

### Strong Induction:

$P(n)$  be a proposition for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Then  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n$  if

$$\begin{cases} P(1) \text{ is true} \\ P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k) \Rightarrow P(k+1) \text{ is true} \end{cases}$$

for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ .

$$P(1) \Rightarrow P(2)$$

$$P(1), P(2) \Rightarrow P(3)$$

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Problem: Show that every positive integer is a sum of distinct non-negative powers of 2.

Solution:  $1 = 2^0$      $3 = 2^0 + 2^1$      $5 = 2^2 + 2^0$      $7 = 2^2 + 2^1 + 2^0$   
 $\rightarrow 2 = 2^1$      $4 = 2^2$      $6 = 2^2 + 2^1$      $8 = 2^3$ .

Binary Representation of a Positive integer is unique.

Proof:

$P(n)$ :  $n$  can be written as sum of distinct non-negative integer powers of 2.

Base Case:  $P(1)$  is true as  $1 = 2^0$ .

Inductive Step: Assume  $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k)$  are true.

Consider the case  $P(k+1)$

Let  $2^m$  is the higher power of 2 less than  $k+1$ .

$$k+1 = \text{remainder } r + 2^m.$$

$r < 2^m < k+1$  then  $P(r)$  is true for

$$\rightarrow r = 2^{l_1} + 2^{l_2} + \dots + 2^{l_s} + \dots + 2^{l_n} \text{ where } l_n > l_{n-1} > \dots > l_1.$$

$$\Rightarrow k+1 = 2^m + 2^{l_1} + 2^{l_2} + \dots + 2^{l_n}.$$

where  $m > l_n > l_{n-1} > \dots > l_1$ .

$\therefore P_k$  is true for all non-negative integer.

We claim that  $m$  is different from any of the  $l_n$

We show this using contradiction:

$$\text{let } m = l_i \Rightarrow k+1 = 2^{l_1} + 2^{l_2} + \dots + 2^{l_i} + 2^{l_{i+1}} + \dots + 2^m.$$
$$k+1 > 2^m + 2^m = 2^{m+1}.$$

it is contradiction with the definition of  $m$ .

i.e.) the greatest power of 2 is less than  $m$ .

$\Rightarrow m, l_1, \dots, l_n$  are distinct.

there fore,  $P_1, P_2, \dots \Rightarrow P_{k+1}$ .

Hence, by Principle of strong induction,  $P_n$  is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ .