

Each problem is restated and followed by my solution to the problem, indicated by the “ $\hookrightarrow$ ” symbol. For multi-part problems, my solutions are placed directly following the statement of the relevant part and preceeding the statement of the next part.

1. Prove that for all  $n \geq 1$ :  $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2$ . Do this twice:

a. Using form IIa of the induction step.

$\hookrightarrow$  **Proof.** For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , let  $P(n)$  be the above proposition.

I. BASE Notice that  $\sum_{i=1}^1 i^3 = 1^3 = 1 = 1^2 = \frac{1^2 \cdot 2^2}{2^2} = \left(\frac{1 \cdot 2}{2}\right)^2$ , so  $P(1)$  is true.

IIa. INDUCTION Let  $n \geq 1$  be arbitrarily chosen. Assume for this particular  $n$  that  $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2$ . We must show that  $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} i^3 = \left(\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}\right)^2$ . In the following algebraic manipulations, we start with the left-hand side and derive the right-hand side.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} i^3 &= (n+1)^3 + \sum_{i=1}^n i^3 && \text{from the definition of summation} \\ &= (n+1)^3 + \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2 && \text{by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \frac{4(n+1)^3}{4} + \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)^2[4(n+1) + n^2]}{4} = \frac{n^2(n^2 + 4n + 4)}{4} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)^2(n+2)^2}{4} = \left(\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}\right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

So we have shown that  $P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$ .

By the First Principle of Mathematical Induction, it follows that  $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2$  holds for all positive integers  $n$ .

b. Using form IIb of the induction step.

$\hookrightarrow$  **Proof.** For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , let  $P(n)$  be the above proposition.

I. BASE Notice that  $\sum_{i=1}^1 i^3 = 1^3 = 1 = 1^2 = \frac{1^2 \cdot 2^2}{2^2} = \left(\frac{1 \cdot 2}{2}\right)^2$ , so  $P(1)$  is true.

IIb. INDUCTION Let  $n > 1$  be arbitrarily chosen. Assume for this particular  $n$  that  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} i^3 =$

$\left(\frac{(n-1)n}{2}\right)^2$ . We must show that  $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2$ . In the following algebraic manipulations, we start with the left-hand side and derive the right-hand side.

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 &= n^3 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} i^3 && \text{from the definition of summation} \\
&= n^3 + \left(\frac{(n-1)n}{2}\right)^2 && \text{by the induction hypothesis} \\
&= \frac{4n^3}{4} + \frac{(n-1)^2 n^2}{4} \\
&= \frac{n^2[4n + (n-1)^2]}{4} = \frac{n^2(n^2 + 2n + 1)}{4} \\
&= \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4} = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2
\end{aligned}$$

So we have shown that  $P(n-1) \rightarrow P(n)$ .

By the First Principle of Mathematical Induction, it follows that  $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2$  holds for all positive integers  $n$ .

2. Define  $S(n)$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  by the recurrence:

$$S(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ S(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1 & \text{if } n \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

Prove that  $S(n) \geq \lg(n)$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , and hence  $S(n) = \Omega(\lg n)$ .

$\hookrightarrow$  **Proof.** For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , let  $P(n)$  be the proposition “ $S(n) \geq \lg(n)$ ”.

I. BASE We must show that  $S(1) \geq \lg(1)$ . This inequality simply asserts that  $0 \geq 0$ , which is true because  $0 = 0$ . Hence  $P(1)$  is true.

II. INDUCTION Let  $n > 1$  be arbitrarily chosen and assume for all  $k$  in the range  $1 \leq k < n$  that  $S(k) \geq \lg(k)$ . We must show that  $S(n) \geq \lg(n)$ . So

$$\begin{aligned}
S(n) &= S(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1 && \text{by the definition of } S(n) \\
&\geq \lg(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + 1 && \text{by the IH with } k = \lceil n/2 \rceil \\
&\geq \lg(n/2) + 1 && \text{since } \lg x \text{ is increasing} \\
&= \lg(n) - \lg(2) + 1 \\
&= \lg(n)
\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $S(n) \geq \lg(n)$ , so  $[P(1) \wedge \dots \wedge P(n-1)] \rightarrow P(n)$ .

By the Second Principle of Mathematical Induction, we have  $S(n) \geq \lg(n)$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . Because  $S(n) \geq 0$ , we conclude that  $S(n) = \Omega(\lg n)$ .

3. Let  $T(n)$  be defined by the recurrence formula:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & n = 1 \\ T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n^2 & n \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

Show that  $\forall n \geq 1 : T(n) \leq \frac{4}{3}n^2$ , and hence  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ .

$\hookrightarrow$  **Proof.** For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , let  $P(n)$  be the proposition “ $T(n) \leq \frac{4}{3}n^2$ ”.

I. BASE Since  $T(1) = 0 \leq \frac{4}{3} = \frac{4}{3}(1)^2$ , we know that  $P(1)$  is true.

II. INDUCTION Let  $n > 1$  be chosen arbitrarily and assume for all  $k$  in the range  $1 \leq k < n$  that  $T(k) \leq \frac{4}{3}k^2$ . We must show that  $T(n) \leq \frac{4}{3}n^2$ . We have that

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n^2 && \text{from the definition of } T(n) \\ &\leq \frac{4}{3}(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor)^2 + n^2 && \text{by the IH with } \lfloor n/2 \rfloor \\ &\leq \frac{4}{3}(n/2)^2 + n^2 && \text{since } x^2 \text{ is increasing} \\ &= \frac{1}{3}n^2 + n^2 = \frac{4}{3}n^2 \end{aligned}$$

We have now shown that  $T(n) \leq \frac{4}{3}n^2$ , which means that  $[P(1) \wedge \cdots \wedge P(n-1)] \rightarrow P(n)$ .

From the Second PMI, we have shown that  $T(n) \leq \frac{4}{3}n^2$  for all integers  $n \geq 1$ . It follows that  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ .

4. Let  $T(n)$  be defined by the recurrence formula:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 2 & n = 1, 2 \\ 9T(\lfloor n/3 \rfloor) + 1 & n \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

Show that  $\forall n \geq 1 : T(n) \leq 3n^2 - 1$ , and hence  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ .

$\hookrightarrow$  **Proof.** For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , let  $P(n)$  be the proposition “ $T(n) \leq 3n^2 - 1$ ”.

I. BASE Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} T(1) &= 2 \leq 2 = 3 - 1 = 3(1)^1 - 1 && \text{and} \\ T(2) &= 2 \leq 11 = 12 - 1 = 3(4) - 1 = 3(2)^2 - 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $P(1)$  and  $P(2)$  both hold.

II. INDUCTION Let  $n > 2$  be arbitrarily chosen. Assume for all  $k$  in the range  $1 \leq k < n$  that  $T(k) \leq 3k^2 - 1$ . In particular, we have assumed that  $T(\lfloor n/3 \rfloor) \leq 3\lfloor n/3 \rfloor^2 - 1$ . We must show that  $T(n) \leq 3n^2 - 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 9T(\lfloor n/3 \rfloor) + 1 && \text{by the definition of } T(n) \\ &\leq 9(3\lfloor n/3 \rfloor^2 - 1) + 1 && \text{by the IH with } k = \lfloor n/3 \rfloor \\ &= 27\lfloor n/3 \rfloor^2 - 8 \\ &\leq 27(n/3)^2 - 8 && \text{since } 27x^2 - 8 \text{ is increasing} \\ &= 3n^2 - 8 \\ &\leq 3n^2 - 1 && \text{since } -8 \leq -1 \end{aligned}$$

So we have shown that  $[P(1) \wedge \cdots \wedge P(n-1)] \rightarrow P(n)$ .

By the Second PMI, we conclude that  $T(n) \leq 3n^2 - 1$  for all positive integers  $n$ , which implies that  $T(n) = O(n^2)$ .

5. Let  $g(n)$  be an asymptotically non-negative function. Prove that  $o(g(n)) \cap \Omega(g(n)) = \emptyset$ .

$\hookrightarrow$  Suppose that there exists a function  $f(n) = o(g(n)) \cap \Omega(g(n))$ . That is, suppose that for all positive constants  $c_1$  there exist positive constants  $c_2$  and  $n_0$  such that the following inequalities hold for all  $n \geq n_0$ :

$$0 \leq f(n) < c_1 g(n) \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq c_2 g(n) \leq f(n)$$

Combining these, we obtain the chain of inequalities

$$0 \leq c_2 g(n) \leq f(n) < c_1 g(n)$$

However, in the case  $c_1 = c_2$ , these inequalities cannot both be satisfied:  $c_2 g(n) \leq f(n)$  cannot be true at the same time as  $c_2 g(n) > f(n)$ . From this contradiction, we reject our supposition that such a function exists. Thus  $o(g(n)) \cap \Omega(g(n)) = \emptyset$ .