

Notes on mathematical induction:

- (1) To use, must know conjecture in advance.
- (2) Proof by induction doesn't always give idea of why is true intuitively.

ex. In  $\sum_{k=1}^n (2k-1) = n^2$ , can see with a picture:

$n$	$1$
	$5$
$3$	$n$
$1$	

$2n+1$  added each time.

- (3) In the inductive step, you may prove instead  $P(n-1) \Rightarrow P(n)$ .
- (4) In the proof of induction, we had a set  $F = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid \neg P(n)\}$ , then said "let  $m$  be the least element of  $F$ ".

Well-Ordering Principle: Every non-empty set of natural numbers has a least element. Need this axiom to prove induction. Conversely, can prove this principle by assuming induction is true.

Problem.

Prove  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad x \geq -1 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad n \geq 1 \quad (1+x)^n \geq 1 + nx$ .

Note: This is a statement of the form:  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad (\forall x \in (-1, \infty), P(n, x))$ .  
proof.

(i) Base case.  $n = 1$ .

$$\text{LHS: } (1+x)^1$$

$$\text{RHS: } 1 \cdot 1 + x$$

True for  $n=1$  since both sides equal  $(1+x)$ .

(ii) Inductive step.

Let  $n \geq 1$ .

To prove  $(1+x)^{n+1} \geq 1 + (n+1)x$ , given  $(1+x)^n \geq 1 + nx$ .

Multiply both sides by  $(1+x)$ .

Assume since  $x \geq -1$ ,  $1+x \geq 0$ , sign of equality doesn't change.

$$(1+x)^{n+1} \geq (1+nx)(1+x) = 1 + nx + x + nx^2$$

$$= 1 + (n+1)x + \underline{nx^2} \quad \text{since } nx^2 \geq 0, \text{ safe to remove as equality is preserved.}$$

$$(1+x)^{n+1} \geq 1 + (n+1)x \text{ as required.}$$

By induction, true for all  $n$ .  $\square$

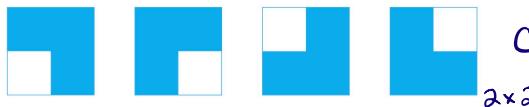
Problem.

Prove that for  $n \geq 1$ , any  $2^n \times 2^n$  checkerboard with a single square removed can be tiled with non-overlapping tiles of shape ...



mini example of our proof by induction:  
proof.

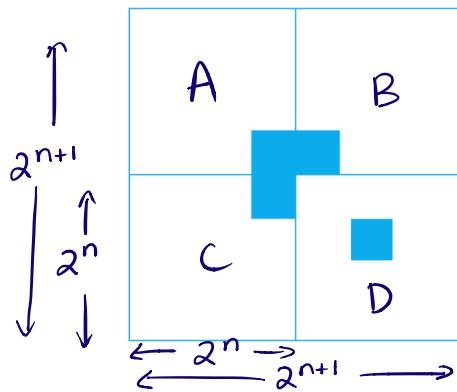
(i) Base case.  $n=1$



Clearly you can just use one tile.

(ii) Inductive step.

Let  $n \geq 1$ . Assume that any  $2^n \times 2^n$  board with one tile missing can be covered. Consider  $2^{n+1} \times 2^{n+1}$  board, one square missing.



Four sub-boards A, B, C, D each  $2^n \times 2^n$ . One is missing a square.

From A, B, C, D, temporarily remove the "middle corner" square.

By IA, A, B, C, D can be covered with the tiles. Fill in the three "middle squares" with a single tile.

Now, whole board is covered except missing square.

By induction, proved for all  $n \geq 1$ .  $\square$

Problem.

Let  $X$  be a finite set,  $|X| = n$ . Prove  $|P(X)| = 2^n$ .

Idea: Counting via bijection. Can count  $|X|$  indirectly by creating a bijection  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ , then counting  $|Y| = |X|$ .

Proof.

We want to prove  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \forall \text{ sets } X \quad |X| = n \Rightarrow |P(X)| = 2^n$ .

(i) Base case.  $n = 0$ .

Only one set  $\emptyset$  has size 0.  $P(\emptyset) = \{\emptyset\}$ .  $|P(\emptyset)| = 2^0$ .  $\checkmark$

(ii) Inductive step.

Let  $n \geq 0$ . Assume  $\forall X \quad |X| = n \Rightarrow |P(X)| = 2^n$ .

To prove  $\forall X \quad |X| = n+1 \Rightarrow |P(X)| = 2^{n+1}$ .

Let  $A$  be a set,  $|A| = n+1$ . Denote  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n+1}\}$ .

Define  $X = \{a_2, a_3, \dots, a_{n+1}\}$ . Note:  $|X| = n$ .

Partition  $P(A)$  into sets of type (I) and (II):

(I)  $Z \subseteq A$  such that  $a_1 \notin Z$ .

(II)  $Z \subseteq A$  such that  $a_1 \in Z$ .

Now count:

(I) These are precisely the subsets of  $X$ . Since  $|X| = n$  by IA, there are  $2^n$  of this type.

(II) To count these, define  $f: \{Z \subseteq A \mid a_1 \in Z\} \rightarrow P(X)$  by  $f(Z) = Z \setminus \{a_1\}$ .

Prove  $f$  is bijective.

$f$  is injective:

Let  $Z_1, Z_2$  in domain (i.e.  $a_1 \in Z_1, a_2 \in Z_2$ ).

Assume  $Z_1 \neq Z_2$ . Then,  $\exists a_i$  where  $a_i \in Z_1, a_i \notin Z_2$  (or vice-versa).

We know  $a_i \neq a_1$ . So,

$f(Z_1) = Z_1 \setminus \{a_1\}$  still contains  $a_i$

$f(Z_2) = Z_2 \setminus \{a_1\}$  still does not contain  $a_i$ .

Hence,  $f(Z_1) \neq f(Z_2)$ . So  $f$  is injective.

$f$  is surjective.

Let  $Z \in P(X)$  (i.e.  $Z \subseteq \{a_2, a_3, \dots, a_{n+1}\}$ ).

Then,  $Y = Z \cup \{a_1\}$  is type (II). So  $Y$  in domain  $f$  and

$f(Y) = (Z \cup \{a_1\}) \setminus \{a_1\} = Z$ . So is surjective

Hence,  $f: \text{(II)} \rightarrow P(X)$  is bijective.

So  $|\text{(II)}| = |P(X)| = 2^n$  by IA.

Finally,  $|P(A)| = |\text{(I)}| + |\text{(II)}|$

$$= 2^n + 2^n$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2^n$$

$$= 2^{n+1}. \quad \square$$

Theorem. Strong Induction.

Let  $P(n)$  be a predicate,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If:

(i)  $P(0)$  is true

(ii)  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} (P(0) \wedge P(1) \wedge \dots \wedge P(n)) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$

Problem.

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Prove  $n$  can be represented as a binary number, i.e. in the form:

$$n = b_0 \cdot 2^0 + b_1 \cdot 2^1 + \dots + b_k \cdot 2^k$$

for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  where each  $b_i \in \{0, 1\}$ .

Note: About binary addition,

$$\begin{array}{r} 1100 \\ + 0001 \\ \hline 1101 \text{ (even)} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 0111 \\ + 1 \\ \hline 1000 \text{ (odd)} \end{array}$$

proof.

(i) Base case.  $n=0$ .

Then  $n = 0 \cdot 2^0 = 0$ .  $\checkmark$

(ii) Inductive step.

Let  $n > 0$ . Assume  $\forall m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $m$  can be written in the correct form. Prove  $n+1$  has correct form.

Two cases:

Case 1:  $n+1$  odd, so  $n$  even.

By IA,  $n = b_0 \cdot 2^0 + b_1 \cdot 2^1 + \dots + b_k \cdot 2^k$ . Since  $n$  even and  $2^1, 2^2, \dots, 2^k$  are all even,  $b_0 = 0$ .

So  $n+1 = 1(2^0) + b_1 \cdot 2^1 + \dots + b_k \cdot 2^k$ .

Case 2:  $n+1$  even, so  $n+1 = 2m$ .

So  $m = \frac{n+1}{2} < n+1$ , so IA applies to  $m$ .

$$\text{Hence, } m = b_0 2^0 + b_1 2^1 + \cdots + b_k 2^k$$

$$n+1 = 2m = b_0 2^1 + b_1 2^2 + \cdots + b_k 2^{k+1}$$

By induction, true for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$