

Induction (chpt. 2)

Thm = The Principle of Mathematical Induction states:

If S is a set of natural numbers such that:

(A) $1 \in S$

(B) $k \in S \Rightarrow k+1 \in S$

then $S = \mathbb{N}$.

Ex: Suppose S satisfies (1) and (2). Show that $4 \in S$.

By (A) we know $1 \in S$.

Thus, by (B), $2 \in S$. [since $1 \in S \Rightarrow 2 \in S$]

Again, by (B), $3 \in S$ [since $2 \in S \Rightarrow 3 \in S$]

Again, by (B), $4 \in S$ [since $3 \in S \Rightarrow 4 \in S$.]

Therefore, $4 \in S$.

NB: Using this kind of argument we could show that any natural number is in S .

For example, we could show $42 \in S$ using (A) once and (B) forty-one times.

Thm: For any natural n we have:

$$1+2+3+\dots+n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

Pf: Let S be the set of naturals for which the statement holds.

$$S = \left\{ n \in \mathbb{N} : 1+2+\dots+n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right\}$$

We note that $1 \in S$ since

$$\text{LHS} = 1 \text{ and } \text{RHS} = \frac{1(1+1)}{2} = 1$$

Suppose $k \in S$. We show $k+1 \in S$.

$$\text{LHS} = 1+2+3+\dots+k+(k+1)$$

$$= \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + (k+1)$$

$$= \frac{k(k+1) + 2(k+1)}{2}$$

$$= \frac{(k+2)(k+1)}{2}$$

$$= \frac{(k+1)[(k+1)+1]}{2}$$

$$\text{RHS} = \frac{(k+1)[(k+1)+1]}{2}$$

Thus $k+1 \in S$. By induction, $S = \mathbb{N}$. QED

Thm: For any integer $n \geq 0$ we have:

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

Pf: Let S be set of integers for which the statement holds:

$$S = \{ n \in \mathbb{N} : 2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1 \}$$

We note that $0 \in S$ since:

$$\text{LHS} = 2^0 = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{RHS} = 2^{0+1} - 1 = 2 - 1 = 1$$

Suppose $k \in S$. We show that $k+1 \in S$.

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

$$= (2^{k+1} - 1) + 2^{k+1}$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2^{k+1} - 1$$

$$= 2^{k+2} - 1$$

$$= 2^{(k+1)+1} - 1$$

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

Thus, $k+1 \in S$. By induction, $S = \mathbb{N}$. QED.

Nota: Recall, $k! = k \cdot (k-1)(k-2) \cdots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$.

Thm: If $n \geq 4$ then $n! > 2^n$.

Pf: For $n=4$ we have:

$$4! = 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 24.$$

$$\text{and } 2^4 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 16$$

Thus, $4! > 2^4$.

Suppose $k! > 2^k$ for $k \geq 4$.

We show $(k+1)! > 2^{k+1}$.

$$(k+1)! = k! \cdot (k+1)$$

$$> 2^k \cdot 4 \quad \# k \geq 4 \Rightarrow k+1 > 4.$$

$$> 2^{k+2} = 2^{(k+1)+1}$$

Thus, $(k+1)! > 2^{(k+1)+1}$ and the claim follows by induction.

Defⁿ: The Generalized Principle of Induction

If S is a set of naturals such that:

$$(1) m \in S$$

$$(2) k \in S \Rightarrow k+1 \in S$$

then $S = \{m, m+1, m+2, \dots\}$

Defⁿ: The Fibonacci numbers are defined by:

$$F_1 = 1, F_2 = 1, F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}.$$

Ex: $F_3 = 1+1=2, F_4 = 2+1=3, F_5 = 3+2=5.$

Thm: For any n : $F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n \right]$

Pf: For $n=1$ we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right) - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{2} \right] = 1. \end{aligned}$$

For $n=2$ we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^2 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[\frac{1+2\sqrt{5}+5}{4} - \frac{1-2\sqrt{5}+5}{4} \right] \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

NB: $x^2 = x+1 \Rightarrow x^2 - x - 1 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow x = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ OR $x = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$

We write $y = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ and $\bar{y} = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$.

Pf (cont):

For $n \geq 3$ we have:

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} [\varphi^{n-1} + \bar{\varphi}^{n-1}]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} [\varphi^{n-2} + \bar{\varphi}^{n-2}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} [\varphi^{n-1} + \varphi^{n-2} + \bar{\varphi}^{n-1} + \bar{\varphi}^{n-2}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} [\varphi^{n-2}(\varphi+1) + \bar{\varphi}^{n-2}(\bar{\varphi}+1)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} [\varphi^{n-2}(\varphi^2) + \bar{\varphi}^{n-2}(\bar{\varphi}^2)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} [\varphi^n + \bar{\varphi}^n]$$

well-ordering

Thm: The well-ordering Principle states:
If T is a non-empty set of natural numbers then T has a least element.

Ex: The least element of $\{2, 4, 6\}$ is 2.
The least element of $\{3, 5, 7, 9, 11, \dots\}$ is 3.

We write WOP for "well ordering principle"
PMI for "principle of math. induction".

Thm: WOP \Rightarrow PMI

Suppose the WOP holds, and PMI does NOT.
Let S be a set such that:

$$(A) 1 \in S$$

$$(B) k \in S \Rightarrow k+1 \in S$$

and $S \neq \mathbb{N}$.

We let $T = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \notin S\}$ NB: $t \in S$

T is not empty, by our hypothesis on S .

Thus, by WOP, T has a least element $t \in T$.

We know $t \neq 1$ since $1 \in S$.

Thus $t \geq 2$.

Note that $t-1 \in S$, by the minimality of t .

Thus $t = (t-1) + 1 \in S$.

Thus, $t \notin T$, contradicting our hypothesis on t .

Thm: PMI \Rightarrow WOP

Pf: Let $S = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : \text{If } T \text{ is a non-empty set of naturals and there is } t \in T \text{ such that } t \leq n \text{ then } T \text{ has a least element.}\}$

We note that:

If there is $t \leq 1$ in T
then $1 \in T$ and 1 is the
least element of T .

Suppose that if T is non-empty
and there is $t \in T$ such that $t \leq k$
then T has a least element.

If $k+1 \in T$ then either:

$k+1 \leq t$ for all $t \in T$

$\Rightarrow k+1$ is the least element of T

OR

there is $t \in T$ such that $t < k+1$
 $\Rightarrow t \leq k$ and hence T has a
least element.

Thus, $S = \mathbb{N}$ and we get:

If T is non-empty then it has a least element.

Thm: There is no natural number $0 < n < 1$.

PF: Suppose $T = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : 0 < n < 1\}$ is non-empty.

By the well-ordering principle T has a least element n .

We obtain: $0 < n$ and $n < 1$

Thus,

$$0 < n \cdot n = n^2 \quad \text{and}$$

$$n \cdot n < 1 \cdot n = n$$

We obtain, $0 < n^2 < n < 1$.

It follows that n was NOT the least element of T , contradicting the well-ordering Principle.

Thm: $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational NB: $\sqrt{2} \approx 1.41$

Pf (via well-ordering)

If $\sqrt{2} = \frac{a}{b}$ for $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$.

then $\sqrt{2}n$ is a natural for some n .

Let $T = \{n : \sqrt{2}n \text{ is a natural}\}$

If T is non-empty then it has a least element by the well-ordering principle. Let n be this least element.

consider, $(\sqrt{2}-1)n = \underbrace{\sqrt{2}n}_{\text{natural}} - \underbrace{n}_{\text{natural}} \in \mathbb{N}$

NB: $\sqrt{2}n > n$ and so $\sqrt{2}n - n \in \mathbb{N}$.

We then have $(\sqrt{2}-1)n < n$ and

$$\sqrt{2}[(\sqrt{2}-1)n]$$

$$= (2-\sqrt{2})n = 2n - \sqrt{2}n \in \mathbb{N}$$

This contradicts the minimality of n .

Strong Induction

Thm: The Strong Principle of Math Induction.

If S is a set of naturals such that:

(A) $1 \in S$

(B) $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, k\} \subseteq S \implies k+1 \in S$

then $S = \mathbb{N}$.

Ex: Every natural $n > 1$ is a product of one or more primes.

Pf: Let $S = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \text{ is a product of one or more primes}\}$

By definition, all primes are in S .

In particular $\{2, 3\} \subseteq S$.

Suppose $\{2, \dots, k\} \subseteq S$.

If $k+1$ is prime then $k+1 \in S$.

otherwise, is composite and

$$k+1 = a \cdot b$$

where $a, b < k$. Thus, $a \in S$ and $b \in S$.

Thus, a and b are products of primes.

Therefore $k+1$ is a product of primes.

Thm. Every natural number can be written as a sum of distinct powers of two

Ex: $1 = 2^0$ $4 = 2^2$ $7 = 2^2 + 2^1 + 2^0$
 $2 = 2^1$ $5 = 2^2 + 2^0$
 $3 = 2^1 + 2^0$ $6 = 2^2 + 2^1$ etc.

Pf: Let $S = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n \text{ can be written as a sum of distinct powers of two}\}$

By the example, $1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 \in S$.

Suppose $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, k\} \subseteq S$.

Consider $k+1$:

If $k+1$ is even then $k+1 = 2n$
for $n \leq k$.

By hypothesis n can be written as a sum of distinct powers of two. Thus, $k+1$ can be too.

(Multiplying by two preserves distinctness)

If $k+1$ is odd then k is even and can be written as a sum of distinct powers of two without 2^0 .

Thus $k+1 = k + 2^0$ works.

Recall,

$$(x+y)^n = \binom{n}{0}x^n y^0 + \binom{n}{1}x^{n-1}y^1 + \dots + \binom{n}{n}y^n$$

$\binom{n}{k}$ is the binomial coefficient "n choose k"

Fact: $\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k} + \binom{n-1}{k-1}$ $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$

Pf: $(x+y)^n$

$$= (x+y)(x+y)^{n-1}$$

$$= (x+y) \left[\binom{n-1}{0}x^{n-1}y^0 + \binom{n-1}{1}x^{n-2}y^1 + \dots + \binom{n-1}{n-1}y^{n-1} \right]$$

$$= x[\dots] + y[\dots]$$

Consider the term $x^{n-k}y^k$:

$$\text{It occurs twice: } x \cdot \left[\binom{n-1}{k}x^{n-1-k}y^k \right]$$

$$+ y \left[\binom{n-1}{k-1}x^{n-1-(k-1)}y^{k-1} \right]$$

$$= \left[\binom{n-1}{k} + \binom{n-1}{k-1} \right] x^{n-k}y^k$$

Thm: $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$ is always a whole number.

Pf: $\binom{m}{0} = \binom{m}{m} = 1$ and all $\binom{n}{k}$ can be

reduced to sums of this by applying the summation identity.

Thm : $\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{2} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} = 2^n$

Pf #1 (Induction)

$$\text{Let } S = \{n : \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} = 2^n\}$$

We have, $1 \in S$ since $\binom{1}{0} + \binom{1}{1} = 1 + 1 = 2 = 2^1$.

Suppose the claim holds for k , we get:

$$\begin{aligned} & \binom{k+1}{0} + \binom{k+1}{1} + \binom{k+1}{2} + \dots + \binom{k+1}{k+1} \\ &= \binom{k+1}{0} + \underbrace{\binom{k}{0} + \binom{k}{1}} + \underbrace{\binom{k}{1} + \binom{k}{2}} + \dots + \underbrace{\binom{k}{k-1} + \binom{k}{k}} + \binom{k+1}{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

NB: Every term except $\binom{k}{0}$ and $\binom{k}{k}$ occurs twice

$$= \binom{k+1}{0} + \binom{k}{0} + \binom{k}{k} + \binom{k+1}{k+1} + 2 \left[\binom{k}{1} + \binom{k}{2} + \dots + \binom{k}{k-1} \right]$$

$$= 2 \binom{k}{0} + 2 \binom{k}{k} + 2 \left[\binom{k}{1} + \binom{k}{2} + \dots + \binom{k}{k-1} \right]$$

$$= 2 \left[\binom{k}{0} + \binom{k}{1} + \dots + \binom{k}{k} \right] = 2 \cdot 2^k = 2^{k+1}$$

Pf #2 (Clever)

$$2^n = (1+1)^n = \binom{n}{0} 1^n 1^0 + \binom{n}{1} 1^{n-1} 1^1 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} 1^0 1^n$$

$$= \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n}$$