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1 5.1 Weak Induction

2 5.2 Strong Induction

2.1 Example

Prove that any positive integer can be written as a sum of 2^k , where k 's are distinct.

Proof:

1. Basis step:

$$1 = 2^0, 2 = 2^1, 3 = 2^0 + 2^1$$

2. Inductive step:

We assume that k can be written as a sum of distinct powers of 2.

Where $1 \leq k \leq n$, we want to show that $n + 1$ is a sum of distinct powers of 1.

Consider the following cases

- (a) $n = \sum 2^r$, where r is some distinct positive integers. Then $n + 1 = 1 + \sum 2^r = 2^0 + \sum 2^r$ is a sum of distinct powers of 2.
- (b) $n = 1 + \sum 2^s$, where s is some distinct positive integers. Then $n + 1 = 1 + \sum 2^s + 1 = 2 + \sum 2^s = 2(1 + \sum 2^{s-1})$. Since $n \geq 1$, $\frac{n+1}{2} = 1 + \sum 2^{s-1}$, then $\frac{n+1}{2}$ is a sum of distinct powers of 2.