

Induction

CSCI 170 Spring 2021

Sandra Batista

1.1-1.2

Induction

- **Induction**
- Strengthening the Inductive Hypothesis
- Strong Induction
- Error Checking

Induction

To prove claims of the form: $\forall n \in N : P(n)$

We apply proof technique called **induction**.

Examples of claims:

> 0

For any integer n , there exists a way to tile a $2 \times n$ grid with dominoes.

> 0

For any integer n , $3n+2$ is odd.

Induction

To prove claims of the form: $\forall n \in N : P(n)$

We apply proof technique called **induction**.

To prove a claim holds for any natural number:

1. Show the base case(s), i.e. the claim holds for $n=0$, $P(0)$.
2. Assume the inductive hypothesis. This means to assume that the predicate holds for a specific value, e.g. Assume $P(n)$ holds.
3. For the inductive step, use the inductive hypothesis to show that the predicate holds for the next value.

$$P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$$

Why Induction Works

- Show $P(0)$ directly.
- If we then show $P(0) \rightarrow P(1)$, then by modus ponens, $P(1)$ holds.
- Now use $P(1)$ holds and show $P(1) \rightarrow P(2)$, so by modus ponens $P(2)$ holds.
- $P(2)$ holds and show $P(2) \rightarrow P(3)$, so by modus ponens $P(3)$ holds.
- For any n , we can apply this sequence of inferences using the inductive step n times to show that $P(n)$ holds.

Induction Example

$$P(3): \sum_{i=0}^3 2^i = 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 = 1 + 2 + 4 + 8 = 15 =$$

Exercise: For any n in the natural numbers, show

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} P(n): \sum_{i=0}^n 2^i = 2^{n+1} - 1$$

Proof by Induction:

Base case: $n=0 \quad \sum_{i=0}^0 2^i = 2^0 = 1 = 2^{0+1} - 1 = 1 \checkmark$

Inductive hypothesis (IH): Assume $P(n)$ (for some specific n)

Inductive Step: Show $P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$

$$P(n+1): \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} 2^i = \sum_{i=0}^n 2^i + 2^{n+1} = 2^{n+1} - 1 + 2^{n+1} = 2^{n+2} - 1 \checkmark$$

by IH $P(n+1)$ holds

Induction Example

$$P(3) = \sum_{i=0}^3 i = 0+1+2+3 = 6 = \frac{3(4)}{2}$$

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \ P(n)$:

Exercise: For any n in the natural numbers, show

$$\sum_{i=0}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

Proof by Induction:

Base case: $n=0 \ P(0) : \sum_{i=0}^0 i = 0 = \frac{0(0+1)}{2}$

IH: Assume $P(n)$ (for some specific n)

Inductive step: Show $P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$

$$P(n+1) : \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} i = \sum_{i=0}^n i + (n+1) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + \frac{2(n+1)}{2} = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$$

by IH $P(n+1)$ holds

Induction

- Induction
- **Strengthening the Inductive Hypothesis**
- Strong Induction
- Error Checking

Strengthening the Inductive Hypothesis

- Sometimes, we may prove a stronger or more specific result in order to prove a statement.
- This is called **strengthening the inductive hypothesis**.

Example: Show for any n greater than or equal to 0, $\sum_{i=0}^n i = \Theta(n^2)$

We have already shown the stronger, more specific statement:

For any n greater than or equal to 0, $\sum_{i=0}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

The previous claim follows since $\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \in \Theta(n^2)$

Strengthening Inductive Hypothesis Example

Exercise: Show that for any natural number k greater than or equal to 1, the sum of the first k odd positive integers is a perfect square. A perfect square is an integer squared.

$$\forall k \geq 1 \quad P(k): \sum_{i=1}^k (2i-1) = x^2 \text{ for some } x \in \mathbb{Z}^{>0}$$

How to start?

$$2 \sum_{i=1}^k i - \sum_{i=1}^k 1$$

$$\frac{k(k+1)}{2} - k = k^2$$

Strengthening Inductive Hypothesis Example

Exercise: Show that for any natural number k greater than or equal to 1, the sum of the first k odd positive integers is a perfect square. A perfect square is an integer squared.

$$\forall k \geq 1, \sum_{i=1}^k (2i-1) = k^2 : P(k)$$

Base case: $P(1)$ $k=1$ $\sum_{i=1}^1 (2i-1) = 2 \cdot 1 - 1 = 1 = 1^2$ ✓

IH: Assume $P(k)$ (for some specific k)

Inductive Step: $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$

$$P(k+1): \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2i-1) = \sum_{i=1}^k (2i-1) + (2(k+1)-1) = k^2 + 2k + 2 - 1 = (k+1)^2$$

By IH $P(k+1)$ ✓

Strengthening Inductive Hypothesis Example

Prove that any 2^n by 2^n board with a middle square removed can be tiled with L-shaped tiles for any n greater than or equal to 1.

Strengthen Inductive Hypothesis: Show that any 2^n by 2^n board with any square removed can be tiled with L-shaped tiles for any n greater than or equal to 1.

Our predicate, P(n): A 2^n by 2^n board with any square removed can be tiled with L-shaped tiles

We are showing that P(n) holds for any n greater than or equal to 1.

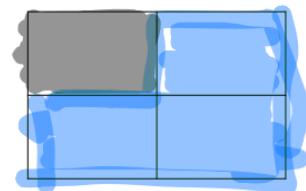
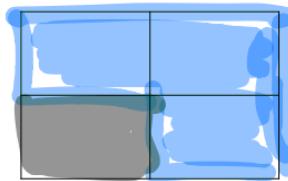
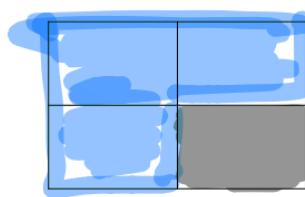
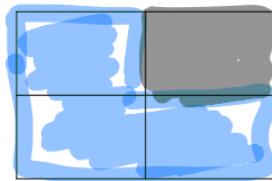
We will show how to do so constructively in proof.

Strengthening Inductive Hypothesis Example

Strengthen Inductive Hypothesis: Show that any 2^n by 2^n board with any square removed can be tiled with L-shaped tiles for any n greater than or equal to 1.

Proof by Induction:

Base case: $n = 1$



Assume the inductive hypothesis: Assume $P(n)$ holds for some specific value n greater than or equal to 1.

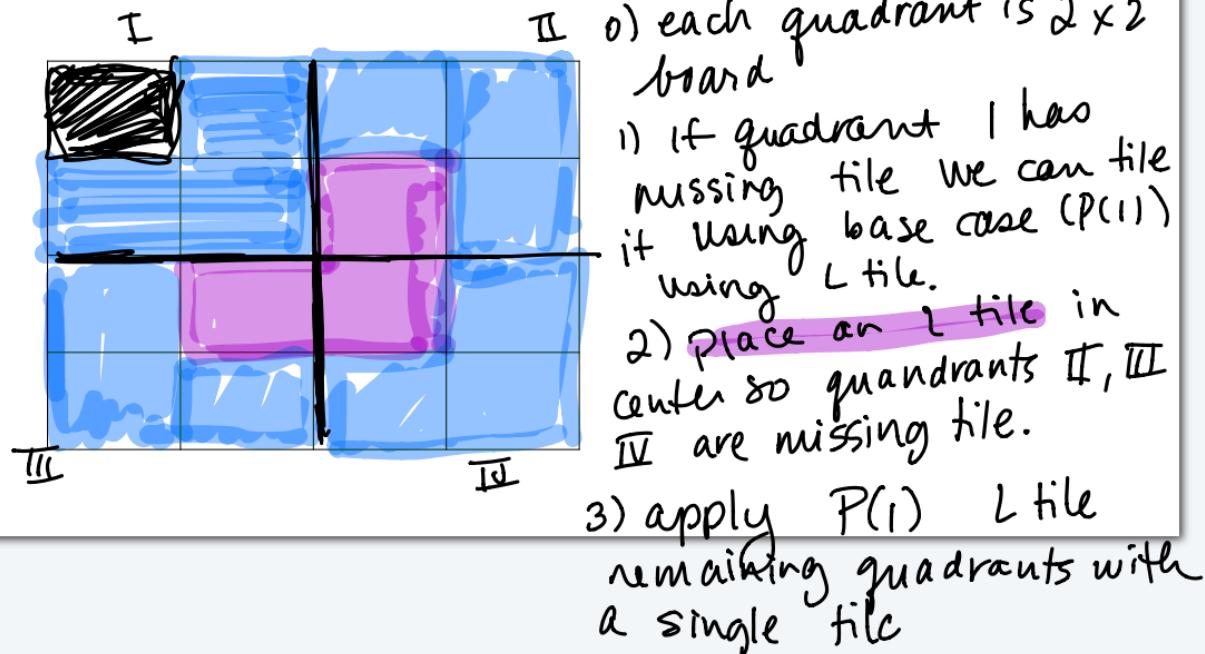
A 2^n by 2^n board with any square removed can be tiled with L-shaped tiles.

Strengthening Inductive Hypothesis Example

$P(1) \rightarrow P(2)$

Strengthen Inductive Hypothesis: Show that any 2^n by 2^n board with any square removed can be tiled with L-shaped tiles for any n greater than or equal to 1.

Before we get to the inductive step, let's consider n = 2. How can we use the base case, n = 1, showing that we can tile a 2x2 board to tile this 4x4 board?

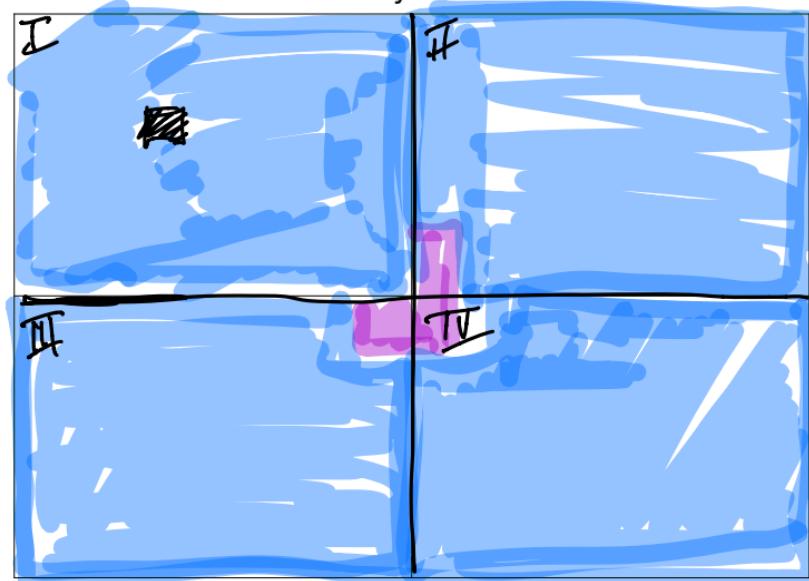


Strengthening Inductive Hypothesis Example

Strengthen Inductive Hypothesis: Show that any 2^n by 2^n board with any square removed can be tiled with L-shaped tiles for any n greater than or equal to 1.

Inductive Step. Assume we can tile a 2^n by 2^n board with any square removed using L-tiles.

Show we can tile a 2^{n+1} by 2^{n+1}



o/ separate the $2^{n+1} \times 2^{n+1}$ board into 4 quadrants, $2^n \times 2^n$ boards

1) wLOG quadrant I missing tile by 1H we can tile $2^n \times 2^n$ board w/ L tiles

2) place an L tile in center of board so that each remaining quadrant is missing a tile

3) by 1H we can L-tile the $2^n \times 2^n$ boards that are

quadrants II, III, IV

Induction

- Induction
- Strengthening the Inductive Hypothesis
- **Strong Induction**
- Error Checking

Is Weak Induction Necessary?

Given how induction works, does it matter if we show the base case and assume for some specific value, $n-1$, that $P(n-1) \rightarrow P(n)$?

We can show through many steps of inference:

$P(0) \rightarrow P(1) \rightarrow P(2) \rightarrow P(3) \rightarrow P(4) \rightarrow \dots$

What if we could assume many hypotheses at once?

Strong Induction

To prove claims of the form: $\forall n \in N : P(n)$

We apply proof technique called **strong induction**.

To prove a claim holds for any natural number:

1. Show the base case(s), i.e. the claim holds for $n=0$, $P(0)$.
2. Assume the inductive hypothesis. Assume the predicate holds for all values from the base case to a specific value:

$$P(0) \wedge P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge \cdots \wedge P(n)$$

$$\forall 0 \leq k \leq n : P(k)$$

3. For the inductive step, use the inductive hypothesis to show that the predicate holds for the next value.

$$P(0) \wedge P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge \cdots \wedge P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$$

Strong Induction Example

Exercise: Show that for any n greater than or equal to 12, n cents in postage can be formed using only 4-cent and 5-cent stamps.

$$\forall n \geq 12 \quad P(n): n = 4x + 5y \quad x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$$

Proof by Induction:

Base case: $P(12) : \begin{array}{ll} 4¢ & 5¢ \\ x=3 & y=0 \end{array}$

$P(13) : \begin{array}{ll} 4¢ & 5¢ \\ x=2 & y=1 \end{array}$

$P(14) : \begin{array}{ll} 4¢ & 5¢ \\ x=1 & y=2 \end{array}$

$P(15) : \begin{array}{ll} 4¢ & 5¢ \\ x=0 & y=3 \end{array}$

It : Assume $P(12) \wedge P(13) \wedge P(14) \wedge P(15) \wedge \dots \wedge P(n)$
 $\forall 12 \leq k \leq n \quad P(k) \text{ for some specific } n$

Strong Induction Example

Exercise: Show that for any n greater than or equal to 12, n cents in postage can be formed using only 4-cent and 5-cent stamps.

Proof by Induction:

Inductive step Assume $\forall n \geq 12, P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge P(3) \wedge P(4) \wedge P(5) \wedge \dots \wedge P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$

$$n+1 = (n-3) + 4 \quad (\text{use a 4¢ stamp to cover the extra cent but need to cover } n-3 \text{ cents in stamps})$$

Since $12 \leq (n-3) \leq n$ by $\forall n \geq 12, P(n-3)$ holds.

$$\Rightarrow n-3 = 4x^* + 5y^* \quad x^*, y^* \in \mathbb{Z}^{>0}$$

$$\Rightarrow n+1 = 4(x^*+1) + 5y^* \quad \text{let } \underline{x} = x^* + 1, y = y^*$$

\Rightarrow by $\forall n \geq 12, P(n+1)$ holds and claim follows

* use 1 more 4¢ stamp than was used for $n-3$

Strong Induction Example

Recall the Fibonacci Sequence: $f_0=0, f_1=1, f_2=1, f_3=2, f_4=3, f_5=5, \dots$

What is the recursive or inductive definition for the Fibonacci sequence?

Base cases:

$$f_0 = 0 \quad f_1 = 1 \quad (\text{or } f_1 = 1, f_2 = 1)$$

Recursive or inductive case: Define the sequence in terms of earlier terms in the same sequence itself

$$f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$$

Strong Induction Example

Let's prove the following predicate for the Fibonacci sequence where $\alpha = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} < 1.7$:

$$\forall n \geq 3 : P(n) = f_n > \alpha^{n-2}$$

[Useful fact: $a^2 = a + 1$.]

Proof by Induction:

Base case: $P(3) : f_3 = 2 > \alpha^{3-2} < 1.7 \quad \checkmark$

$$P(4) : f_4 = 3 > \alpha^{4-2} \approx 2.89 \quad \checkmark$$

Strong Itt : Assume $P(3) \wedge P(4) \wedge \dots \wedge P(n)$ holds
for some specific $n \geq 4$ $\forall 3 \leq k \leq n P(k)$

Strong Induction Example

Let's prove the following predicate for the Fibonacci sequence where $\alpha = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} < 1.7$:

$$\forall n \geq 3 : P(n) = f_n > \alpha^{n-2}$$

[Useful fact: $a^2 = a + 1$.]

Proof by Induction:

Inductive step

$$\text{Show } P(3) \wedge P(4) \wedge \dots \wedge P(n) \stackrel{n \geq 4}{\Rightarrow} P(n+1)$$

$f_{n+1} = f_n + f_{n-1} > \alpha^{n-2} + \alpha^{n-3} \quad (\text{by } P(n) \wedge P(n-1))$

$f_{n+1} > \alpha^{n-3} (a+1)$

$f_{n+1} > \alpha^{n-3} (a^2)$

$f_{n+1} > \alpha^{n-1}$

$P(n+1) \text{ holds } \checkmark$

$P(n) \wedge P(n-1)$ hold

Induction

- Induction
- Strengthening the Inductive Hypothesis
- Strong Induction
- **Error Checking**

Error Checking

: textbook exercise

Bold claim: Every horse is the same color!



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY

Error Checking

Bold claim: Every horse is the same color!



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)

Induction

- Induction
- Strengthening the Inductive Hypothesis
- Strong Induction
- Error Checking