

the set of real numbers x with $a < x < b$, where a and b are real numbers with $a < b$.)

Sometimes we cannot use mathematical induction to prove a result we believe to be true, but we can use mathematical induction to prove a stronger result. Because the inductive hypothesis of the stronger result provides more to work with, this process is called **inductive loading**. We use inductive loading in Exercise 74.

74. Suppose that we want to prove that

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdots \frac{2n-1}{2n} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{3n}}$$

for all positive integers n .

a) Show that if we try to prove this inequality using mathematical induction, the basis step works, but the inductive step fails.

b) Show that mathematical induction can be used to prove the stronger inequality

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdots \frac{2n-1}{2n} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{3n+1}}$$

for all integers greater than 1, which, together with a verification for the case where $n = 1$, establishes the weaker inequality we originally tried to prove using mathematical induction.

75. Let n be an even positive integer. Show that when n people stand in a yard at mutually distinct distances and each

person throws a pie at their nearest neighbor, it is possible that everyone is hit by a pie.

76. Construct a tiling using right triominoes of the 4×4 checkerboard with the square in the upper left corner removed.

77. Construct a tiling using right triominoes of the 8×8 checkerboard with the square in the upper left corner removed.

78. Prove or disprove that all checkerboards of these shapes can be completely covered using right triominoes whenever n is a positive integer.

a) 3×2^n

b) 6×2^n

c) $3^n \times 3^n$

d) $6^n \times 6^n$

*79. Show that a three-dimensional $2^n \times 2^n \times 2^n$ checkerboard with one $1 \times 1 \times 1$ cube missing can be completely covered by $2 \times 2 \times 2$ cubes with one $1 \times 1 \times 1$ cube removed.

*80. Show that an $n \times n$ checkerboard with one square removed can be completely covered using right triominoes if $n > 5$, n is odd, and $3 \nmid n$.

81. Show that a 5×5 checkerboard with a corner square removed can be tiled using right triominoes.

*82. Find a 5×5 checkerboard with a square removed that cannot be tiled using right triominoes. Prove that such a tiling does not exist for this board.

83. Use the principle of mathematical induction to show that $P(n)$ is true for $n = b, b + 1, b + 2, \dots$, where b is an integer, if $P(b)$ is true and the conditional statement $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ is true for all integers k with $k \geq b$.

5.2 Strong Induction and Well-Ordering

Introduction

In Section 5.1 we introduced mathematical induction and we showed how to use it to prove a variety of theorems. In this section we will introduce another form of mathematical induction, called **strong induction**, which can often be used when we cannot easily prove a result using mathematical induction. The basis step of a proof by strong induction is the same as a proof of the same result using mathematical induction. That is, in a strong induction proof that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n , the basis step shows that $P(1)$ is true. However, the inductive steps in these two proof methods are different. In a proof by mathematical induction, the inductive step shows that if the inductive hypothesis $P(k)$ is true, then $P(k + 1)$ is also true. In a proof by strong induction, the inductive step shows that if $P(j)$ is true for all positive integers not exceeding k , then $P(k + 1)$ is true. That is, for the inductive hypothesis we assume that $P(j)$ is true for $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$.

The validity of both mathematical induction and strong induction follow from the well-ordering property in Appendix 1. In fact, mathematical induction, strong induction, and well-ordering are all equivalent principles (as shown in Exercises 41, 42, and 43). That is, the validity of each can be proved from either of the other two. This means that a proof using one of these two principles can be rewritten as a proof using either of the other two principles. Just as it is sometimes the case that it is much easier to see how to prove a result using strong induction rather than mathematical induction, it is sometimes easier to use well-ordering than one of the

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two forms of mathematical induction. In this section we will give some examples of how the well-ordering property can be used to prove theorems.

Strong Induction

Before we illustrate how to use strong induction, we state this principle again.

STRONG INDUCTION To prove that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n , where $P(n)$ is a propositional function, we complete two steps:

BASIS STEP: We verify that the proposition $P(1)$ is true.

INDUCTIVE STEP: We show that the conditional statement $[P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge \cdots \wedge P(k)] \rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true for all positive integers k .

Note that when we use strong induction to prove that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n , our inductive hypothesis is the assumption that $P(j)$ is true for $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$. That is, the inductive hypothesis includes all k statements $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k)$. Because we can use all k statements $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k)$ to prove $P(k+1)$, rather than just the statement $P(k)$ as in a proof by mathematical induction, strong induction is a more flexible proof technique. Because of this, some mathematicians prefer to always use strong induction instead of mathematical induction, even when a proof by mathematical induction is easy to find.

You may be surprised that mathematical induction and strong induction are equivalent. That is, each can be shown to be a valid proof technique assuming that the other is valid. In particular, any proof using mathematical induction can also be considered to be a proof by strong induction because the inductive hypothesis of a proof by mathematical induction is part of the inductive hypothesis in a proof by strong induction. That is, if we can complete the inductive step of a proof using mathematical induction by showing that $P(k+1)$ follows from $P(k)$ for every positive integer k , then it also follows that $P(k+1)$ follows from all the statements $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k)$, because we are assuming that not only $P(k)$ is true, but also more, namely, that the $k-1$ statements $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k-1)$ are true. However, it is much more awkward to convert a proof by strong induction into a proof using the principle of mathematical induction. (See Exercise 42.)

Strong induction is sometimes called the **second principle of mathematical induction** or **complete induction**. When the terminology “complete induction” is used, the principle of mathematical induction is called **incomplete induction**, a technical term that is a somewhat unfortunate choice because there is nothing incomplete about the principle of mathematical induction; after all, it is a valid proof technique.

STRONG INDUCTION AND THE INFINITE LADDER To better understand strong induction, consider the infinite ladder in Section 5.1. Strong induction tells us that we can reach all rungs if

1. we can reach the first rung, and
2. for every integer k , if we can reach all the first k rungs, then we can reach the $(k+1)$ st rung.

That is, if $P(n)$ is the statement that we can reach the n th rung of the ladder, by strong induction we know that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n , because (1) tells us $P(1)$ is true, completing the basis step and (2) tells us that $P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge \cdots \wedge P(k)$ implies $P(k+1)$, completing the inductive step.

Example 1 illustrates how strong induction can help us prove a result that cannot easily be proved using the principle of mathematical induction.

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EXAMPLE 1 Suppose we can reach the first and second rungs of an infinite ladder, and we know that if we can reach a rung, then we can reach two rungs higher. Can we prove that we can reach every rung using the principle of mathematical induction? Can we prove that we can reach every rung using strong induction?

Solution: We first try to prove this result using the principle of mathematical induction.


BASIS STEP: The basis step of such a proof holds; here it simply verifies that we can reach the first rung.

ATTEMPTED INDUCTIVE STEP: The inductive hypothesis is the statement that we can reach the k th rung of the ladder. To complete the inductive step, we need to show that if we assume the inductive hypothesis for the positive integer k , namely, if we assume that we can reach the k th rung of the ladder, then we can show that we can reach the $(k + 1)$ st rung of the ladder. However, there is no obvious way to complete this inductive step because we do not know from the given information that we can reach the $(k + 1)$ st rung from the k th rung. After all, we only know that if we can reach a rung we can reach the rung two higher.

Now consider a proof using strong induction.

BASIS STEP: The basis step is the same as before; it simply verifies that we can reach the first rung.

INDUCTIVE STEP: The inductive hypothesis states that we can reach each of the first k rungs. To complete the inductive step, we need to show that if we assume that the inductive hypothesis is true, that is, if we can reach each of the first k rungs, then we can reach the $(k + 1)$ st rung. We already know that we can reach the second rung. We can complete the inductive step by noting that as long as $k \geq 2$, we can reach the $(k + 1)$ st rung from the $(k - 1)$ st rung because we know we can climb two rungs from a rung we can already reach, and because $k - 1 \leq k$, by the inductive hypothesis we can reach the $(k - 1)$ st rung. This completes the inductive step and finishes the proof by strong induction.

We have proved that if we can reach the first two rungs of an infinite ladder and for every positive integer k if we can reach all the first k rungs then we can reach the $(k + 1)$ st rung, then we can reach all rungs of the ladder. 

Examples of Proofs Using Strong Induction

Now that we have both mathematical induction and strong induction, how do we decide which method to apply in a particular situation? Although there is no cut-and-dried answer, we can supply some useful pointers. In practice, you should use mathematical induction when it is straightforward to prove that $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ is true for all positive integers k . This is the case for all the proofs in the examples in Section 5.1. In general, you should restrict your use of the principle of mathematical induction to such scenarios. Unless you can clearly see that the inductive step of a proof by mathematical induction goes through, you should attempt a proof by strong induction. That is, use strong induction and not mathematical induction when you see how to prove that $P(k + 1)$ is true from the assumption that $P(j)$ is true for all positive integers j not exceeding k , but you cannot see how to prove that $P(k + 1)$ follows from just $P(k)$. Keep this in mind as you examine the proofs in this section. For each of these proofs, consider why strong induction works better than mathematical induction.

We will illustrate how strong induction is employed in Examples 2–4. In these examples, we will prove a diverse collection of results. Pay particular attention to the inductive step in each of these examples, where we show that a result $P(k + 1)$ follows under the assumption that $P(j)$ holds for all positive integers j not exceeding k , where $P(n)$ is a propositional function.

We begin with one of the most prominent uses of strong induction, the part of the fundamental theorem of arithmetic that tells us that every positive integer can be written as the product of primes.

EXAMPLE 2 Show that if n is an integer greater than 1, then n can be written as the product of primes.



Solution: Let $P(n)$ be the proposition that n can be written as the product of primes.

BASIS STEP: $P(2)$ is true, because 2 can be written as the product of one prime, itself. (Note that $P(2)$ is the first case we need to establish.)

INDUCTIVE STEP: The inductive hypothesis is the assumption that $P(j)$ is true for all integers j with $2 \leq j \leq k$, that is, the assumption that j can be written as the product of primes whenever j is a positive integer at least 2 and not exceeding k . To complete the inductive step, it must be shown that $P(k + 1)$ is true under this assumption, that is, that $k + 1$ is the product of primes.

There are two cases to consider, namely, when $k + 1$ is prime and when $k + 1$ is **composite**.
 If $k + 1$ is prime, we immediately see that $P(k + 1)$ is true. Otherwise, $k + 1$ is composite and can be written as the product of two positive integers a and b with $2 \leq a \leq b < k + 1$. Because both a and b are integers at least 2 and not exceeding k , we can use the inductive hypothesis to write both a and b as the product of primes. Thus, if $k + 1$ is composite, it can be written as the product of primes, namely, those primes in the factorization of a and those in the factorization of b . (of an integer) being the product of two or more factors greater than one; not prime 合数

Remark: Because 1 can be thought of as the *empty* product of no primes, we could have started the proof in Example 2 with $P(1)$ as the basis step. We chose not to do so because many people find this confusing.

Example 2 completes the proof of the fundamental theorem of arithmetic, which asserts that every nonnegative integer can be written uniquely as the product of primes in nondecreasing order. We showed in Section 4.3 that an integer has at most one such factorization into primes. Example 2 shows there is at least one such factorization.


Next, we show how strong induction can be used to prove that a player has a winning strategy in a game.

EXAMPLE 3 Consider a game in which two players take turns removing any positive number of matches they want from one of two piles of matches. The player who removes the last match wins the game. Show that if the two piles contain the same number of matches initially, the second player can always guarantee a win.

Solution: Let n be the number of matches in each pile. We will use strong induction to prove $P(n)$, the statement that the second player can win when there are initially n matches in each pile.

BASIS STEP: When $n = 1$, the first player has only one choice, removing one match from one of the piles, leaving a single pile with a single match, which the second player can remove to win the game.

INDUCTIVE STEP: The inductive hypothesis is the statement that $P(j)$ is true for all j with $1 \leq j \leq k$, that is, the assumption that the second player can always win whenever there are j matches, where $1 \leq j \leq k$ in each of the two piles at the start of the game. We need to show that $P(k + 1)$ is true, that is, that the second player can win when there are initially $k + 1$ matches in each pile, under the assumption that $P(j)$ is true for $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$. So suppose that there are $k + 1$ matches in each of the two piles at the start of the game and suppose that the first player removes r matches ($1 \leq r \leq k$) from one of the piles, leaving $k + 1 - r$ matches in this pile. By removing the same number of matches from the other pile, the second player creates the

situation where there are two piles each with $k + 1 - r$ matches. Because $1 \leq k + 1 - r \leq k$, we can now use the inductive hypothesis to conclude that the second player can always win. We complete the proof by noting that if the first player removes all $k + 1$ matches from one of the piles, the second player can win by removing all the remaining matches. 

Using the principle of mathematical induction, instead of strong induction, to prove the results in Examples 2 and 3 is difficult. However, as Example 4 shows, some results can be readily proved using either the principle of mathematical induction or strong induction.

Before we present Example 4, note that we can slightly modify strong induction to handle a wider variety of situations. In particular, we can adapt strong induction to handle cases where the inductive step is valid only for integers greater than a particular integer. Let b be a fixed integer and j a fixed positive integer. The form of strong induction we need tells us that $P(n)$ is true for all integers n with $n \geq b$ if we can complete these two steps:

BASIS STEP: We verify that the propositions $P(b)$, $P(b + 1)$, \dots , $P(b + j)$ are true.

INDUCTIVE STEP: We show that $[P(b) \wedge P(b + 1) \wedge \dots \wedge P(k)] \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ is true for every integer $k \geq b + j$.

We will use this **alternative form** in the strong induction proof in Example 4. That this alternative form is equivalent to strong induction is left as Exercise 28.

EXAMPLE 4 Prove that every amount of postage of 12 cents or more can be formed using just 4-cent and 5-cent stamps.

Solution: We will prove this result using the principle of mathematical induction. Then we will present a proof using strong induction. Let $P(n)$ be the statement that postage of n cents can be formed using 4-cent and 5-cent stamps.

We begin by using the principle of mathematical induction.

BASIS STEP: Postage of 12 cents can be formed using three 4-cent stamps.

INDUCTIVE STEP: The inductive hypothesis is the statement that $P(k)$ is true. That is, under this hypothesis, postage of k cents can be formed using 4-cent and 5-cent stamps. To complete the inductive step, we need to show that when we assume $P(k)$ is true, then $P(k + 1)$ is also true where $k \geq 12$. That is, we need to show that if we can form postage of k cents, then we can form postage of $k + 1$ cents. So, assume the inductive hypothesis is true; that is, assume that we can form postage of k cents using 4-cent and 5-cent stamps. We consider two cases, when at least one 4-cent stamp has been used and when no 4-cent stamps have been used. First, suppose that at least one 4-cent stamp was used to form postage of k cents. Then we can replace this stamp with a 5-cent stamp to form postage of $k + 1$ cents. But if no 4-cent stamps were used, we can form postage of k cents using only 5-cent stamps. Moreover, because $k \geq 12$, we needed at least three 5-cent stamps to form postage of k cents. So, we can replace three 5-cent stamps with four 4-cent stamps to form postage of $k + 1$ cents. This completes the inductive step.

Because we have completed the basis step and the inductive step, we know that $P(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 12$. That is, we can form postage of n cents, where $n \geq 12$ using just 4-cent and 5-cent stamps. This completes the proof by mathematical induction.

Next, we will use strong induction to prove the same result. In this proof, in the basis step we show that $P(12)$, $P(13)$, $P(14)$, and $P(15)$ are true, that is, that postage of 12, 13, 14, or 15 cents can be formed using just 4-cent and 5-cent stamps. In the inductive step we show how to get postage of $k + 1$ cents for $k \geq 15$ from postage of $k - 3$ cents.

BASIS STEP: We can form postage of 12, 13, 14, and 15 cents using three 4-cent stamps, two 4-cent stamps and one 5-cent stamp, one 4-cent stamp and two 5-cent stamps, and three 5-cent stamps, respectively. This shows that $P(12)$, $P(13)$, $P(14)$, and $P(15)$ are true. This completes the basis step.

INDUCTIVE STEP: The inductive hypothesis is the statement that $P(j)$ is true for $12 \leq j \leq k$, where k is an integer with $k \geq 15$. To complete the inductive step, we assume that we can form postage of j cents, where $12 \leq j \leq k$. We need to show that under the assumption that $P(k+1)$ is true, we can also form postage of $k+1$ cents. Using the inductive hypothesis, we can assume that $P(k-3)$ is true because $k-3 \geq 12$, that is, we can form postage of $k-3$ cents using just 4-cent and 5-cent stamps. To form postage of $k+1$ cents, we need only add another 4-cent stamp to the stamps we used to form postage of $k-3$ cents. That is, we have shown that if the inductive hypothesis is true, then $P(k+1)$ is also true. This completes the inductive step.

Because we have completed the basis step and the inductive step of a strong induction proof, we know by strong induction that $P(n)$ is true for all integers n with $n \geq 12$. That is, we know that every postage of n cents, where n is at least 12, can be formed using 4-cent and 5-cent stamps. This finishes the proof by strong induction.

(There are other ways to approach this problem besides those described here. Can you find a solution that does not use mathematical induction?)

Using Strong Induction in Computational Geometry

Our next example of strong induction will come from **computational geometry**, the part of discrete mathematics that studies computational problems involving geometric objects. Computational geometry is used extensively in computer graphics, computer games, robotics, scientific calculations, and a vast ^{an ordered series or arrangement} array of other areas. Before we can present this result, we introduce some terminology, possibly familiar from earlier studies in geometry.

A **polygon** is a closed geometric figure consisting of a sequence of line segments s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n , called **sides**. Each pair of consecutive sides, s_i and s_{i+1} , $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$, as well as the last side s_n and the first side s_1 , of the polygon meet at a **common endpoint**, called a **vertex**. A polygon is called **simple** if no two nonconsecutive sides intersect. Every simple polygon divides the plane into two regions: its **interior**, consisting of the points inside the curve, and its **exterior**, consisting of the points outside the curve. This last fact is surprisingly complicated to prove. It is a special case of the famous Jordan curve theorem, which tells us that every simple curve divides the plane into two regions; see [Or00], for example.

A polygon is called **convex** if every line segment connecting two points in the interior of the polygon lies entirely inside the polygon. (A polygon that is not convex is said to be **nonconvex**.) Figure 1 displays some polygons; polygons (a) and (b) are convex, but polygons (c) and (d) are not. A **diagonal** of a simple polygon is a line segment connecting two nonconsecutive vertices of the polygon, and a diagonal is called an **interior diagonal** if it lies entirely inside the polygon, except for its endpoints. For example, in polygon (d), the line segment connecting a and f is an interior diagonal, but the line segment connecting a and d is a diagonal that is not an interior diagonal.

One of the most basic operations of computational geometry involves dividing a simple polygon into triangles by adding nonintersecting diagonals. This process is called **triangulation**. Note that a simple polygon can have many different triangulations, as shown in Figure 2. Perhaps the most basic fact in computational geometry is that it is possible to triangulate every simple

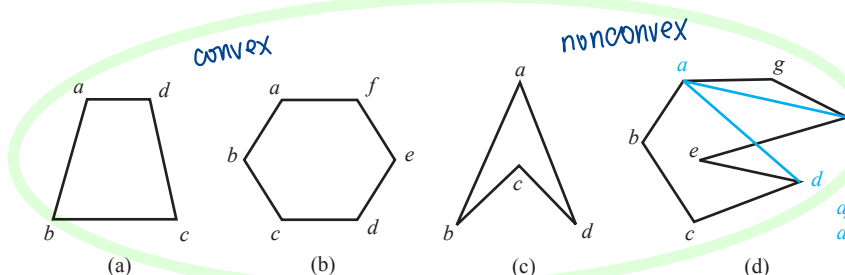
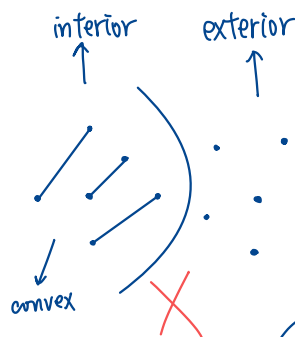


FIGURE 1 Convex and Nonconvex Polygons.

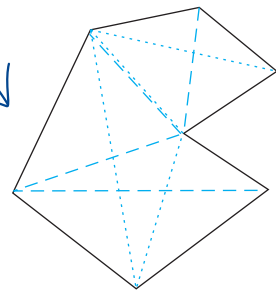
not so sure what exactly is convex and how to know it is/not (diagonal) i understand the interior and exterior of this particular shape, but (b) and (c) not so sure. (convex & if diagonal?)

why is it bc of this, why not bc $k-3$ and $k+1$ have a difference of 4, since we assume $P(k+1)$ is true, therefore $P(k-3)$ should also be true (minus one 4-cent)

but also what if $P(k+1)$ can be only formed in 5-cent? (no 4-cent + minus)

that will probably not happen

5-cent only
15 (X)
25 (V)
30 (V)
can it also be represented by other 4 and 5-cent patterns?
 5×5 ✓
 $5 \times 4 + 4 \times 1$ X
 $5 \times 3 + 4 \times 2$ X
 $5 \times 2 + 4 \times 3$ ✓
 $5 \times 1 + 4 \times 5$ ✓
 5×6 ✓
 $5 \times 5 + 4 \times 1$ X
 $5 \times 4 + 4 \times 2$ X
 $5 \times 3 + 4 \times 3$ X
 $5 \times 2 + 4 \times 5$ X



Two different triangulations of a simple polygon with seven sides into five triangles, shown with dotted lines and with dashed lines, respectively

FIGURE 2 Triangulations of a Polygon.

polygon, as we state in Theorem 1. Furthermore, this theorem tells us that every triangulation of a simple polygon with n sides includes $n - 2$ triangles.

THEOREM 1

A simple polygon with n sides, where n is an integer with $n \geq 3$, can be triangulated into $n - 2$ triangles.

It seems obvious that we should be able to triangulate a simple polygon by successively adding interior diagonals. Consequently, a proof by strong induction seems promising. However, such a proof requires this crucial lemma.

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LEMMA 1

Every simple polygon with at least four sides has an interior diagonal.

Although Lemma 1 seems particularly simple, it is surprisingly tricky to prove. In fact, as recently as 30 years ago, a variety of incorrect proofs thought to be correct were commonly seen in books and articles. We defer the proof of Lemma 1 until after we prove Theorem 1. It is not uncommon to prove a theorem pending the later proof of an important lemma.

Proof (of Theorem 1): We will prove this result using strong induction. Let $T(n)$ be the statement that every simple polygon with n sides can be triangulated into $n - 2$ triangles.

BASIS STEP: $T(3)$ is true because a simple polygon with three sides is a triangle. We do not need to add any diagonals to triangulate a triangle; it is already triangulated into one triangle, itself. Consequently, every simple polygon with $n = 3$ has can be triangulated into $n - 2 = 3 - 2 = 1$ triangle.

INDUCTIVE STEP: For the inductive hypothesis, we assume that $T(j)$ is true for all integers j with $3 \leq j \leq k$. That is, we assume that we can triangulate a simple polygon with j sides into $j - 2$ triangles whenever $3 \leq j \leq k$. To complete the inductive step, we must show that when we assume the inductive hypothesis, $P(k + 1)$ is true, that is, that every simple polygon with $k + 1$ sides can be triangulated into $(k + 1) - 2 = k - 1$ triangles.

So, suppose that we have a simple polygon P with $k + 1$ sides. Because $k + 1 \geq 4$, Lemma 1 tells us that P has an interior diagonal ab . Now, ab splits P into two simple polygons Q , with s sides, and R , with t sides. The sides of Q and R are the sides of P , together with the side ab , which is a side of both Q and R . Note that $3 \leq s \leq k$ and $3 \leq t \leq k$ because both Q and R have at least one fewer side than P does (after all, each of these is formed from P by deleting at least two sides and replacing these sides by the diagonal ab). Furthermore, the number of sides of P is two less than the sum of the numbers of sides of Q and the number of

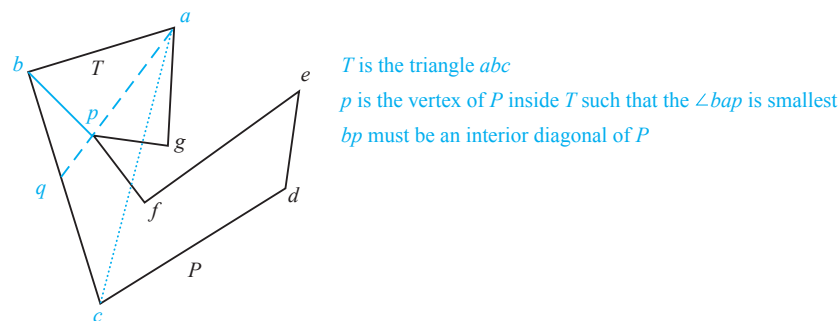


FIGURE 3 Constructing an Interior Diagonal of a Simple Polygon.

sides of R , because each side of P is a side of either Q or of R , but not both, and the diagonal ab is a side of both Q and R , but not P . That is, $k + 1 = s + t - 2$.

We now use the inductive hypothesis. Because both $3 \leq s \leq k$ and $3 \leq t \leq k$, by the inductive hypothesis we can triangulate Q and R into $s - 2$ and $t - 2$ triangles, respectively. Next, note that these triangulations together produce a triangulation of P . (Each diagonal added to triangulate one of these smaller polygons is also a diagonal of P .) Consequently, we can triangulate P into a total of $(s - 2) + (t - 2) = s + t - 4 = (k + 1) - 2$ triangles. This completes the proof by strong induction. That is, we have shown that every simple polygon with n sides, where $n \geq 3$, can be triangulated into $n - 2$ triangles. \triangleleft

We now return to our proof of Lemma 1. We present a proof published by Chung-Wu Ho [Ho75]. Note that although this proof may be omitted without loss of continuity, it does provide a correct proof of a result proved incorrectly by many mathematicians.

Proof: Suppose that P is a simple polygon drawn in the plane. Furthermore, suppose that b is the point of P or in the interior of P with the least y -coordinate among the vertices with the smallest x -coordinate. Then b must be a vertex of P , for if it is an interior point, there would have to be a vertex of P with a smaller x -coordinate. Two other vertices each share an edge with b , say a and c . It follows that the angle in the interior of P formed by ab and bc must be less than 180 degrees (otherwise, there would be points of P with smaller x -coordinates than b).

Now let T be the triangle $\triangle abc$. If there are no vertices of P on or inside T , we can connect a and c to obtain an interior diagonal. On the other hand, if there are vertices of P inside T , we will find a vertex p of P on or inside T such that bp is an interior diagonal. (This is the tricky part. Ho noted that in many published proofs of this lemma a vertex p was found such that bp was not necessarily an interior diagonal of P . See Exercise 21.) The key is to select a vertex p such that the angle $\angle bap$ is smallest. To see this, note that the ray starting at a and passing through p hits the line segment bc at a point, say q . It then follows that the triangle $\triangle baq$ cannot contain any vertices of P in its interior. Hence, we can connect b and p to produce an interior diagonal of P . Locating this vertex p is illustrated in Figure 3. \triangleleft

Proofs Using the Well-Ordering Property

The validity of both the principle of mathematical induction and strong induction follows from a fundamental axiom of the set of integers, the **well-ordering property** (see Appendix 1). The well-ordering property states that **every nonempty set of nonnegative integers has a least element**. We will show how the well-ordering property can be used directly in proofs. Furthermore, it can be shown (see Exercises 41, 42, and 43) that the well-ordering property, the principle of mathematical induction, and strong induction are all equivalent. That is, the validity of each of these three proof techniques implies the validity of the other two techniques. In Section 5.1 we

showed that the principle of mathematical induction follows from the well-ordering property. The other parts of this equivalence are left as Exercises 31, 42, and 43.


THE WELL-ORDERING PROPERTY Every nonempty set of nonnegative integers has a least element.

The well-ordering property can often be used directly in proofs.

EXAMPLE 5 Use the well-ordering property to prove the division algorithm. Recall that the division algorithm states that if a is an integer and d is a positive integer, then there are unique integers q and r with $0 \leq r < d$ and $a = dq + r$.




Solution: Let S be the set of nonnegative integers of the form $a - dq$, where q is an integer. This set is nonempty because $-dq$ can be made as large as desired (taking q to be a negative integer with large absolute value). By the well-ordering property, S has a least element $r = a - dq_0$.

The integer r is nonnegative. It is also the case that $r < d$. If it were not, then there would be a smaller nonnegative element in S , namely, $a - d(q_0 + 1)$. To see this, suppose that $r \geq d$. Because $a = dq_0 + r$, it follows that $a - d(q_0 + 1) = (a - dq_0) - d = r - d \geq 0$. Consequently, there are integers q and r with $0 \leq r < d$. The proof that q and r are unique is left as Exercise 37. 

EXAMPLE 6 In a round-robin tournament every player plays every other player exactly once and each match has a winner and a loser. We say that the players p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m form a *cycle* if p_1 beats p_2 , p_2 beats p_3 , \dots , p_{m-1} beats p_m , and p_m beats p_1 . Use the well-ordering principle to show that if there is a cycle of length m ($m \geq 3$) among the players in a round-robin tournament, there must be a cycle of three of these players.

Solution: We assume that there is no cycle of three players. Because there is at least one cycle in the round-robin tournament, the set of all positive integers n for which there is a cycle of length n is nonempty. By the well-ordering property, this set of positive integers has a least element k , which by assumption must be greater than three. Consequently, there exists a cycle of players $p_1, p_2, p_3, \dots, p_k$ and no shorter cycle exists.

Because there is no cycle of three players, we know that $k > 3$. Consider the first three elements of this cycle, p_1, p_2 , and p_3 . There are two possible outcomes of the match between p_1 and p_3 . If p_3 beats p_1 , it follows that p_1, p_2, p_3 is a cycle of length three, contradicting our assumption that there is no cycle of three players. Consequently, it must be the case that p_1 beats p_3 . This means that we can omit p_2 from the cycle $p_1, p_2, p_3, \dots, p_k$ to obtain the cycle $p_1, p_3, p_4, \dots, p_k$ of length $k - 1$, contradicting the assumption that the smallest cycle has length k . We conclude that there must be a cycle of length three. 

Exercises

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Ch5-1 15&16 20:15

1. Use strong induction to show that if you can run one mile or two miles, and if you can always run two more miles once you have run a specified number of miles, then you can run any number of miles.
2. Use strong induction to show that all dominoes fall in an infinite arrangement of dominoes if you know that the first three dominoes fall, and that when a domino falls, the domino three farther down in the arrangement also falls.
3. Let $P(n)$ be the statement that a postage of n cents can be formed using just 3-cent stamps and 5-cent stamps. The

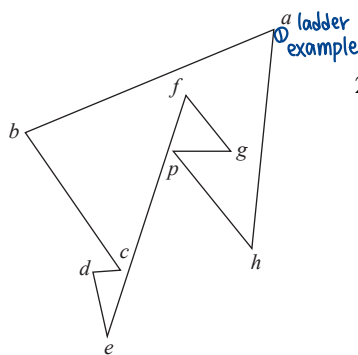
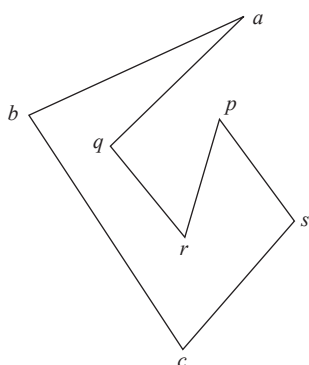
parts of this exercise outline a strong induction proof that $P(n)$ is true for $n \geq 8$.

- a) Show that the statements $P(8)$, $P(9)$, and $P(10)$ are true, completing the basis step of the proof.
 - b) What is the inductive hypothesis of the proof?
 - c) What do you need to prove in the inductive step?
 - d) Complete the inductive step for $k \geq 10$.
 - e) Explain why these steps show that this statement is true whenever $n \geq 8$.
4. Let $P(n)$ be the statement that a postage of n cents can be formed using just 4-cent stamps and 7-cent stamps. The

- **20.** Suppose that P is a simple polygon with vertices v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n listed so that consecutive vertices are connected by an edge, and v_1 and v_n are connected by an edge. A vertex v_i is called an **ear** if the line segment connecting the two vertices adjacent to v_i is an interior diagonal of the simple polygon. Two ears v_i and v_j are called **nonoverlapping** if the interiors of the triangles with vertices v_i and its two adjacent vertices and v_j and its two adjacent vertices do not intersect. Prove that every simple polygon with at least four vertices has at least two nonoverlapping ears.

- 21.** In the proof of Lemma 1 we mentioned that many incorrect methods for finding a vertex p such that the line segment bp is an interior diagonal of P have been published. This exercise presents some of the incorrect ways p has been chosen in these proofs. Show, by considering one of the polygons drawn here, that for each of these choices of p , the line segment bp is not necessarily an interior diagonal of P .

- p is the vertex of P such that the angle $\angle abp$ is smallest.
- p is the vertex of P with the least x -coordinate (other than b).
- p is the vertex of P that is closest to b .



Exercises 22 and 23 present examples that show inductive loading can be used to prove results in computational geometry.

- *22.** Let $P(n)$ be the statement that when nonintersecting diagonals are drawn inside a convex polygon with n sides, at least two vertices of the polygon are not endpoints of any of these diagonals.
- Show that when we attempt to prove $P(n)$ for all integers n with $n \geq 3$ using strong induction, the inductive step does not go through.
 - Show that we can prove that $P(n)$ is true for all integers n with $n \geq 3$ by proving by strong induction the stronger assertion $Q(n)$, for $n \geq 4$, where $Q(n)$ states that whenever nonintersecting diagonals are drawn inside a convex polygon with n sides, at least two *nonadjacent* vertices are not endpoints of any of these diagonals.
- 23.** Let $E(n)$ be the statement that in a triangulation of a simple polygon with n sides, at least one of the triangles in the triangulation has two sides bordering the exterior of the polygon.

- Explain where a proof using strong induction that $E(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 4$ runs into difficulties.
- Show that we can prove that $E(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 4$ by proving by strong induction the stronger statement $T(n)$ for all integers $n \geq 4$, which states that in every triangulation of a simple polygon, at least two of the triangles in the triangulation have two sides bordering the exterior of the polygon.

- *24.** A stable assignment, defined in the preamble to Exercise 60 in Section 3.1, is called **optimal for suitors** if no stable assignment exists in which a suitor is paired with a suitee whom this suitor prefers to the person to whom this suitor is paired in this stable assignment. Use strong induction to show that the deferred acceptance algorithm produces a stable assignment that is optimal for suitors.

- 25.** Suppose that $P(n)$ is a propositional function. Determine for which positive integers n the statement $P(n)$ must be true, and justify your answer, if

- $P(1)$ is true; for all positive integers n , if $P(n)$ is true, then $P(n+2)$ is true. *false (?)*
- $P(1)$ and $P(2)$ are true; for all positive integers n , if $P(n)$ and $P(n+1)$ are true, then $P(n+2)$ is true. *true*
- $P(1)$ is true; for all positive integers n , if $P(n)$ is true, then $P(2n)$ is true. *false (?)*
- $P(1)$ is true; for all positive integers n , if $P(n)$ is true, then $P(n+1)$ is true. *true*

- 26.** Suppose that $P(n)$ is a propositional function. Determine for which nonnegative integers n the statement $P(n)$ must be true if

- $P(0)$ is true; for all nonnegative integers n , if $P(n)$ is true, then $P(n+2)$ is true.
- $P(0)$ is true; for all nonnegative integers n , if $P(n)$ is true, then $P(n+3)$ is true.
- $P(0)$ and $P(1)$ are true; for all nonnegative integers n , if $P(n)$ and $P(n+1)$ are true, then $P(n+2)$ is true.
- $P(0)$ is true; for all nonnegative integers n , if $P(n)$ is true, then $P(n+2)$ and $P(n+3)$ are true.

- 27.** Show that if the statement $P(n)$ is true for infinitely many positive integers n and $P(n+1) \rightarrow P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n , then $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n .

$P(n)$ infinite
 $P(n+1) \rightarrow P(n)$ all
 $\therefore P(n)$ all
 which is more?
 infinite or all

- 28.** Let b be a fixed integer and j a fixed positive integer. Show that if $P(b), P(b+1), \dots, P(b+j)$ are true and $[P(b) \wedge P(b+1) \wedge \dots \wedge P(k)] \rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true for every integer $k \geq b+j$, then $P(n)$ is true for all integers n with $n \geq b$.

- 29.** What is wrong with this “proof” by strong induction?

“Theorem” For every nonnegative integer n , $5n = 0$.

Basis Step: $5 \cdot 0 = 0$. *or give more example in the basis step.*

Inductive Step: Suppose that $5j = 0$ for all nonnegative integers j with $0 \leq j \leq k$. Write $k+1 = i+j$, where i and j are natural numbers less than $k+1$. By the inductive hypothesis, $5(k+1) = 5(i+j) = 5i + 5j = 0 + 0 = 0$.

if i and j are natural numbers and $i < k+1$

if $5i + 5j = 0 + 0 = 0$, then $i = j = 0$

if $k+1 = i+j = 0$, then $k = -1$ contradict with the nonnegative thing.

25. (a) The inductive step here allows us to conclude that $P(3), P(5), \dots$ are all true, but we can conclude nothing about $P(2), P(4), \dots$
(b) We can conclude that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n , using strong induction.
(c) The inductive step here allows us to conclude that $P(2), P(4), P(8), P(16), \dots$ are all true, but we can conclude nothing about $P(n)$ when n is not a power of 2.
(d) This is mathematical induction; we can conclude that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n .

27. Suppose, for a proof by contradiction, that there is some positive integer n such that $P(n)$ is not true.
Let m be the smallest positive integer greater than n for which $P(m)$ is true, we know that such an m exists because $P(m)$ is true for infinitely many values of m , and therefore true for more than just $1, 2, \dots, n-1$.
But we are given that $P(m) \rightarrow P(m-1)$, so $P(m-1)$ is true. Thus $m-1$ cannot be greater than n , so $m-1 = n$ and $P(n)$ is in fact true. This contradiction shows that $P(n)$ is true for all n .

29. The error is in going from the basis step $n=0$ to the next value, $n=1$. We cannot write 1 as the sum of two smaller natural numbers, so we cannot invoke the inductive hypothesis. In the notation of the "proof," when $k=0$, we cannot write $0+1 = i+j$ where $0 \leq i \leq 0$ and $0 \leq j \leq 0$.