

**PROBLEM 1** *Convert to prose*

Convert the following symbolic proof that  $f(x) = x^2$  to prose.

1. let  $f(x)$  be computed as
  - if  $x \leq 0$  then return 0
  - else return  $(2*x-1) + f(x-1)$

*Symbolic Proof.*

1	$f(0) = 0 = 0^2$	definition
2	$f(x-1) = (x-1)^2$	assumption
3	$f(x) = 2x - 1 + f(x-1)$	definition
4	$f(x) = 2x - 1 + (x-1)^2$	combine line 2 and 3
5	$f(x) = 2x - 1 + (x^2 - 2x + 1)$	algebra on line 4
6	$f(x) = x^2$	simplify line 5
3	$\forall x \geq 0 . f(x) = x^2$	principle of induction on lines 1 and 2

*Proof.*

We proceed by induction on  $x$ .

**Base case:** Assume  $x = 0$ . Then  $f(x) = 0$ , which is  $x*x$ .

**Inductive step:** Assume that  $x > 0$  and that  $f(x-1) = (x-1)*(x-1)$ . Then  $f(x) = 2*x-1 + f(x-1)$ ; replacing  $f(x-1)$  with  $(x-1)*(x-1)$  gives us  $f(x) = 2*x - 1 + (x-1)*(x-1)$ . Distributing the last term gives us  $2*x - 1 + (x*x - 2*x + 1)$  which can be simplified to  $x*x$ .

By the principle of induction, it follows that  $f(x)$  always returns  $x*x$ .  $\square$

PROBLEM 2 *Code termination*

Prove by induction that each of the following functions terminate given any integer argument.

2. let  $f(x)$  be computed as  
     if  $x \leq 0$  then return  $x$   
     otherwise return  $1 + f(x-1)$

*Proof.*

We proceed by induction on  $x$ .

**Base case:** Assume  $x \leq 0$ . Then the function terminates immediately by taking the first branch of the `if` statement.

**Inductive step:** Assume that  $x > 0$  and  $f(x-1)$  terminates. Then the function takes the second branch of the `if` statement and terminates after invoking  $f(x-1)$  and performing one addition.

By the principle of induction, it follows that  $f(x)$  terminates for all integer  $x$ .  $\square$

3. let  $f(x)$  be computed as  
     if  $x \leq 1$  then return  $x$   
     otherwise return  $1 + f(x-1) + f(x-2)$

*Proof.*

We proceed by induction on  $x$ .

**Base case:** Assume  $x \leq 1$ . Then the function terminates immediately by taking the first branch of the `if` statement.

**Inductive step:** Assume that  $x > 1$  and that  $f(y)$  terminates for all  $y < x$ . Then the function takes the second branch of the `if` statement, invoking both  $f(x-1)$  and  $f(x-2)$ . Since both  $x-1$  and  $x-2$  are  $< x$ , both invocations terminate, so  $f(x)$  also terminates.

By the principle of induction, it follows that  $f(x)$  terminates for all integer  $x$ .  $\square$

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4. let f(x) be computed as
    if x >= -1 then return x
    otherwise return 1 + f(x+1)

```

*Proof.*

We proceed by induction on  $x$ .

**Base case:** Assume  $x \geq -1$ . Then the function terminates immediately by taking the first branch of the `if` statement.

**Inductive step:** Assume that  $x < -1$  and that  $f(x+1)$  terminates. Then the function takes the second branch of the `if` statement and terminates after invoking  $f(x+1)$  and performing one addition.

By the principle of induction, it follows that  $f(x)$  terminates for all integer  $x$ .  $\square$

### PROBLEM 3 *Code property*

Prove by induction each of the following functions returns an even number given any non-negative integer argument.

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5. let f(x) be computed as
    y = 0
    repeat x times:
        y += 2
    return y

```

*Proof.*

We proceed by induction on  $x$ .

**Base case:** Assume  $x = 0$ . Then the loop runs 0 times, meaning  $f(x) = 0$ , which is even.

**Inductive step:** Assume that  $x > 0$  and that  $f(x-1)$  is even. Then the loop runs one more time than it did for  $f(x-1)$ , meaning  $y$  is 2 larger than  $f(x-1)$ 's return value. Since  $f(x-1)$  is even and 2 is even and the product of two even numbers is even,  $y$  must also be even meaning  $f(x)$  is even.

By the principle of induction, it follows that  $f(x)$  always returns an even number.  $\square$

6. let  $f(x)$  be computed as  
 if  $x \leq 0$  then return 0  
 else return  $4 * f(x-1)$

*Proof.*

We proceed by induction on  $x$ .

**Base case:** Assume  $x = 0$ . Then  $f(x) = 0$ , which is even.

**Inductive step:** Assume that  $x > 0$  and that  $f(x-1)$  is even. Then  $f(x) = 4 + f(x-1)$ ; since 4 is even and  $f(x-1)$  is even and the sum of two even numbers is even,  $f(x)$  must also be even.

By the principle of induction, it follows that  $f(x)$  always returns an even number.  $\square$

7. let  $f(x)$  be computed as  
 if  $x \leq 0$  then return 2  
 else return  $2 * f(x-2)$

*Proof.*

We proceed by induction on  $x$ .

**Base case:** Assume  $x = -1^*$ . Then  $f(x) = 2$ , which is even.

Assume  $x = 0$ . Then  $f(x) = 2$ , which is even.

**Inductive step:** Assume that  $x > 0$  and that  $f(x-2)$  is even. Then  $f(x) = 2 * f(x-2)$ ; since 2 is even and  $f(x-2)$  is even and the product of two even numbers is even,  $f(x)$  must also be even.

By the principle of induction, it follows that  $f(x)$  always returns an even number.  $\square$

\* Note that  $-1$  is not in the domain of the proof (which is non-negative integers), but will be reached by the code when given a non-negative integer (such as 1) so it is a valid and important base case.