

Goal: show there exist irrational numbers x, y such that x^y is rational, (constructively!).

Lemma

$\log_2(9)$ is irrational.

Proof:

Assume $\log_2(9) \in \mathbb{Q}$. This means

$$\log_2(9) = \frac{a}{b}$$

for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ ($b \neq 0$). Then

$$2^{\log_2(q)} = 2^{\frac{q}{b}}$$

$$\therefore q = 2^{\frac{a}{b}}$$

$$\therefore q^b = \left(2^{\frac{q}{b}}\right)^b = 2^{\frac{q}{b} \cdot b} = 2^a$$

$$\therefore q^b = 2^a$$

But LHS is odd, while RHS is even. This $\therefore$ shows our assumption was false, i.e.

$$\log_2(q) \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q}.$$



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Proof of thm:

Let $x = \sqrt{2}$ and $y = \log_2(9)$.

we've shown both x, y are irrational. Then

$$\begin{aligned}x^y &= \sqrt{2}^{\log_2(9)} = \sqrt{2}^{\log_2(3^2)} \\&= \sqrt{2}^{2 \log_2(3)} \\&= (\sqrt{2}^2)^{\log_2(3)} \\&= 2^{\log_2(3)} \\&= 3 \in \mathbb{Q}.\end{aligned}$$


Exercise

Prove same thing using:

- $x = \sqrt{3}$, $y = \log_3(25)$

- $x = \sqrt[3]{2}$, $y = \log_2(27)$

Theorem

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then there exist $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ for which

$$\gcd(a, b) = an + bm$$

Proof.

Let

$$S = \{ax + by \mid x, y \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

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Note S contains both positive and negative integers, and zero.

However $S \cap \mathbb{Z}^+$ contains only positives, and $S \cap \mathbb{Z}^+ \neq \emptyset$.

Let d be the least positive element in S . (exists by the W.O.P. of $\mathbb{Z}^+$.)

we will show that $d = \gcd(a, b)$.

By defn of S , there will exist $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$\gcd(a, b) = d = an + bm.$$

we must show

$$(i) d|a \text{ and } d|b$$

and (ii) if $e|a$ and $e|b$, then $e \leq d$

Proof of (i)

to prove $d|a$, use div. algorithm

$$a = qd + r \quad (0 \leq r < d)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore r &= a - qd \\ &= a - q(an + bm) \\ &= a(1 - qn) + b(-qm) \end{aligned}$$

we see r has the form $r = ax + by$,
and hence $r \in S$. But

$$0 \leq r < d$$

□

since d is the least positive
element of $\mathcal{L}$, we must have
 $r=0$. Therefore

$$a = q \cdot d$$

and hence $d \mid a$.

exercise: show $d \mid b$.

Proof of (ii)

Suppose $e \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ with $e \mid a$ and $e \mid b$.

$$\therefore e \mid (an + bm)$$

$$\therefore e \mid d \quad \therefore e \leq d.$$

Therefore $d = \gcd(a, b)$, as
required. 

Chapter 10: Mathematical Induction

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Ex. observe

$$1 = 1^2$$

$$1 + 3 = 2^2$$

$$1 + 3 + 5 = 3^2$$

$$1 + 3 + 5 + 7 = 4^2$$

⋮

Guess: for any $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$:

$$1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2n-1) = n^2$$

other notation :-

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

Any particular $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ gives an easily verified fact of arithmetic. 19
How to prove all of them?

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ : \sum_{k=1}^n (2k-1) = n^2.$$

Let $P(n)$ be a proposition for on universe $\mathbb{Z}^+$. Suppose we wish to prove the statement

$$(*) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ : P(n)$$

A proof of $(*)$ by mathematical induction has 2 steps.

I. Base

Prove that $P(1)$ is true.

II. Induction

Prove: $\forall n \geq 1 : P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$.

i.e. let $n \geq 1$ be an arbitrary
pos. int. Assume

$P(n)$ { called the
induction hypothesis

is true. show as a consequence
that

$P(n+1)$ { we call this the
induction conclusion

is true. Hence $P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$.

Since $n \geq 1$ was arbitrary:

$$\forall n \geq 1 : P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1).$$

□□

Once I. and II. are complete,
conclude that (*)

$$\forall n \geq 1 : P(n)$$

is also true.

Remark

Assuming $P(n)$ true in induction
step is not circular reasoning.

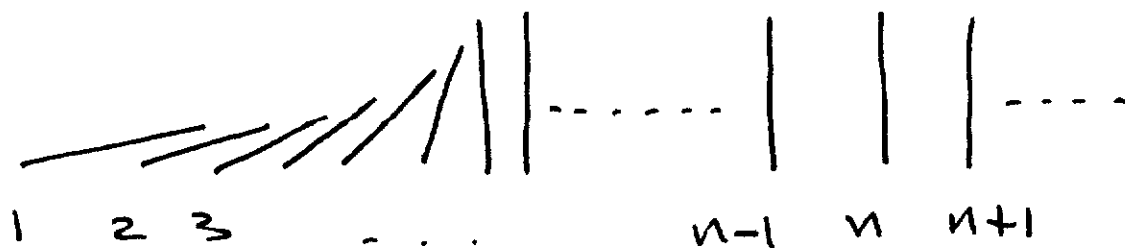
Intuition:

Imagine a Proof Proceeding as follows:

$P(1)$	(by I.)
$P(1) \Rightarrow P(2)$	(by II with $n=1$)
$P(2)$	(by $\Rightarrow$)
$P(2) \Rightarrow P(3)$	(by II with $n=2$)
$P(3)$	(by $\Rightarrow$)
⋮	

The problem with this sequence is that it's infinite, so it's not a Proof.

Domino Analogy



$P(n)$ = "the n^{th} domino falls"

I. $P(1)$ is true: " 1^{st} domino falls"

II. $\forall n \geq 1: P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$:

"if any particular domino falls,
then the next one also falls."

Conclusion: $\forall n \geq 1: P(n)$

"all dominoes fall"

The validity of Induction follows from

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Theorem (Principle of Mathematical Induction)
(PMI)

For any Propositional functions $P(n)$ on the universe $\mathbb{Z}^+$, the following is true:

$$[P(1) \wedge \forall n (P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1))] \Rightarrow \forall n P(n)$$

Ex. $\forall n \geq 1 :$
$$\sum_{k=1}^n (2k-1) = n^2$$

$\swarrow$
 $P(n)$

Proof

I. $P(1)$ is the statement

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

i.e. $2 \cdot 1 - 1 = 1^2$

i.e. $1 = 1$

which is true.

II. $\forall n \geq 1 : P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$.

Let $n \geq 1$ be arbitrary. Assume that

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

we must show that

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

we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} (2k-1) = \left(\sum_{k=1}^n (2k-1) \right) + (2(n+1)-1)$$

$$= n^2 + (2(n+1)-1) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{by the} \\ \text{ind. hyp.} \end{array} \right.$$

$$= n^2 + 2n + 1$$

$$= (n+1)^2, \quad \text{as required}$$

By the PMI, we conclude

$$\forall n \geq 1 : \sum_{k=1}^n (2k-1) = n^2$$

