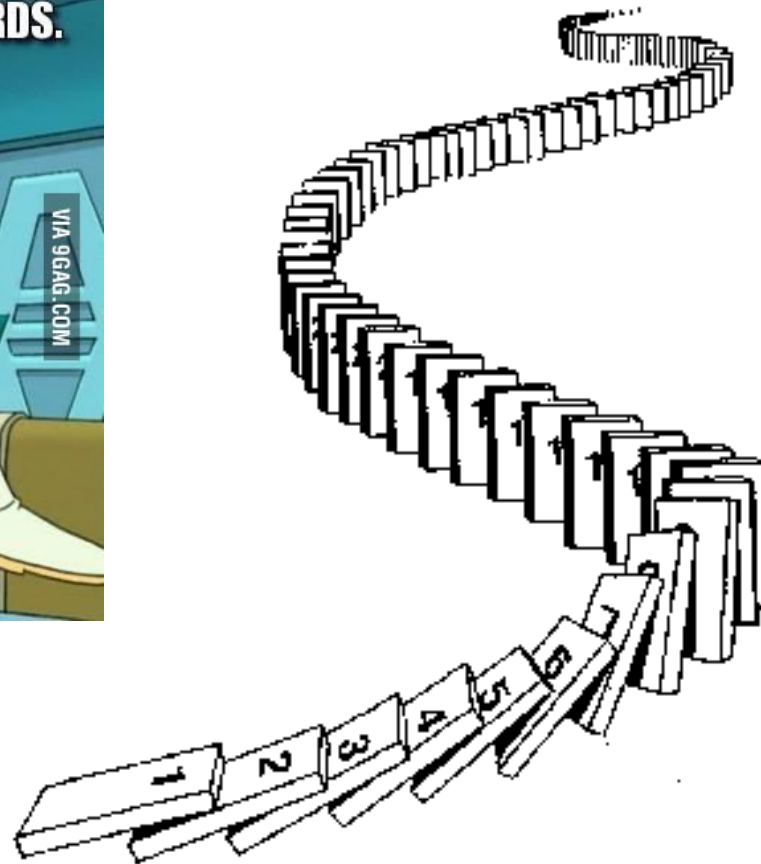
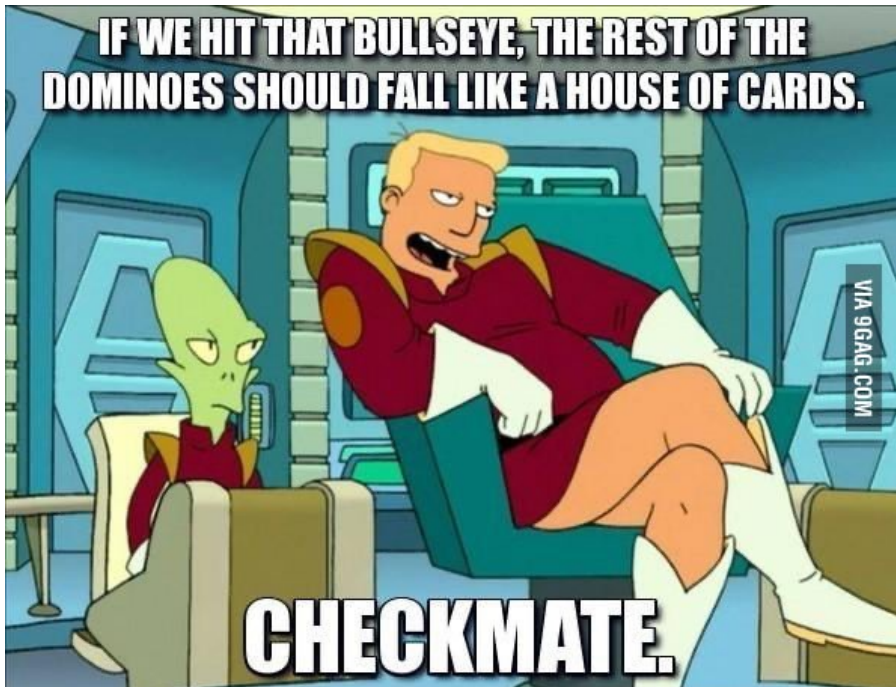


CSE 311: Foundations of Computing

Topic 7: Induction



Mathematical Induction

Method for proving statements about all natural numbers

- A new logical inference rule!
 - It only applies over the natural numbers
 - The idea is to **use** the special structure of the naturals to prove things more easily

- Particularly useful for reasoning about programs!
 - for (int i=0; i < n; n++) { ... }**
 - Show $P(i)$ holds after i times through the loop

Prove $\forall a, b, m > 0 \forall k \in \mathbb{N} ((a \equiv_m b) \rightarrow (a^k \equiv_m b^k))$

Let $a, b, m > 0$ **be arbitrary.** **Let** $k \in \mathbb{N}$ **be arbitrary.**

Suppose that $a \equiv_m b$.

We know $((a \equiv_m b) \wedge (a \equiv_m b)) \rightarrow (a^2 \equiv_m b^2)$ **by multiplying congruences. So, applying this repeatedly, we have:**

$$\begin{aligned} & ((a \equiv_m b) \wedge (a \equiv_m b)) \rightarrow (a^2 \equiv_m b^2) \\ & ((a^2 \equiv_m b^2) \wedge (a \equiv_m b)) \rightarrow (a^3 \equiv_m b^3) \end{aligned}$$

...

$$((a^{k-1} \equiv_m b^{k-1}) \wedge (a \equiv_m b)) \rightarrow (a^k \equiv_m b^k)$$

The “...”s is a problem! We don't have a proof rule that allows us to say “do this over and over”.

But there is such a rule for the natural numbers!

Domain: Natural Numbers

$$\frac{P(0) \quad \forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1))}{\therefore \forall n P(n)}$$

Induction Is A Rule of Inference

Domain: Natural Numbers

$$\begin{array}{c} P(0) \\ \forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)) \\ \hline \therefore \forall n P(n) \end{array}$$

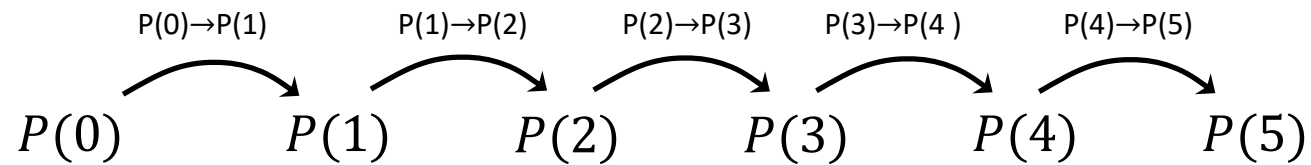
How do the givens prove P(3)?

Induction Is A Rule of Inference

Domain: Natural Numbers

$$\frac{P(0) \quad \forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1))}{\therefore \forall n P(n)}$$

How do the givens prove P(5)?



First, we have **P(0)**.

Since $P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$ for all n , we have **P(0) → P(1)**.

Since **P(0)** is true and **P(0) → P(1)**, by Modus Ponens, **P(1)** is true.

Since $P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$ for all n , we have **P(1) → P(2)**.

Since **P(1)** is true and **P(1) → P(2)**, by Modus Ponens, **P(2)** is true.

Using The Induction Rule In A Formal Proof

$$\begin{array}{c} P(0) \\ \forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)) \\ \hline \therefore \forall n P(n) \end{array}$$

Using The Induction Rule In A Formal Proof

$$\begin{array}{c} P(0) \\ \forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)) \\ \hline \therefore \forall n P(n) \end{array}$$

1. $P(0)$

4. $\forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1))$

5. $\forall n P(n)$

Induction: 1, 4

Using The Induction Rule In A Formal Proof

$$\frac{P(0) \quad \forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1))}{\therefore \forall n P(n)}$$

1. $P(0)$
2. Let k be an arbitrary integer ≥ 0

3. $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$

4. $\forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1))$

Intro \forall : 2, 3

5. $\forall n P(n)$

Induction: 1, 4

Using The Induction Rule In A Formal Proof

$$\frac{P(0) \quad \forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1))}{\therefore \forall n P(n)}$$

1. $P(0)$
2. Let k be an arbitrary integer ≥ 0
 - 3.1. $P(k)$ Assumption
 - 3.2. ...
 - 3.3. $P(k+1)$
3. $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$ Direct Proof Rule
4. $\forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1))$ Intro \forall : 2, 3
5. $\forall n P(n)$ Induction: 1, 4

Translating to an English Proof

$$\begin{array}{c} P(0) \\ \forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)) \\ \hline \therefore \forall n P(n) \end{array}$$

1. Prove $P(0)$

Base Case

2. Let k be an arbitrary integer ≥ 0

Inductive Hypothesis

3.1. Suppose that $P(k)$ is true

3.2. ...

Inductive Step

3.3. Prove $P(k+1)$ is true

3. $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$

Direct Proof Rule

4. $\forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1))$

Intro \forall : 2, 3

5. $\forall n P(n)$

Induction: 1, 4

Conclusion

Translating to an English Proof

1. Prove $P(0)$	Base Case	
2. Let k be an arbitrary integer ≥ 0 3.1. Assume that $P(k)$ is true		Inductive Hypothesis
3.2. ... 3.3. Prove $P(k+1)$ is true		Inductive Step
3. $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$		Direct Proof Rule
4. $\forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1))$		Intro \forall : 2, 3
5. $\forall n P(n)$		Induction: 1, 4
		Conclusion

Induction English Proof Template

[...Define $P(n)$...]

We will show that $P(n)$ is true for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ by Induction.

Base Case: *[...proof of $P(0)$ here...]*

Induction Hypothesis:

Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for an arbitrary $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Induction Step:

[...proof of $P(k + 1)$ here...]

*The proof of $P(k + 1)$ **must** invoke the IH somewhere.*

So, the claim is true by induction.

Inductive Proofs In 5 Easy Steps

Basic induction template

Proof:

1. “Let $P(n)$ be... . We will show that $P(n)$ is true for every $n \geq 0$ by Induction.”

2. “Base Case:” Prove $P(0)$

3. “Inductive Hypothesis:

Suppose $P(k)$ is true for an arbitrary integer $k \geq 0$ ”

4. “Inductive Step:” Prove that $P(k + 1)$ is true.

Use the goal to figure out what you need.

Make sure you are using I.H. and point out where you are using it. (Don't assume $P(k + 1)$!!)

5. “Conclusion: Result follows by induction”

What is $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n$?

- $1 = 1$
- $1 + 2 = 3$
- $1 + 2 + 4 = 7$
- $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 = 15$
- $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 = 31$

It sure looks like this sum is $2^{n+1} - 1$

How can we prove it?

We could prove it for $n = 1, n = 2, n = 3, \dots$ but that would literally take forever.

Good that we have induction!

Prove $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$

Prove $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be " $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ". We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**

Prove $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be " $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ". We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**
- 2. Base Case ($n=0$): $2^0 = 1 = 2 - 1 = 2^{0+1} - 1$ so $P(0)$ is true.**

Prove $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be " $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ". We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**
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- 3. Induction Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 0$, i.e., that $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k = 2^{k+1} - 1$.**

Prove $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**
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- 4. Induction Step:**

Goal: Show $P(k+1)$, i.e. show $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k + 2^{k+1} = 2^{k+2} - 1$

Prove $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**
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- 4. Induction Step:**

$$2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k = 2^{k+1} - 1 \quad \text{by IH}$$

Adding 2^{k+1} to both sides, we get:

$$2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k + 2^{k+1} = 2^{k+1} + 2^{k+1} - 1$$

Note that $2^{k+1} + 2^{k+1} = 2(2^{k+1}) = 2^{k+2}$.

So, we have $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k + 2^{k+1} = 2^{k+2} - 1$, which is exactly $P(k+1)$.

Prove $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**
- 2. Base Case ($n=0$): $2^0 = 1 = 2 - 1 = 2^{0+1} - 1$ so $P(0)$ is true.**
- 3. Induction Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 0$, i.e., that $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k = 2^{k+1} - 1$.**
- 4. Induction Step:**

We can calculate

$$\begin{aligned} 2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k + 2^{k+1} &= (2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k) + 2^{k+1} \\ &= (2^{k+1} - 1) + 2^{k+1} && \text{by the IH} \\ &= 2(2^{k+1}) - 1 \\ &= 2^{k+2} - 1, \end{aligned}$$

which is exactly $P(k+1)$.

Alternative way of writing the inductive step

Prove $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**
- 2. Base Case ($n=0$): $2^0 = 1 = 2 - 1 = 2^{0+1} - 1$ so $P(0)$ is true.**
- 3. Induction Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 0$, i.e., that $2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k = 2^{k+1} - 1$.**
- 4. Induction Step:**

We can calculate

$$\begin{aligned} 2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k + 2^{k+1} &= (2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^k) + 2^{k+1} \\ &= (2^{k+1} - 1) + 2^{k+1} && \text{by the IH} \\ &= 2(2^{k+1}) - 1 \\ &= 2^{k+2} - 1, \end{aligned}$$

which is exactly $P(k+1)$.

- 5. Thus $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, by induction.**

Prove $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = n(n + 1)/2$

Prove $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = n(n + 1)/2$

Summation Notation

$$\sum_{i=0}^n i = 0 + 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n$$

Prove $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = n(n + 1)/2$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + n = n(n+1)/2$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**

Summation Notation

$$\sum_{i=0}^n i = 0 + 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n$$

Prove $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = n(n + 1)/2$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + n = n(n+1)/2$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**
- 2. Base Case ($n=0$): $0 = 0(0+1)/2$. Therefore $P(0)$ is true.**

Prove $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = n(n + 1)/2$

1. Let $P(n)$ be " $0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + n = n(n+1)/2$ ". We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.
2. Base Case ($n=0$): $0 = 0(0+1)/2$. Therefore $P(0)$ is true.
3. Induction Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 0$. I.e., suppose $1 + 2 + \dots + k = k(k+1)/2$

↑
"some" or "an"
not any!

Prove $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = n(n + 1)/2$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + n = n(n+1)/2$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**
- 2. Base Case ($n=0$): $0 = 0(0+1)/2$. Therefore $P(0)$ is true.**
- 3. Induction Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 0$. I.e., suppose $1 + 2 + \dots + k = k(k+1)/2$**
- 4. Induction Step:**
Goal: Show $P(k+1)$, i.e. show $1 + 2 + \dots + k + (k+1) = (k+1)(k+2)/2$

Prove $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = n(n + 1)/2$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + n = n(n+1)/2$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers by induction.**
- 2. Base Case ($n=0$): $0 = 0(0+1)/2$. Therefore $P(0)$ is true.**
- 3. Induction Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 0$. I.e., suppose $1 + 2 + \dots + k = k(k+1)/2$**
- 4. Induction Step:**

$$\begin{aligned}1 + 2 + \dots + k + (k+1) &= (1 + 2 + \dots + k) + (k+1) \\ &= k(k+1)/2 + (k+1) \text{ by IH} \\ &= (k+1)(k/2 + 1) \\ &= (k+1)(k+2)/2\end{aligned}$$

So, we have shown $1 + 2 + \dots + k + (k+1) = (k+1)(k+2)/2$, which is exactly $P(k+1)$.

- 5. Thus $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, by induction.**

Induction: Changing the start line

- What if we want to prove that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq b$ for some integer b ?
- Define predicate $Q(k) = P(k + b)$ for all k .
 - Then $\forall n Q(n) \equiv \forall n \geq b P(n)$
- Ordinary induction for Q :
 - Prove $Q(0) \equiv P(b)$
 - Prove $\forall k (Q(k) \rightarrow Q(k + 1)) \equiv \forall k \geq b (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1))$

Inductive Proofs In 5 Easy Steps

Template for induction from a different base case

1. “Let $P(n)$ be... . We will show that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq b$ by induction.”
2. “Base Case:” Prove $P(b)$
3. “Inductive Hypothesis:
Assume $P(k)$ is true for an arbitrary integer $k \geq b$ ”
4. “Inductive Step:” Prove that $P(k + 1)$ is true:
Use the goal to figure out what you need.
Make sure you are using I.H. and point out where you are using it. (Don't assume $P(k + 1)$!!)
5. “Conclusion: $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq b$ ”

Prove $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ for all $n \geq 2$

Prove $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ for all $n \geq 2$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be " $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ ". We will show $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$ by induction.**

Prove $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ for all $n \geq 2$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$ by induction.**
- 2. Base Case ($n=2$): $3^2 = 9 \geq 7 = 4 + 3 = 2^2 + 3$ so $P(2)$ is true.**

Prove $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ for all $n \geq 2$

- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ ”. We will show $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$ by induction.**
- 2. Base Case ($n=2$): $3^2 = 9 \geq 7 = 4 + 3 = 2^2 + 3$ so $P(2)$ is true.**
- 3. Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 2$. I.e., suppose $3^k \geq k^2 + 3$.**

Prove $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ for all $n \geq 2$

1. Let $P(n)$ be " $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ ". We will show $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$ by induction.
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3. Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 2$. I.e., suppose $3^k \geq k^2 + 3$.
4. Inductive Step:

Goal: Show $P(k+1)$, i.e. show $3^{k+1} \geq (k+1)^2 + 3$

Prove $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ for all $n \geq 2$

1. Let $P(n)$ be " $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ ". We will show $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$ by induction.
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Goal: Show $P(k+1)$, i.e. show $3^{k+1} \geq (k+1)^2 + 3 = k^2 + 2k + 4$

Prove $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ for all $n \geq 2$

1. Let $P(n)$ be " $3^n \geq n^2+3$ ". We will show $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$ by induction.
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3. Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 2$. I.e., suppose $3^k \geq k^2+3$.

4. Inductive Step:

Goal: Show $P(k+1)$, i.e. show $3^{k+1} \geq (k+1)^2+3=k^2+2k+4$

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{k+1} &= 3(3^k) \\ &\geq 3(k^2+3) \text{ by the IH} \\ &= 3k^2+9 \\ &= k^2+2k^2+9 \\ &\geq k^2+2k+4 = (k+1)^2+3 \text{ since } k \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $P(k+1)$ is true.

Prove $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ for all $n \geq 2$

1. Let $P(n)$ be " $3^n \geq n^2 + 3$ ". We will show $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$ by induction.
2. Base Case ($n=2$): $3^2 = 9 \geq 7 = 4 + 3 = 2^2 + 3$ so $P(2)$ is true.
3. Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose that $P(k)$ is true for some arbitrary integer $k \geq 2$. I.e., suppose $3^k \geq k^2 + 3$.

4. Inductive Step:

Goal: Show $P(k+1)$, i.e. show $3^{k+1} \geq (k+1)^2 + 3 = k^2 + 2k + 4$

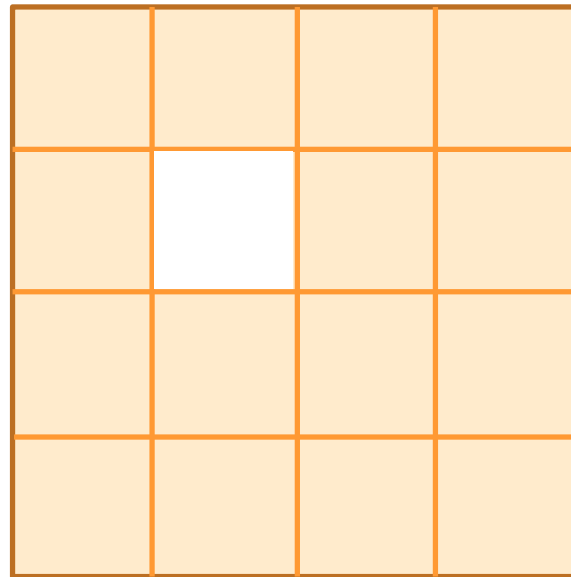
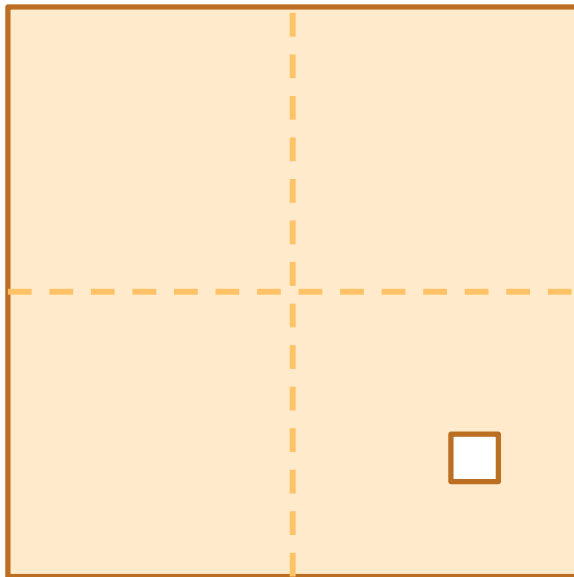
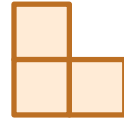
$$\begin{aligned} 3^{k+1} &= 3(3^k) \\ &\geq 3(k^2 + 3) \text{ by the IH} \\ &= k^2 + 2k^2 + 9 \\ &\geq k^2 + 2k + 4 = (k+1)^2 + 3 \text{ since } k \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $P(k+1)$ is true.


5. Thus $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$, by induction.

Checkerboard Tiling

- Prove that a $2^n \times 2^n$ checkerboard with one square removed can be tiled with:




Checkerboard Tiling

1. Let $P(n)$ be any $2^n \times 2^n$ checkerboard with one square removed can be tiled with  .
We prove $P(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$ by induction on n .

Checkerboard Tiling

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Checkerboard Tiling

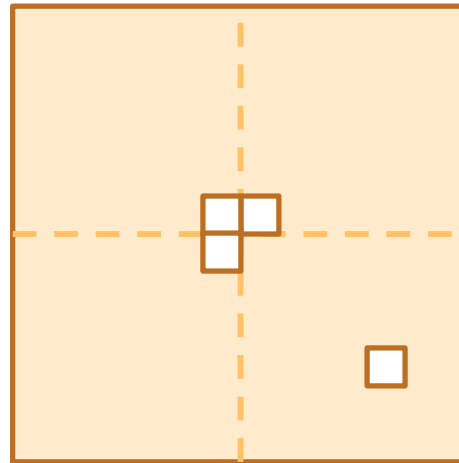
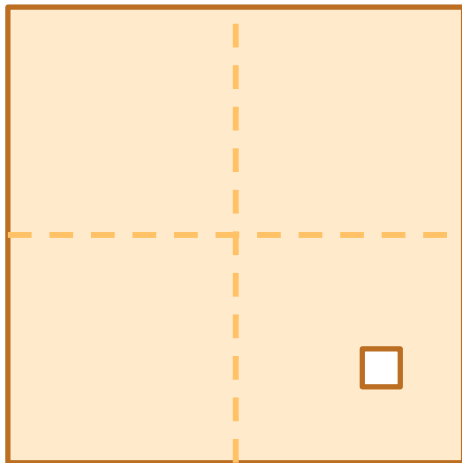
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We prove $P(n)$ for all $n \geq 1$ by induction on n .

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4. Inductive Step: Prove $P(k+1)$



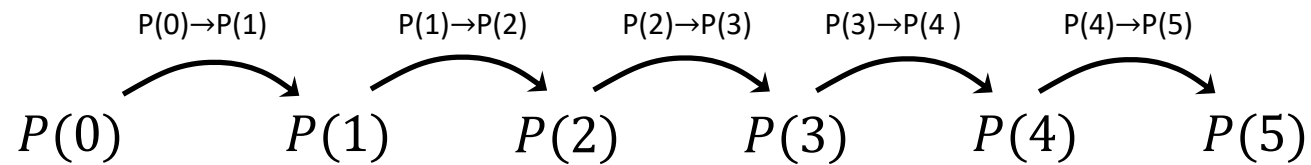
Apply IH to each quadrant then fill with extra tile.

Recall: Induction Rule of Inference

Domain: Natural Numbers

$$\frac{P(0) \quad \forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1))}{\therefore \forall n P(n)}$$

How do the givens prove $P(5)$?

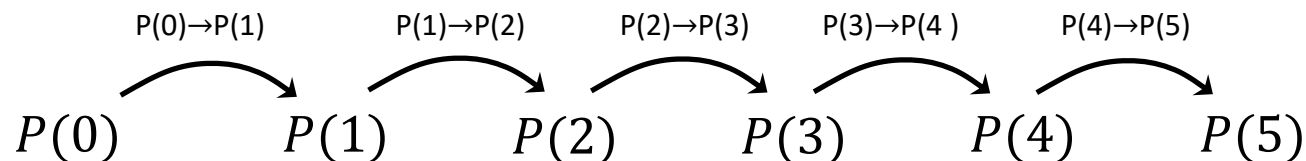


Recall: Induction Rule of Inference

Domain: Natural Numbers

$$\begin{array}{c} P(0) \\ \underline{\forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1))} \\ \therefore \forall n P(n) \end{array}$$

How do the givens prove $P(5)$?



We made it harder than we needed to ...

When we proved $P(2)$ we knew **BOTH** $P(0)$ and $P(1)$

When we proved $P(3)$ we knew $P(0)$ and $P(1)$ and $P(2)$

When we proved $P(4)$ we knew $P(0)$, $P(1)$, $P(2)$, $P(3)$

etc.

That's the essence of the idea of Strong Induction.

Strong Induction

$$\underline{P(0) \quad \forall k \left(\forall j \left(0 \leq j \leq k \rightarrow P(j) \right) \rightarrow P(k + 1) \right)}$$

$$\therefore \forall n P(n)$$

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Strong induction for P follows from ordinary induction for Q where

$$Q(k) ::= \forall j \left(0 \leq j \leq k \rightarrow P(j) \right)$$

Note that $Q(0) = P(0)$ and $Q(k + 1) \equiv Q(k) \wedge P(k + 1)$
and $\forall n Q(n) \equiv \forall n P(n)$

Inductive Proofs In 5 Easy Steps

1. “Let $P(n)$ be... . We will show that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq b$ by induction.”
2. “Base Case:” Prove $P(b)$
3. “Inductive Hypothesis:
Assume that for some arbitrary integer $k \geq b$,
 $P(k)$ is true”
4. “Inductive Step:” Prove that $P(k + 1)$ is true:
Use the goal to figure out what you need.
Make sure you are using I.H. and point out where you are using it. (Don't assume $P(k + 1)$!!)
5. “Conclusion: $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq b$ ”

Strong Inductive Proofs In 5 Easy Steps

1. “Let $P(n)$ be... . We will show that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq b$ by ***strong*** induction.”
2. “Base Case:” Prove $P(b)$
3. “Inductive Hypothesis:
Assume that for some arbitrary integer $k \geq b$,
 $P(j)$ is true for every integer j from b to k ”
4. “Inductive Step:” Prove that $P(k + 1)$ is true:
Use the goal to figure out what you need.
Make sure you are using I.H. (that $P(b), \dots, P(k)$ are true) and point out where you are using it.
(Don't assume $P(k + 1)$!!)
5. “Conclusion: $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq b$ ”

Recall: Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic

Every integer > 1 has a unique prime factorization

$$48 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3$$

$$591 = 3 \cdot 197$$

$$45,523 = 45,523$$

$$321,950 = 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 47 \cdot 137$$

$$1,234,567,890 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 3,607 \cdot 3,803$$

We use strong induction to prove that a factorization into primes exists, but not that it is unique.

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- 1. Let $P(n)$ be “ n is a product of some list of primes”. We will show that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$ by strong induction.**

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2. Base Case ($n=2$): 2 is prime, so it is a product of (one) prime.
Therefore $P(2)$ is true.

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Case: $k+1$ is prime: Then by definition $k+1$ is a product of primes
Case: $k+1$ is composite: Then $k+1=ab$ for some integers a and b
where $2 \leq a, b \leq k$.

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Case: $k+1$ is composite: Then $k+1=ab$ for some integers a and b where $2 \leq a, b \leq k$. By our IH, $P(a)$ and $P(b)$ are true so we have

$$a = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_r \text{ and } b = q_1 q_2 \cdots q_s$$

for some primes $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r, q_1, q_2, \dots, q_s$.

Thus, $k+1 = ab = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_r q_1 q_2 \cdots q_s$ which is a product of primes.

Since $k \geq 2$, one of these cases must happen and so $P(k+1)$ is true.

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Thus, $k+1 = ab = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_r q_1 q_2 \cdots q_s$ which is a product of primes.
Since $k \geq 2$, one of these cases must happen and so $P(k+1)$ is true.
5. Thus $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 2$, by strong induction.

Strong Induction is particularly useful when...

...we need to analyze methods that on input k make a recursive call for an input different from $k - 1$.

e.g.: Recursive Modular Exponentiation:

- For exponent $k > 0$ it made a recursive call with exponent $j = k/2$ when k was even or $j = k - 1$ when k was odd.**

Fast Exponentiation

```
public static int FastModExp(int a, int k, int modulus) {  
  
    if (k == 0) {  
        return 1;  
  
    } else if ((k % 2) == 0) {  
        long temp = FastModExp(a,k/2,modulus);  
        return (temp * temp) % modulus;  
  
    } else {  
        long temp = FastModExp(a,k-1,modulus);  
        return (a * temp) % modulus;  
    }  
}
```

$$a^{2j} \bmod m = (a^j \bmod m)^2 \bmod m$$

$$a^{2j+1} \bmod m = ((a \bmod m) \cdot (a^{2j} \bmod m)) \bmod m$$