

1. Let $P(n)$ be the statement that $1^2 + 2^2 + \cdots + n^2 = n(n+1)(2n+1)/6$ for the positive integer n .
 - a) What is the statement $P(1)$?
 - b) Show that $P(1)$ is true, completing the basis step of a proof that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n .
 - c) What is the inductive hypothesis of a proof that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n ?
 - d) What do you need to prove in the inductive step of a proof that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n ?
 - e) Complete the inductive step of a proof that $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n , identifying where you use the inductive hypothesis.
 - f) Explain why these steps show that this formula is true whenever n is a positive integer.

2. a) Find a formula for

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \cdots + \frac{1}{2^n}$$

by examining the values of this expression for small values of n .

b) Prove the formula you conjectured in part (a).

3. What is wrong with this “proof”?

“Theorem” For every positive integer n , if x and y are positive integers with $\max(x, y) = n$, then $x = y$.

Basis Step: Suppose that $n = 1$. If $\max(x, y) = 1$ and x and y are positive integers, we have $x = 1$ and $y = 1$.

Inductive Step: Let k be a positive integer. Assume that whenever $\max(x, y) = k$ and x and y are positive integers, then $x = y$. Now let $\max(x, y) = k + 1$, where x and y are positive integers. Then $\max(x - 1, y - 1) = k$, so by the inductive hypothesis, $x - 1 = y - 1$. It follows that $x = y$, completing the inductive step.

4. a) Determine which amounts of postage can be formed using just 4-cent and 11-cent stamps.
- b) Prove your answer to (a) using the principle of mathematical induction. Be sure to state explicitly your inductive hypothesis in the inductive step.
- c) Prove your answer to (a) using strong induction. How does the inductive hypothesis in this proof differ from that in the inductive hypothesis for a proof using mathematical induction?

5. Consider this variation of the game of Nim. The game begins with n matches. Two players take turns removing matches, one, two, or three at a time. The player removing the last match loses. Use strong induction to show that if each player plays the best strategy possible, the first player wins if $n = 4j$, $4j + 2$, or $4j + 3$ for some nonnegative integer j and the second player wins in the remaining case when $n = 4j + 1$ for some nonnegative integer j .