

**Strong Induction** (also called complete induction, our book calls this 2<sup>nd</sup> PMI)

§4.2  
p194

Fix  $n_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

If

BASE STEP:  $P(n_0)$  is true

INDUCTIVE STEP: for each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq n_0}$ :  $\underbrace{[P(j) \text{ is true for } j \in \{n_0, 1 + n_0, \dots, n\}]}_{\text{inductive hypothesis}} \Rightarrow \underbrace{[P(n + 1) \text{ is true}]}_{\text{inductive conclusion}}$

then  $P(n)$  is true for each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq n_0}$ .

**Ex. Theorem.** Let  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be the recursively defined sequence of integers

$$a_0 = 2 \quad , \quad a_1 = 4 \quad , \quad a_2 = 6$$

and

$$a_n = 5a_{n-3} \quad \text{when } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } n \geq 3.$$

Then  $a_n$  is even for each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$  i.e.  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$ .

►. Symbolically:  $(\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}) [ (a_0 = 2 \wedge a_1 = 4 \wedge a_2 = 6 \wedge (n \in \mathbb{N}^{\geq 3} \implies a_n = 5a_{n-3})) \implies a_n \text{ is even} ]$

*Proof.* Let  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be the recursively defined sequence of integers

$$a_0 = 2 \quad , \quad a_1 = 4 \quad , \quad a_2 = 6$$

and

$$a_n = 5a_{n-3} \quad \text{when } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } n \geq 3. \tag{RD}$$

We will show that  $a_n$  is even for each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$  by strong induction on  $n$ .

For the base step, first let  $n = 0$ . Then  $a_n = a_0 = 2$ , which is even. Next let  $n = 1$ . Then  $a_n = a_1 = 4$ , which is even. Finally let  $n = 2$ . Then  $a_n = a_2 = 6$ , which is even. Thus  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$ , and  $a_2$  are each even. This completes the base step.

For the inductive step, fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}^{\geq 2}$  and assume the inductive hypothesis, which is

$$\text{if } j \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\} \text{ then } a_j \text{ even.} \tag{IH}$$

We will show the inductive conclusion, which is

$$a_{n+1} \text{ is even.} \tag{IC}$$

Since  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$n + 1 \geq 3$$

and so, by the recursive definition (RD) (the recursive definition has *kicked in* for  $a_{n+1}$  since  $n + 1 \geq 3$ )

$$a_{n+1} = 5a_{(n+1)-3}$$

and so

$$a_{n+1} = 5a_{n-2}. \tag{1}$$

Since  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 2}$ , we know  $2 \leq n$  and so

$$0 \leq n - 2 \leq n,$$

which gives  $n - 2 \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Thus we can apply the inductive hypothesis (IH) to  $j = n - 2$  to get

$$a_{n-2} \text{ is even.} \tag{2}$$

Since the product of an even integer and any integer is an even integer [cf. Section 1.2 Exercise 3], equations (1) and (2) give that  $a_{n+1}$  is even. This completes the inductive step.

Thus the base step and the inductive step hold. So, by strong induction, the Theorem holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$ .  $\square$

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If

BASE STEP:  $P(n_0)$  is true

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then  $P(n)$  is true for each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq n_0}$ .

**Theorem.** Each natural number  $n$  has a factorization as

$$n = 2^k m$$

for some  $k$  is some nonnegative integer and some odd natural number  $m$ .

► Written symbolically:  $(\forall n \in \mathbb{N}) (\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}) (\exists m \in \mathbb{N}) [m \text{ is odd} \wedge n = 2^k m]$ .

*Proof.* We shall show that if  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $n$  can be written as

$$n = 2^k m \quad \text{for some } k \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0} \text{ and odd natural number } m. \quad (3)$$

by strong induction on  $n$ .

For the base step, let  $n = 1$ . Then

$$n = 1 = 2^0 \cdot 1 = 2^k m$$

where  $k = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$  and  $m = 1 \in \mathbb{N}$  is odd. So (3) holds when  $n = 1$ . This completes the base step.

For the inductive step, fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Assume the inductive hypothesis, which is

if  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  then (IH)

$$j = 2^{k_j} m_j \quad \text{for some } k_j \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0} \text{ and odd natural number } m_j.$$

We will show the inductive conclusion, which is

$$n + 1 = 2^k m \quad \text{for some } k \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0} \text{ and odd natural number } m, \quad (IC)$$

by considering (the only possible) two cases:  $n$  is even and  $n$  is odd.

For the first case, let  $n$  be an even natural number. Then  $n + 1$  is an odd natural numbers so

$$n + 1 = 2^0 (n + 1) = 2^k m$$

where  $k = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$  and  $m = n + 1$  is an odd natural number. Thus (IC) holds for the first case.

For the second case, let  $n$  be an odd natural number. Then  $n + 1$  is an even natural number; thus, there is  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$n + 1 = 2l. \quad (4)$$

Note that  $l \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  since  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$1 \leq l = \frac{n + 1}{2} \leq \frac{n + n}{2} = n.$$

Thus by the inductive hypotheses (IH) (think  $j := l$ ) there exists  $k_l \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$  and an odd natural number  $m_l$  such that

$$l = 2^{k_l} m_l. \quad (5)$$

Equations (4) and (5) give,

$$n + 1 = 2l = 2(2^{k_l} m_l) = (2^{1+k_l}) (m_l) = 2^k m$$

where  $m := m_l$  is an odd natural number and  $k := 1 + k_l \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$  (since  $k_l \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$ ). Thus (IC) holds for the second case. This completes the inductive step.

Thus the base step and the inductive step hold. So, by strong induction, equation (1) holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . □