

# Notes On Induction

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# Simple Induction

- The domain is of the form  $i \dots \infty$ .
- There is only one stopping value,  $i$ . (*Base Case*)
- Inheritance is always  $P(n+1)$  inheriting from  $P(n)$ . (*Inductive Case*)

# 4 Steps to Wisdom

## Proof by Simple Induction

- **Step 1. Define the Problem.**

- Clearly define the domain  $D$ , which must be of the form  $D=s\dots\infty$
- Clearly state what you are doing induction on. In other words, what values are in the domain  $D$ ? For example, if you are doing induction in connection with a graph, you might say something like “This proof is by induction on  $n$ , the number of vertices of the graph.”
- Give names to all formulas and predicates that you might use.

# 4 Steps to Wisdom

## Proof by Simple Induction

- **Step 2. Checking Base Case & Two Other Values.**
  - If any of the Base Cases does not work, then your claim is wrong and you need to go back to Step 1 and fix everything
- **Step 3. Prove for all  $n > s$ , that if  $P(n)$  is true, then  $P(n+1)$  is true.**
- **Step 4. Conclude the Proof.**

Prove  $(n^3+2n) \bmod 3 = 0$

- Let's see how to do this as a simple proof by induction.

# Step 1. Define the Problem

- The domain  $D$  is the set of Natural Numbers, which can be represented by  $0 \dots \infty$
- Thus, 0 is the base case.
- There is a function  $F(n)$  and a predicate  $P(n)$  defined as below
- $F(n) = n^3 + 2n$
- $P(n) = (0 = F(n) \bmod 3)$

## Step 2. Check Stopping Value and Two Other Values

- $F(0) = 0^3 + 2 \cdot 0 = 0$
- $P(0) = \text{True}$  (*Base Case*)
- $F(1) = 1^3 + 2 \cdot 1 = 3$
- $P(1) = \text{True}$
- $F(2) = 2^3 + 2 \cdot 2 = 12$
- $P(2) = \text{True}$

## Step 3. Inheritance

- We assume that  $P(n)$  is true.
- This means that  $F(n) \bmod 3$  is 0.
- $F(n) = n^3 + 2n$
- $F(n+1) = (n+1)^3 + 2(n+1) = n^3 + 3n^2 + 5n + 3$
- How can you relate  $F(n+1)$  to  $F(n)$ ?
- Clearly,  $F(n+1) = F(n) + 3n^2 + 3n + 3$
- Do you notice anything?

## Step 3. Inheritance

- $F(n+1) = F(n) + 3(n^2 + n + 1)$
- Thus,  $F(n+1) \bmod 3 = F(n) \bmod 3 + (3 \bmod 3)^* ((n^2 + n + 1) \bmod 3)$
- $= 0 + 0^*x = 0$

## Step 4. Conclude the Proof

- Since Steps 1-3 have been verified, it follows that the proof is completed.
- It follows that  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n$  in  $D$
- Thus,  $(n^3+2n) \bmod 3 = 0$  for all natural numbers  $n$ .