

# LECTURE 17

## INDUCTION

### Recognizing a pattern

What pattern are we seeing?

(Sum of odd numbers up to  $1/N$ )

$$P(N): \sum_{i=1}^N 2i-1 = N^2$$

Idea behind INDUCTION

Induction is used to prove a theorem holds for all integers ( $n \geq 0$ ) if we are able to do the following:

\* state the proposition as depending on an integer parameter  $P(N)$

\* show the BASE CASE,  $P(k)$  is verified for  $k+1$  (or  $k$  equals a small number)

\* show that if theorem holds for  $k$  then it must also  $(k+1)$  (INDUCTIVE STEP)

When we have all three elements we can prove that  $P(N)$  holds for all  $N \geq k$  for a certain  $K$

Intuition

\* the INDUCTIVE STEP says that if  $P(k)$  then  $P(k+1)$

that means if  $P(1)$  then  $P(2)$

but if  $P(2)$  then  $P(3)$

but if  $P(3)$  then  $P(4)$

but if  $P(4)$  ...

Let  $P(k)$  be the property:

$$P(k): \sum_{i=1}^k 2i-1 = k^2$$

property/statement that depends on an integer  $k$

BASE CASE:

We have to identify which value of  $k$  makes sense to begin with. (Usually this  $k=0$  or  $k=1$ )

(Let's look at  $k=1$ )

For  $k=1$ :

$$LHS: \sum_{i=1}^1 2i-1 = 2 \times 1 - 1 = 1$$

$$RHS: 1^2 = 1$$

INDUCTIVE STEP

We assume  $P(k)$  is true. We want to show that  $P(k+1)$  is also true.

$P(k)$  is true  $\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^k 2i-1 = k^2$

Let's see what that means for  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} 2i-1$

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

$$= 2(k+1)-1 + k^2$$

$$= 2k+2-1 + k^2$$

$$= k^2 + 2k + 1$$

$$= (k+1)^2 \checkmark P(k+1) \text{ is true}$$

Therefore we have shown that

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

Since BASE CASE + INDUCTIVE STEP then we have shown that  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n \geq 1$ .

$$\sum_{i=1}^n 2i-1 = n^2 \text{ is true for all } n \geq 1$$

Example with BASE CASE different than  $k=0$  or  $k=1$

Question: Is  $N!$  bigger or is  $2^N$  bigger?

Exploration

(A) Computing for small values of  $N$

(B) Reasoning abstractly

$N$  terms for large values

Things I've uncovered

$N!$  and  $2^N$  are products of  $N$  terms

all but the first two terms of  $N!$  are larger than  $2^N$

therefore we expect

$$N! > 2^N, N \geq 4$$

We want to prove  $P(N): N! > 2^N$  is true for all  $N \geq 4$ .

BASE CASE: Let  $N=4$  then  $N! = 4! = 24$

$2^N = 2^4 = 16$

so since  $24 > 16$ , we see that  $P(4)$  is true

INDUCTIVE STEP: We assume that  $P(N)$  is true which means  $N! > 2^N$ .

We want to know whether this pattern continues with  $(N+1)!$  and  $2^{N+1}$ .

LHS:  $(N+1)!$

RHS:  $2^{N+1}$

$$(N+1)! = (N+1) \times N!$$

$$> (N+1) \times 2^N$$

$$> 2 \times 2^N$$

$$= 2^{N+1}$$

$$(N+1)! > 2^{N+1} \checkmark \rightarrow \text{therefore } P(N) \Rightarrow P(N+1)$$

Therefore for all  $N \geq 4$  we have shown  $N! > 2^N$

Addendum on combinatorial proofs

LHS = RHS?

derive then separately

then show they are equal

(TEMPLATE 9)

What is "LHS"?

only one derivation

we have mostly done this type of example