

[With post-lecture annotations (in green)]

## CSC236 winter 2020, week 3: structural induction, well-ordering

See section 1.2-1.3 of course notes

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# Outline

## Well-ordering

- Principle of well-ordering

- Example: prime factorizations, revisited

- Example: round-robin tournament cycles

## Structural induction

- Introduction

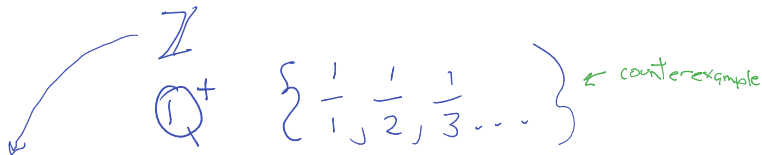
- Example: complete binary trees

- Comparison with simple induction

- Example: strings of matching parentheses

## Principle of well-ordering

Not true of...



Every non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{N}$  has a smallest element.

Surprisingly, turns out to be equivalent to principle of mathematical induction / complete induction. (Theorem 1.1 in Vassos course notes)

Every  $n > 1$  has a prime factorization

For sake of contradiction, assume this is false. i.e.

$$S = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > 1 \wedge n \text{ is not the product of primes}\}$$

is non-empty. By PWO,  $S$  has a smallest element, call it  $j$ .

<sup>^</sup>  
because  $S$  non-empty,  $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$

$$j = a \times b$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} a < j, & a \notin S \\ b < j & b \notin S \end{array}$$



Every  $n > 1$  has a prime factorization

[Looks very similar to our complete induction proof from last week - not a coincidence.]

For sake of contradiction, assume this is false. i.e.

$$S = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > 1 \wedge n \text{ is not the product of primes}\}$$

is non-empty. By PWO,  $S$  has a smallest element, call it  $j$ .

Case 1:  $j$  is prime. **Contradiction!**

Case 2:  $j$  is composite. Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $j = a \times b \wedge 1 < a < j \wedge 1 < b < j$  (by definition of composite).

$a, b \notin S$ , since  $j$  was chosen to be the smallest element. So  $a$  and  $b$  each have a prime factorization. We can concatenate them to form a prime factorization of  $j$ .

**Contradiction!**

In each case, we derived a contradiction, so our premise is false.  $S$  must be empty.

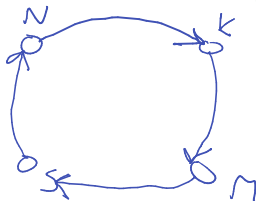
$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} - \{0, 1\}$ ,  $n$  has a prime factorization.

# Round-robin tournament cycles

Round-robin tournament  $\equiv$  every player faces every other player once.

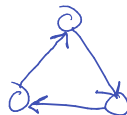
Consider “cycles” of matchups such as...

- ▶ Naomi beats Kim
- ▶ Kim beats Monica
- ▶ Monica beats Serena
- ▶ Serena beats Naomi



Note: a complete specification of this graph would have edges btwn  $N+M$ , and  $S+K$ , but the direction of those edges is irrelevant in this context.

**Claim:** Any round-robin tournament having at least one cycle has a 3-cycle.



Proof: if a RR tournament has a cycle, it has a 3-cycle

For an arbitrary RR tournament, assume there is some cycle

$$p_1 > p_2 > \dots > p_n > p_1$$

$$S = \{i \in N \mid p_i > p_1\}$$

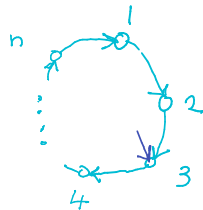
$n \in S$ , let  $j$  be smallest ele of  $S$

Since  $j-1 < j$ ,  $j-1 \notin S$

$$\underline{p_j > p_1} > \underline{p_{j-1} > p_j}$$

Since  $j \in S$

by def'n of sequence  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$



then there is a 3-cycle,  $a > b > c > a$

## Recursively defined sets

Sets defined in terms of one or more 'simple' examples, plus rules for generating elements from other elements.

Example:

- ▶ A single node is a complete binary tree
- ▶ If  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are complete binary trees, then a new node joined to  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  as its children form a complete binary tree

We can use structural induction to prove properties of such sets.



# Structural induction proof outline

For some recursively defined set  $S$ ...

1. Define predicate with domain  $S$
2. **Basis:** verify  $P(x)$  for 'basic' element(s)  $x \in S$
3. **Inductive step:** show that each rule that generates other elements of  $S$  preserves  $P$ -ness. i.e. for each rule...
  - 3.1 Choose arbitrary elements of  $S$
  - 3.2 Assume predicate holds for those elements
  - 3.3 Use assumption to show that  $P(z)$  holds, where  $z$  is an element generated from our previously chosen elements.

$$\forall x \in S, P(x)$$

Prove: all complete binary trees have an odd number of nodes

1. Predicate

$$P(+): \exists k \in \mathbb{N}, \text{Nodes}(+) = 2k + 1$$

Prove: all complete binary trees have an odd number of nodes

2. Basis

Let  $t$  be a single node

$$\text{Nodes}(t) = 1 = 2 \times 0 + 1, \text{ so } P(t)$$

Prove: all complete binary trees have an odd number of nodes

3. Inductive step  $\mathcal{T} :=$  set of complete bin trees

Let  $t_1, t_2 \in \mathcal{T}$

Assume  $P(t_1) \wedge P(t_2) \nRightarrow$  I.H.

Consider the tree formed by joining  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  under a new node. Call it  $t$ .

$$\text{Nodes}(t) = \text{Nodes}(t_1) + \text{Nodes}(t_2) + 1$$

Let  $k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ , s.t.

$$\text{Nodes}(t) = (2k_1 + 1) + (2k_2 + 1) + 1 \quad \nRightarrow \text{by I.H.}$$

$$= 2(k_1 + k_2 + 1) + 1, \text{ so } P(t).$$



## Compare with simple induction

$-1 \in \mathbb{N}$  ? Possible if we omit "smallest"

Define  $\mathbb{N}$  as the smallest<sup>1</sup> set such that:

1.  $0 \in \mathbb{N}$
2.  $n \in \mathbb{N} \implies \underline{n+1} \in \mathbb{N}$       successor function

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<sup>1</sup>Why is this necessary?

# Strings with matching parentheses

↙ set of strings  $S$ , aka 'language'

Define  $\mathcal{B}$  as the smallest set such that...

1.  $\epsilon$   $\in \mathcal{B}$  # where  $\epsilon$  denotes the empty string 1/
2. If  $b \in \mathcal{B}$ , then  $(b) \in \mathcal{B}$
3. If  $b_1, b_2 \in \mathcal{B}$ , then  $b_1 b_2 \in \mathcal{B}$  # closed under concatenation

Examples of elements?

$\epsilon$

$()$

$(( ))$

$(( )) () ()$

A claim about  $\mathcal{B}$

$s'$  is a prefix of  $s$ , if  $\exists$  string  $z$ , s.t.

$$s = s'z$$

Define...

- ▶  $L(s) = \#$  of occurrences of ( in  $s$   $s.count('(')$
- ▶  $R(s) = \#$  of occurrences of ) in  $s$

**Claim:**  $\forall s \in \mathcal{B}$ , if  $s'$  is a prefix of  $s$ , then  $L(s') \geq R(s')$ .

$((()))()()$

String  $ab$  has 3 prefixes:

1.  $\epsilon$

2.  $a$

3.  $ab$

$ab$

Prove: prefixes of strings of balanced parens are left-heavy

$P(s)$ : For all  $s'$ , if  $s'$  is a prefix of  $s$ ,  $L(s') \geq R(s')$

**Basis:**  $\epsilon$  has only one prefix, and that is  $\epsilon$

$$L(\epsilon) = 0, \quad R(\epsilon) = 0$$

$$L(\epsilon) \geq R(\epsilon)$$

Thus  $P(\epsilon)$



# Prove: prefixes of strings of balanced parens are left-heavy

Inductive step [part 1]

Let  $s_1 \in \mathcal{B}$ , assume  $P(s_1)$

let  $s = (s_1)$

Let  $s'$  be an arbitrary prefix of  $s$ .

WTS:  $L(s') \geq R(s')$  Not a valid claim at this point in the proof.

Case 1:  $s' = \epsilon$

$L(\epsilon) = 0 \geq 0 = R(\epsilon)$ , ~~this  $P(s)$~~   $L(s') \geq R(s')$

Case 2:  $s' = ($

$L('(') = 1 \geq 0 = R('(')$  redundant w/ case 4.

Case 3:  $s' = s$

$L(s') = L(s_1) + 1 \geq R(s_1) + 1 \quad \# \text{ by I.H., and adding 1 to each side}$   
 $= R(s')$

Case 4:  $s'$  is of the form  $(s'')$  where  $s''$  is a prefix of  $s_1$

$L(s') = 1 + L(s'')$

$R(s') = R(s'')$

by I.H.,  $L(s'') \geq R(s'')$  # Since  $s''$  is a prefix of  $s_1$

$L(s'') + 1 \geq R(s'')$

$L(s') \geq R(s')$

Thus for any prefix  $s'$ ,  $L(s') \geq R(s')$ , so  $P(s)$

Prove: prefixes of strings of balanced parens are left-heavy

Inductive step [for concatenation rule]

Let  $s_1, s_2 \in B$ , assume  $P(s_1) \wedge P(s_2)$

Let  $s = s_1 s_2$

Let  $s'$  be an arbitrary prefix of  $s$

Case 1:  $\text{len}(s') \leq \text{len}(s_1)$

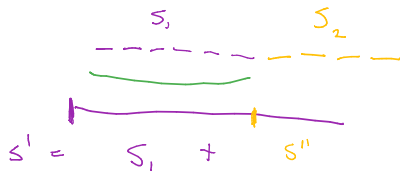
then  $s'$  is a prefix of  $s_1$ , so  $L(s') \geq R(s')$  by  $P(s_1)$

Case 2:  $\text{len}(s') > \text{len}(s_1)$

then  $\exists s'_2$  such that  $s' = s_1 s'_2$ , where  $s'_2$  is a prefix of  $s_2$

[algebra]

thus  $L(s') \geq R(s')$



then  $P(s)$