

Let  $S$  be given by

Basis:  $2 \in S$ ;  $5 \in S$ ;

Recursive: if  $x \in S$  then  $x+2 \in S$ .

Show that “ $n \in S$  for all integers  $n \geq 4$ ”.

**Answer:**

Prove by complete induction that for all  $n \geq 4$ ,  $n \in S$

Let  $P(n)$  be “for all  $n \geq 4$ ,  $n \in S$ ”

**Base Cases:**

$P(4)$ :  $2 \in S \Rightarrow 2+2 \in S \Rightarrow 4 \in S$

$P(5)$ :  $5 \in S$

**Inductive Hypothesis:**

$P(4), P(5), \dots, P(k)$  for  $k \geq 5$

**Inductive Step:**

We want to show that  $P(k+1)$ , that is  $k+1 \in S$ .

Using the inductive hypothesis,  $P(k-1)$  holds since  $k-1 \geq 4$ .

Thus,  $k-1 \in S$  (because  $k-1 \geq 4$ , since  $k \geq 5$ ).

Then, by definition we have  $(k-1)+2 \in S \Rightarrow k+1 \in S$ .

So  $P(k+1)$  holds.

By the principle of complete induction,  $P(n)$  holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \geq 4$ .