

# Lecture plan Monday 8 February 2016 § 4.1: Induction

- Introduce topic: last week an  $a \Rightarrow b \Rightarrow c \Rightarrow d \Rightarrow a$  proof.  
This week a method to prove statements  $P(n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Remark:  $\mathbb{Z}^+ = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x > 0\} = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x \geq 1\}$   
 $\mathbb{Q}^+ = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} \mid x > 0\}$   
 $\mathbb{R}^+ = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x > 0\}$  } cannot be written like  $\mathbb{N}$  using  $\geq$ .

The well-ordering principle: Every non-empty subset  $S \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$  has a smallest element.  
 (we do not prove this here)  
 (Other way to say this:  $\mathbb{Z}^+$  is well-ordered)

Remark:  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  and  $\mathbb{R}^+$  are not well-ordered:  
 the subsets  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  and  $\{x \in \mathbb{Q}^+ \mid x > 4\}$  and  $\{x \in \mathbb{Q}^+ \mid x > \pi\}$  have no smallest elements. These are subsets of  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
 (Some subsets, like  $\{x \in \mathbb{Q}^+ \mid x \geq 7\}$  do have a smallest element though)

Theorem 1.1: The principle of Mathematical Induction (page 200)  
 Let  $S(n)$  be an open mathematical statement depending on the variable  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  
 a)  $S(1)$  is true, and  
 b) whenever  $S(k)$  holds (for some particular, arbitrarily chosen  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ) we can prove that  $S(k+1)$  is also true,  
 then  $S(n)$  is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Proof: Let  $F = \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid S(n) \text{ is false}\}$ . We want to show that  $F = \emptyset$  using a proof by contradiction.  
 So suppose that  $F \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $F$  is a non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ , so  $F$  has a smallest element  $m$  (by the well-ordering principle).  
 Since  $S(1)$  is true,  $1 \notin F$ , so  $m \neq 1$ .  
 Now  $m > 1$  so  $m-1 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Since  $m$  was the smallest element of  $F$ ,  $m-1 \notin F$ . Hence  $S(m-1)$  is true.  
 By (b), we see that  $S(m)$  is true, so  $m \notin F$ . Contradiction!  
 Hence,  $F = \emptyset$ , so  $S(n)$  is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Logical statement:  $[S(1) \wedge [\forall k \geq 1 [S(k) \Rightarrow S(k+1)]]] \Rightarrow \forall n \geq 1 [S(n)]$

Example: Prove that for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

So  $S(n)$  is the statement:  $\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

Basic step: verify  $S(1)$   
 $\sum_{i=1}^1 i = 1$  and  $\frac{1(1+1)}{2} = 1$  so  $S(1)$  is true.

Let  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  be arbitrary and assume that the following Induction Hypothesis holds:  $\sum_{i=1}^k i = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$

Induction step: prove that if  $S(k)$  is true, then so is  $S(k+1)$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i &= 1+2+3+\dots+k+(k+1) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^k i\right) + (k+1) \stackrel{IH}{=} \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + (k+1) \\ &= \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + \frac{2(k+1)}{2} = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

So  $S(k+1)$  is true.

By induction,  $S(n)$  must be true for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

many other proofs exist

Example: Prove that for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$  (S(n))

Basic step:  $\sum_{i=1}^1 i^2 = 1$  and  $\frac{1(1+1)(2 \cdot 1 + 1)}{6} = 1$  so  $S(1)$  is true.

Let  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  be arbitrary and suppose that the following Induction Hypothesis holds:  
 $\sum_{i=1}^k i^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6}$

Induction step: Under assumption of this Induction hypothesis we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(k+1)(k+1+1)(2(k+1)+1)}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(2k^2 + 4k + 3k + 6)}{6} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i^2 &= \left( \sum_{i=1}^k i^2 \right) + (k+1)^2 \stackrel{IH}{=} \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} + (k+1)^2 \\ &= \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1) + 6(k+1)^2}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(k(2k+1) + 6(k+1))}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(2k^2 + k + 6k + 6)}{6} = \frac{(k+1)(2k^2 + 7k + 6)}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+1)}{6} \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $S(k+1)$  is true.

By induction,  $S(n)$  is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

Wrong example: All students have the same age.

Precise statement: In any group of  $n$  students ( $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ), all students have the same age.

"Proof" by induction:

Basic step: If I have a group of 1 student, all students in this group have the same age.

Let  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  be arbitrary and assume that the following Induction Hypothesis holds: In any set of  $k$  students, all students have the same age.

Induction step: Assume the IH and let  $S$  be a set of  $k+1$  students. Let  $x \in S$  be a student. Then  $S \setminus \{x\}$  is a set of  $k$  students, so all have the same age. Let  $y \in S$  - another student. Then all students in  $S \setminus \{y\}$  also have the same age, so  $x$  has the same age as all the others. Hence all students in  $S$  have the same age.

What is wrong here?

Other warning: Do not forget to check the base step. Without it, you might be proving nonsense. See example 6.

Remark:

The formulas  $\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$  that we have proved are worth remembering.

They might speed up a program:

begin sum := 0 for i := 1 to n do sum = sum + i <sup>2</sup> end	n additions n multiplications
--	----------------------------------

begin sum := n*(n+1)*(2n+1)/6 end	2 additions 3 multiplications 1 division
---	--

compare multiplication tables

And they can often be used while calculating other things:

Example:

There are 900 3-digit integers.  
A palindrome is an integer that remains the same if you reverse the order of its digits.  
What is the sum of all 3-digit palindromes?

Form: aba with  $1 \leq a \leq 9$  and  $0 \leq b \leq 9$ .  
 $aba = 100a + 10b + a = 101a + 10b$

By rule of product there are 90 3-digit palindromes.  
Let's calculate their sum:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{a=1}^9 \left( \sum_{b=0}^9 aba \right) &= \sum_{a=1}^9 \sum_{b=0}^9 (101a + 10b) \\ &= \sum_{a=1}^9 \left( \sum_{b=0}^9 101a \right) + \sum_{a=1}^9 \sum_{b=0}^9 10b \\ &= \sum_{a=1}^9 10 \cdot 101 \cdot a + \sum_{a=1}^9 10 \cdot \sum_{b=0}^9 b \\ &= 10 \cdot 101 \cdot \sum_{a=1}^9 a + 10 \cdot \sum_{a=1}^9 \sum_{b=1}^9 b \\ &= 10 \cdot 101 \cdot \frac{9 \cdot 10}{2} + 10 \cdot \sum_{a=1}^9 \frac{9 \cdot 10}{2} \\ &= 10 \cdot 101 \cdot 45 + 10 \cdot 9 \cdot 45 = 49500 \end{aligned}$$

Example:

(book does 55)

Wheel of fortune with numbers 1 up to 36, randomly distributed.  
Show that there are 3 consecutive

numbers with sum 56 or more.  
Use prove this by contradiction, so assume it's not true.  
Label the numbers in the wheel  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{36}$

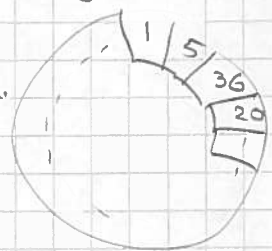
Then  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \leq 55$ ,  $x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \leq 55$ , ...,  
 $x_{34} + x_{35} + x_{36} \leq 55$ ,  $x_{35} + x_{36} + x_1 \leq 55$ ,  $x_{36} + x_1 + x_2 \leq 55$ .

Add all this:

$$3 \sum_{i=1}^{36} x_i \leq 36 \cdot 55$$

$$3 \cdot \frac{36 \cdot 37}{2}$$

But then  $\frac{3 \cdot 37}{2} \leq 55$ , which is false. So the statement must be true!



## Back to induction!

Example:

Let  $S(n)$  be the statement " $4n < (n^2 - 7)$ "  
Prove that  $S(n)$  is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  with  $n \geq 6$

We can still use induction here; we only need to change our basic step. Use  $n=6$  as a basic step now!

Basic step:  $4 \cdot 6 = 24$  and  $(6^2 - 7) = 36 - 7 = 29$  so  $S(6)$  is true.

Let  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  with  $k \geq 6$  be arbitrary, and suppose that the following Induction Hypothesis holds:  $S(k)$  is true (so  $4k < k^2 - 7$ )

Induction step: Assume the Induction Hypothesis. We need to prove that  $4(k+1) < (k+1)^2 - 7$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (k+1)^2 - 7 \\ = k^2 + 2k + 1 - 7 \end{aligned}$$

$$4(k+1) = 4k + 4 < k^2 - 7 + 4 = k^2 + 4 - 7$$

$$\leq k^2 + 2k + 1 - 7 = (k+1)^2 - 7$$

↳ since  $k \geq 6$ , we have  $4 \leq 2k + 1$

By induction,  $S(n)$  now holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  with  $n \geq 6$ .

Remark:

(While the above can be proved by induction, it is not really efficient.)

Shorter: Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  with  $n \geq 6$ .

$$\text{Then } n^2 - 7 \geq 6n - 7 = 4n + 2n - 7 \geq 4n + 12 - 7 = 4n + 5 > 4n.$$

So if you have to prove some statement  $S(n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , think whether or not induction seems wise.

Example:

Sum of odd numbers

$$1 = 1$$

$$1 + 3 = 4$$

$$1 + 3 + 5 = 9$$

$$1 + 3 + 5 + 7 = 16$$

Can we prove that  $\sum_{i=1}^n (2i-1) = n^2$ ? (For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ )

Basic Step:  $\sum_{i=1}^1 (2i-1) = 2 \cdot 1 - 1 = 1$  and  $1^2 = 1$  so the formula is true for  $n=1$

Now let  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  be arbitrary and assume the following IH:  $\sum_{i=1}^k (2i-1) = k^2$

Induction step: Assuming the Induction Hypothesis, we must prove that  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2i-1) = (k+1)^2$ .

$$\text{We have } \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2i-1) = \left( \sum_{i=1}^k (2i-1) \right) + (2(k+1)-1)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{IH}}{=} k^2 + 2k + 2 - 1 = k^2 + 2k + 1 = (k+1)^2$$

By induction, we now know that  $\sum_{i=1}^n (2i-1) = n^2$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$



Example: For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $A_n \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  with  $|A_n| = 2^n$  and list the elements of  $A_n$  in ascending order.

Claim: For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ : For all  $A_n$  as above and  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ , we can determine whether or not  $r \in A_n$  using at most  $n+1$  comparisons to elements of  $A_n$ .

Basic step: If  $n=0$ , then  $|A_n| = 2^0 = 1$  so comparing  $r$  to the unique element of  $A_n$  is enough to see if  $r \in A_n$ .  
So we need  $1 = n+1$  comparison

Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and assume that the following I.H. holds: For any set  $A_k \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  with  $|A_k| = 2^k$  and a list of its elements in ascending order, we can determine if  $r \in A_k$  with at most  $k+1$  comparisons.

Induction step: Assume the I.H. Let  $A_{k+1} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  with  $|A_{k+1}| = 2^{k+1} = 2 \cdot 2^k$  and list its elements in ascending order:  
 $x_1 < x_2 < x_3 < \dots < x_{2^k} < y_1 < y_2 < \dots < y_{2^k}$

Define  $B = \{x_1, \dots, x_{2^k}\}$  and  $C = \{y_1, \dots, y_{2^k}\}$ . Then  $|B| = |C| = 2^k$ , and  $A_{k+1} = B \cup C$ .

Compare  $r$  to  $y_1$ .

- If  $r < y_1$ , then  $r \notin C$  and we need at most  $k+1$  comparisons to see if  $r \in B$  or not, by I.H.
- If  $r \geq y_1$ , then  $r \notin B$  and we need at most  $k+1$  comparisons to see if  $r \in C$  or not (by I.H.).

Hence in at most  $1 + (k+1) = (k+1) + 1$  comparisons to elements of  $A_{k+1}$ , we know if  $r \in A_{k+1}$ .

By induction, this proves the claim.

Remark: Induction can be very useful to check and prove that a bit of programming (using while loops for example) does what it is supposed to do.

Example: Our program gets input  $x \in \mathbb{I}$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and should compute  $x(y^n)$ .

```
while n ≠ 0 do
  begin
    x := x * y
    n := n - 1
  end
answer := x
```

$S(n)$ : the program correctly computes  $x(y^n)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{I}$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  and the value  $n$ .

Basic step: If  $n=0$ , the program skips the "begin... end" part and gives  $x$ . As  $x(y^0) = x$ , the program is correct here.

Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and assume that the induction hypothesis  $S(k)$  holds.

Induction Step: We try to see if  $S(k+1)$  holds, assuming the H.  
Since  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we know  $k+1 \geq 1$  so the "begin... end" part is not skipped.

After one round of this, we get a new value  $x_1 = x * y$  instead of  $x$ , and a new value  $n_1 = n - 1 = (k+1) - 1 = k$  instead of  $n$ .

By I.H., the program now correctly compute  $x_1(y^{n_1})$ , which is  $(x * y) \cdot (y^k) = x(y^{k+1})$ . So  $S(k+1)$  holds.

By induction, this program gives the right answers.