

# Abstract Algebra

## Day 1: The $\mathbb{Z}$ Axioms

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# The $\mathbb{Z}$ Axioms

There is a set  $\mathbb{Z}$ , whose elements are called *integers*, which is equipped with two operations  $+$  and  $\cdot$  and a binary relation  $\leq$  which satisfy the following properties.

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- U. There is an integer  $1$  such that  $a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a = a$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- Z. If  $ab = 0$ , then either  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

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That is, if  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  is not empty, there is a natural number  $m \in S$  such that  $m \leq s$  for all  $s \in S$ .

# Consequences

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- ... etc.

# Principle of Mathematical Induction

## Theorem (Induction)

*Suppose  $B \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  is a subset such that*

- $0 \in B$  (the Base Case) and
- If  $n \in B$ , then  $n + 1 \in B$  (the Inductive Step).

*Then  $B = \mathbb{N}$ .*

## Theorem (Strong Induction)

*Suppose  $B \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  is a subset such that*

- $0 \in B$  and
- If  $k \in B$  for all  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , then  $n + 1 \in B$ .

*Then  $B = \mathbb{N}$ .*

Proof: Use WOP. These two statements are equivalent in power, but sometimes Strong Induction is convenient.

# Principle of Mathematical Induction: Examples

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$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{n}{n+1}$$

*(Hint: Use two base cases, 0 and 1.)*