

Ind. hyp.: Assume any set of size  $k$  has  $2^k$  subsets, for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$

Ind. step: Let  $A$  be a set of size  $k+1$ . Let  $x \in A$ .

Partition the subsets of  $A$  into  $X$  and  $Y$  where  $X$  consists of subsets of  $A$  that include  $x$  and  $Y$  consists of subsets of  $A$  that do not have  $x$ .

$Y$  is the set of all subsets of  $A \setminus \{x\}$ . Since  $|A \setminus \{x\}| = k$ , by ind. hyp,  $|Y| = 2^k$ . Each element in  $X$  consists of  $\{x\}$  union an element in  $Y$ . So  $|X| = |Y| = 2^k$ .

So  $A$  has  $|X| + |Y| = 2^k + 2^k = 2^{k+1}$  subsets.

By induction, the result holds  $\square$

Visualization:  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$      $X = \{\{\{1\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}\}$   
                         $Y = \{\emptyset, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{2, 3\}\}$

### Strong Induction

Example: Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  be the sequence  $a_1 = 4$ ,  $a_2 = 10$  and  $a_n = 3a_{n-1} - 2a_{n-2}$  for  $n \geq 3$ . Prove that  $a_n = -2 + 3 \cdot 2^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

Proof: By induction on  $n$ .

Base case: When  $n=1$ ,  $a_1 = 4$ ,  $-2 + 3 \cdot 2^1 = 4$  ✓

Check  $n=2$  ✓ Ind. hyp: Assume for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a_k = -2 + 3 \cdot 2^k$   $a_i = -2 + 3 \cdot 2^i$   
 $a_1 = 4$   $a_2 = 10$  Ind. step:  $a_{k+1} = 3a_k - 2a_{k-1}$   $\forall 1 \leq i \leq k$   
only valid if  $k+1 \geq 3$ ,  $k \geq 2$   $= 3(-2 + 3 \cdot 2^k) - 2(-2 + 3 \cdot 2^{k-1})$  only possible with strong induction  
 $= -6 + 9 \cdot 2^k + 4 - 3 \cdot 2^k$   
 $= -2 + 3 \cdot 2^k (3-1)$   
 $= -2 + 3 \cdot 2^{k+1}$

By strong ind., the result holds  $\square$

To prove  $P(n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by strong induction...

① (Base cases)  $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(b)$  are true for some  $b \in \mathbb{N}$

[Anything that the ind. step is not applied to goes in base cases]

② (Ind. step) For all integer  $k \geq b$ , if  $P(1), \dots, P(k)$  are true, then  $P(k+1)$  is true.

Base Case  $P(1), \dots, P(b)$  True

Ind Step  $(k=b) P(1), \dots, P(b) \Rightarrow P(b+1)$

$(k=b+1) P(1), \dots, P(b+1) \Rightarrow P(b+2)$

$\vdots$   $P(1), \dots, P(k) \Rightarrow P(k+1)$

Example: Prove that any collection of at least 8 candies can be divided into piles of 3's and/or 5's.

Base cases: 8 candies  $\rightarrow$  3, 5  
9 candies  $\rightarrow$  3, 3, 3  
10 candies  $\rightarrow$  5, 5

Ind. hyp: Assume any set of  $i$  candies  $8 \leq i \leq k$  can be divided into 3's and 5's, for some  $k \geq 10$

Ind. step:  $k+1$  candies put aside 3,  $k-2$  candies left.

By ind. hyp,  $k-2$  candies can be split into 3's and 5's  $\square$  (Note: only valid when  $k-2 \geq 8$ ,  $k \geq 10$ )

Example: Prove that every integer at least 2 is a product of at least one prime.

Proof: Base case = When  $n=2$ , 2 is a prime  
No more base cases needed

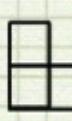
Ind. hyp: For some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $k \geq 2$ , every integer between 2 and  $k$  is a product of primes

Ind. step: Consider  $k+1$ . If  $k+1$  is prime, then it is already a product of primes.

If  $k+1$  is not prime, then  $k+1 = ab$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $2 \leq a, b$  and  $a, b < k+1$ . By ind-hyp, both  $a$  and  $b$  are products of primes. Since  $k+1$  is a product of  $a, b$ ,  $k+1$  is a product of primes  $\square$

Ind. step applies to all  $int \geq 3$  Since each int is either prime or composite. So only one base case is needed.

Example: A unit square has been removed from a  $2^n \times 2^n$  board.

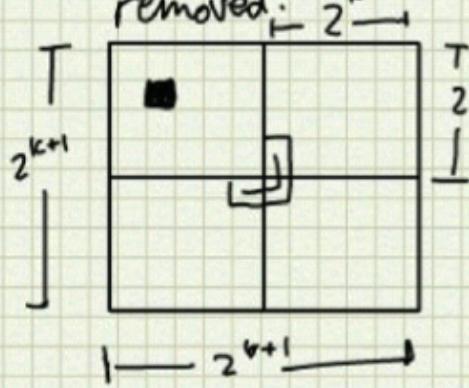
 Prove that the board can be tiled using L-shaped triominoes

Proof: By induction on  $n$ ,

Base case: When  $n=1$ , any  $2 \times 2$  board with a square removed is already a triomino.

Ind. hyp: Assume true for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Ind step: Suppose we have a  $2^{k+1} \times 2^{k+1}$  board with a square removed.



$T_k$  Square A is a  $2^k \times 2^k$  board minus a square. So A can be tiled by ind hyp.

Put a  $\square$  in the center, the remaining three boards can be tiled by ind. hyp.  $\square$