

Induction, Episode V: The Recursion Fairy Strikes Back

Part c: Induction Proofs of More Involved Claims

Ian Ludden

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Adjust the indexing of the I.H. and inductive step.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Adjust the indexing of the I.H. and inductive step.
- Write induction proofs for claims with inequalities, relations, extra variables, or other non-formula claims.

Example 1: Induction with Divides

Example 1: Induction with Divides

Claim

For all $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $a \mid b \rightarrow a^n \mid b^n$.

Example 1: Induction with Divides

Claim

For all $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $a \mid b \rightarrow a^n \mid b^n$.

Proof.

The proof is by induction on n . $P(n) := \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+, a \mid b \rightarrow a^n \mid b^n$.
Base case: We show $P(0)$.

Inductive step: Let $k > 0$ be arbitrary.
Suppose $P(n)$ is true for $0 \leq n < k$.

Example 1: Induction with Divides

Claim

For all $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $a \mid b \rightarrow a^n \mid b^n$.

Proof.

The proof is by induction on n . $P(n) := \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+, a \mid b \rightarrow a^n \mid b^n$.

Base case: We show $P(0)$.

Inductive step: Let $k > 0$ be arbitrary.

Suppose $P(n)$ is true for $0 \leq n < k$.

Hence $P(k)$ is true.

By induction, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \geq n_0$. □

Indexing our I.H.

Indexing our I.H.

Claim

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0, P(n).$

Indexing our I.H.

Claim

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0, P(n).$

Proof.

Base cases: We show $P(n_0), P(n_0 + 1), \dots, P(n_1).$

Inductive step: Let $k > n_1$ be arbitrary.

Suppose $P(n)$ is true for $n_0 \leq n < k.$

Indexing our I.H.

Claim

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0, P(n).$

Proof.

Base cases: We show $P(n_0), P(n_0 + 1), \dots, P(n_1).$

Inductive step: Let $k > n_1$ be arbitrary.

Suppose $P(n)$ is true for $n_0 \leq n < k.$

[Details] Hence $P(k)$ is true.

By induction, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \geq n_0.$ □

Example 2: Trigonometric Inequality

Example 2: Trigonometric Inequality

Claim

For any $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $|\sin nx| \leq n|\sin x|$.

Example 2: Trigonometric Inequality

Claim

For any $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $|\sin nx| \leq n|\sin x|$.

Proof.

The proof is by induction on n . $P(n) := \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, |\sin nx| \leq n|\sin x|$.

Example 2: Trigonometric Inequality

Claim

For any $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $|\sin nx| \leq n|\sin x|$.

Proof.

The proof is by induction on n . $P(n) := \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, |\sin nx| \leq n|\sin x|$.
Base case: When $n = 0$,

Example 2: Trigonometric Inequality

Claim

For any $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $|\sin nx| \leq n|\sin x|$.

Proof.

The proof is by induction on n . $P(n) := \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, |\sin nx| \leq n|\sin x|$.

Base case: When $n = 0$,

Inductive step: Let $k \geq 0$ be arbitrary, and suppose $P(n)$ is true for $0 \leq n \leq k$. We show $P(k+1)$ is true:

Hence by induction, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. □

Recap: Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Adjust the indexing of the I.H. and inductive step.
- Write induction proofs for claims with inequalities, relations, extra variables, or other non-formula claims.