

CSC236 Winter 2017
Assignment #1: Induction - Sample Solutions
Due February 1st, by 9:00 pm

The aim of this assignment is to give you some practice with various forms of induction. For each question below you will present a proof by induction, using the type of induction specified. For full marks on your proofs, you will need to make it clear to the reader that the base case(s) is/are verified, that the inductive step follows for each element of the domain (typically the natural numbers), where the inductive hypothesis is used and that it is used in a valid case.

Your assignment must be typed to produce a PDF document `a1.pdf` (hand-written submissions are not acceptable). You may work on the assignment in groups of 1, 2, or 3, and submit a single assignment for the entire group on MarkUs.

1. Consider the Fibonacci function f :

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n = 0 \text{ or } n = 1 \\ f(n-2) + f(n-1) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Use simple induction to prove that if n is a natural number, then $f(0) + f(2) + \dots + f(2n) = f(2n+1)$. You may not derive or use a closed-form for $f(n)$ in your proof.

Sample solution: Proof, using simple induction.

Inductive step: Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume $H(n) : f(0) + f(2) + \dots + f(2n) = f(2n+1)$.

Show that $H(n) \implies C(n) : f(0) + f(2) + \dots + f(2(n+1)) = f(2(n+1)+1)$.

$$\begin{aligned} & f(0) + f(2) + \dots + f(2(n+1)) \\ &= f(0) + f(2) + \dots + f(2n) + f(2(n+1)) \\ &= f(2n+1) + f(2(n+1)) \quad (\text{by } H(n)) \\ &= f(2n+1) + f(2n+2) = f(2n+3) \quad (\text{by definition}) \\ &= f(2(n+1)+1) \end{aligned}$$

$C(n)$ follows from our assumptions in this case.

Base cases: $n \in \{0, 1\}$

Let $n = 0$. $f(0) = f(2 \cdot 0 + 1)$. So the claim holds for $n = 0$.

Conclude: $f(0) + f(2) + \dots + f(2n) = f(2n+1)$, $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.

2. Use simple induction to show that $x^2 - 1$ is divisible by 8 for any odd natural number x .

Sample solution: Proof, using simple induction.

Inductive step: Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ($2n + 1$ is the n^{th} odd number).

Assume $H(n) : ((2n + 1)^2 - 1 \text{ is a multiple of } 8)$.

Show that $H(n) \rightarrow C(n) : ((2(n + 1) + 1)^2 - 1 \text{ is a multiple of } 8)$.

$$((2(n + 1) + 1)^2 - 1 = (2n + 3)^2 - 1 = 4n^2 + 12n + 8 = 4n^2 + 4n + 8n + 8$$

$$(2n + 1)^2 - 1 = 4n^2 + 4, \text{ and } (2n + 1)^2 - 1 = 8 * k, \text{ for some } k \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ by } H(n)$$

$$\text{So, } 4n^2 + 4n + 8n + 8 = 8k + 8n + 8 = 8(k + n + 1)$$

Since $1, k, n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $((2(n + 1) + 1)^2 - 1 \text{ is a multiple of } 8)$.

$C(n)$ follows from our assumptions in this case.

Base case: Let $n = 0$. $(2 * 0 + 1)^2 - 1 = 0$, a multiple of 8. So the claim holds for $n = 0$.

Conclude: $x^2 - 1$ is a multiple of 8, for all odd $x \in \mathbb{N}$.

3. Use the Well-Ordering Principle to show that given any natural number $n \geq 1$, there exists an odd integer m and a natural number k such that $n = 2^k * m$.

Sample solution: Proof, using well-ordering.

Let $S = \{r \in \mathbb{Z} : \exists i \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } n = 2^i * r\}$

S is non-empty, because when $i = 0$, $2^0 * n = n$, and so $n \in S$.

$n \geq 1$ and $2^i \geq 1$, so $r \geq 1$.

Thus, S is a non-empty subset of \mathbb{N} .

By Well Ordering, S has a smallest element m' , and we know $n = 2^k * m'$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Claim: m' is odd

Proof, by contradiction: Assume m' is even. i.e., $m' = 2p$, $p \in \mathbb{N}$.

Then, $2^k * m' = 2^k * 2p = 2^{k+1} * p$.

This means $p \in S$ and $p < m'$, and contradicts the choice of m' as smallest.

Conclude: For $n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 1$, there exists an odd integer m and a natural number k s.t. $n = 2^k * m$.

4. Define a set $M \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^2$ as follows:

- (a) $(3, 2) \in M$,
- (b) for all $(x, y) \in M$, $(3x - 2y, x) \in M$,
- (c) nothing else belongs to M .

Use structural induction to prove that $\forall (x, y) \in M, \exists k \in \mathbb{N}, (x, y) = (2^{k+1} + 1, 2^k + 1)$.

Sample solution: Proof, by structural induction on M .

$P(x, y)$: $\exists k \in \mathbb{N}, (x, y) = (2^{k+1} + 1, 2^k + 1)$.

Inductive step: Let $(x, y) \in M$. Assume $H((x, y)) : P((x, y))$

Show $H((x, y)) \rightarrow C((x, y))$: $P((3x - 2y, x))$

Let $k' \in \mathbb{N}$ be such that $(x, y) = (2^{k'+1} + 1, 2^{k'} + 1)$,

by $H((x, y))$

Then $(3x - 2y, x) = (3(2^{k'+1} + 1) - 2(2^{k'} + 1), 2^{k'+1} + 1)$

$$= (6 \cdot 2^{k'} + 3 - 2 \cdot 2^{k'} - 2, 2^{k'+1} + 1)$$

$$= (4 \cdot 2^{k'} + 1, 2^{k'+1} + 1)$$

$$= (2^{k'+2} + 1, 2^{k'+1} + 1)$$

So $P(3x - 2y, x)$, with $k = k' + 1$.

Base Case: $(3, 2) = (2^1 + 1, 2^0 + 1)$ so $P(3, 2)$, with $k = 0$.

Conclusion: $\forall (x, y) \in M, \exists k \in \mathbb{N}, (x, y) = (2^{k+1} + 1, 2^k + 1)$.

5. Suppose n people are positioned such that each person has a unique nearest neighbour. Each person has a single water balloon that they throw at their nearest neighbour. (We'll assume every throw hits its target.) A dry person is one who is not hit by a water balloon.

- (a) Describe an example that demonstrates that if n is even, there may be no dry person.
- (b) Use simple induction to show that if n is odd, then there is always at least one dry person.

Sample solution:

(a): Consider any example with $n = 2$. Then each person is the other's unique nearest neighbour, and neither is dry.

(b): Proof by simple induction.

$P(n)$: There is one dry person when $2n + 1$ people are positioned such that they each have a unique nearest neighbour, and they each throw a water balloon at their nearest neighbour.

We want to show that $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 1, P(n)$, since there is no game if there is only 1 person (i.e., when $n = 0$).

Inductive step: Let $n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 1$.

Assume $H(n) : P(n)$

Show that $H(n) \rightarrow C(n) : P(n + 1)$.

Assume that there are $2(n + 1) + 1 = 2n + 3$ people, positioned so they each have a unique nearest neighbour. Let A and B be the closest pair among the $2n + 3$ people. So, A and B will throw balloons at each other.

Case 1: Someone other than A or B throws a balloon at either A or B .

Then, at least 3 balloons are thrown at A and B , which leaves $2n$ balloons to be thrown at the remaining $2n + 1$ people. Thus, at least one person is dry.

Case 2: No one else throws a balloon at A or B .

Then, the remaining $2n + 1$ people are positioned so that they each have a unique nearest neighbour. By $H(n)$, there is at least one dry person among those $2n + 1$ people.

$C(n)$ follows from our assumptions.

Base case: Let $n = 1$. There are $2 * 1 + 1 = 3$ people in the game, A , B , and C . Assume A and B are the closest pair. (Note that there cannot be a tie, because each person has a unique nearest neighbour.) The distances between A and C and B and C are greater than the distance between A and B . So, A and B throw balloons at each other, and C throws a balloon at either A or B . Thus, C is dry, and $P(1)$ holds.

Conclude: $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 1, P(n)$.

6. Let P be a convex polygon with consecutive vertices v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n . Use complete induction to show that when P is triangulated into $n - 2$ triangles, the $n - 2$ triangles can be numbered $1, 2, \dots, n - 2$ so that v_i is a vertex of triangle i for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2$.

Sample solution: Proof, using complete induction.

Define $P(n)$: A triangulation into $n - 2$ triangles of a convex polygon with consecutive vertices v_1, \dots, v_n can have its triangles labelled $1, \dots, n - 2$ such that v_i is a vertex of triangle i .

Inductive step: Let $n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 3$.

Assume $H(n) : \forall j \in \mathbb{N}, 3 \leq j < n, P(j)$.

Show that $H(n) \rightarrow C(n) : P(n)$

Let T be a triangulation of a polygon with consecutive vertices v_1, \dots, v_n .

Every T contains a diagonal from v_{n-1} or from v_n . (Otherwise, it is not a triangulation.)

Case: There is a diagonal from v_n in T .

Choose k s.t. there is a diagonal from v_k to v_n in T .

This diagonal divides the polygon into two sub-polygons, P_1 and P_2 . P_1 has the vertices v_1, \dots, v_k, v_n , and P_2 has the vertices v_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_n .

Rename the vertex v_n of P_1 as v_{k+1} . Rename each of the vertices of P_2 , $v'_i = v_i - k + 1$.

By $H(n)$, P_1 triangulates with triangles numbered as claimed, because $k \leq n - 2 < n$.

P_2 has $n - k + 1$ vertices, so by $H(n)$, P_2 also triangulates as claimed.

Add $k - 1$ to each triangle number in P_2 . The original vertices v_i are now part of the triangle numbered $i, i \in k + 1, \dots, n - 2$.

Case: There is a diagonal from v_{n-1} in T .

Choose k s.t. there is a diagonal from v_k to v_{n-1} in T .

This diagonal divides the polygon into two sub-polygons, P_1 and P_2 . P_1 has the vertices $v_1, \dots, v_k, v_{n-1}, v_n$, and P_2 has the vertices $v_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_{n-1}$.

Rename the vertices v_{n-1}, v_n of P_1 as v_{k+1}, v_{k+2} . Rename each of the vertices of P_2 , $v'_i = v_i - k + 1$.

By $H(n)$, P_1 triangulates with triangles numbered as claimed, because $k \leq n - 3 < n$.

P_2 has $n - k$ vertices, so by $H(n)$, P_2 also triangulates as claimed.

Add $k - 1$ to each triangle number in P_2 . The original vertices v_i are now part of the triangle numbered $i, i \in k + 1, \dots, n - 2$.

$C(n)$ follows from our assumptions in this case.

Base case: Let $n = 3$. The vertices are numbered, $1, 2, 3$, and the one triangle can be numbered 1 .

Conclude: $P(n)$ holds $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 3$