

Three Point Situation, 1-Position Proof, Case 8

We want to prove the following proposition:

$$P(n) : (0, \quad 6n + 8, \quad 0) \cong *1 \text{ where } n \geq 0$$

We will use strong induction to prove the above statement.

Base Cases:

Using our program, we have verified that $P(n)$ holds for $n \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$.

The fact that $(0, \quad 2, \quad 0) \cong *1$ will also be useful.

Induction Hypothesis:

Assume for some $k \geq 1$ that $\forall n < k$, $P(n)$ holds.

Induction Step:

We need to prove that $P(k)$ holds. In other words, we need to show:

$$(0, \quad 6k + 8, \quad 0) \cong *1$$

Simplifying the problem,

To show that $(0, \quad 6k + 8, \quad 0)$ has number 1, it suffices to show the following:

1. In one move, we can reach a state with number 0
2. In one move, we cannot reach a state with number 1

Looking at the initial state's children,

Notice that in one move from the original state we can reach any state of the form:

$$(m, \quad 6k + 8 - m, \quad 0) \text{ where } 1 \leq m \leq 3k + 4$$

the remaining states that we can reach from the original state are of the form:

$$(0, \quad 6k + 8 - m, \quad m) \text{ where } 1 \leq m \leq 3k + 4$$

Since the latter form is symmetric to the former, focusing our analysis on the former is enough to complete the proof.

When $m = 3k + 4$:

Observe that when $m = 3k + 4$, we obtain the state $(3k + 4, \quad 3k + 4, \quad 0)$ which clearly has number 0, so we have proved the first fact we need.

When m is odd and $1 \leq m \leq 2k + 2$:

When m is an odd number satisfying $1 \leq m \leq 2k + 2$, notice that

$$(m + 1, \quad 3k + 4 - \frac{m+1}{2}, \quad 3k + 4 - \frac{m+1}{2}) \cong *0$$

Work one step backwards from this to get

$$(m, \quad 3k + 5 - \frac{m+1}{2}, \quad 3k + 4 - \frac{m+1}{2}) \cong *1$$

Observe that

$$(m, \quad 6k + 8 - m, \quad 0) \xrightarrow{\text{one move}} (m, \quad 3k + 5 - \frac{m+1}{2}, \quad 3k + 4 - \frac{m+1}{2})$$

It follows that the minimum excluded value of the numbers of all the child states of $(m, \quad 6k + 8 - m, \quad 0)$ cannot be 1, and thus the number of this state cannot be 1.

When m is even and $1 \leq m \leq 2k + 2$:

When m is an even number satisfying $1 \leq m \leq 2k + 2$, observe that

$$(m, \quad 6k + 8 - m, \quad 0) \xrightarrow{\text{one move}} (m, \quad 6k + 8 - 2m, \quad m)$$

We can replace m with $2i$ where $1 \leq i \leq k + 1$ to get

$$(2i, \quad 6k + 8 - 2i, \quad 0) \xrightarrow{\text{one move}} (2i, \quad 6k + 8 - 4i, \quad 2i)$$

In the resultant state, the difference between the left and middle values, also the difference between the right and middle values, is

$$6(k - i) + 8$$

Which intuitively suggests that

$$(2i, \quad 6k + 8 - 4i, \quad 2i) \cong (0, \quad 6(k - i) + 8, \quad 0) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq k + 1$$

and although we lack a rigorous argument for this we will assume it is true.

Our knowledge that $(0, \quad 2, \quad 0) \cong *1$ and also our induction hypothesis, tell us:

$$(0, \quad 6(k - i) + 8, \quad 0) \cong *1 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq k + 1$$

Consequently, $(2i, \quad 6k + 8 - 4i, \quad 2i) \cong *1$.

It follows that the minimum excluded value of the numbers of all the child states of $(m, \quad 6k + 8 - m, \quad 0)$ cannot be 1, and thus the number of this state cannot be 1.

When $m \geq 2k + 3$:

If $m \geq 2k + 3$, it is clear that

$$(m, \quad m, \quad 6k + 8 - 2m) \cong *0$$

Working backwards from this, we get that

$$(m, \quad m + 1, \quad 6k + 7 - 2m) \cong *1$$

We know that

$$(m, \quad 6k + 8 - m, \quad 0) \xrightarrow{\text{one move}} (m, \quad m + 1, \quad 6k + 7 - 2m)$$

It follows that the minimum excluded value of the numbers of all the child states of $(m, \quad 6k + 8 - m, \quad 0)$ cannot be 1, and thus the number of this state cannot be 1.

Conclusion:

1 must be the mex of the numbers of the children of $(0, \quad 6k + 8, \quad 0)$, so we have proved that $(0, \quad 6k + 8, \quad 0) \cong *1$.

Three Point Situation, 1-Position Proof, Case 6

Assume the same inductive ‘skeleton’ and reasoning style as the previous case. This proof is mainly an illustration of the differences between the two cases:

Consider the initial position

$$(0, \quad 6n + 6, \quad 0) \quad \text{where } n \geq 0$$

The first move will take the initial position to a position of the form

$$(m, \quad 6n + 6 - m, \quad 0) \quad \text{where } 1 \leq m \leq 3n + 3$$

If $m = 3n$:

This is the state $(3n, \quad 3n, \quad 0)$ which clearly has number 0.

If $m \leq 2n + 2$ and m is odd:

Then, consider the following move sequence,

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 6 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad 3n + 4 - \frac{m+1}{2}, \quad 3n + 3 - \frac{m+1}{2}) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{only child}} & (m + 1, \quad 3n + 3 - \frac{m+1}{2}, \quad 3n + 3 - \frac{m+1}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

If $m \leq 2n + 2$ and m is even:

Consider the following move sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 6 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad 6n + 6 - 2m, \quad m) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6n + 6 - 3m, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

Since m is even, we can write it as $2i$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} & (0, \quad 6n + 6 - 3m, \quad 0) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6n + 6 - 6i, \quad 0) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6(n - i) + 6, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

By our induction hypothesis, $(0, \quad 6(n - i) + 6, \quad 0)$ has number 1.

If $m \geq 2n + 3$:

The move sequence below works:

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 6 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad m + 1, \quad 6n + 5 - 2m) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{only child}} & (m, \quad m, \quad 6n + 6 - 2m) \end{aligned}$$

Which provides us with everything we need to fill in the proof skeleton.

Three Point Situation, 1-Position Proof, Case 10

Assume the same inductive ‘skeleton’ and reasoning style as the previous case. This proof is mainly an illustration of the differences between the two cases:

Consider the initial position

$$(0, \quad 6n + 10, \quad 0) \quad \text{where } n \geq 0$$

The first move will take the initial position to a position of the form

$$(m, \quad 6n + 6 - m, \quad 0) \quad \text{where } 1 \leq m \leq 3n + 3$$

If $m = 3n$:

This is the state $(3n, \quad 3n, \quad 0)$ which clearly has number 0.

If $m \leq 2n + 3$ and m is odd:

Then, consider the following move sequence,

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 10 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad 3n + 6 - \frac{m+1}{2}, \quad 3n + 5 - \frac{m+1}{2}) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{only child}} & (m + 1, \quad 3n + 5 - \frac{m+1}{2}, \quad 3n + 5 - \frac{m+1}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

If $m \leq 2n + 3$ and m is even:

Consider the following move sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 10 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad 6n + 10 - 2m, \quad m) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6n + 10 - 3m, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

Since m is even, we can write it as $2i$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} & (0, \quad 6n + 10 - 3m, \quad 0) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6n + 10 - 6i, \quad 0) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6(n - i) + 10, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

By our induction hypothesis, $(0, \quad 6(n - i) + 10, \quad 0)$ has number 1.

If $m \geq 2n + 4$:

The move sequence below works:

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 10 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad m + 1, \quad 6n + 9 - 2m) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{only child}} & (m, \quad m, \quad 6n + 10 - 2m) \end{aligned}$$

Which provides us with everything we need to fill in the proof skeleton.

Three Point Situation, 1-Position Proof, Case 7

Consider the initial position

$$(0, \quad 6n + 6, \quad 0) \quad \text{where } n \geq 0$$

The first move brings $(0, \quad 6n + 7, \quad 0)$ to a state of the form $(m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0)$, where $1 \leq m \leq 3n + 3$.
If $m = 3n + 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} & (3n + 3, \quad 3n + 4, \quad 0) \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{only child}} (3n + 3, \quad 3n + 3, \quad 1) \end{aligned}$$

If $m \leq 2n + 2$ and m is odd:

Then, consider the following move sequence,

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0) \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} (m, \quad \frac{6n+7-m}{2}, \quad \frac{6n+7-m}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

If $m \leq 2n + 2$ and m is even:

Consider the following move sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0) \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} (m, \quad 6n + 7 - 2m, \quad m) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6n + 7 - 3m, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

Since m is odd, we can write it as $2i$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} & (0, \quad 6n + 7 - 3m, \quad 0) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6n + 7 - 6i, \quad 0) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6(n - i) + 7, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

By our induction hypothesis, $(0, \quad 6(n - i) + 6, \quad 0)$ has number 0.

If $m \geq 2n + 3$:

The move sequence below works:

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0) \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} (m, \quad m, \quad 6n + 7 - 2m) \end{aligned}$$

Which provides us with everything we need to fill in the proof skeleton.

Three Point Situation, 1-Position Proof, Case 9

Consider the initial position

$$(0, \quad 6n + 6, \quad 0) \quad \text{where } n \geq 0$$

The first move brings $(0, \quad 6n + 7, \quad 0)$ to a state of the form $(m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0)$, where $1 \leq m \leq 3n + 3$.
If $m = 3n + 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} & (3n + 3, \quad 3n + 4, \quad 0) \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{only child}} (3n + 3, \quad 3n + 3, \quad 1) \end{aligned}$$

If $m \leq 2n + 2$ and m is odd:

Then, consider the following move sequence,

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0) \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} (m, \quad \frac{6n+7-m}{2}, \quad \frac{6n+7-m}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

If $m \leq 2n + 2$ and m is even:

Consider the following move sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - 2m, \quad m) \\ & \cong (0, \quad 6n + 7 - 3m, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

Since m is odd, we can write it as $2i$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} & (0, \quad 6n + 7 - 3m, \quad 0) \\ \cong & (0, \quad 6n + 7 - 6i, \quad 0) \\ \cong & (0, \quad 6(n - i) + 7, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

By our induction hypothesis, $(0, \quad 6(n - i) + 6, \quad 0)$ has number 0.

If $m \geq 2n + 3$:

The move sequence below works:

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad m, \quad 6n + 7 - 2m) \end{aligned}$$

Which provides us with everything we need to fill in the proof skeleton.

Three Point Situation, 1-Position Proof, Case 11

Consider the initial position

$$(0, \quad 6n + 6, \quad 0) \text{ where } n \geq 0$$

The first move brings $(0, \quad 6n + 7, \quad 0)$ to a state of the form $(m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0)$, where $1 \leq m \leq 3n + 3$.

If $m = 3n + 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} & (3n + 3, \quad 3n + 4, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{only child}} & (3n + 3, \quad 3n + 3, \quad 1) \end{aligned}$$

If $m \leq 2n + 2$ and m is odd:

Then, consider the following move sequence,

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad \frac{6n+7-m}{2}, \quad \frac{6n+7-m}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

If $m \leq 2n + 2$ and m is even:

Consider the following move sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & (m, \quad 6n + 7 - 2m, \quad m) \\ \cong & (0, \quad 6n + 7 - 3m, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

Since m is odd, we can write it as $2i$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} & (0, \quad 6n + 7 - 3m, \quad 0) \\ \cong & (0, \quad 6n + 7 - 6i, \quad 0) \\ \cong & (0, \quad 6(n - i) + 7, \quad 0) \end{aligned}$$

By our induction hypothesis, $(0, \quad 6(n-i)+6, \quad 0)$ has nimber 0.

If $m \geq 2n+3$:

The move sequence below works:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & (m, \quad 6n+7-m, \quad 0) \\ \xrightarrow{\text{one possible child}} & & (m, \quad m, \quad 6n+7-2m) \end{array}$$

Which provides us with everything we need to fill in the proof skeleton.