

15-251

Great Theoretical Ideas
in Computer Science



15-251

Proof Techniques for
Computer Scientists



Inductive Reasoning

Lecture 2 (August 26, 2010)

Induction

This is the primary way we'll

1. prove theorems
2. construct and define objects

Dominoes



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



n dominoes numbered 0 to n-1

$F_k \equiv$ 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 $0 \leq k < n$:
 $F_k \Rightarrow F_{k+1}$



n dominoes numbered 0 to n-1

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

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

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

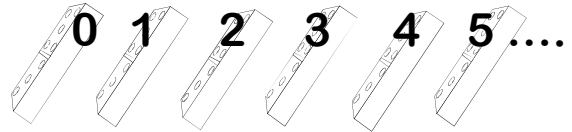
$F_0 \Rightarrow F_1 \Rightarrow F_2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow F_{n-1}$
 $F_0 \Rightarrow$ All Dominoes Fall



The Natural Numbers

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

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.

Two Equivalent Axioms



Induction Principle:

If $P(0)$ and $\forall k, F_k \Rightarrow F_{k+1}$
 F_0 then $\forall n, F_n$

Well Ordering Principle:
 Every non-empty set of positive integers contains a least* element



*under the usual ordering " $<$ "

We'll talk more about axioms in Lecture 10...



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}



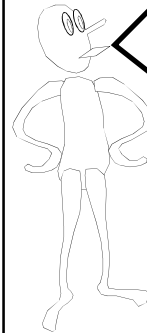
Theorem?
 The sum of the first n odd numbers is n^2

Check on small values:

$$0 = 0^2$$

$$1 = 1^2$$

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

$$1 + 3 + 5 = 9 = 3^2$$



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

Check on small values:

$$1 = 1$$

$$1 + 3 = 4$$



$$1 + 3 + 5 = 9$$

$$1 + 3 + 5 + 7 = 16$$


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: $1 = 1^2 \checkmark S_1$

Induction Hypothesis: assume S_n is true for n

Induction Step:

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

$$= n^2 + (2n + 1) \quad \text{by IH.}$$

$$= n^2 + 2n + 1 = (n + 1)^2 \quad \text{by algebra} \Rightarrow S_{n+1} \quad \text{😊}$$


Establishing that $\forall n \geq 1 S_n$

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

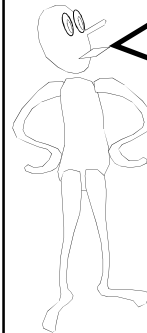
Base Case: S_1

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

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}

ATM Machine

Suppose an ATM machine has only \$2 and \$5 bills.

Claim: The ATM can generate any output amount $n \geq 4$.

Proof:

Base case: $n = 4$ output \$2 + \$2 ✓

I.H: assume we can output \$ n . (remember $n \geq 4$)

Induction step:

either our output for \$ n has a \$5
replace it with 3 \$2 bills
 $= \$6$

else since $n \geq 4$ and all bills are \$2 bills
output has ≥ 2 \$2 bills
replace by \$5 bill ☺

Proof

Base case: $n = 4$. Two \$2 bills.

Induction step: suppose the machine can already handle $n \geq 4$ dollars.

How do we proceed for $n+1$ dollars?

Proof

Case 1: The n dollar output contains a \$5.

Then we can replace the \$5 by three \$2's to get $n+1$ dollars.

Proof

Case 2: The n dollar output contains only \$2 bills.

Since $n \geq 4$, there must be at least two \$2 bills.

Remove two, and replace them by one \$5.

ATM Machine

Suppose an ATM machine has only \$2 and \$5 bills.

Claim: The ATM can generate any output amount $n \geq 4$.

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} = "k-1 can be factored into primes"
to prove that:

S_k = "k can be factored into primes"

seems like a good time to talk about "all previous induction"*

*a.k.a. strong induction

Theorem?

Every natural number > 1 can be factored into primes

A different approach:

Assume 2,3,...,k-1 all can be factored into primes

Then show that k can be factored into primes

Theorem?

Every natural number > 1 can be factored into primes

if k prime, it factors into k .

if k composite, then $k = a \cdot b$

$$a, b < k$$

a, b both factor into primes

$\Rightarrow k$ factors into primes

^{Strong} 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

It's really a repackaging of regular induction

Sometimes called "Strong 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

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

Now if you choose the "least" counter-example, you'd find a smaller counter-example

This contradicts that you had the "least" counterexample to start with

Requires that any set of statements (the counter-examples) has a "least" statement. Since we identify statements with the naturals, this is the case for us.

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

Now if you choose the “least” counter-example, you’d find a smaller counter-example

This contradicts that you had the “least” counterexample to start with

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 W_0

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

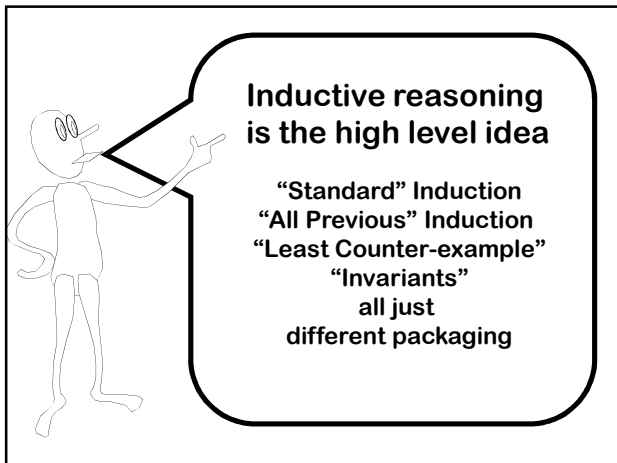
Statement: The number of people of odd parity must be even

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



Inductive reasoning is the high level idea

“Standard” Induction
“All Previous” Induction
“Least Counter-example”
“Invariants”
all just different packaging

Induction Problem

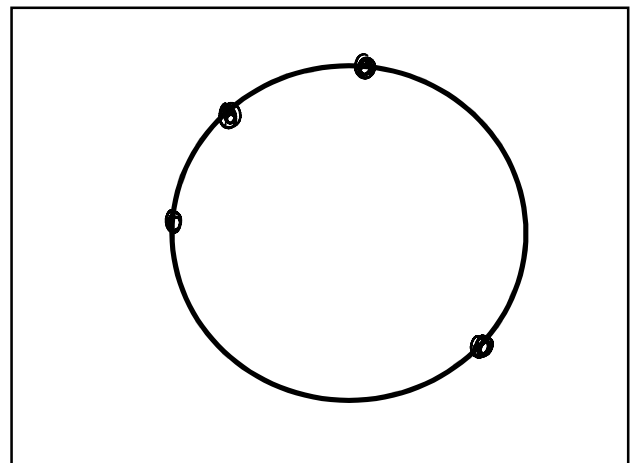
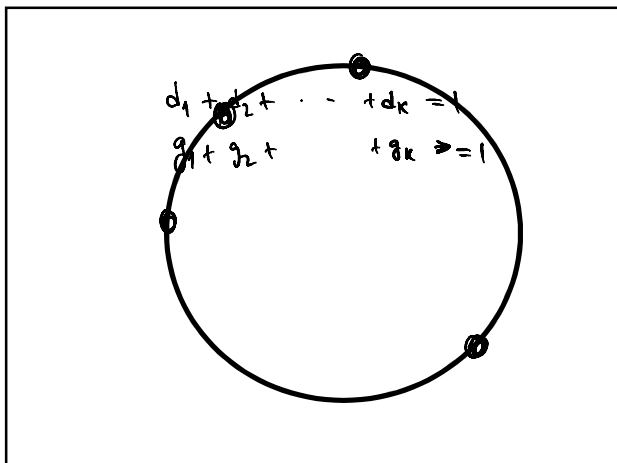
A circular track that is one mile long

There are $n > 0$ gas stations scattered throughout the track

The combined amount of gas in all gas stations allows a car to travel exactly one mile

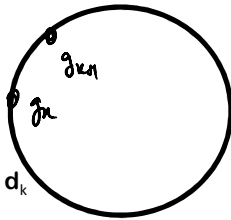
The car has a very large tank of gas that starts out empty

Show that no matter how the gas stations are placed, there is a starting point for the car such that it can go around the track once (clockwise).



$$g_1 + g_2 + \dots + g_n = 1$$

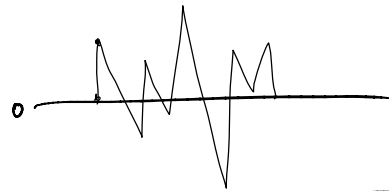
$$d_1 + d_2 + \dots + d_n = 1$$



So there is a k such that $g_k \geq d_k$

Remove the gas station $(k+1)$
and set the gas $g'_k = g_k + g_{k+1}$

By the I.H. there is a good starting point for this
new set of $(n-1)$ gas stations and amounts.



One more useful tip...

Here's another problem

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

Prove that all entries of A_m are at most m .

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

B.C. : ✓

I.H: all entries in A_m are $\leq m$

I.s.k.p: $A_m \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & a+b \\ c & c+d \end{pmatrix}$

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

$$A_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

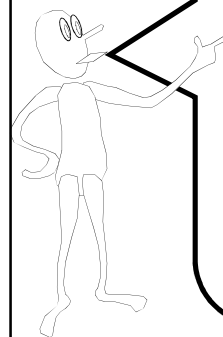
Prove a stronger statement!

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

Note: claim \Rightarrow what we want

$$A_m = \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix}$$

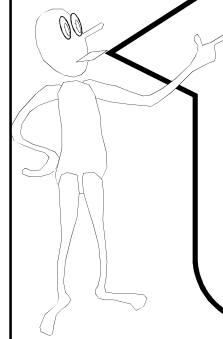
Corollary: All entries of A_m are at most m .



Often, to prove a statement inductively

you may have to prove a stronger statement first!

Using induction to define mathematical objects



Induction is also how we can define and construct our world

So many things, from buildings to computers, are built up stage by stage, module by module, each depending on the previous stages



Inductive Definition Example

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

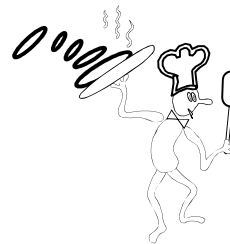
Inductive definition of the powers of 2!

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

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

Pancakes With A Problem!

Upper bound on Bring-to-top Method



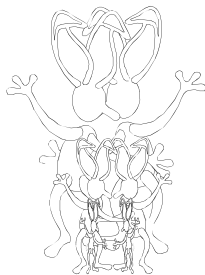
$$BT(n) = 2 + BT(n-1)$$

$$BT(2) = 1$$

$$BT(n) = 2n - 3$$

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

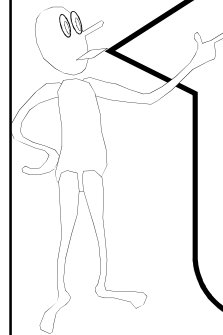


Fibonacci Numbers

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

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

Inductive Rule:
 For $n > 3, Fib(n) = Fib(n-1) + Fib(n-2)$



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: $n=1, F_1 = F_3 - 1$
 $n=2, F_1 + F_2 = F_4 - 1$
 $1 + 1 = 2 - 1$

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

Induction Step: $F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_k$
 $= (F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_{k-1}) + F_k$
 $= (F_{k+1} - 1) + F_k$ (by I.H.)
 $= F_{k+2} - 1$ (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 $T(n)$

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

Inductive Proof of Equivalence

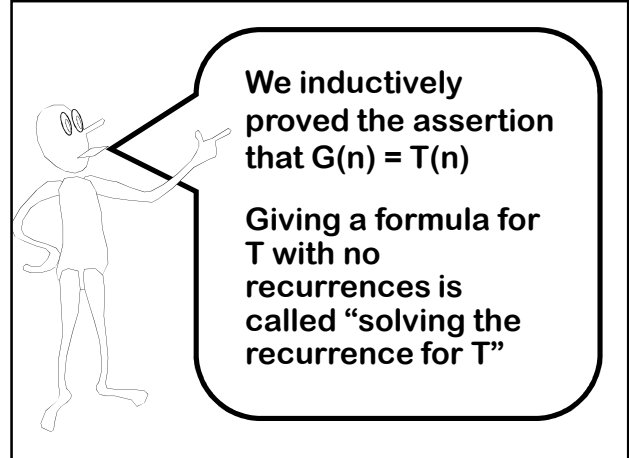
Base Case: $G(1) = 1$ and $T(1) = 1$

Induction Hypothesis:
 $T(x) = G(x)$ for $x < n$

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

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4 T(n/2) + n \\ &= 4 G(n/2) + n \\ &= 4 [2(n/2)^2 - n/2] + n \\ &= 2n^2 - 2n + n \\ &= 2n^2 - n \\ &= G(n) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} G(n) &= 2n^2 - n \\ T(1) &= 1 \\ T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + n \end{aligned}$$



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 $a + b + c = 1$

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

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

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

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 ?

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: $F+F--F+F+F+F--F+F--F+F--F+F+F--F+F$

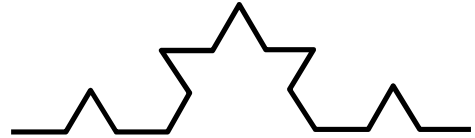
The Koch Game



F+F--F+F

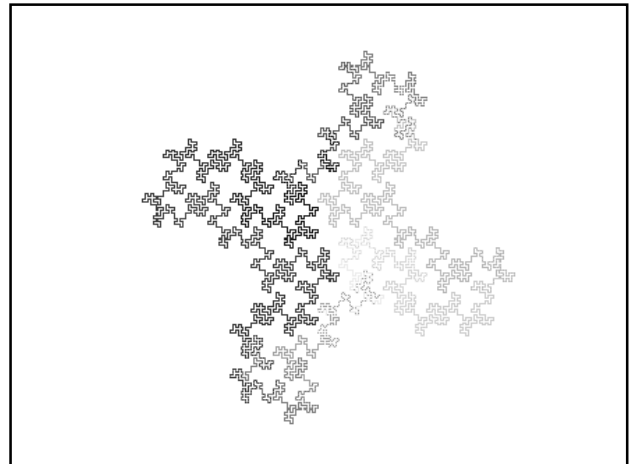
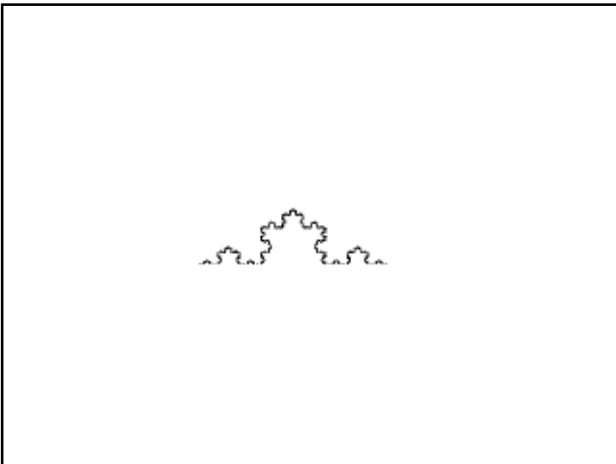
Visual representation:
 F draw forward one unit
 + turn 60 degree left
 - turn 60 degrees right

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

Sub(X) = X+YF+ Sub(Y) = -FX-Y

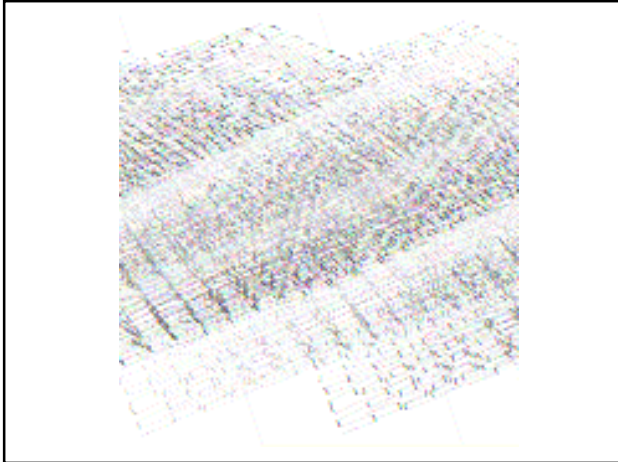


Hilbert Game

Sub(L) = +RF-LFL-FR+
 Sub(R) = -LF+RFR+FL-



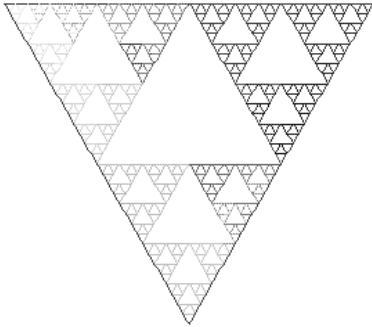
Note: Make 90 degree turns instead of 60 degrees



Peano-Gossamer Curve



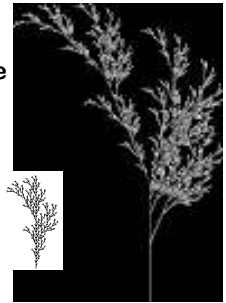
Sierpinski Triangle



Lindenmayer (1968)

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

Interpret the stuff inside brackets as a branch



Inductive Proof

Standard Form

All Previous Form

Least-Counter Example Form

Invariant Form

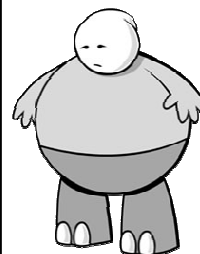
Strengthening the Inductive Claim

Inductive Definition

Recurrence Relations

Fibonacci Numbers

Guess and Verify



Here's What
You Need to
Know...