

## Proof Technique-3.

Wednesday, September 16, 2020 8:45 AM

### Proof by cases / Exhaustive proof

Proof-15 Need to verify the inequality  $(n+1)^3 \geq 3^n$  when  $n = 1, 2, 3$ , and  $4$ .

Proof-16 We can prove this fact by examining all positive integers  $n$  not exceeding  $150$ , first checking if  $n$  is a perfect power and whether  $(n+1)$  is also a perfect power.

### Proof-17

$$\mathbb{I} \in (-\infty, +\infty)$$

We can prove that  $n^2 \geq n$  for every integer by considering three cases:

$$(1) n=0; (2) n \geq 1; (3) n \leq -1.$$

Case (1): When  $n=0$ , because  $0^2=0$ , we see that  $0^2 \geq 0$ . It follows that  $n^2 \geq n$ .

Case (2): When  $n \geq 1$ , we multiply both sides of the inequality  $n \geq 1$  by positive integer  $n$ . We obtain  $n \cdot n \geq n \cdot 1$ . This implies that  $n^2 \geq n$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

Case (3): In this case  $n \leq -1$ . However, we know that  $n^2 \geq 0$ . It follows that  $n^2 \geq n$ .

Case (-) In this case that  $n \geq 0$ . It follows that  $n^2 \geq n$ .

Proof

$$|a| = \begin{cases} a, & a \geq 0 \\ -a, & a < 0. \end{cases}$$

Four cases: (i)  $x$  and  $y$  are both ~~positive~~; (ii)  $x$  is non-negative and  $y$  is negative; (iii)  $x$  is negative and  $y$  is non-negative; (iv)  $x$  and  $y$  are both negative.

Case (i):  $p_1 \rightarrow q$  because  $xy \geq 0$  when  $n \geq 0$  and  $y \geq 0$ , so that  $|xy| = |x| \cdot |y|$ .

Case (ii): To see that  $p_2 \rightarrow q$ , note that if  $x \geq 0$  and  $y < 0$ , then  $xy \leq 0$ , so that  $|xy| = -xy = x \cdot (-y) = |x| \cdot |y|$ .

Case (iii): To see that  $p_3 \rightarrow q$ , we follow the same reasoning as case (i).

Case (iv): To see that  $p_4 \rightarrow q$ , when  $x < 0$  and  $y < 0$ , it follows that  $xy > 0$ . Hence,  $|xy| = xy = (-x) \cdot (-y) = |x| \cdot |y|$ .

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Because  $|xy| = |x||y|$  holds in all four exhaustive cases, we conclude that the given theorem is true for all real numbers  $x \neq y$ .

~~Proof #19~~

We can quickly reduce the proof to checking just a few simple cases.

$$x^2 + 3y^2 = 8 \Rightarrow \text{no solution exists}$$

$x^2 > 8$ , when  $|x| \geq 3$  and  $3y^2 > 8$  when  $|y| \geq 2$ . So the possible values of  $x$  are  $-2, -1, 0, 1, \text{ or } 2$ . and the possible values of  $y$  are  $-1, 0, \text{ or } 1$ . Thus, possible values of  $x^2$  are  $0, 1, \text{ and } 4$ . The ~~for~~ possible values of  $3y^2$  are  $0 \text{ and } 3$ . And, the largest sum of possible values of  $x^2$  and  $3y^2$  is 7. Consequently, it is impossible for  $x^2 + 3y^2 = 8$  to hold when  $x$  and  $y$  are integers.

~~Proof #20:~~

$$\neg q \rightarrow (\neg p) \Rightarrow \text{true. } p \rightarrow \text{false.}$$

~~$\neg p \rightarrow q$  is true.~~

We will use proof by Contraposition, the notion of WLOG, and proof by cases to solve this problem. First, suppose that  $x$  and  $y$  are not both even. That is, assume that  $x$  is odd or that  $y$  is odd.

~~That is, assume that  $x$  is odd or that  $y$  is odd.  
(or both). WLOG, we assume that  $x$  is odd,  
so that  $x = 2m+1$ , for some integer  $m$ .~~

To complete the proof, we need to show that  $xy$  is odd or  $(x+y)$  is odd. Consider two cases:

(i)  $y$  is even;  $y = 2n$  for some integer  $n$ .

So,  $xy = (2m+1) \cdot 2n = 4mn + 2n = 2(2mn+n)$  is even. And,  $x+y = (2m+1) + 2n = 2(m+n)+1$ , is odd.

(ii)  $y$  is odd:  $y = 2n+1$  for some integer  $n$ .

So,  $x \cdot y = (2m+1)(2n+1) = 2(2mn+m+n) + 1$  is odd.

And,  $x+y = (2m+1) + (2n+1) = 2(2m+n+1)$  is even.

This completes the proof by contraposition.

Proof 2

We construct a sequence of inequalities which are as follows:

$$\frac{x+y}{2} > \sqrt{xy}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^2 > xy$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^2 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x+y)^2 > 4xy$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + 2xy + y^2 > 4xy$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 2xy + y^2 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-y)^2 > 0. \text{ --- true.}$$

Because  $(x-y)^2 > 0$  when  $x \neq y$ . It follows that the final inequality is true, because all these inequalities are equivalent it follows that  $\frac{xy}{2} > \sqrt{xy}$ .

### Proof-22

✓ 2nd last step for the first player: leaves 4 stones.

✓ 3rd last step for the first player: leaves 8 stones.

✓ 4th last step for the first player: leaves 12 stones.

Winning move

The first player removes three stones in his first move.