

LECTURE 23  
(Fri. MAR. 6, 2020)

§ 6.3.

Strong Induction Principle:  $P(n)$  math. statement indexed by  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Suppose:

(1)  $P(1)$  true.

(2) For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$P(1) \wedge P(2) \wedge \dots \wedge P(n) \implies P(n+1)$$

[i.e., if  $P(m)$  true for all  $m \leq n$ , then  $P(n+1)$  is true.]

Then:  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

— follows from (regular) induction applied to

$$Q(n) = P(1) \wedge \dots \wedge P(n).$$

Indeed  $Q(1) = P(1)$  is true, and  $Q(n) \implies Q(n+1)$ .

Thus  $Q(n)$  is true  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Equivalently  $P(n)$  true  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  ✓

"Strong"  $\rightsquigarrow$  stronger induction hypothesis.

(not only is  $P(n)$  assumed true, but all  $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(n)$ .)

Remarks:

- well-ordering
- regular induction
- strong induction

} all principles are equivalent.

Ex. strong induction  $\Rightarrow$  well-ordering.

Why?  $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  non-empty. Suppose no smallest element.

I.e.,  $\forall s \in A \exists a \in A: a < s$ .

Let  $P(n): n \notin A$ . Apply strong induction:

◦ Base step ( $n=1$ ):  $P(1)$  true — otherwise  $1 \in A$  would be smallest.

◦ Ind. step: Suppose all  $P(1), \dots, P(n)$  are true, meaning  $1 \notin A, \dots, n \notin A$ .

Then  $P(n+1)$  must be true, otherwise  $n+1 \in A$  would be smallest. ✓

Conclude:  $P(n)$  true  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

— I.e.,  $n \notin A$  for all  $n$ .

This says  $A = \emptyset$ .

contradiction.  $\square$

Ex (Fibonacci numbers)  $F_1, F_2, F_3, \dots$

— defined recursively: Initial conditions,

$$F_1 = F_2 = 1.$$

and for  $n > 2$ ,

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}.$$

n	$F_n$
1	1
2	1
3	2
4	3
5	5
6	8
7	13
8	21
$\vdots$	$\vdots$

Thm. (BINET'S FORMULA):  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \left( \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n - \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n \right).$$

PROOF. By strong induction. First, introduce notation:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} = 1.618\dots \text{ (golden ratio)} \\ \beta = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} = -0.618\dots \end{array} \right.$$

The two roots of  $x^2 - x - 1 = 0$ .

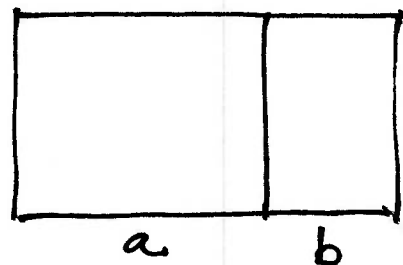
I.e., have relations:

$$\alpha^2 = \alpha + 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \beta^2 = \beta + 1.$$

o Base step ( $n=1$ ):

$$1 = F_1 \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\alpha - \beta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \sqrt{5}$$

ok.



$$\frac{a+b}{a} = \frac{a}{b} = \alpha.$$

◦ Induction step: Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and suppose Binet's formula holds for all indices  $1, 2, \dots, n$ .  
 [strong ind. hypothesis].

— To show:  $F_{n+1} \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\alpha^{n+1} - \beta^{n+1})$ .

From the definition of the  $(F_n)$ :

$$F_{n+1} = F_n + F_{n-1} \quad (\text{conventional: } F_0 = 0)$$

$n=1$

Key point — since we're using strong induction, we can use Binet's formula for both  $F_n$  and  $F_{n-1}$ !  
 implies:

$$F_{n+1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\alpha^n - \beta^n) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\alpha^{n-1} - \beta^{n-1})$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\alpha^n + \alpha^{n-1}) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\beta^n + \beta^{n-1})$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \alpha^{n-1} \underbrace{(\alpha + 1)}_{\alpha^2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \beta^{n-1} \underbrace{(\beta + 1)}_{\beta^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\alpha^{n+1} - \beta^{n+1}). \quad \text{done.}$$

EXC Use Binet to show  $\frac{F_{n+1}}{F_n} \rightarrow \alpha$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

— a more direct proof of Binet uses diagonalization:

$X_n = \begin{pmatrix} F_n \\ F_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$  sequence of vectors, sat. matrix equation:

$$X_{n+1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} X_n$$

w.  $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .  $\swarrow$  call it A.

Claim: A has eigenvalues  $\{\alpha, \beta\}$ , eigenvectors

Char. Poly.:  $\det \begin{pmatrix} 1-x & 1 \\ 1 & -x \end{pmatrix} = x^2 - x - 1$ .  $\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} \beta \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha+1 \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^2 \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ etc.}$$

$\rightsquigarrow$  diagonalize A:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow A^{n-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{n-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \beta^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\beta \\ -1 & \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow X_n = A^{n-1} X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{n-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \beta^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{n-1} \\ -\beta^{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^n - \beta^n \\ \alpha^{n-1} - \beta^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = \begin{pmatrix} F_n \\ F_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \checkmark$$