

4.2 and 4.3 Proof by Mathematical Induction

To prove that a certain statement is true for all values of n , $n \geq 1$:

Step 1 (the basis step)

Show that your statement is true for $n=1$.

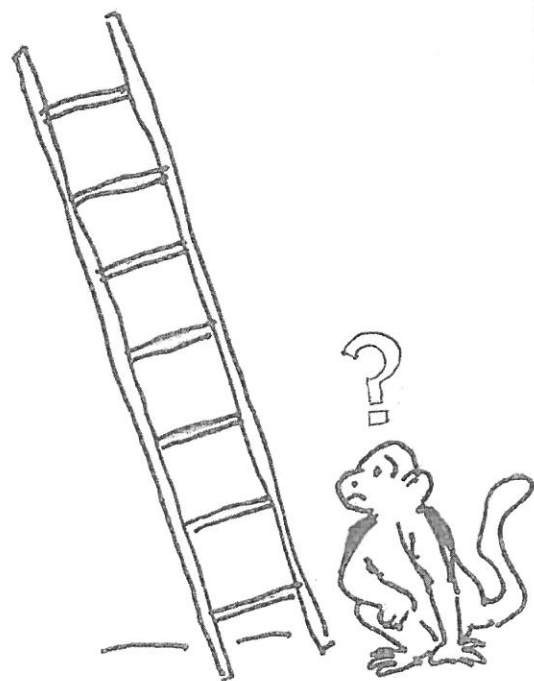
Step 2 (the inductive step)

Show that if your statement is true for n , then it must be true for $n+1$.

OR: To teach your monkey to climb a ladder, you need to teach him two tricks:

① how to get onto the first rung of the ladder.

② how to climb from each rung to the next.



Proof by Mathematical Induction

vs. Proof by STRONG Mathematical

Induction 4.4

Plain old Math induction

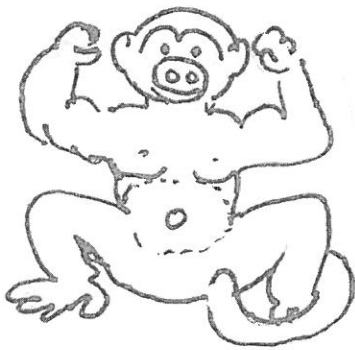
Idea: The proof of the inductive step only requires that you look back one step.

Proof Structure:

- ① Show true for first step.
- ② Show if true for a particular step, it's true for the next step.

STRONG Math Induction

Idea: The proof of the inductive step requires that you look back more than one step.



Proof Structure: (general)

- ① Show true for all n less than or equal to b .
- ② Assume true for all values less than or equal to k , show true for $k+1$. ($k > b$)

Proof Structure (typical):

- ① Show true for first two steps.
- ② Assume true for k and $k+1$, show true for $k+2$.