

## Books

- ✓ 1. Proof & Art of Mathematics  
Joel David Hamkins
- ✓ 2. Math... for G... Sci...  
Lehman, Leighton, Meyer
- 3. Invitation to D.M  
Matoušek & Nešetřil.
- 4. DM & its Applications  
Kenneth Rosen

## Course Topics

- 1. Logic and proofs
- 2. Set Theory
- 3. Combinatorics
- 4. Graph Theory
- 5. Discrete Probability.

## Video Series

MIT OCW 6.042J

## Grading

Test 1 : 20 } each test has 20% ques. from tutorials and  
Test 2 : 30 } 20% from problem sets.  
EndSem: 50      Tut & P.S are not graded.

\* How many ways can you fill an empty sudoku puzzle?

\* Is  $\sqrt{2}$  a rational number?

Ans. Let  $\sqrt{2}$  be a rational number.  
Then  $\sqrt{2} = \frac{p}{q}$ , where  $p, q$  are any 2 integers  
and  $p, q$  are coprimes,  $q \neq 0$

$$p^2 = 2q^2$$

Then  $p^2$  is an even number.

Then  $p$  is an even number, i.e;  $p = 2n$ .

$$4n^2 = 2q^2$$

$$2n^2 = q^2$$

Then  $q$  is also an even number

Here  $p, q$  are both even. They have a common factor of 2. Hence, they can't be co-primes.

Thus, by contradiction,  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational.

H.W

### Exercises

1. Prove that  $\sqrt{3}$  is not a rational number.
2. Do not prove that  $\sqrt{4}$  is not a rational number.
3. Prove that  $2^{1/3}$  is not a rational number.
4. Read the wikipedia article

5. Read the 29 proofs of irrationality of  $\sqrt{2}$  from  
[https://www.cut-the-knot.org/proofs/sq\\_root.shtml](https://www.cut-the-knot.org/proofs/sq_root.shtml)
6. Watch the numberphile video about root 2

1) Def: A number which can be represented in the form of  $\frac{p}{q}$ , where  $p \& q$  are integers,  $q \neq 0$ ,  $p$  and  $q$  are co-primes is said to be a Rational Number.

Thm:  $\sqrt{3}$  is not a rational number.

Proof: Let  $\sqrt{3}$  be a rational number.  
Then,

$$\sqrt{3} = \frac{p}{q}$$

$$p^2 = 3q^2$$

Here,  $p^2$  is a multiple of 3.  
Thus,  $p$  is also a multiple of 3.

$$(3n)^2 = 3q^2 \Rightarrow 9n^2 = 3q^2 \Rightarrow q^2 = 3n^2.$$

Now,  $q^2$  is also a multiple of 3.

As 3 is a common factor for  $p \nmid q$ ,  $p \nmid q$  can't be co-primes. Thus  $\sqrt{3}$  is not rational.

2) Def: A number which can be represented in the form of  $P/q$ , where  $p \nmid q$  are integers,  $q \neq 0$ ,  $P$  and  $q$  are co-primes is said to be a Rational Number.

Thm:  $\sqrt{4}$  is a rational number.

Proof:

$$\sqrt{4} = \frac{P}{Q}$$

$$P^2 = 4Q^2$$

$P$  is an even number. Let  $P = 2n$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$(2n)^2 = 4Q^2 \Rightarrow 4n^2 = 4Q^2 \Rightarrow n^2 = Q^2$$

$$\Rightarrow n = \pm Q$$

Thus  $\sqrt{4}$  is rational.

3) Def: A number which can be represented in the form of  $\frac{p}{q}$ , where  $p, q$  are integers,  $q \neq 0$ ,  $p$  and  $q$  are co-primes is said to be a Rational Number.

Thm:  $2^{\frac{1}{3}}$  is not a rational number

Proof: Let  $2^{\frac{1}{3}}$  be a rational number.

$$2^{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{p}{q}$$

$$p^3 = 2q^3$$

$p^3$  is an even number. Then  $p$  is even.

Let  $p = 2n$ , where  $n$  is an integer

Then,  $q^3 = 4n^3 \Rightarrow q^3$  is even  $\Rightarrow q$  is even

So,  $p$  and  $q$  have 2 as a common factor.

$\therefore 2^{\frac{1}{3}}$  is not a rational number.

## Question:-

## Conjecture - I

1. For which natural number  $n$  is  $\sqrt{n}$  rational?

Sol:-

For any natural no. 'n',  $\sqrt{n}$  is rational iff n is a perfect square.

Perfect Square :- A natural number  $n$  is a perfect square, if it can be represented as  $k^2$ , where  $k$  is an integer.

Lemma :- A natural number  $n$  is a perfect square iff the prime factorization of  $n$  has only even powers

→ Proof :- if ( $\Leftarrow$ )

Prime factorization of  $n$  has only even powers

$$\Rightarrow n = p_1^{d_1} \cdot p_2^{d_2} \cdots p_k^{d_k}; d_i \in \mathbb{N}, p_i \in \mathbb{P}$$

$\Rightarrow n = k^2$ , where

$$k = p_1^{d_1/2} \cdot p_2^{d_2/2} \cdots p_k^{d_k/2}$$

only if ( $\Rightarrow$ )

Assume  $n$  is a perfect square, i.e;  $n = k^2$

$$\text{If } k = q_1^{r_1} \cdot q_2^{r_2} \cdots q_k^{r_k}$$

$$n = k^2 = q_1^{2r_1} \cdot q_2^{2r_2} \cdots q_k^{2r_k}$$

$\Rightarrow n$  has prime factors with even powers

Proof:-

"if" ( $\Leftarrow$ )

If  $n$  is a perfect square, then by definition of perfect sq.,  $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , s.t.  $n = k^2$ . Therefore,

$\sqrt{n} = \sqrt{k^2} = \pm k$ , both of which are rational.

"only if" ( $\Rightarrow$ )

$$(\sqrt{n} \in \mathbb{Q}) \Rightarrow (\exists k \in \mathbb{Z} : n = k^2)$$

By definition of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$\exists p, q \in \mathbb{Z}, q \neq 0, \text{ s.t.}$$

$$\sqrt{n} = \frac{p}{q}$$

We also choose  $p, q$ , s.t.  $\text{GCD}(p, q) = 1$ .

$$n = p^2$$

$$n = \frac{p^2}{q^2}$$

~~By LHS~~
$$p^2 = nq^2$$

$p^2, q^2$  are perfect squares and thus have all even powered prime-factorization. So, if  $n$  has odd powered prime factors, the total power on the left hand side becomes odd, which contradicts the fact that powers are even on RHS.

So,  $n$  must have even powered prime factors. Which means,  $n$  has to be a perfect square.

$$(p^2 = nq^2) \Rightarrow (p = kq), \text{ for some } k = \sqrt{n} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

---

2. For which real number  $n$  is  $\sqrt{n}$  rational?

---

3. For which natural number  $n$  is  $k\sqrt{n}$  rational?

4. For any natural number  $n$ , show that  $n^2 - n$  is even.

Proof-I:-  $n^2 - n = n(n-1)$

$n$  &  $n-1$  are any two consecutive nos.

If  $n$  is an odd number,

let  $n = 2k+1$

then  $n-1 = 2k$ , which is even

So, for any 2 consecutive numbers, one of them will always be even. Hence, their product will also be even.

$\Rightarrow n^2 - n$  is even

Proof-II:-

If  $n$  is odd,  $n = 2k+1$ ,  $n^2 = 4k^2 + 4k + 1$

$$n^2 - n = 4k^2 + 2k \geq 2(2k^2 + k) = 2t, \text{ which is even}$$

If  $n$  is even,  $n = 2k$ ,  $n^2 = 4k^2$ .

$$n^2 - n = 4k^2 - 2k \geq 2(2k^2 - k) = 2t, \text{ which is even?}$$

$\therefore n^2 - n$  is even

Proof - III :-

$$n^2 - n = 2k + 1$$

$$n^2 - n - (2k + 1) = 0$$

$$\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 + 8k + 4}}{2}$$

2.

$$\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{8k + 5}}{2} \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Need to prove } 8k + 5 \\ \text{is never a perfect sq.} \end{array}$$

Proof - IV :-

$$\text{Let } n = 1 \Rightarrow n^2 - n = 1^2 - 1 = 0$$

Assume true for  $n = k \Rightarrow k^2 - k$  is even

Assume that for  $n = k \rightarrow k^2 - k$  is even.

Then for  $n = k+1$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow (k+1)^2 - (k+1) &= k^2 + 2k + 1 - k - 1 \\ &= (k^2 - k) + 2k \\ &\quad \text{even} \quad \text{even} \\ &= \text{even}.\end{aligned}$$

Proof - V

$$n^2 - n = n(n-1) = 2 \sum n = \underline{\text{even}}$$

Proof - VI

$n_{C_2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  has to be a Natural No.

$\Rightarrow n(n-1)$  is even

$n^2 - n$  is even.

---

Prime Numbers:

X Natural numbers with only 2 factors, i.e; 1 and

itself, are called prime numbers

not necessary.

✓ A number  $p$  is a positive integer greater than 1 and the only positive integers which divide  $p$  are 1 and itself

## Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic:-

⇒ Any positive integer can be written as a product of prime numbers. Moreover, the factorization is unique, up to the order of factors

\* "1" is defined as a product of an empty set.

### Prime Numbers:

> A Natural number other than 1 who is divisible by two and only two other natural number; that number itself and 1.

\* Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetics: Any positive integer can be expressed as the product of prime numbers. Moreover, the factorisation is unique up to the order of factors.

↓ A number  $p$  is prime if  $p \geq 2$  and the only positive integer

which divide  $p$  are 1 and  $p$

\* Product of empty set = 1 ; Sum of empty set = 0  
multiplicative Identity additive identity.

### Proof

$P(n)$   $n$  can be written as a product of prime numbers.

Statement:  $\forall n \geq 1 P(n)$  is true.

Base case:  $n=1$ ;  $P(1)$  is true because 1 is the empty product.

Strong Induction Hypothesis:  $P(i)$  is true for  $1 \leq i \leq k$

Goal  $\Rightarrow$  Show that  $P(k+1)$  is true.

If  $k+1$  is prime, we are done!

If  $k+1$  is composite:

$\exists$  two integers  $a$  &  $b$  such that  
 $a < k+1$  &  $b < k+1$   
s.t  $\underline{a \times b = k+1}$

Since  $a \& b < k+1$ ; they lie in the range  $(1, k)$   
we have already established this property in **Strong Induction Hypothesis**

## Division Rule

For any 2 positive integers  $n \& d$ , there exists unique non-negative integer  $q$  and  $r$  such that  $n = qd+r$  and  $0 \leq r < d$ .

Proof:-

Suppose  $n = qd+r$ ,

Suppose

$$n = q_2 d + r_2$$

$\Rightarrow r_1 - r_2 = d(q_2 - q_1)$ . So,  $(r_1 - r_2)$  is a mul. of  $d$ .

$r_1, r_2 \in (0, d) \Rightarrow -(d-1) \leq r_1 - r_2 \leq d-1$

$\Rightarrow r_1 - r_2 = 0$ , as  $0$  is the only mul. of  $d$  in the range.

$$\Rightarrow r_1 = r_2$$

$$\Rightarrow q_1 = q_2$$

Let  $a$  be the smallest non-neg int that cannot be written as  $(n - qd)$ , for some non-neg.  $q$ .

$a \geq 0$  and  $a < d$  ( $\text{if } a \geq d, \text{ repeats}$ )  
subtr. can continue

## Bezout's Identity: (This works for all integers)

For any 2 positive integers  $a$  and  $b$  which are relatively prime, there exists  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t,

$$\alpha a + \beta b = 1$$

Relatively prime:

Only positive common factor  
is 1.

Proof:

Let  $k$  be the smallest pos. int. that can be represented as

$k = \lambda a + \beta b$ , for  $\lambda, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a, b$  are co-primes

$$S = \left\{ i : i \geq 1, i = \lambda a + \beta b \text{ for some } \lambda, \beta \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

Claim:- k divides a.

Let  $a = qk + r$ ,  $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $0 < r < k-1$

$$r = a - qk$$

$$r = a - q(\lambda a + \beta b)$$

$$r = (1 - q\lambda)a - \beta q b$$

$$r = \lambda' a - \beta' q \quad ; \quad \lambda', 1 - q\lambda, \beta' = -\beta \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Then  $r \in S \cup \{0\}$

$\Rightarrow r \notin S$ , as then r will become the smallest counter example, which is a contradiction

$$\text{So, } r=0$$

$$a = qk \Rightarrow k \text{ divides } a.$$

\* Similarly, k divides b

$\Rightarrow k$  is a common factor of a and b. As a and b are relatively prime, their only common factor is 1

Hence,

$$k=1$$

Euclid's Lemma:  $p \rightarrow \text{prime}$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$

If p divides ab then p will divide atleast one of a, b.

$$(p|ab) \Rightarrow (p|a) \vee (p|b)$$

Proof:-

Given  $p|ab$ .

\* If  $p|a$ , we are done.

\* Otherwise  $p, a$  are relatively prime. (Only pos.c.f is 1)  
Then by Bezout's identity,  $\exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.

$$\alpha a + \beta p = 1.$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha ab + \beta pb = b.$$

\*  $p|\alpha ab$  ( $\because p|ab$ ) }  
\*  $p|\beta pb$  }  $\Rightarrow$  Their sum is a multiple of  $p$

Thus,  $b$  is a multiple of  $p$ .

Euclid's Lemma <sup>+</sup>:

If  $p$  is prime and  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k$  are any  $k$  integers such that  $p|a_1 a_2 \dots a_k$ , then  $p$  divides atleast one of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k$ .

Proof: Use Induction

Proof of Uniqueness of Prime Factorization:

Let  $n$  be the smallest counter example.  
Then, it has two different prime factorization.

Let  $n = p_1 p_2 \dots p_k = q_1 q_2 \dots q_l$  ( $p_i, q_j$  are all primes)

From Euclid's Lemma<sup>+</sup>,  $p_1 | \text{LHS} \Rightarrow p_1 | \text{RHS}$

$$\Rightarrow p_1 | q_1 \dots q_l$$

$$\Rightarrow p_1 | q_j, \quad 1 \leq j \leq l$$

$\Rightarrow p_1$  is either 1 or  $q_j$

$$\Rightarrow p_1 = q_j$$

$$\cancel{p_1 p_2 \dots p_k} = q_1 q_2 \dots q_{j-1} \cancel{q_j} q_{j+1} \dots q_l$$

$\Rightarrow$  Then  $p_2 \dots p_k$  is a number less than  $n$  (say  $n_1$ )

\* As  $n$  is the smallest counter example,  $n_1$  will have unique prime factorization

\* So,  $p_2 \dots p_k$  is the same thing as  $q_1 \dots q_j q_{j+1} \dots q_l$

\* As  $p_1 = q_j$  also, this proves that the prime factorization of  $n$  is also unique.

$\Rightarrow n^p - n$  is divisible by  $p$ , for any prime number  $p$  and an integer  $n$ .

Proof (Proof by Induction on  $n$ ).

i)  $n=0 \Rightarrow 0^p - 0 = 0$ ; 0 is divisible by  $p$

ii)  $n=k \Rightarrow k^p - k$ , assume it is divisible by  $p$ .

(iii)  $n = k+1$ .

$$\Rightarrow (k+1)^p - (k+1) = \binom{p}{0} k^p + \binom{p}{1} k^{p-1} + \dots + \binom{p}{p-1} k^1 + \binom{p}{p} k^0 - k - 1$$
$$= \binom{p}{1} k^1 + \dots + \binom{p}{p-1} k^1 + k^0 - k.$$

All are multiples of p

divisible by p  
by induction

$$= p(N).$$

$\therefore n^p - n$  is divisible by  $p$ , for any prime no.  $p$ .

## Induction:-

### 1. a. Least element principle

If there is a natural number with a certain property  $P$ , then there exists a smallest natural number with property  $P$ .

### b. Well ordering principle

Every non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{N}$  has a least element.

$\Rightarrow$  We can consider / "represent" a property as a set and vice versa.

$\rightarrow S = \{x : x \text{ has property } P\}$  for any property  $P$

$\rightarrow x$  has property  $P$  iff  $x \in S$ .

e.g:-  $2 \in S$ , If  $x \in S$ , then  $x^2 \in S$

$$S = \{2, 4, 16, 256, 73728, \dots\}$$

$$S = \{2^{2^n}, n \geq 0, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Assume Least Element Principle and prove well-ordering principle.

Let  $S$  be any non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{N}$ .

Define property  $P$  as membership in  $S$ .

$\Rightarrow$  There exists a smallest natural no. which has prop.  $P$ .  
(say  $n$ )

$x$  has  $P \Rightarrow x \in S$ .

Proof by contradiction that  $x$  is the smallest nat. no.  
in  $S$ .

## 2. Common Induction principle

a. Let  $P$  be any property of natural number.

If

A.  $0$  has  $P$ , and,

B.  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}; (k \text{ has } P) \Rightarrow (k+1 \text{ has } P)$

Then.

C. All natural numbers have P.

b. let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$

If

A.  $0 \in S$ , and.

B.  $\forall k (k \in S \Rightarrow k+1 \in S)$

Then

C.  $S = \mathbb{N}$

$$[(0 \in S) \wedge \forall k (k \in S \Rightarrow k+1 \in S)] \Rightarrow S = \mathbb{N}$$

### 3. Strong Induction Principle

a. let Q be any property of Natural nos

If

A. 0 has Q, and,

B.  $\forall k [(\text{All natural nos from } 0 \text{ to } k \text{ has } Q) \Rightarrow k+1 \text{ has } Q]$

Then.

C. All natural nos have Q.

b. let  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$

If

A.  $0 \in S$ , and.

B.  $\forall k (\{0, \dots, k\} \subset S \Rightarrow k+1 \in S)$

Then

C.  $S = \mathbb{N}$

$$[(0 \in S) \wedge \forall k (\{0, \dots, k\} \subset S \Rightarrow k+1 \in S)] \Rightarrow S = \mathbb{N}$$

$\text{CIP} \Leftrightarrow \text{SIP}$

\* Let  $k$  have Prop  $P$ , if all natural nos from  $0$  to  $k$  have prop  $Q$ .

$\Rightarrow 0$  has  $P$  as  $0$  has  $Q$ .

$\Rightarrow k$  has  $P$  as  $0, \dots, k$  have  $Q$

$\Rightarrow k+1$  has  $P$  also,  $\dots, k+1$  have  $Q$ .

$\Rightarrow$  All natural nos have  $P$ , so, all natural nos have  $Q$ .

Applying  
Strong prop  
 $P$  on  $Q$ .

Prove CIP using LEP.

$\Rightarrow$  We have,

$0$  has  $P$

$\forall k (k \text{ has } P \Rightarrow k+1 \text{ has } P)$

Suppose, the prop (All IN have P) be false. So, there will be a natural no. that has property NOT P =  $\neg P = Q$  (let)

From LEP, there exists a smallest nat. no. (say  $x_1$ ), which has Q.

$\rightarrow x \neq 0$  ( $\because 0$  has P).

$\rightarrow x_1 > 0$ , hence  $x_1 - 1$  is a nat. no.

If  $x_1$  is smallest nat. no. with Q, then

$x_1 - 1$  will have P.

If  $x_1 - 1$  has P  $\Rightarrow (x_1 - 1) + 1 = x_1$  has P.

So, no such  $x_1$  exist. By contradiction, we can say all Nat. no.'s has prop Q.

Hence proved

My name is K. Parjanya ✌

Fibonacci Sequence:

$f_0 = 0, f_1 = 1, \forall n \geq 2, f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$ .

Theorem:-  $\sum_{i=0}^n f_i^2 = f_n f_{n+1}$

Proof:- Base Case:-  $n=0$

$$0 \cdot 0 \cdot 1 = 0$$

Assume true for  $n \geq k$ .  $\Rightarrow \sum_{i=0}^k f_i^2 = f_k f_{k+1}$

$$\text{For } n \geq k+1; \quad \sum_{i=0}^{k+1} f_i^2 = \sum_{i=0}^k f_i^2 + f_{k+1}^2$$

$$= f_k \cdot f_{k+1} + f_{k+1}^2$$

$$= f_{k+1} (f_k + f_{k+1})$$

$$= f_{k+1} \cdot f_{k+2}$$

Hence proved

## 4-color Theorem:-

Theorem:- Any planar map formed using edge to edge or closed curves alone is 2-colorable.

Proof:-

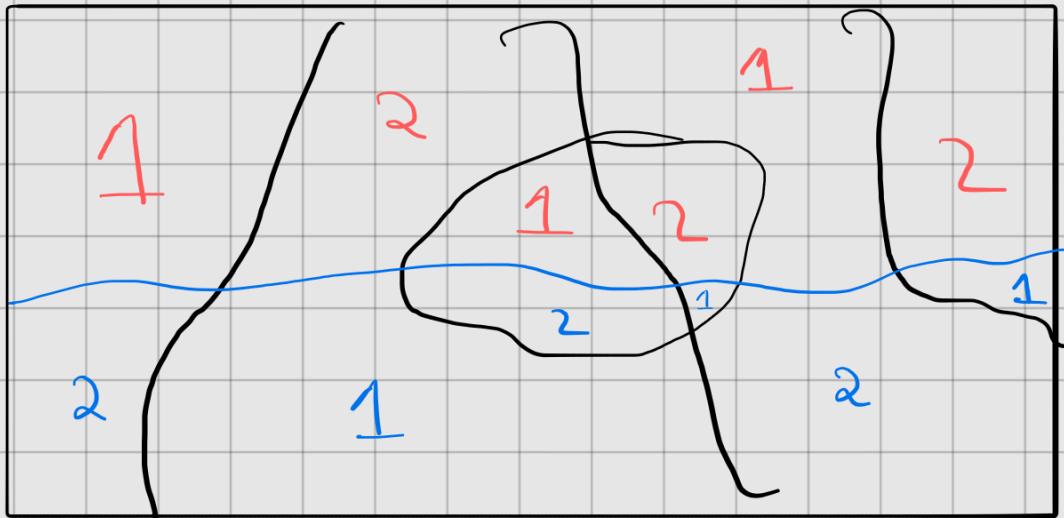
Base case: consider an empty rectangle. It is colored with 1-col.

Consider it true for  $k$ -lines

$n=k+1$

For a new line added, it splits the region into 2 parts. Here, retain the coloring in one region and flip the coloring in the other.

Then, it becomes true for  $k+1$



My name is K. Parjanya ☺

### Bézout's Theorem:-

For any 2 nat. nos  $a, b$ ;  $\text{GCD}(a, b)$  is the smallest number that can be written as  $\lambda a + \beta b$  for some  $\lambda, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Lemma:  $\text{gcd}(a, b) = \text{gcd}(b, a-b)$  ;  $a > b$

```
def gcd(a,b):  
    c= max(a,b)  
    d= min(a,b).
```

```

if d == 0:
    return c
return gcd(d, c-d)

```

But  $\text{gcd}(b, a-b) = \text{gcd}(b, a-2b) \dots = \text{gcd}(b, a \cdot 1 \cdot b)$

```

def gcd(a, b):
    if b == 0:
        return a
    else:
        return gcd(b, a % b)

```

Proof:-

$$b \geq 0$$

$$\text{gcd}(a, 0) = a = 1 \cdot a + 0 \cdot b$$

Let be true for  $b \geq k$ .

$$\text{gcd}(a, b) = d = \underbrace{\text{gcd}(b, a-b)}$$

smaller case.

$$d = \alpha'(b) + \beta'(a-b) \quad (\text{Using induction})$$

$$1 = \alpha'(1) + \beta'(0)$$

$$a_2 = \beta^2 a + (\lambda^2 - \beta^2) b.$$

Hence proved.

$\Rightarrow$  What is the maximum no. of slices into which we can cut a pizza using only straight lines.

Sg

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\rightarrow 1 \\ 1 &\rightarrow 2 )+1 \\ 2 &\rightarrow 4 )+2 \\ 3 &\rightarrow 7 )+3 \\ 4 &\rightarrow 11 )+4 \\ 5 &\rightarrow 16 : \end{aligned}$$

Base Case:  $f(0) = 1$

Ind. Step:  $f(k) = \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} f(k+1) &= f(k) + k+1 = \frac{k(k+1) + 2k + 2}{2} + 1 \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Every time we create a new line, we cut through all the previous lines at diff. points.

$$\Rightarrow \text{Max} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + 1 = n+1 \left\lfloor \frac{n+1}{2} + 1 \right\rfloor$$

Base Case:  $f(0) = 0 + 1 = 1$

Ind. hyp:  $f(k)$  is the max no. of pieces with  $k$  lines

Ind. step :-  $f(k+1) \leq f(k) + (k+1)$

Proof :- Let  $l$  be any of the lines

- Remove  $l$ .
- we get at most  $f(k)$  pieces
- $l$  can intersect at most  $k+1$  pieces
- As the boundary b( $\cup$  among 2 old pieces of one of the 2 old lines

$$\underline{f(k+1) \leq f(k) + (k+1)}$$

→ By adjusting the line  $l$ , we can make it intersect with all old lines at distinct points

$$f(k+1) \geq f(k) + (k+1)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(k+1) \geq f(k) + (k+1)$$

⇒ Find the min. no. of moves to solve the Towers of Hanoi puzzle with  $n$ -discs

$$f(n) = f(n-1) + 1 + f(n-1)$$

$$f(n) = 2f(n-1) + 1$$

$$f(n) + 1 = 2[f(n-1) + 1]$$

$$(f(n) + 1) = 2^n (f(1) + 1)$$

$n$	Moves
1	1
2	3
3	7

$$\begin{array}{c|c} 4 & 15 \\ \hline 5 & 31 \end{array}$$

$$f(n) \sim 2^{\lfloor f(0) + 1 \rfloor}$$

$$\underline{f(n) \sim 2^n - 1}$$

---

