



# Mathematical Foundations of Computing

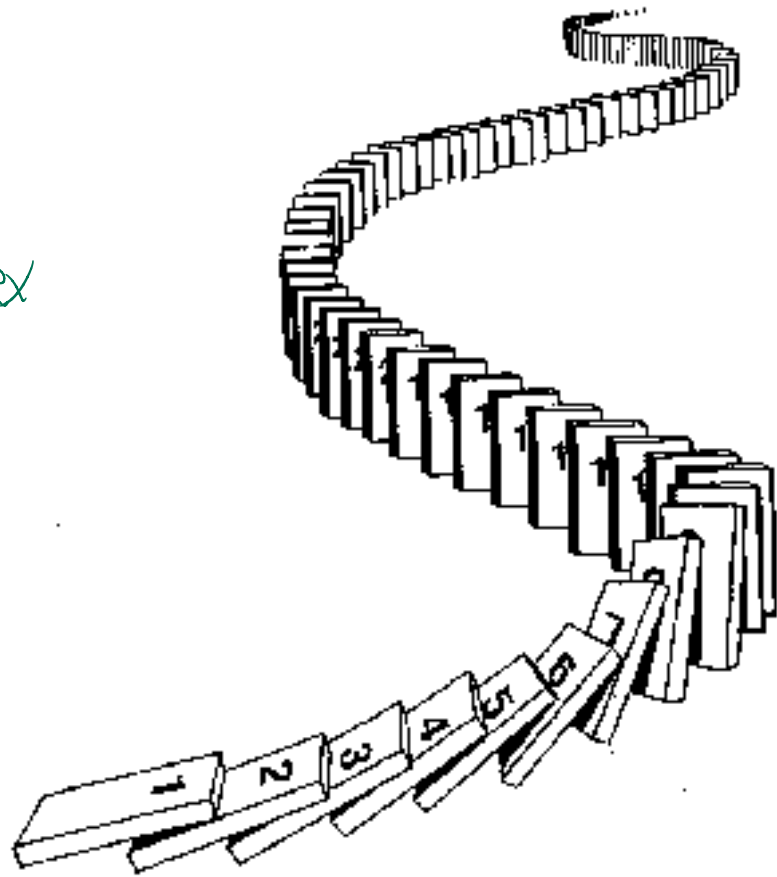
# CS 13: Mathematical Foundations of Computing

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## Lecture 01: Induction

Administrivia!

- Late Tokens
- Lectures this week
- Reminders: use template & LaTeX



# Mathematical Induction

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## Method for proving statements about all natural numbers

- A new proof technique!
  - 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

```
public int f(int x) {  
    if (x == 0) { return 0; }  
    else { return f(x - 1); }  
}
```

- $f(x) = x$  for all values of  $x \geq 0$  naturally shown by induction.

# So, make one!

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Domain: Natural Numbers

$$P(0)$$

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

---

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

# Induction Is A Rule of Inference

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How does this technique prove  $P(5)$ ?

# Induction Is A Rule of Inference

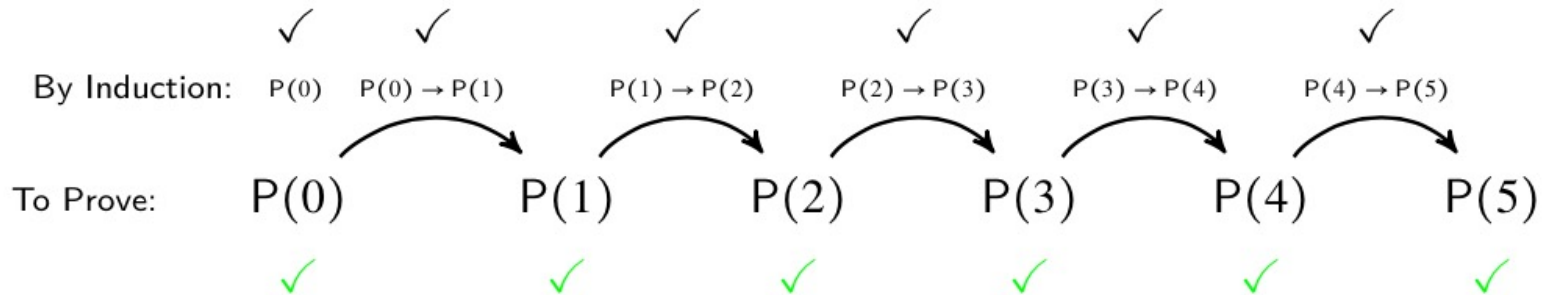
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# Induction Is A Rule of Inference

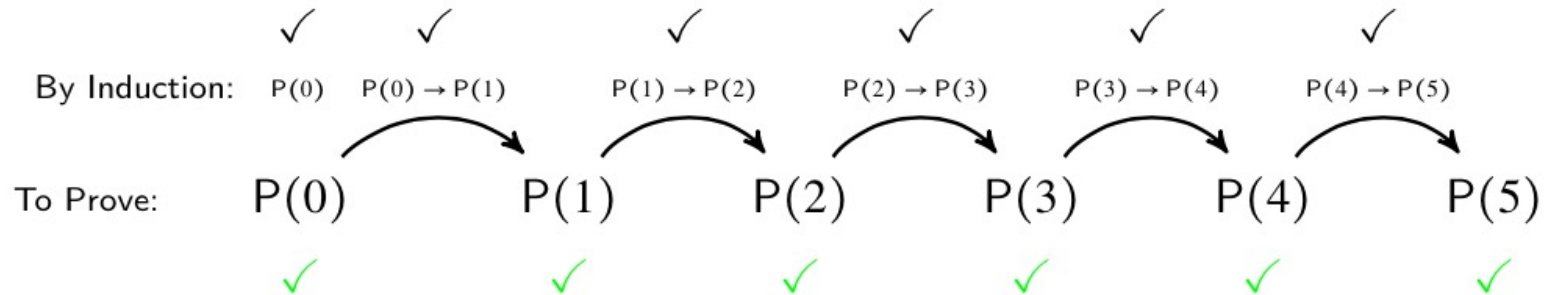
Domain: Natural Numbers

$$P(0)$$
$$\forall k (P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1))$$

---

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

How does this technique prove  $P(5)$ ?



First, we prove  $P(0)$ .

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

Since  $P(0)$  is true and  $P(0) \rightarrow P(1)$ , by Modus Ponens,  $P(1)$  is true.

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

Since  $P(1)$  is true and  $P(1) \rightarrow P(2)$ , by Modus Ponens,  $P(2)$  is true.

# 5 Steps To Inductive Proofs In English

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## **Proof:**

1. “We will show that  $P(n)$  is true for every  $n \geq 0$  by Induction.”
2. “Base Case:” Prove  $P(0)$
3. “Inductive Hypothesis:”  
Assume  $P(k)$  is true for some arbitrary integer  $k \geq 0$ ”
4. “Inductive Step:” Want to 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”



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

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Let  $P(n)$  be  $\sum_{i=0}^n 2^i = 2^{n+1} - 1$ . We go by induction on  $n$ .

Base Case ( $n=0$ ):

Note that  $2^0 = 1 = 2 - 1 = 2^{0+1} - 1$ , which is exactly  $P(0)$ .

Induction Hypothesis:

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

~~$S_1 \Rightarrow$   
 $S_2 \Rightarrow$   
 $S_3 \Rightarrow$~~

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

---

Let  $P(n)$  be “ $\sum_{i=0}^n 2^i = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ”. We go by induction on  $n$ .

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Induction Hypothesis:

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

Induction Step:

We want to show  $P(k+1)$ . That is, we want to show:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = 2^{(k+1)+1} - 1 \quad \Leftrightarrow 2^{k+1} + \sum_{i=0}^k 2^i = 2^{(k+1)+1} - 1$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = \dots = \dots = \dots = 2^{n+1} - 1.$$

One of these steps  
must use the IH.

So, the claim is true for all natural numbers by induction.

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

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Let  $P(n)$  be “ $\sum_{i=0}^n 2^i = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ”. We go by induction on  $n$ .

Base Case (n=0): Note that  $2^0 = 1 = 2 - 1 = 2^{0+1} - 1$ , which is exactly  $P(0)$ .

Induction Hypothesis: Suppose  $P(k)$  is true for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Induction Step: We want to show  $P(k+1)$ . That is, we want to show:  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = 2^{(k+1)+1} - 1$

Note that  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i =$

This is exactly  $P(k+1)$ . So,  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$ .

So, the claim is true for all natural numbers by induction.

We know (by IH)...

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

We're trying to get...

Our goal is to find a sub-expression of the left that looks like the left side of the IH.

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

Let  $P(n)$  be “ $\sum_{i=0}^n 2^i = 2^{n+1} - 1$ ”. We go by induction on  $n$ .

Base Case (n=0): Note that  $2^0 = 1 = 2 - 1 = 2^{0+1} - 1$ , which is exactly  $P(0)$ .

Induction Hypothesis: Suppose  $P(k)$  is true for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Induction Step: We want to show  $P(k+1)$ . That is, we want to show:  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = 2^{(k+1)+1} - 1$

Note that  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = \left( \sum_{i=0}^k 2^i \right) + 2^{k+1}$  [Splitting the summation]

$$= (2^{k+1} - 1) + 2^{k+1} \quad \text{[By IH]}$$

$$= (2^{k+1} + 2^{k+1}) - 1 \quad \text{[Assoc. of +]}$$

$$= (2(2^{k+1})) - 1 \quad \text{[Factoring]}$$

$$= 2^{k+2} - 1 \quad \text{[Simplifying]}$$

This is exactly  $P(k+1)$ . So,  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$ .

So, the claim is true for all natural numbers by induction.

We know (by IH)...

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

We're trying to get...

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = 2^{(k+1)+1} - 1$$

Our goal is to find a sub-expression of the left that looks like the left side of the IH.

Don't bother justifying the "obvious" steps. But make sure you say "by IH" somewhere.

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

---

Let  $P(n)$  be “ $\sum_{i=0}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ ”. We go by induction on  $n$ .

Base Case (n=0):

Induction Hypothesis:

Induction Step:

This is exactly  $P(k+1)$ . So,  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$ .

So, the claim is true for all natural numbers by induction.

We know (by IH)...

We're trying to get...

Our goal is to find a sub-expression of the left that looks like the left side of the IH.

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

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Let  $P(n)$  be “ $\sum_{i=0}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ ”. We go by induction on  $n$ .

Base Case (n=0): Note that  $\sum_{i=0}^0 i = 0 = \frac{0(0+1)}{2}$ , which is exactly  $P(0)$ .

Induction Hypothesis: Suppose  $P(k)$  is true for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Induction Step: We want to show  $P(k+1)$ . That is, we want to show:  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} i = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Note that } \sum_{i=0}^{k+1} i &= \left( \sum_{i=0}^k i \right) + (k+1) && \text{[Splitting the summation]} \\ &= \left( \frac{k(k+1)}{2} \right) + (k+1) && \text{[By IH]} \\ &= (k+1) \left( \frac{k}{2} + 1 \right) = (k+1) \left( \frac{k+2}{2} \right) && \text{[Algebra]} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} && \text{[Algebra]} \end{aligned}$$

This is exactly  $P(k+1)$ . So,  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$ .

So, the claim is true for all natural numbers by induction.

**We know (by IH)...**

$$\sum_{i=0}^k i = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$$

**We're trying to get...**

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} i = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}$$

**Our goal is to find a sub-expression of the left that looks like the left side of the IH.**

# Prove $3^n \geq n^2$ for all $n \geq 3$ .

---

Let  $P(n)$  be " $3^n \geq n^2$ ". We go by induction on  $n$ .

Base Case ( $n=3$ ):  $3^3 \geq 3^2 \Leftrightarrow 27 \geq 9$

$$3^3 = 27 \geq 9 = 3^2$$

Induction Hypothesis: Suppose the claim is true for some  $n \geq 3$

Induction Step: We want to show  ~~$P(k)$~~  the claim for  $k+1$

Note that

$$3^{k+1} = \underbrace{3 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot 3}_{k+1 \text{ times}} = (k+1)^2$$

We know (by IH)...

We're trying to get...

This is exactly  $P(k+1)$ . So,  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$ .

So, the claim is true for all  $n \geq 3$  by induction.

# Strong Induction

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$P(0)$

$$\forall k \left( (P(0) \wedge P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge \dots \wedge P(k)) \rightarrow P(k+1) \right)$$

---

$\therefore \forall n P(n)$



# Strong Induction English Proof

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1. By induction we will show that  $P(n)$  is true for every  $n \geq 0$
2. Base Case: Prove  $P(0)$
3. Inductive Hypothesis:  
Assume that for some arbitrary integer  $k \geq 0$ ,  $P(j)$  is true for every  $j$  from 0 to  $k$
4. Inductive Step:  
Prove that  $P(k + 1)$  is true using the Inductive Hypothesis (that  $P(j)$  is true for all values  $\leq k$ )
5. Conclusion: Result follows by induction

Every  $n \geq 2$  can be expressed as a product of primes.

---

Let  $P(n)$  be " $n = p_0 p_1 \cdots p_j$ , where  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_j$  are prime."

We go by strong induction on  $n$ .

Base Case (n=2):

Induction Hypothesis: Suppose the claim for all  $2 \leq k < n$  for some  $n \geq 2$ .

Induction Step: We go by cases.

Case  $n$  is prime:

Case  $n$  is composite:

$$n = ab \quad \text{for some } n > a, b > 1$$

↑    ↑  
IH    IH

We know (by IH)...

All numbers smaller than  $n$  can be expressed as a product of primes.

We're trying to get...

$n$  can be expressed as a product of primes.