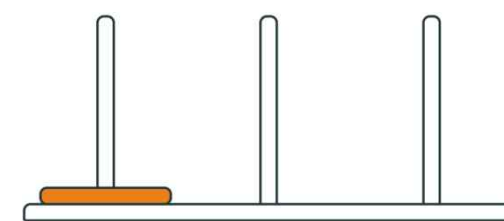
## $n=2$ Disks Scenario



# How about for $n$ disks? Let's speculate

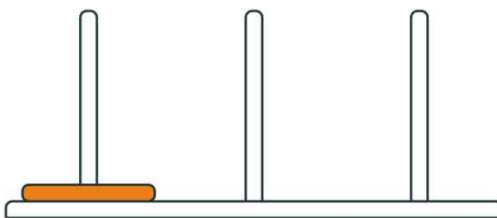


Consider largest disk

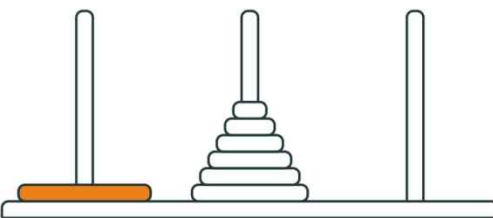


When can we move it?

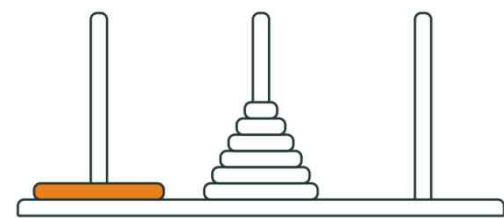
When there are no other disks  
on the main stick



Where can we move it?  
Only to an empty stick



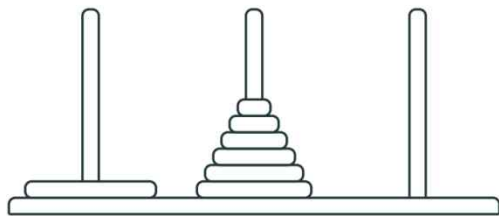
All other disks are on another  
disk



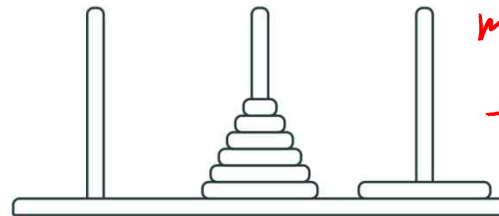
This is same problem,  
just  $n-1$  disks!



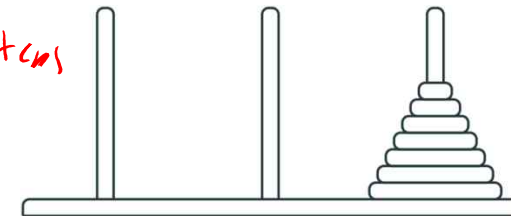
## $n-1$ disks? Let's do it recursively



Move  $n-1$  disks recursively



Move largest disk to free stick



Move  $n-1$  disks recursively until  
done

## Summary

- A solution has been proposed for all values of  $n$ :
  - Base scenario: possible for  $disks = 1$ 
    - • Therefore, it is possible for  $disks = 2$  -
    - Therefore, it is possible for  $disks = 3, \dots$  until  $disks = n$  ✓
  - Or putting it other way, It is possible to solve  $n$ , solve first for  $n-1$ 
    - Therefore, it is possible for  $n - 1$
    - Therefore, it is possible for  $n - 2$ ; ... until  $n = 1$  ✓
- recursion & induction
  - - recursion: method of defining/implementing something
  - - induction: mathematical method of proving something

## Reminder

- Everybody, make sure that your name in ZOOM is in the following format:
  - Ex: 202054321 Juan Dela Cruz

Not changing your name to this format

\* you **will** be marked Absent \* → absent?



Mathematical Thinking – Recursion & Induction

# **MATHEMATICAL INDUCTION**

# Mathematical Induction

- Very powerful method of proving
- Take the case of falling dominos
  - Push 1<sup>st</sup> one, it'll fall & push 2<sup>nd</sup> one
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> one will fall & push 3<sup>rd</sup> one, etc...
  - So on until all dominos fall
- How to prove for  $n$  dominos
  - push  $k^{th} \rightarrow k^{th}$  falls  $\rightarrow$  push  $k+1 \rightarrow k+1$  falls  $\rightarrow \dots \rightarrow$   $n^{th}$  falls
- Lots of Comp Sci algo proved using induction



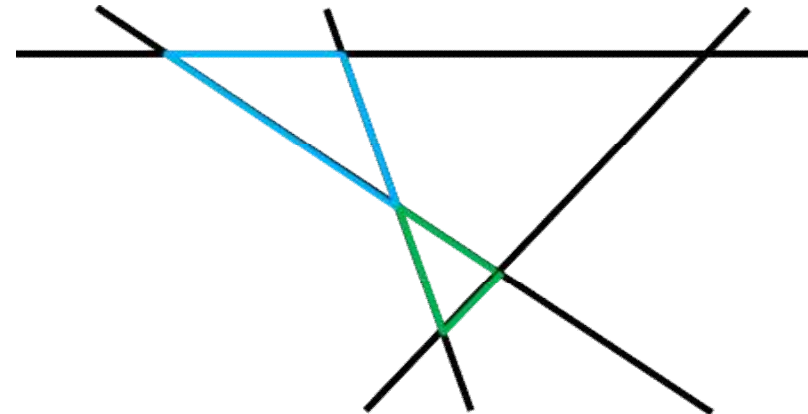
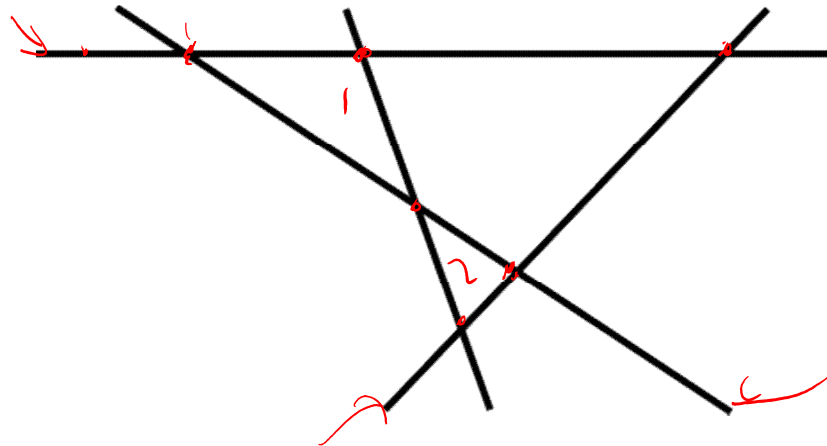
<https://spiritualguidanceforthesoul.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/dominos-04.jpg>

- Lines and Triangles
- Connecting Points
- Sums of Numbers
- Bernoulli's Inequality
- Coins
- Cutting a Triangle
- Flawed Induction Proofs
- Alternating Sum

# Lines & Triangles

## Problem

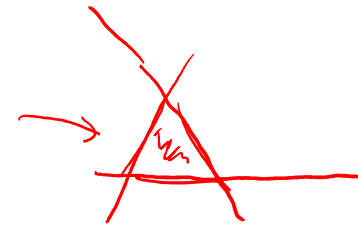
Several straight lines (at least three) cut a plane into pieces. Each line intersects with every other line, and all intersection points are different. Prove that there is at least one triangular piece.



# Lines & Triangles

## Proof Idea

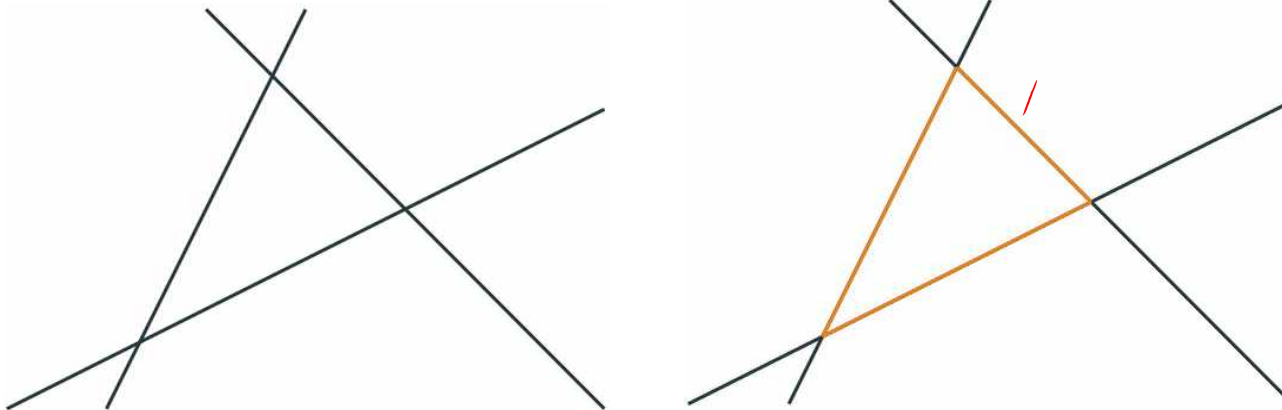
- A triangle appears as soon as there are 3 lines
- Each time we add more lines one at a time,
  - Either the same triangle remains
  - Or a new one is formed





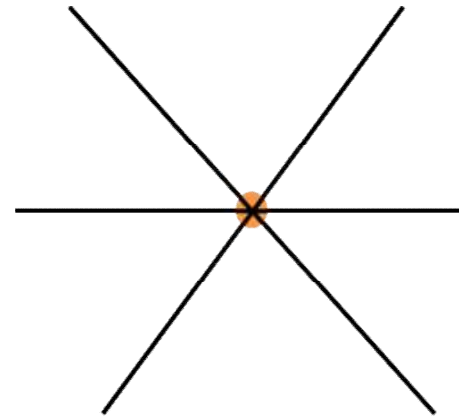
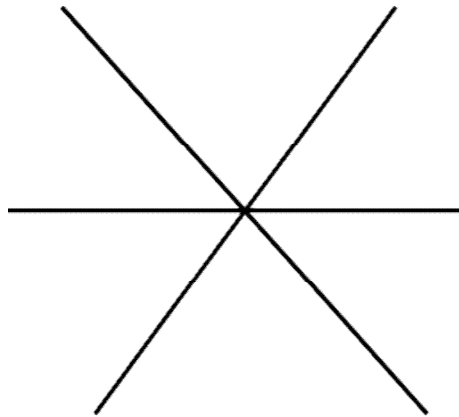
# Lines & Triangles

## Three lines



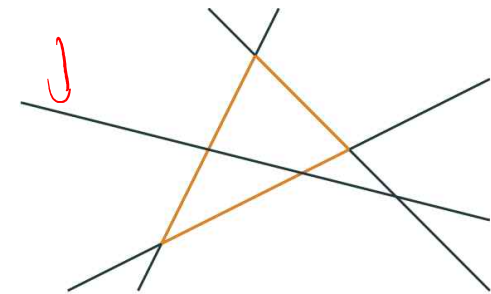
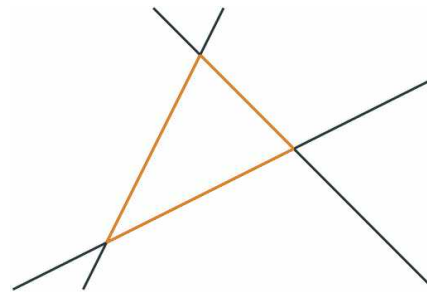
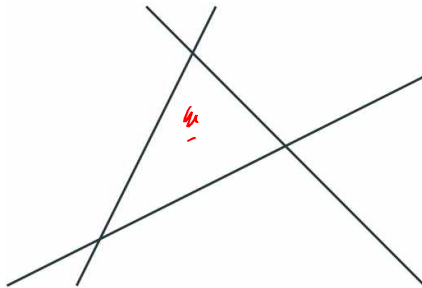
## Lines & Triangles

### Three lines – Bad Case

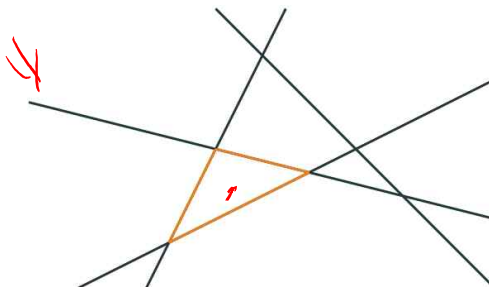


# Lines & Triangles

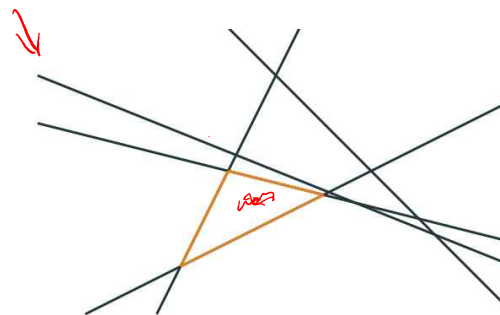
## Three lines – Adding one more line



When new line intersects  
triangle...



When new line intersects  
triangle, a new triangle appears

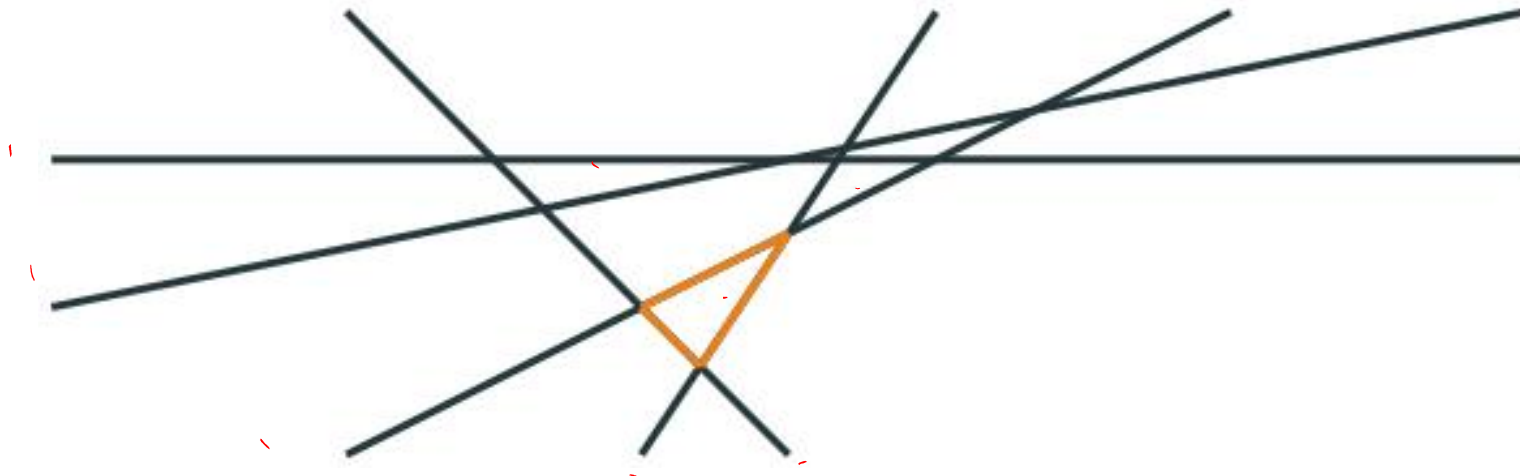


When new line doesn't touch  
existing triangle, the triangle  
remains intact



# Lines & Triangles

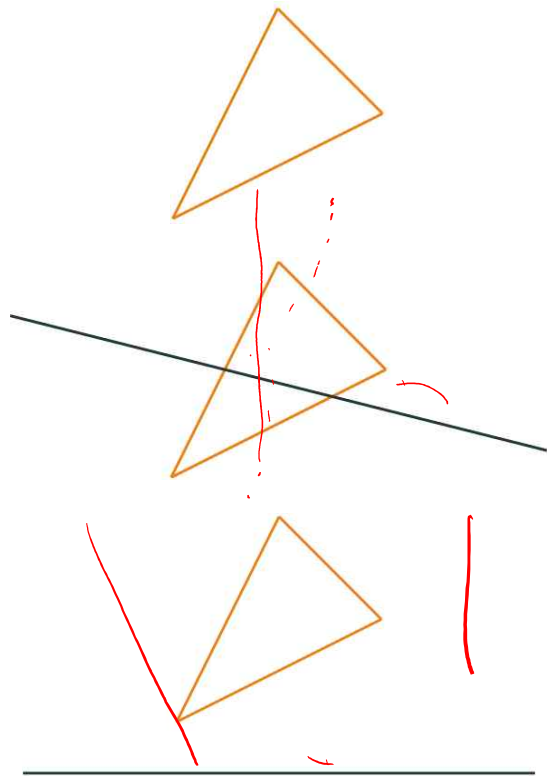
## General Case



With a lot of lines, we might spot the triangle.  
But with thousands of lines, we might not be able to see it.

# Lines & Triangles

## General Case – Adding a line



We assume lot of lines have already been added.  
A triangle has already been formed

When new line intersects 2 sides of the triangle,  
a new triangle appears

When new line doesn't touch existing triangle,  
the triangle remains intact

## Lines & Triangles

### Theorem

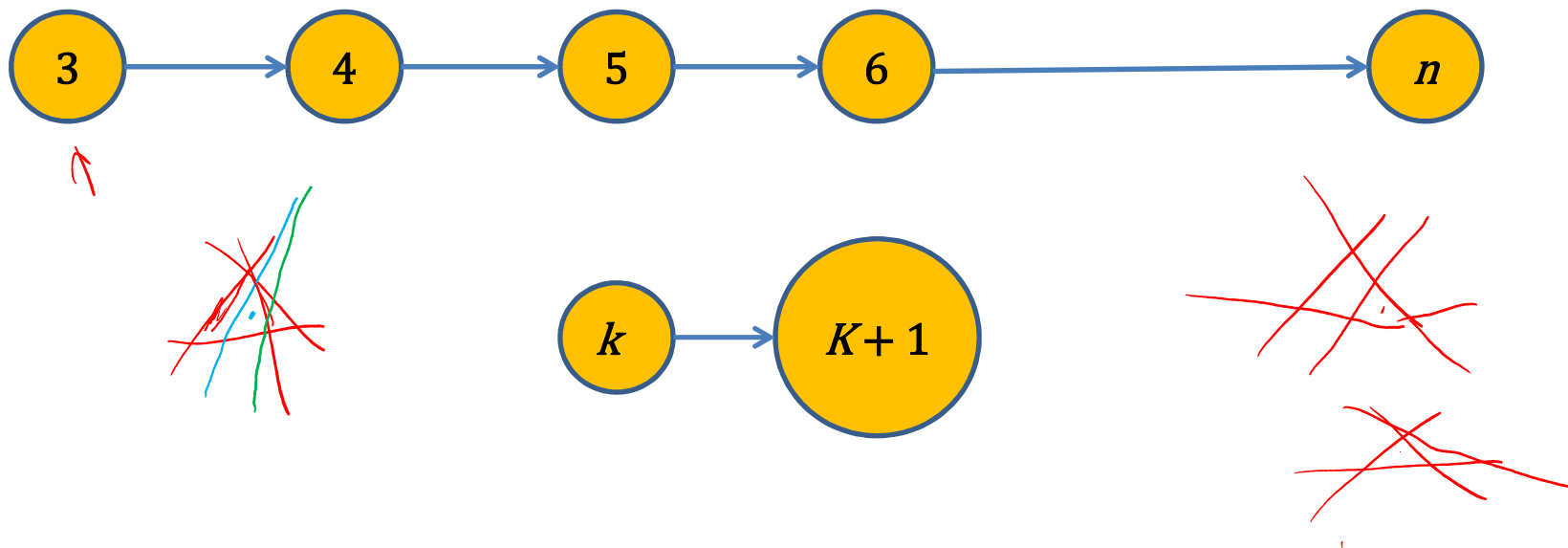
- For any  $n \geq 3$  and  $n$  number of straight lines on a plane, if every two lines intersect, and all the intersection points are different, there is a triangular piece among the pieces into which these lines cut the plane.



# Lines & Triangles

## Proof Structure

Number of lines



## Mathematical Induction

- Prove **induction base**:  $n = 3$ , three lines
- Prove that if theorem is true for  $n = 3$ , then it is true for  $n = 4$
- Prove that if theorem is true for  $n = 4$ , then it is true for  $n = 5$
- ...
- Prove **induction step**: from  $n$  to  $n + 1$ , adding one more line in the general case
- ...
- Profit! (Proved the whole statement)

But wait, we can shorten this, can you see how?



# Mathematical Induction

★ Prove only induction base is  $n = 3$  and prove induction step from  $n$  to  $n+1$  in the general case

- ★
- Prove induction base:  $n = 3$ , three lines
  - Prove induction step: from  $n$  to  $n+1$ , adding one more line in the general case
  - Profit!

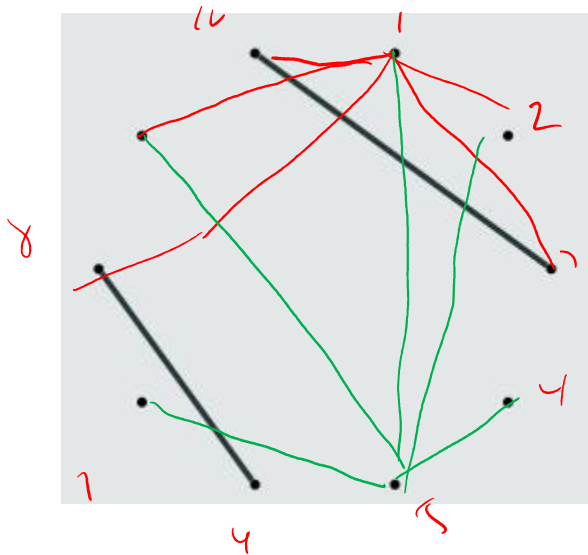
- Lines and Triangles
- **Connecting Points**
- Sums of Numbers
- Bernoulli's Inequality
- Coins
- Cutting a Triangle
- Flawed Induction Proofs
- Alternating Sum



## Connecting Points

### Problem

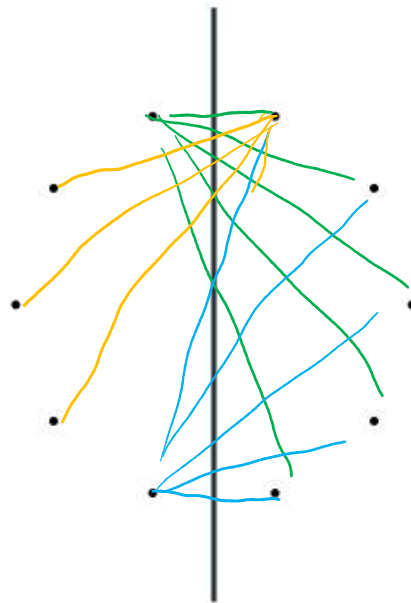
Connect some of these 10 points with segments, such that every point is connected with 5 other points.



## Connecting Points

### Solution

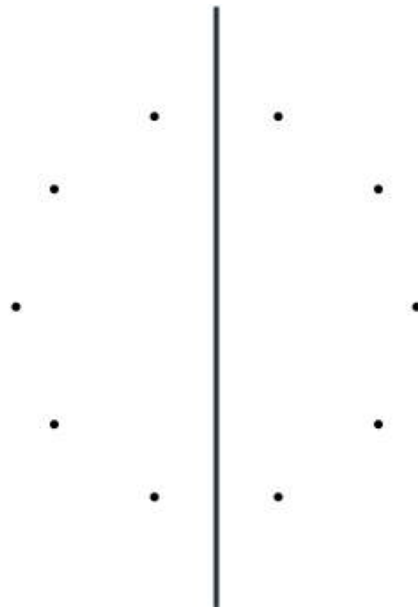
Separate the points into the left half and the right half. Each half has 5 points.



## Connecting Points

### Solution

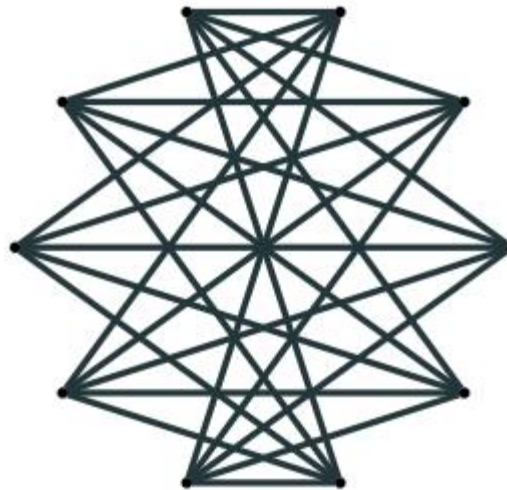
Connect each half from the left half to each point of the right half.



## Connecting Points

### Solution

Connect each half from the left half to each point of the right half.



## Connecting Points

### Problem

Now we have 9 points. Can we connect some of them with segments so that each point is connected with 5 other points?

$\Delta 10 \text{ pts} \rightarrow 5$   
 $+ 9 \text{ pts} \rightarrow 5$



## Connecting Points

### Even and Odd

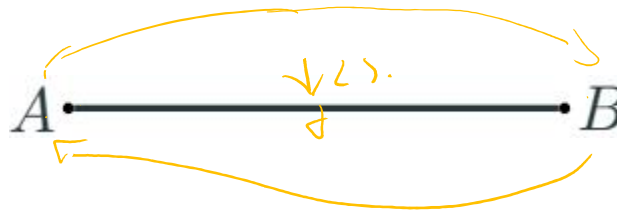
- The numbers 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, ... are called even
  - Even numbers are divisible by 2
- Numbers 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, ... are called odd
  - Odd numbers are not divisible by 2



## Connecting Points

### Neighbors

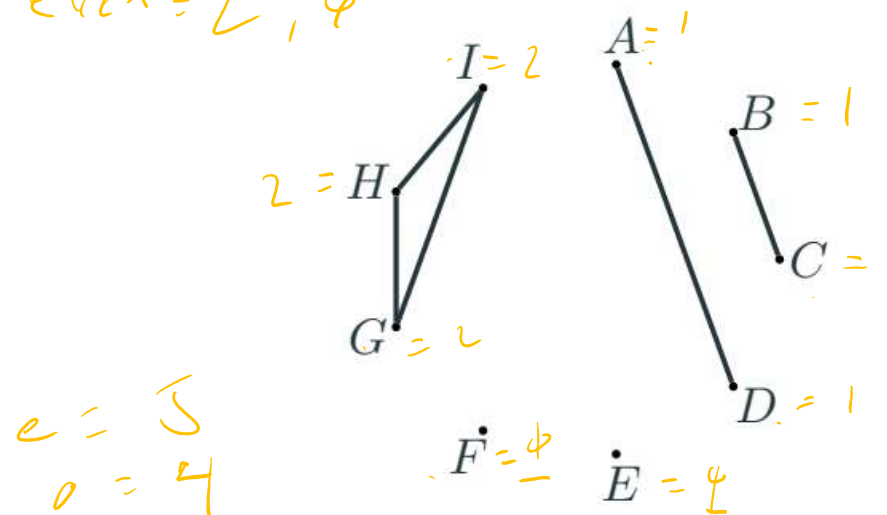
- Let us call point  $B$  the neighbor of point  $A$  if points  $A$  &  $B$  are connected with a segment.
- If point  $B$  is a neighbor of  $A$ , then  $A$  is also a neighbor of  $B$ .



## Connecting Points

### Even and Odd

- Let us call a point even if it has even number of neighbors, otherwise we call it odd.
- For the given example, points A, B, C & D are odd while all the other points are even.



## Connecting Points

### Theorem

- The number of odd points is always even, regardless of how many points & segments are there and which pairs are connected by segments.

$$\# \text{ odd pts} = \text{even} \quad ; \quad n \text{ pts}, m \text{ segments}$$

## Connecting Points

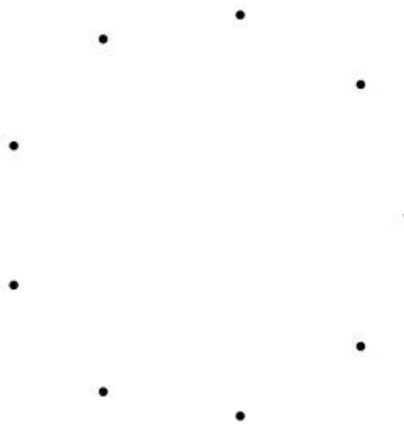
### Proof Idea

- When there are no segments, there are no odd points (recall 0 is even), so the number of odd points is indeed even.
- When we add segments one by one, the number of odd points either doesn't change, increases by 2 or decreases by 2. hence the number of odd points stays even.

## Connecting Points

### Easy Case

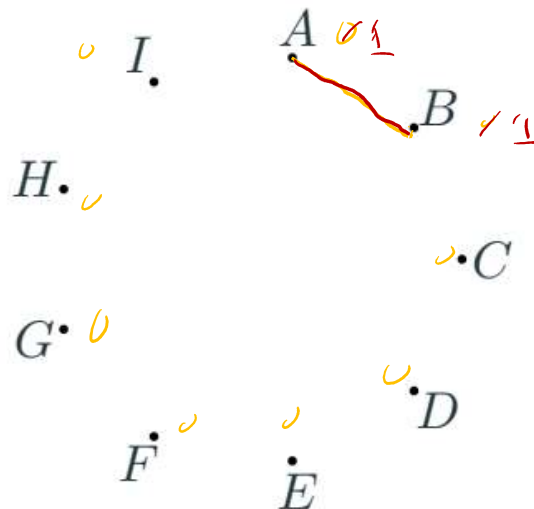
- When there are no segments, each point has 0 neighbors, hence there are no odd points. The number of odd points is 0, which is even, hence there is indeed an even number of points.



## Connecting Points

### Adding a Segment

- Segment  $AB$  adds two odd points  $A$  &  $B$ .

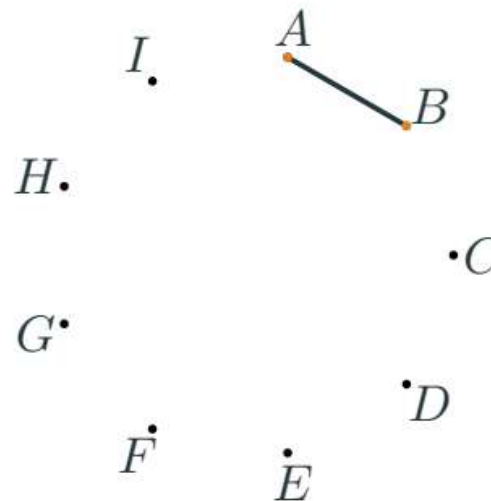


✎ No of odd points: 0

## Connecting Points

### Adding a Segment

- Segment  $AB$  adds two odd points  $A$  &  $B$ .

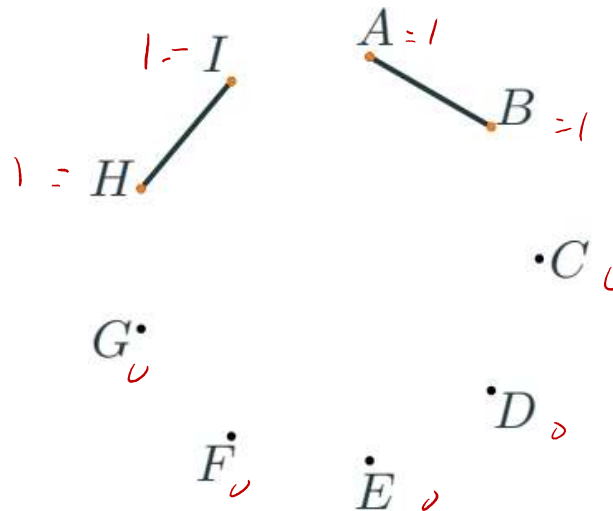


No of odd points: 2

## Connecting Points

### Adding a Segment

- Segment  $HI$  adds two odd points  $H$  &  $I$ .



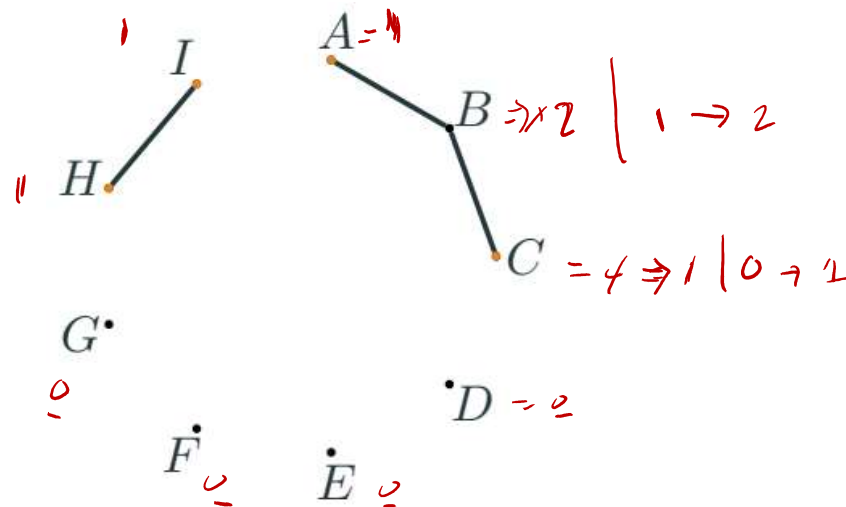
No of odd points: 4



## Connecting Points

### Adding a Segment

- Segment  $BC$  makes  $B$  even and  $C$  odd.

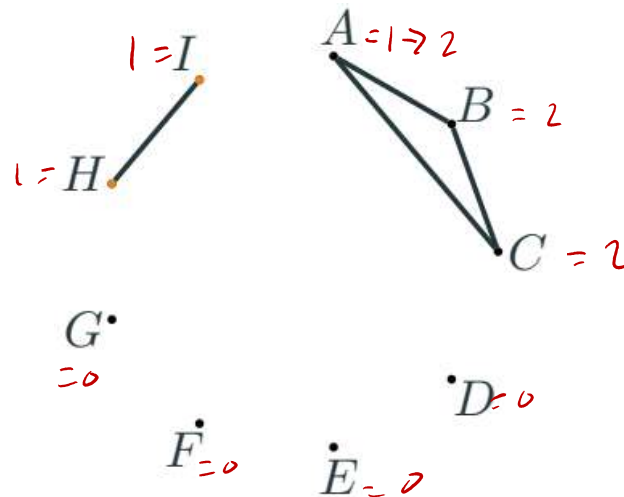


No of odd points: 4

## Connecting Points

### Adding a Segment

- Segment  $AC$  makes  $A$  and  $C$  even.

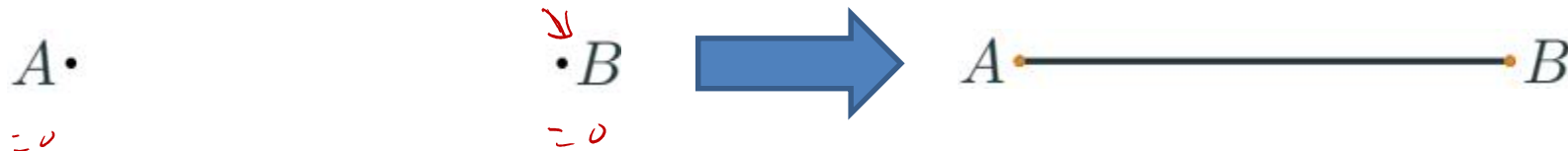


No of odd points: 2

## Connecting Points

### Adding a Segment in General

- If  $A$  &  $B$  are even, segment  $AB$  makes them both odd and adds 2 odd points.



\*Note:

- $A \bullet$ : represents **even** point
- $A \circ$ : represents **odd** point

## Connecting Points

### Adding a Segment in General

- If  $A$  &  $B$  are odd, segment  $AB$  makes them both even and removes 2 odd points.



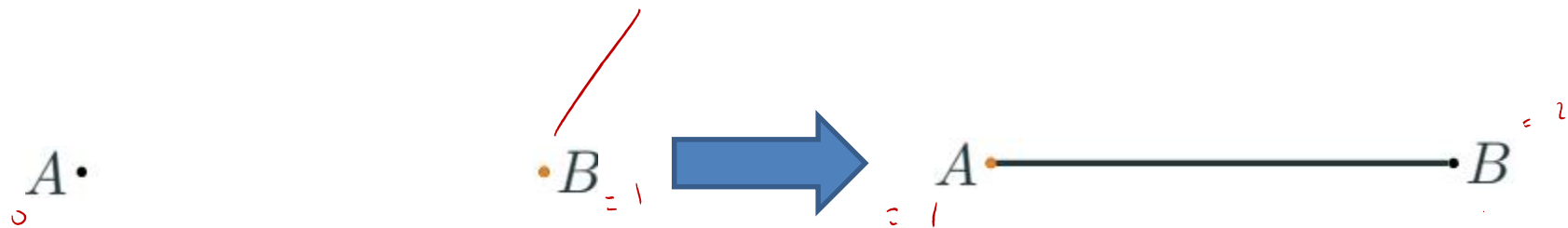
\*Note:

- $A\bullet$ : represents even point
- $A\circ$ : represents odd point

## Connecting Points

### Adding a Segment in General

- If  $A$  is even &  $B$  is odd, segment  $AB$  swaps their status, keeping number of odd points the same.



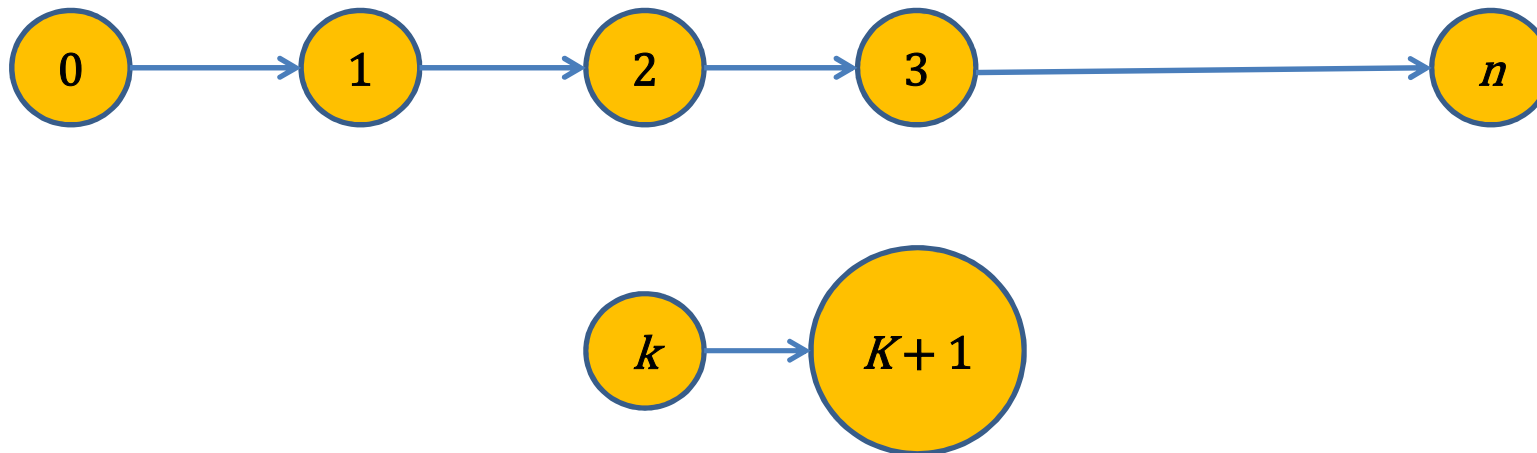
\*Note:

- A●: represents **even** point
- A○: represents **odd** point

# Connecting Points

## Proof Structure

Number of segments



# Mathematical Induction

- Prove induction base:  $n = 0$ , no segments  $\Rightarrow$
- Prove that if theorem is true for  $n = 0$ , then it is true for  $n = 1$
- Prove that if theorem is true for  $n = 1$ , then it is true for  $n = 2$
- ...
- Prove induction step: from  $n$  to  $n + 1$ , adding one more line in the general case
- ...
- Profit!



# Mathematical Induction

- Prove **induction base**:  $n = 0$ , no segments
- Prove **induction step**: from  $n$  to  $n + 1$ , adding one more line in the general case
- ...
- Profit!



**Thank you.**