

A bad proof

What's wrong with the following proof?

Theorem

The sum of two odd numbers is even.

Proof.	
3 is odd.	
5 is odd.	
3+5=8 is even.	

Write a correct proof!

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Prove the following statements

Statement 1

 $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x + y > 0$

Statement 2

 $\exists x \in \mathbb{R}, \, \forall y \in \mathbb{R}, \, y^2 > x$

∀∃ and ∃∀

Are the following statements true or false? Prove it!

- **1** $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall p \in \mathbb{N}, p \leq n$
- **2** $\forall p \in \mathbb{N}, \exists n \in \mathbb{N}, p \leq n$

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Definition: one-to-one functions

A *one-to-one* (or injective) function is a function which maps two different elements to two different values.

Let $f : D \to \mathbb{R}$ be a function. Which of the following statements mean that f is one-to-one?

1 $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ **2** $\exists x_1, x_2 \in D, \ f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ **3** $\forall x_1, x_2 \in D, \ f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ **4** $\forall x_1, x_2 \in D, \ x_1 \neq x_2 \implies f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ **5** $\forall x_1, x_2 \in D, \ x_1 = x_2 \implies f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ **6** $\forall x_1, x_2 \in D, \ f(x_1) \neq f(x_2) \implies x_1 \neq x_2$ **7** $\forall x_1, x_2 \in D, \ f(x_1) = f(x_2) \implies x_1 = x_2$

Use mathematical symbols to write that f is not injective.

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Is *f* one-to-one?

Definition

A function $f : D \to \mathbb{R}$ is said to be one-to-one when

$$\forall x_1, x_2 \in D, \ f(x_1) = f(x_2) \implies x_1 = x_2$$

or equivalently when

$$\forall x_1, x_2 \in D, \ x_1 \neq x_2 \implies f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$$

Prove that:

1
$$f(x) = 3x + 5$$
 is one-to-one

2 $f(x) = x^2$ is not one-to-one.

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Is the plane just a line?

What's wrong with the following induction proof?

Theorem

For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ greater than or equal to 2, *n* points of the plane are always aligned.

Proof:

- Base case: when n = 2 the property is obviously true.
- Induction step: we assume that the property is true for some n ≥ 2 and we want to show that it also holds for n + 1. Let A₁, A₂,..., A_{n+1} be n + 1 points of the plane. By the induction hypothesis, we have
 - A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_n are on the same line *D*.
 - A_2, A_3, \dots, A_{n+1} are on the same line D'.

Then A_2, A_3, \ldots, A_n are at the same time on *D* and *D'* so that D = D'.

Thus A_1, \ldots, A_{n+1} are on the same line.

A bad proof using induction

Theorem

For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, 7 divides $9^n - 2^{n+1}$.

Proof:

We assume that the property is true for some *n* and we show that it also holds for n + 1. By our induction hypothesis, $\exists a \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $9^n - 2^{n+1} = 7a$. Then, $9^{n+1} - 2^{n+2} = 9 \times 9^n - 2 \times 2^{n+1}$

$$= 9 \times (9^{n} - 2^{n+1} + 2^{n+1}) - 2 \times 2^{n+1}$$

= 9 \times (9^{n} - 2^{n+1}) + 9 \times 2^{n+1} - 2 \times 2^{n+1}
= 9 \times 7 \times a - 7 \times 2^{n+1}
= 7 \times (9a - 2^{n+1})

But...
$$9^2 - 2^3 = 73 = 7 \times 10 + 3...$$
 What went wrong?

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Ok, ok... but is there any good induction proof?

Yes, of course! You can try to prove the following statements using induction:

• For *n* greater than or equal to 1,

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

2 For *n* greater than or equal to 1, the sum of the *n* first odd numbers equals n^2 .

3 $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, 7 \text{ divides } 9^n - 2^n.$