

"Theorem": All students love CS70.

"Proof": Let  $P(n)$  be "given a set of  $n$  students, they all love CS70".

Base case:  $P(0)$  is trivially true.

Inductive Step:

Assume  $P(n)$  is true.

Suppose we're given a set of students  $\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n, s_{n+1}\}$ .

By inductive hypothesis, students in  $\{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$  all love CS70. Similarly, students in  $\{s_2, \dots, s_{n+1}\}$  all love CS70.

$\Rightarrow s_1, \dots, s_{n+1}$  all love CS70.

By the principle of induction, since  $P(0)$  is true and  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$ , we know the statement is true.  $\square$

Q: Do you agree? What's wrong?

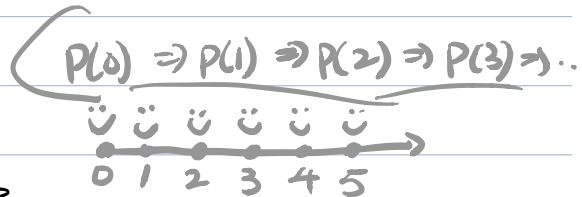
$P(0) \not\Rightarrow P(1)$

so we didn't really prove " $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$ ".

## 1. Induction

Induction is a technique for proving  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n)$ .

### 1.1 Simple Induction



To prove  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , use

Base case: check  $P(0)$  holds

Inductive Step: Show  $P(k) \Rightarrow P(k+1)$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

E.g. Prove that  $\sum_{j=0}^n ar^j = \frac{ar^{n+1}-a}{r-1}$  where  $a, r \in \mathbb{R}, r \neq 1, n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Pf: Let  $P(n)$  be the statement  $\sum_{j=0}^n ar^j = \frac{ar^{n+1}-a}{r-1}$ .

Base case:  $P(0)$  holds, because  $\sum_{j=0}^0 ar^j = a = \frac{ar-a}{r-1}$ .

Inductive Step: WTS  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, P(k) \Rightarrow P(k+1)$ .

Inductive hypothesis: Assume  $P(k)$  is true, i.e.

$$\text{assume } \sum_{j=0}^k ar^j = \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1}$$

want to show  $\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} ar^j = \frac{ar^{k+2}-a}{r-1}$ .

$$\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} ar^j = \sum_{j=0}^k ar^j + ar^{k+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1} + \frac{ar^{k+1}(r-1)}{r-1} \\
 &= \frac{ar^{k+1}-a + ar^{k+2}}{r-1} \\
 &= \frac{ar^{k+2}-a}{r-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

□



E.g. Prove that  $2^n < n!$  for every integer  $n \geq 4$ .

Pf: Let  $P(n)$  be the statement  $2^n < n!$

Base case:  $P(4)$  holds, because  $2^4 = 16 < 4! = 24$

Inductive Step: WTS  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, k \geq 4, P(k) \Rightarrow P(k+1)$ .

Assume  $P(k)$ , i.e. assume  $2^k < k!$  for some integer  $k \geq 4$ .

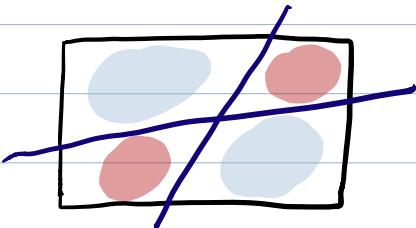
Want to show  $2^{k+1} < (k+1)! = k! \cdot (k+1)$

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{k+1} &= 2^k \times 2 \\ &\stackrel{\text{IH}}{<} k! \times 2 \\ &< k! \times (k+1) \\ &= (k+1)! \end{aligned}$$

□

E.g.



Prove a map with  $n$  lines is 2-colorable, where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Pf: Let  $P(n)$  be the statement a map with  $n$  lines is 2-colorable.

Base case:  $P(0)$  holds, because we can color the



entire map using a single color.

Inductive Step: WTS  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, P(k) \Rightarrow P(k+1)$ .

Assume  $P(k)$ , i.e. assume a map with  $k$  lines is

added after lecture for completeness

## 2-colorable.

Want to show a map with  $k+1$  lines is 2-colorable.

Given a map with  $k+1$  lines, remove a line  $\ell$ .

By IH, the new map is 2-colorable.

Color the new map.



Add  $\ell$  back.

$\ell$  divides the colored map into two sides.

Pick one side and swap the colors.

The result is still a valid coloring, because for each shared border, it's either  $\ell$  or not  $\ell$ .

① if it's not  $\ell$ , two sides have different colors by IH;

② if it's  $\ell$ , two sides now have different colors because of the swap.

□

E.g. Prove the sum of the first  $k$  odd numbers is a perfect square.

Pf: Let  $P(n)$  be the statement  $\sum_{x=1}^n (2x-1) = m^2$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Inductive Step:

Assume  $P(k)$  holds for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , i.e.

$$\sum_{x=1}^k (2x-1) = m^2 \text{ for some } m, k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

Want to show  $P(k+1)$  holds, i.e.  $\sum_{x=1}^{k+1} (2x-1)$

$$= \left( \sum_{x=1}^k (2x-1) + (2k+1) \right) = m^2 + 2k + 1.$$

is a perfect square ???

$$[1=1, 1+3=4=2^2, 1+3+5=9=3^2, \dots]$$

Let  $P(n)$  be the statement  $\sum_{x=1}^n (2x-1) = n^2$ .

Base case:  $P(1)$  holds because  $1=1=1^2$ .

Inductive Step: Assume  $\sum_{x=1}^k (2x-1) = k^2$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \sum_{x=1}^{k+1} (2x-1) &= \left( \sum_{x=1}^k (2x-1) \right) + 2k+1 \\ &\stackrel{\text{IH}}{=} k^2 + 2k + 1 \\ &= (k+1)^2. \end{aligned}$$

□

## 1.2 Strong Induction

To prove  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , use

Base case: check  $P(0)$  holds.

Inductive Step: Show  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, [P(0) \wedge \dots \wedge P(k)] \Rightarrow P(k+1)$ .

E.g. Prove that if  $n$  is an integer greater than 1, then  $n$  can be written as a product of primes.

Pf: Base case: 2 is a prime and a product of itself, so the statement holds for  $n=2$ .

Inductive Step: Assume all integers  $2 \leq j \leq k$  can be written as a product of primes.

Consider  $k+1$ . If  $k+1$  is prime, we're done.

Otherwise,  $k+1 = ab$  for some integers  $a, b$  with  $2 \leq a, b < k+1$ .

By IH, a,b can be written as a product of primes.

Hence,  $k+1$  can be written as a product of primes.  $\square$

$$\forall n \geq 12, P(n).$$

E.g. Prove that every amount of postage of 12 cents or more can be formed using just 4-cent and 5-cent stamps.

Pf: Let  $P(n)$  be the statement  $n = 4x + 5y$  for some  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Base case:  $P(12)$  is true  $12 = 4 \times 3 + 5 \cdot 0$ .

$P(13), P(14), P(15)$  holds because ...

Inductive Step:

Assume  $P(n)$  holds for all  $12 \leq n \leq k$  for some  $k \geq 15$ .

Consider  $k+1$ ,

[ If  $(k+1)-4 = 4x+5y$ ,  $k+1 = 4(x+1)+5y$ .

but need  $(k+1)-4 \geq 12$ , i.e.  $k \geq 15$ ]

Since  $(k+1)-4 \geq 12$ , by IH,  $(k+1)-4 = 4x+5y$  for  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $k+1 = 4(x+1)+5y$ .



Rem. Well-ordering Principle states  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ ,  $S \neq \emptyset$ , then  $S$  has a least element.

The validity of the principle of induction and strong induction follows from WOP.

## 1.3 Recursion

To prove a statement holds for recursively defined objects, use

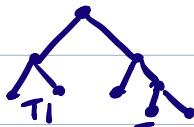
Base case: the result holds for all elements specified in the base case

Recursive Step: Show if the statement holds for each element used to construct new elements, then it holds for these new elements.

E.g. Binary trees can be constructed recursively.

Define height  $h(T)$  recursively

Base case ( $T = \text{root}$ ):  $h(T) = 0$



Recursive Step ( $T = T_1 \cdot T_2$ ):  $h(T) = 1 + \max(h(T_1), h(T_2))$

Define number of vertices  $n(T)$  recursively

Base case ( $T = \text{root}$ ):  $n(T) = 1$ .

Recursive Step ( $T = T_1 \cdot T_2$ ):  $n(T) = 1 + n(T_1) + n(T_2)$ .

Prove  $n(T) \leq 2^{h(T)+1} - 1$  for any binary tree  $T$ .

Pf: Base case:  $T = \text{root}$ . Then  $n(T) = 1$  and  $h(T) = 0$ .

Statement holds because  $1 \leq 2^{0+1} - 1 = 1$

Recursive Step: Consider  $T = T_1 \cdot T_2$ .

Want to show  $n(T) \leq 2^{h(T)+1} - 1$ .

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} n(T) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 1 + n(T_1) + n(T_2) \\ &\stackrel{IH}{\leq} 1 + \left(2^{h(T_1)+1} - 1\right) + \left(2^{h(T_2)+1} - 1\right) \\ &= 2^{h(T_1)+1} + 2^{h(T_2)+1} - 1 \\ &\leq 2 \cdot \max\left(2^{h(T_1)+1}, 2^{h(T_2)+1}\right) - 1 \\ &= 2 \cdot 2^{\max(h(T_1), h(T_2))+1} - 1 \\ &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 2 \cdot 2^{h(T)} - 1 \\ &= 2^{h(T)+1} - 1. \end{aligned}$$

□