

Setup. Let $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ be the natural numbers and $\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ be the integers. Let $P(n)$ be an *open sentence* (also called *predicate*) in the variable n , where n is in a subset S of \mathbb{Z} . So when a specified value for $n \in S$ is assigned, $P(n)$ is a statement. Sometimes we denote $P(n)$ by P_n . For a $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$, let $\mathbb{N}^{\geq n_0} := \{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \geq n_0\} \stackrel{\text{i.e.}}{=} \{n_0, n_0 + 1, n_0 + 2, n_0 + 3, \dots\} \stackrel{\text{so}}{\subset} \mathbb{N}$. For a $n_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$, let $\mathbb{Z}^{\geq n_0} := \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : n \geq n_0\} \stackrel{\text{i.e.}}{=} \{n_0, n_0 + 1, n_0 + 2, n_0 + 3, \dots\} \stackrel{\text{so}}{\subset} \mathbb{Z}$.

INDUCTION

1. Induction (basic form)

If

BASE STEP: $P(1)$ is true

INDUCTIVE STEP: for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$: $\underbrace{[P(n) \text{ is true}]}_{\text{inductive hypothesis}} \implies \underbrace{[P(n+1) \text{ is true}]}_{\text{inductive conclusion}}$

then $P(n)$ is true for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

2. Induction (doesn't matter where you start from) (instead of starting at 1, let's start at $n_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$)

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

If

BASE STEP: $P(n_0)$ is true

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

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

3. Strong Induction (also called complete induction)

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

If

BASE STEP: $P(n_0)$ is true

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

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

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING AN INDUCTION PROOF

When writing an induction proof, remember to *keep your reader informed*; thus, you should:

- (1) say what you are trying to show inductively
- (2) say what your induction variable is (e.g., if you are trying to show $(\forall j \in \mathbb{N}) [P(j)]$ then say: We will show that *blub* holds for each $j \in \mathbb{N}$ by induction on j .)
- (3) indicate where your base step begins
- (4) indicate where your base step ends
- (5) indicate where your inductive step begins
- (6) clearly state your inductive hypothesis (IH)
- (7) clearly state your inductive conclusion (IC)
- (8) indicate where your inductive step ends.

1. Show that $\prod_{i=1}^{n+1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{i+1}\right) = \frac{1}{n+2}$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. We shall show that for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n+1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{i+1}\right) = \frac{1}{n+2} \quad (1)$$

by induction on n .

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

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n+1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{i+1}\right) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{1+2} = \frac{1}{n+2}.$$

Thus equation (1) holds when $n = 1$. This concludes the base step.

For the inductive step, let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and assume that

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n+1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{i+1}\right) = \frac{1}{n+2}. \quad (\text{IH})$$

We will show that

$$\prod_{i=1}^{(n+1)+1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{i+1}\right) = \frac{1}{(n+1)+2}. \quad (\text{IC})$$

Using the definition of a product we can see that

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n+2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{i+1}\right) = \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n+1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{i+1}\right)\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{(n+2)+1}\right)$$

and by the inductive hypothesis (IH)

$$= \left(\frac{1}{n+2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+3}\right)$$

and now by some algebra

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(\frac{1}{n+2}\right) \left(\frac{(n+3)-1}{n+3}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{n+2}\right) \left(\frac{n+2}{n+3}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{n+3} \\ &= \frac{1}{(n+1)+2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the inductive conclusion (IC) holds. This completes the inductive step.

Thus, by induction, equation (1) holds for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. □

2. Show that $2^n > n^2$ each natural number n strictly larger than 4.

Proof. We shall show that if $n \in \mathbb{N}^{\geq 5}$ then

$$2^n > n^2 \tag{1}$$

by induction on n .

For the base step, let $n = 5$. Then

$$2^n = 2^5 = 32 > 25 = 5^2 = n^2.$$

Thus, inequality (1) holds when $n = 5$.

For the inductive step, fix a natural number $n \in \mathbb{N}^{\geq 5}$. Assume that

$$2^n > n^2. \tag{IH}$$

We need to show that

$$2^{(n+1)} > (n+1)^2. \tag{IC}$$

Using the inductive hypothesis (IH) and algebra, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{(n+1)} &= 2(2^n) \\ &> 2(n^2) \\ &= n^2 + n^2 \\ &= n^2 + (n)(n) \end{aligned}$$

and since $n > 4$

$$\begin{aligned} &> n^2 + (4)(n) \\ &= n^2 + 2n + 2n. \end{aligned}$$

and since $n > 4$ it is clear that $2n > 1$ so

$$\begin{aligned} &> n^2 + 2n + 1 \\ &= (n+1)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the inequality (IC) holds. This completes the inductive step.

Thus, by induction, inequality (1) holds for each natural number $n \in \mathbb{N}^{\geq 5}$. □

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

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

$$n = 2^k m \quad \text{for some } k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \text{ and odd natural number } m \quad (1)$$

by strong induction on n .

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

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

where $k = 0 \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ and $m = 1 \in \mathbb{N}$ is odd. Thus (1) holds when $n = 1$. This completes the base step.

For the inductive step, fix $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and assume the inductive hypotheses, which is that for each $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

$$j = 2^a b \quad \text{for some } a \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \text{ and odd natural number } b. \quad (\text{IH})$$

To show the inductive conclusion, which is

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

we consider two cases: n is even and n is odd.

For the first cases, let n be an even integer. Then $n + 1$ is odd and so

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

where $k = 0 \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ and $m = n + 1$ is an odd integer. Thus (IC) holds for the first case.

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

$$n + 1 = 2i. \quad (2)$$

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

$$1 \leq i < 2i = n + 1.$$

Thus by the inductive hypotheses (IH), there exists $a \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ and an odd natural number b such that

$$i = 2^a b. \quad (3)$$

Equations (2) and (3) give,

$$n + 1 = 2i = 2(2^a b) = 2^{a+1} b = 2^k m$$

where $m := b$ is an odd natural number and $k := a + 1 \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ (since $a \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$). Thus (IC) holds for the second case.

This completes the inductive step. So, by strong induction, equation (1) holds for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. \square