

15-251

**Great Theoretical Ideas
in Computer Science**



15-251

**Proof Techniques for
Computer Scientists**



Inductive Reasoning

Lecture 2 (August 28, 2008)

Induction

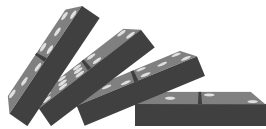
This is the primary way we'll

- 1. prove theorems**
- 2. construct and define objects**

Dominoes



Domino Principle:
Line up any number of dominoes in a row; knock the first one over and they will all fall



n dominoes numbered 1 to n

$F_k \equiv$ The k^{th} domino falls

If we set them all up in a row then we know that each one is set up to knock over the next one:

For all $1 \leq k < n$:

$$F_k \Rightarrow F_{k+1}$$



n dominoes numbered 1 to n

$F_k \equiv$ The k^{th} domino falls

For all $1 \leq k < n$:

$$F_k \Rightarrow F_{k+1}$$

$(F_1) \Rightarrow F_2 \Rightarrow F_3 \Rightarrow \dots$
 $F_1 \Rightarrow$ All Dominoes Fall



n dominoes numbered 0 to n-1

$F_k \equiv$ The k^{th} domino falls

For all $0 \leq k < n-1$:

$$F_k \Rightarrow F_{k+1}$$

$F_0 \Rightarrow F_1 \Rightarrow F_2 \Rightarrow \dots$
 $F_0 \Rightarrow$ All Dominoes Fall



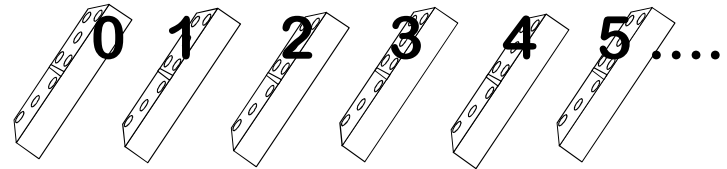
The Natural Numbers

$$\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

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$$\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

One domino for each natural number:



Plato: The Domino Principle works for an infinite row of dominoes

Aristotle: Never seen an infinite number of anything, much less dominoes.



Plato's Dominoes

One for each natural number

Theorem: An infinite row of dominoes, one domino for each natural number. Knock over the first domino and they all will fall

Proof:

Suppose they don't all fall.

Let $k > 0$ be the lowest numbered domino that remains standing.

Domino $k-1 \geq 0$ did fall, but $k-1$ will knock over domino k . Thus, domino k must fall and remain standing.

Contradiction.



Mathematical Induction

statements proved instead of
dominoes fall

Infinite sequence of
dominoes

Infinite sequence of
statements: $S_0, S_1, \dots$

F_k = “domino k fell”

F_k = “ S_k proved”

Establish: 1. F_0

2. For all k , $F_k \Rightarrow F_{k+1}$

Conclude that F_k is true for all k



Inductive Proofs

To Prove $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, S_k$

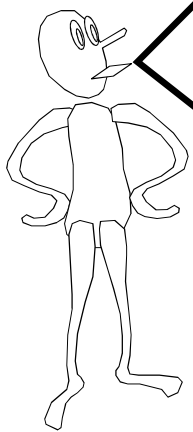
1. Establish “Base Case”: S_0

2. Establish that $\forall k, S_k \Rightarrow S_{k+1}$

To prove
 $\forall k, S_k \Rightarrow S_{k+1}$

Assume hypothetically that
 S_k for any particular k ;

Conclude that S_{k+1}

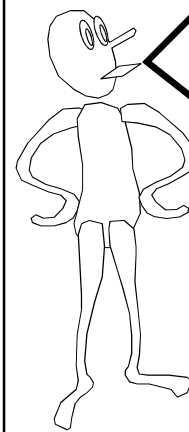


Theorem?

The sum of the first
 n odd numbers is n^2

Check on small values:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= 1^2 \\ 1+3 &= 4 = 2^2 \\ 1+3+5 &= 9 = 3^2 \end{aligned}$$

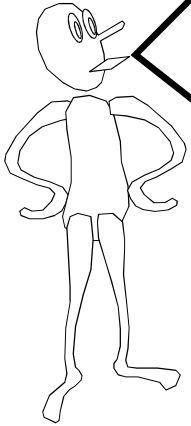


Theorem?

The sum of the first
 n odd numbers is n^2

Check on small values:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= 1 \\ 1+3 &= 4 \\ 1+3+5 &= 9 \\ 1+3+5+7 &= 16 \end{aligned}$$



Theorem?

The sum of the first n odd numbers is n^2

The k^{th} odd number is $(2k - 1)$, when $k > 0$

S_n is the statement that:
 $"1+3+5+(2k-1)+\dots+(2n-1) = n^2"$




Establishing that $\forall n \geq 1 S_n$

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

Base case: $n=1, S_1 = 1 = 1^2 = n^2 \checkmark$

$\forall k \geq 1 S_k \Rightarrow S_{k+1}$

Induction Hypothesis (I.H.): $S_k = "1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1) = k^2"$

Induction Step:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1)+(2k+1) \\
 &= k^2 + (2k+1) \quad (\text{by I.H.}) \\
 &= (k+1)^2 \quad (\text{by algebra})
 \end{aligned}$$



Establishing that $\forall n \geq 1 S_n$

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

Base Case: S_1

Domino Property:

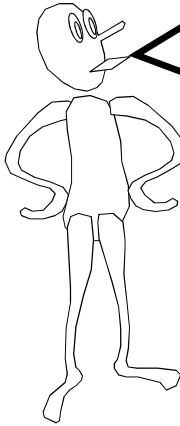
Assume "Induction Hypothesis": S_k

That means:

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

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

Sum of first $k+1$ odd numbers $= (k+1)^2$



Theorem

The sum of the first n odd numbers is n^2



Inductive Proofs

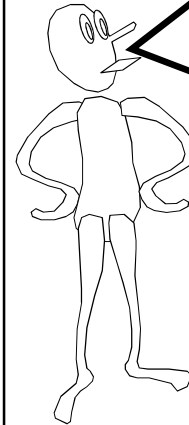
To Prove $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, S_k$

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Assume hypothetically that
 S_k for any particular k ;

Conclude that S_{k+1}



Primes:

A natural number $n > 1$
is a prime if it has
no divisors besides
1 and itself

Note: 1 is not considered prime

Theorem?

Every natural number $n > 1$
can be factored into primes

S_n = “ n can be factored into primes”

Base case:

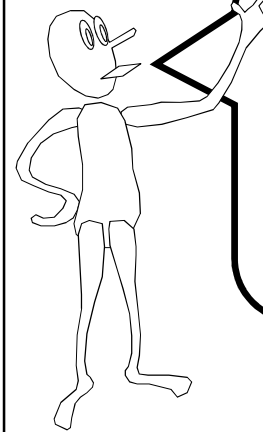
2 is prime $\Rightarrow S_2$ is true

How do we use the fact:

$$S_{k-1} \Rightarrow S_k$$

S_{k-1} = “ $k-1$ can be factored into primes” $\hookrightarrow$
to prove that:

S_k = “ k can be factored into primes” $\hookleftarrow$



This shows a
technical point
about
mathematical
induction

A different approach:

Assume $2, 3, \dots, k-1$ all can be factored into primes $\uparrow$

Then show that k can be factored into primes

either k is prime $\checkmark$

$k = p \cdot q$

$p = \text{factored into primes}$

$= \text{factoring into primes}$

All Previous Induction

To Prove $\forall k, S_k$

Establish Base Case: S_0

Establish Domino Effect:

Assume $\forall j < k, S_j$

use that to derive S_k

All Previous Induction

To Prove $\forall k$

Establish Base Case

Sometimes called "Strong Induction"

It's really a repackaging of regular induction



"All Previous" Induction

Repackaged As
Standard Induction

Establish Base Case: S_0

Establish Domino Effect:

Let k be any number
Assume $\forall j < k, S_j$

Prove S_k

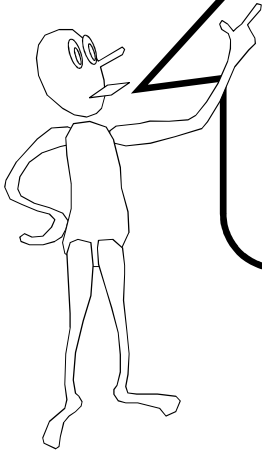
Define $T_i = \forall j \leq i, S_j$

Establish Base Case T_0

Establish that
 $\forall k, T_k \Rightarrow T_{k+1}$

Let k be any number
Assume T_{k-1}

Prove T_k



Regular Induction
All-previous Induction
And there are more ways to do inductive proofs

Method of Infinite Descent



Pierre de Fermat

Show that for any counter-example you can find a smaller one

Hence, if a counter-example exists there would be an infinite sequence of smaller and smaller counter examples

Theorem:

Every natural number > 1 can be factored into primes

Let n be a counter-example

Hence n is not prime, so $n = ab$

If both a and b had prime factorizations, then n would too

Thus a or b is a smaller counter-example

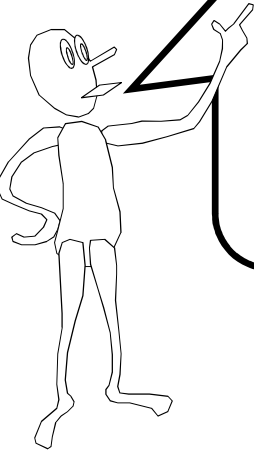
Method of Infinite Descent



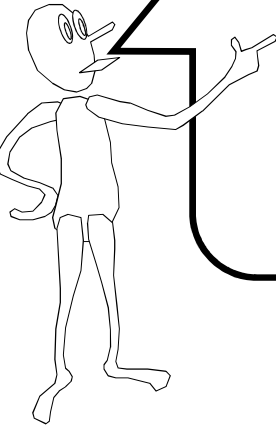
Pierre de Fermat

Show that for any counter-example you can find a smaller one

Hence, if a counter-example exists there would be an infinite sequence of smaller and smaller counter examples



Regular Induction
All-previous Induction
Infinite Descent
And one more way of packaging induction...



Invariants

Invariant (n):

1. Not varying; constant.
2. *Mathematics*. Unaffected by a designated operation, as a transformation of coordinates.

Invariant (n):

3. *Programming*.
A rule, such as the ordering of an ordered list, that applies throughout the life of a data structure or procedure. Each change to the data structure maintains the correctness of the invariant



Invariant Induction

Suppose we have a time varying world state: $W_0, W_1, W_2, \dots$

Each state change is assumed to come from a list of permissible operations. We seek to prove that statement S is true of all future worlds

Argue that S is true of the initial world

Show that if S is true of some world – then S remains true after one permissible operation is performed

Odd/Even Handshaking Theorem

At any party at any point in time define a person's parity as ODD/EVEN according to the number of hands they have shaken

Statement:
The number of people of odd parity must be even

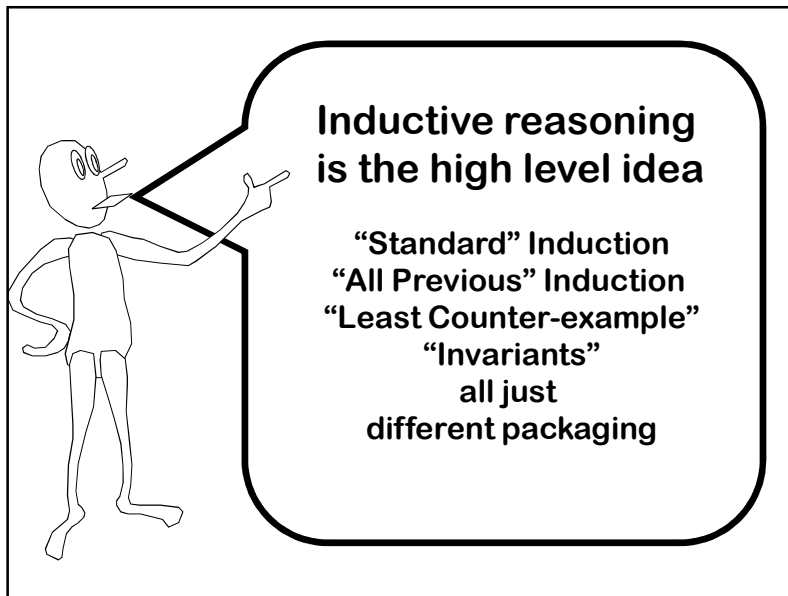
Statement: The number of people of odd parity must be even

Initial case: Zero hands have been shaken at the start of a party, so zero people have odd parity

Invariant Argument:

If 2 people of the same parity shake, they both change and hence the odd parity count changes by 2 – and remains even

If 2 people of different parities shake, then they both swap parities and the odd parity count is unchanged



One more useful tip...

Here's another problem

Let $A_m = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^m$ $A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Prove that all entries of A_m are at most $\boxed{m \geq 1}$

Base case: $A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
all entries ≤ 1 ✓

I.H. $A_m = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ $a, b, c, d \leq m$

$A_{m+1} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & a+b \\ c & c+d \end{pmatrix}$ ☹️

So, is it false?

$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ $A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ $A_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Prove a stronger statement!

Claim: $A_m = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

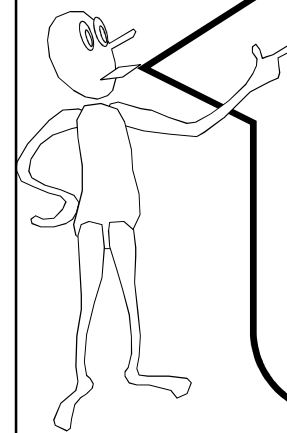
Base case: $m=1$ $A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ✓

I.H. $A_m = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$A_{m+1} = \sum A_m \cdot A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m+1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

✓ ☺️

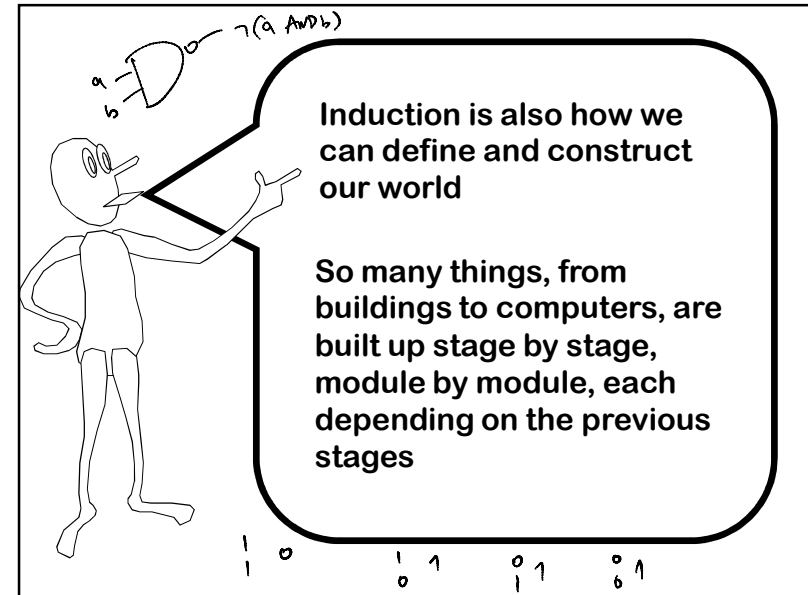
Corollary: All entries of A_m are at most m .



Often, to prove a statement inductively

you may have to prove a stronger statement first!

Using induction to define mathematical objects



Inductive Definition Example

Initial Condition, or Base Case:
 $F(0) = 1$

Inductive Rule:

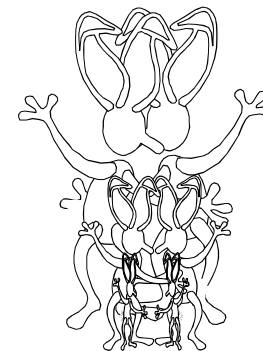
For $n > 0$, $F(n) = F(n-1) + F(n-1)$

Inductive definition of the powers of 2!

n	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
F(n)	1	2	4	8	16	32	64	128

Leonardo Fibonacci

In 1202, Fibonacci proposed a problem about the growth of rabbit populations



Rabbit Reproduction

A rabbit lives forever

The population starts as single newborn pair

Every month, each productive pair begets a new pair which will become productive after 2 months old

F_n = # of rabbit pairs at the beginning of the n^{th} month

month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
rabbits	1	1	2	3	5	8	13

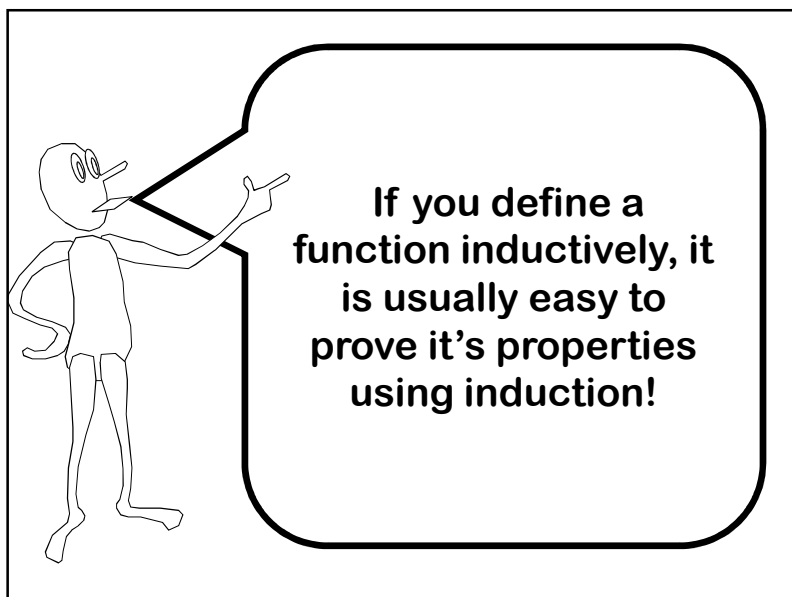
Fibonacci Numbers



month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
rabbits	1	1	2	3	5	8	13

Stage 0, Initial Condition, or Base Case:
 $\text{Fib}(1) = 1$; $\text{Fib}(2) = 1$

Inductive Rule:
 For $n \geq 3$, $\text{Fib}(n) = \text{Fib}(n-1) + \text{Fib}(n-2)$



If you define a function inductively, it is usually easy to prove it's properties using induction!

Example



Theorem?: $F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_n = F_{n+2} - 1$



Example

Theorem?: $F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_n = F_{n+2} - 1$



Example

Theorem?: $F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_n = F_{n+2} - 1$

Base cases: $n=1, F_1 = F_3 - 1$

$n=2, F_1 + F_2 = F_4 - 1$

I.H.: True for all $n < k$.

Induction Step: $F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_k$

$$= (F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_{k-1}) + F_k$$

$$= (F_{k+1} - 1) + F_k \quad (\text{by I.H.})$$

$$= F_{k+2} - 1 \quad (\text{by defn.})$$

Another Example

$$T(1) = 1$$

$$T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n$$

Notice that $T(n)$ is inductively defined only for positive powers of 2, and undefined on other values

$$T(1) = 1 \quad T(2) = 6 \quad T(4) = 28 \quad T(8) = 120$$

Guess a closed-form formula for $T(n)$

$$\text{Guess: } G(n) = 2n^2 - n$$

Inductive Proof of Equivalence

Base Case: $G(1) = 1$ and $T(1) = 1$

Induction Hypothesis:

$$T(x) = G(x) \text{ for } x < n$$

Hence: $T(n/2) = G(n/2) = 2(n/2)^2 - n/2$

$$T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n$$

$$= 4G(n/2) + n$$

$$= 4[2(n/2)^2 - n/2] + n$$

$$= 2n^2 - 2n + n$$

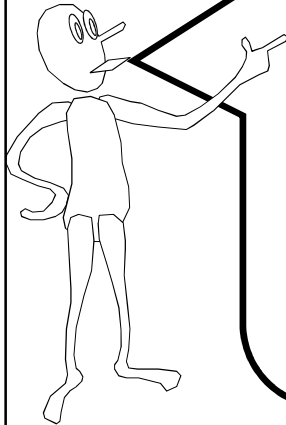
$$= 2n^2 - n$$

$$= G(n)$$

$$G(n) = 2n^2 - n$$

$$T(1) = 1$$

$$T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n$$



We inductively proved the assertion that $G(n) = T(n)$

Giving a formula for T with no recurrences is called “solving the recurrence for T ”

Technique 2

Guess Form, Calculate Coefficients

$$T(1) = 1, T(n) = 4 T(n/2) + n$$

Guess: $T(n) = an^2 + bn + c$
for some a, b, c

Calculate: $T(1) = 1$, so $a + b + c = 1$

$$T(n) = 4 T(n/2) + n$$

$$\cancel{an^2} + bn + c = 4 [a(n/2)^2 + b(n/2) + c] + n$$

$$= \cancel{an^2} + 2bn + 4c + n$$

$$(b+1)n + 3c = 0$$

Therefore: $b = -1$ $c = 0$ $a = 2$

Induction can arise in unexpected places

The Lindenmayer Game

Alphabet: $\{a, b\}$

Start word: a

Productions Rules:

$\text{Sub}(a) = ab$

$\text{Sub}(b) = a$

$\text{NEXT}(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) =$

$\text{Sub}(w_1) \text{Sub}(w_2) \dots \text{Sub}(w_n)$

Time 1: a

Time 2: ab

Time 3: aba

Time 4: $abaab$

Time 5: $abaababa$

How long are the strings at time n ?

$\text{FIBONACCI}(n)$

The Koch Game

Alphabet: { F, +, - }

Start word: F

Productions Rules: $\text{Sub}(F) = F+F--F+F$

$\text{Sub}(+) = +$

$\text{Sub}(-) = -$

$\text{NEXT}(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) =$
 $\text{Sub}(w_1) \text{Sub}(w_2) \dots \text{Sub}(w_n)$

Time 0: F

Time 1: F+F--F+F

Time 2: F+F--F+F+F+F--F+F--F+F--F+F+F+F--F+F

The Koch Game



F+F--F+F

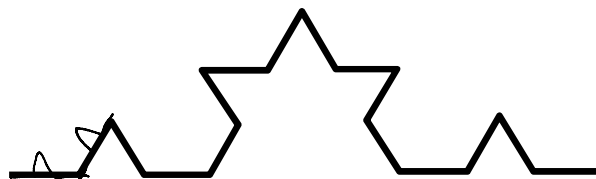
Visual representation:

F draw forward one unit

+ turn 60 degree left

- turn 60 degrees right

The Koch Game



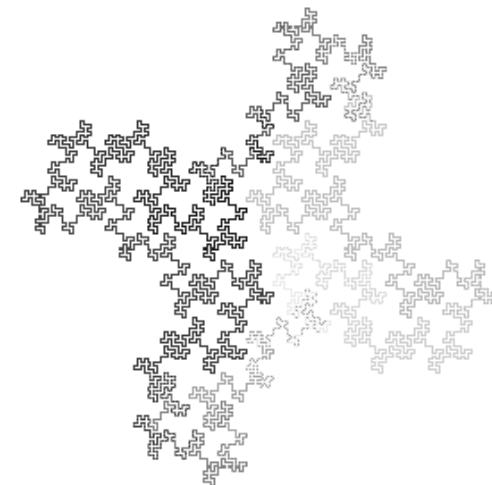
F+F--F+F+F+F--F+F--F+F--F+F+F+F--F+F

Visual representation:

F draw forward one unit

+ turn 60 degree left

- turn 60 degrees right



Dragon Game

$$\text{Sub}(X) = X + YF +$$

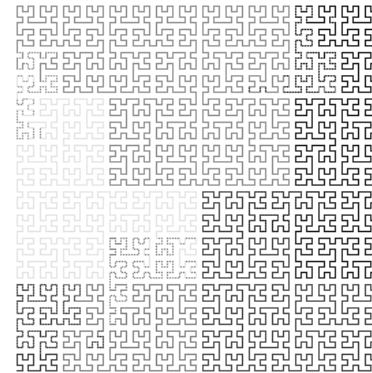
$$\text{Sub}(Y) = -FX - Y$$



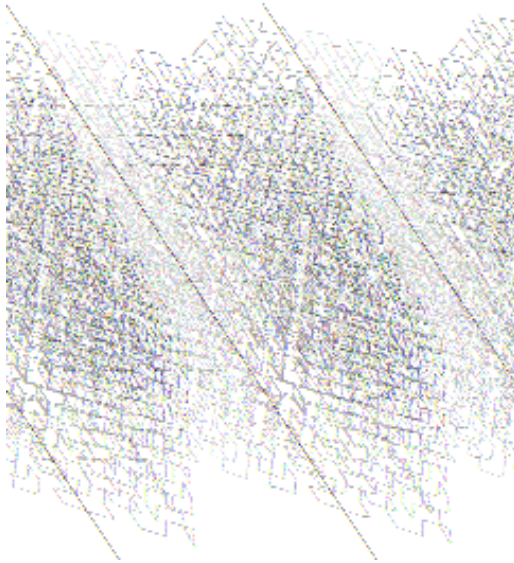
Hilbert Game

$$\text{Sub}(L) = +RF - LFL - FR +$$

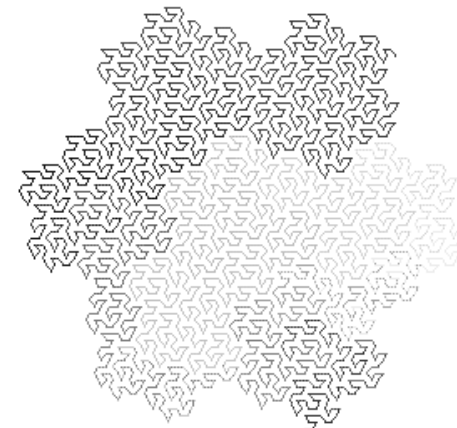
$$\text{Sub}(R) = -LF + RFR + FL -$$



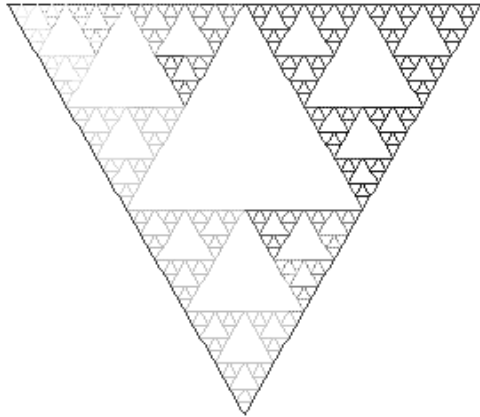
Note: Make 90 degree turns instead of 60 degrees



Peano-Gossamer Curve



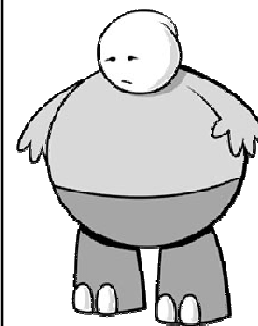
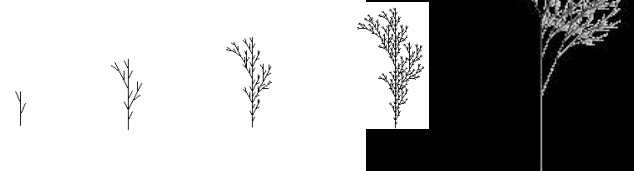
Sierpinski Triangle



Lindenmayer (1968)

$$\text{Sub}(F) = F[-F]F[+F][F]$$

Interpret the stuff inside brackets as a branch



Here's What
You Need to
Know...

Inductive Proof

Standard Form

All Previous Form

Least-Counter Example Form

Invariant Form

Strengthening the Inductive Claim

Inductive Definition

Recurrence Relations

Fibonacci Numbers

Guess and Verify