

CS 173, Spring 2015  
Examlet 7, Part A

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Use (strong) induction to prove the following claim:

Claim: For all integers  $a, b, n, n \geq 1$ , if  $a \equiv b \pmod{7}$  then  $a^n \equiv b^n \pmod{7}$ .

Use this definition in your proof:  $x \equiv y \pmod{p}$  if and only if  $x = y + kp$  for some integer  $k$ .

Proof by induction on  $n$ .

Base case(s): At  $n = 1$ , our claim becomes “if  $a \equiv b \pmod{7}$  then  $a \equiv b \pmod{7}$ ” which is clearly true.

Inductive hypothesis [Be specific, don’t just refer to “the claim”]: Suppose that if  $a \equiv b \pmod{7}$  then  $a^n \equiv b^n \pmod{7}$ , for all integers  $a, b, n$ , where  $n = 1, \dots, k$ ,

$a$  and  $b$  need to be introduced at some point in this proof, but there’s several places you might do this. For example, you could say “let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers” right at the start. Then your inductive hypothesis would just be “if  $a \equiv b \pmod{7}$  then  $a^n \equiv b^n \pmod{7}$ , for  $n = 1, \dots, k$ .” We won’t get picky about this when grading.

Rest of the inductive step:

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be integers.

Suppose that  $a \equiv b \pmod{7}$ . then  $a = b + 7p$  for some integer  $p$ .

From the inductive hypothesis, we know that  $a^k \equiv b^k \pmod{7}$ , So  $a^k = b^k + 7q$  for some integer  $q$ .

Combining these two equations, we get that

$$a^{k+1} = (b + 7p)(b^k + 7q) = b^{k+1} + 7(pb^k + bq + 7pq)$$

$pb^k + bq + 7pq$  is an integer since  $p, q$ , and  $b$  are integers. So we know that  $a^{k+1} \equiv b^{k+1} \pmod{7}$ , which is what we needed to prove.

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Use (strong) induction to prove the following claim

Claim:  $\sum_{k=0}^n p^k = \frac{p^{n+1} - 1}{p - 1}$ , for all natural numbers  $n$  and all real numbers  $p \neq 1$ .

Proof by induction on  $n$ .

Base case(s): at  $n = 0$ ,  $\sum_{k=0}^n p^k = p^0 = 1$ . And  $\frac{p^{n+1}-1}{p-1} = \frac{p-1}{p-1} = 1$ . So the claim holds.

Inductive hypothesis [Be specific, don't just refer to "the claim"]: Suppose that  $\sum_{k=0}^n p^k = \frac{p^{n+1} - 1}{p - 1}$ ,  
all real numbers  $p \neq 1$ . and all natural numbers  $n = 0, \dots, j$ .

$p$  needs to be introduced somewhere, but there are several options. For example, you could say "let  $p$  be a real number  $\neq 1$ " before you give the inductive hypothesis. We won't be picky about this when grading.

Notice that the moving variable for the summation is  $k$ , so you can't also use  $k$  for the bound on the induction variable. You need to use a fresh variable name for one of the two.

Rest of the inductive step: Let  $p$  be a real number  $\neq 1$ .

Then  $\sum_{k=0}^{j+1} p^k = p^{j+1} + \sum_{k=0}^j p^k$

By the inductive hypothesis, we know that  $\sum_{k=0}^j p^k = \frac{p^{j+1}-1}{p-1}$ . Substituting this into the previous equation, we get

$$\sum_{k=0}^{j+1} p^k = p^{j+1} + \frac{p^{j+1} - 1}{p - 1} = \frac{p^{j+1}(p - 1) + p^{j+1} - 1}{p - 1} = \frac{p^{j+2} - p^{j+1} + p^{j+1} - 1}{p - 1} = \frac{p^{j+2} - 1}{p - 1}$$

So  $\sum_{k=0}^{j+1} p^k = \frac{p^{j+2} - 1}{p - 1}$  which is what we needed to show.

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Use (strong) induction to prove the following claim:

Claim:  $\sum_{j=1}^n j(j+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$ , for all positive integers  $n$ .

Proof by induction on  $n$ .

Base case(s):  $n = 1$ . At  $n = 1$ ,  $\sum_{j=1}^n j(j+1) = 1(1+1) = 2$  Also,  $\frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3} = \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3}{3} = 2$ . So the two sides of the equation are equal at  $n = 1$ .

Inductive hypothesis [Be specific, don't just refer to "the claim"]:

Suppose that  $\sum_{j=1}^n j(j+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$ , for  $n = 1, \dots, k$ , for some integer  $k \geq 1$ .

Rest of the inductive step:

Consider  $\sum_{j=1}^{k+1} j(j+1)$ . By removing the top term of the summation and applying the inductive hypothesis, we get

$$\sum_{j=1}^{k+1} j(j+1) = (k+1)(k+2) + \sum_{j=1}^k j(j+1) = (k+1)(k+2) + \frac{k(k+1)(k+2)}{3}$$

Simplifying the algebra:

$$(k+1)(k+2) + \frac{k(k+1)(k+2)}{3} = \frac{3(k+1)(k+2)}{3} + \frac{k(k+1)(k+2)}{3} = \frac{3(k+1)(k+2) + k(k+1)(k+2)}{3} = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)}{3}$$

So  $\sum_{j=1}^{k+1} j(j+1) = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)}{3}$ , which is what we needed to show.

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Use (strong) induction to prove the following claim:

Claim:  $\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{j(j+1)} = \frac{n}{n+1}$  for all positive integers  $n$ .

Proof by induction on  $n$ .

Base case(s):  $n = 1$ . At  $n = 1$ ,  $\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{j(j+1)} = \frac{1}{1(1+1)} = \frac{1}{2}$ . Also  $\frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}$ . So the two sides of the equation are equal.

Inductive hypothesis [Be specific, don't just refer to "the claim"]: Suppose that  $\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{j(j+1)} = \frac{n}{n+1}$  for  $n = 1, \dots, k$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ .

Rest of the inductive step:

Consider  $\sum_{j=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{j(j+1)}$ . By removing the top term of the summation and then applying the inductive hypothesis, we get

$$\sum_{j=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{j(j+1)} = \frac{1}{(k+1)(k+2)} + \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{1}{j(j+1)} = \frac{1}{(k+1)(k+2)} + \frac{k}{k+1}.$$

Adding the two fractions together:

$$\frac{1}{(k+1)(k+2)} + \frac{k}{k+1} = \frac{1}{(k+1)(k+2)} + \frac{k(k+2)}{(k+1)(k+2)} = \frac{1+k(k+2)}{(k+1)(k+2)} = \frac{k^2+2k+1}{(k+1)(k+2)} = \frac{(k+1)^2}{(k+1)(k+2)} = \frac{k+1}{k+2}$$

So  $\sum_{j=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{j(j+1)} = \frac{k+1}{k+2}$ , which is what we needed to show.

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Use (strong) induction to prove the following claim:

Claim:  $2^{n+2} + 3^{2n+1}$  is divisible by 7, for all natural numbers  $n$ .

Proof by induction on  $n$ .

Base case(s): At  $n = 0$ ,  $2^{n+2} + 3^{2n+1} = 2^2 + 3 = 7$  which is clearly divisible by 7.

Inductive hypothesis [Be specific, don't just refer to "the claim"]:

Suppose that  $2^{n+2} + 3^{2n+1}$  is divisible by 7, for  $n = 0, 1, \dots, k$ .

Rest of the inductive step:

At  $n = k + 1$ ,  $2^{n+2} + 3^{2n+1}$  is equal to  $2^{k+3} + 3^{2k+3}$ .

$$2^{k+3} + 3^{2k+3} = 2 \cdot 2^{k+2} + 9 \cdot 3^{2k+1} = 2(2^{k+2} + 3^{2k+1}) + 7(3^{3k+1})$$

By the inductive hypothesis,  $2^{k+2} + 3^{2k+1}$  is divisible by 7. So  $2(2^{k+2} + 3^{2k+1})$  is divisible by 7.  $7(3^{3k+1})$  is divisible by 7 because  $3^{3k+1}$  is an integer. So the sum of these two terms must be divisible by 7.

Thus,  $2^{k+3} + 3^{2k+3}$  is divisible by 7, which is what we needed to show.

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Use (strong) induction to prove the following claim:

Claim:  $\sum_{p=1}^n 2(-1)^p p^2 = (-1)^n n(n+1)$ , for all positive integers  $n$

Proof by induction on  $n$ .

Base case(s): At  $n = 1$ ,  $\sum_{p=1}^n 2(-1)^p p^2 = 2(-1)^1 1^2 = -2$ . And  $(-1)^n n(n+1) = (-1)^1 1 \cdot 2 = -2$ . So the claim holds.

Inductive hypothesis [Be specific, don't just refer to "the claim"]:

Suppose that  $\sum_{p=1}^n 2(-1)^p p^2 = (-1)^n n(n+1)$ , for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

Rest of the inductive step:

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

By the inductive hypothesis, we know that  $\sum_{p=1}^k 2(-1)^p p^2 = (-1)^k k(k+1)$ . Substituting this into the previous equation, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{p=1}^{k+1} 2(-1)^p p^2 &= 2(-1)^{k+1} (k+1)^2 + (-1)^k k(k+1) \\ &= (k+1)(-1)^{k+1} (2(k+1) - k) \\ &= (k+1)(-1)^{k+1} (k+2) = (-1)^{k+1} (k+1)(k+2) \end{aligned}$$

So  $\sum_{p=1}^{k+1} 2(-1)^p p^2 = (-1)^{k+1} (k+1)(k+2)$  which is what we needed to show.