# Section 8.4 Mathematical Induction

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# Principle of Mathematical Induction

- Let the domain of discourse be the positive integers
- For a predicate P, we wish to prove  $\forall n P(n)$
- To do this we first prove the predicate for the smallest positive integer,  $P(1)$
- Then we prove that if the predicate is true for  $k$ ,  $P(k)$ , then it is also true for  $k + 1$ :

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

# Principle of Mathematical Induction

• If we prove both  $P(1)$  and  $\forall k(P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1))$ , then it must be the case that

 $\bullet$ 

 $\forall n P(n)$ 

Because we have  $P(1)$ and we have  $P(2)$  because  $P(1)$  and  $P(1) \rightarrow P(2)$ and we have  $P(3)$  because  $P(2)$  and  $P(2) \rightarrow P(3)$ and we have  $P(4)$  because  $P(3)$  and  $P(3) \rightarrow P(4)$ 

• Example: Prove  $\forall n P(n)$  by mathematical induction on the positive integers where

$$
P(n)
$$
 is  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ 

1. Base case: Prove  $P(1)$ 

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

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ Note that  $P(k)$  is  $\sum_{i=1}^{k} i =$  $k(k+1)$ 2 and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i =$  $(k+1)(k+2)$ 2

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

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

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k+1)$ 1. Assume  $\sum_{i=1}^k$  $\frac{k}{i}$   $i = 1$  $k(k+1)$ 2

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• Example 2: Prove  $\forall n P(n)$  by mathematical induction where  $P(n)$  is "The sum of the first  $n$  odd positive integers is  $n^{2n}$ 

```
P(1) is 1 = 1^2P(2) is 1 + 3 = 2^2P(3) is 1 + 3 + 5 = 3^2P(4) is 1 + 3 + 5 + 7 = 4^2
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• Example 2: Prove  $\forall n P(n)$  by mathematical induction on the positive integers where

 $P(n)$  is "The sum of the first  $n$  odd positive integers is  $n^{2}$ "



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 $P(n)$  is "The sum of the first  $n$  odd positive integers is  $n^{2n}$ 

1. Base case: Prove  $P(1)$ 

$$
1=1^2
$$

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ Note that  $P(k)$  is  $1 + 3 + \cdots + (2k - 1) = k^2$ and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $1 + 3 + \cdots + (2k - 1) + (2k + 1) = (k + 1)^2$ 

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We must conclude this

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1 + 3 + \dots + (2k - 1) = k^2
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2.  $1 + 3 + \dots + (2k - 1) + (2k + 1) = k^2 + (2k + 1)$ 

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\n3. 
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= (k + 1)(k + 1)
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$$
= (k + 1)(k + 1)
$$
\n4. 
$$
= (k + 1)^2
$$

# Induction on the Natural Numbers

- If the domain of discourse changes from the positive integers  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  to the natural numbers  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ , then to prove  $\forall n P(n)$ 
	- by induction, we must start with the smallest natural number. So we prove

 $P(0)$ 

and we still prove

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

• Example 3: Prove  $\forall n P(n)$  by mathematical induction on the natural numbers where

$$
P(n) \text{ is } \sum_{i=0}^{n} 2^i = 2^{n+1} - 1
$$

1. Base case: Prove  $P(0)$ 

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

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ Note that  $P(k)$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^{k} 2^{i} = 2^{k+1} - 1$ and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = 2^{k+2} - 1$ 

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ Note that  $P(k)$  is $\left|\sum_{i=0}^k 2^i = 2^{k+1} - 1\;\;\right|$  We assume this and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = 2^{k+2} - 1$ 

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ Note that  $P(k)$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^k 2^i = 2^{k+1} - 1$ and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = 2^{k+2} - 1$ We assume this We must conclude this

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ Note that  $P(k)$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^{k} 2^{i} = 2^{k+1} - 1$ and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = 2^{k+2} - 1$ 

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

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

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ Note that  $P(k)$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^{k} 2^{i} = 2^{k+1} - 1$ and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^i = 2^{k+2} - 1$ 

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

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

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

\n- 1. Assume 
$$
\sum_{i=0}^{k} 2^{i} = 2^{k+1} - 1
$$
\n- 2.  $\sum_{i=0}^{k} 2^{i} + 2^{k+1} = 2^{k+1} - 1 + 2^{k+1}$
\n- 3.  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} 2^{i} = 2^{k+1} - 1 + 2^{k+1}$
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\n2.  $\sum_{i=0}^{k} 2^{i} + 2^{k+1} = 2^{k+1} - 1 + 2^{k+1}$   
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\n4.  $= 2^{k+1} + 2^{k+1} - 1$   
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\n5.  $= 2 \cdot 2^{k+1} - 1$   
\n6.  $= 2^{k+2} - 1$ 

• Example 4: Prove  $\forall n P(n)$  by mathematical induction on the natural numbers where

$$
P(n) \text{ is } \sum_{j=0}^{n} ar^j = ar^0 + ar^1 + \dots + ar^n = \frac{ar^{n+1}-a}{r-1} \text{ when } r \neq 1
$$

1. Base case: Prove  $P(0)$ 

$$
\sum_{j=0}^{0} ar^j = a = \frac{a(r-1)}{r-1} = \frac{ar-a}{r-1} = \frac{ar^{0+1}-a}{r-1}
$$

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ Note that  $P(k)$  is  $\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^j =$  $ar^{k+1}-a$  $r-1$ and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} ar^j =$  $ar^{k+2}-a$  $r-1$ 

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ 

Note that  $P(k)$  is  $\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^j =$  $ar^{k+1}-a$  $r-1$ and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} ar^j =$  $ar^{k+2}-a$  $\frac{r-1}{r-1}$ We assume this We must conclude this

2. Induction step: Prove  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$ Note that  $P(k)$  is  $\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^j =$  $ar^{k+1}-a$  $r-1$ and  $P(k + 1)$  is  $\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} ar^j =$  $ar^{k+2}-a$  $r-1$ 

$$
\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^j = ar^0 + ar^1 + \dots + ar^k
$$

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$$
\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^j = \boxed{ar^0 + ar^1 + \dots + ar^k}
$$

$$
\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} ar^j = \boxed{ar^0 + ar^1 + \dots + ar^k} + ar^{k+1}
$$

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2.  $\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^j + ar^{k+1} = \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1} + ar^{k+1}$ 

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\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^j = \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1}
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\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^{j} = \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1}
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\n3.  $\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} ar^{j} = \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1} + ar^{k+1}$   
\n4. 
$$
= \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1} + \frac{(r-1)(ar^{k+1})}{r-1}
$$

1. Assume 
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\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^{j} = \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1}
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\n2.  $\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^{j} + ar^{k+1} = \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1} + ar^{k+1}$   
\n3.  $\sum_{j=0}^{k+1} ar^{j} = \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1} + ar^{k+1}$   
\n4.  $= \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1} + \frac{(r-1)(ar^{k+1})}{r-1}$   
\n5.  $= \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1} + \frac{rar^{k+1}-ar^{k+1}}{r-1}$ 

1. Assume 
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\sum_{j=0}^{k} ar^{j} = \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1}
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\n5.  $= \frac{ar^{k+1}-a}{r-1} + \frac{rar^{k+1}-ar^{k+1}}{r-1}$   
\n6.  $= \frac{ar^{k+2}-a}{r-1}$