

Deductive Reasoning

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7:29 PM

generalizations



Deductive Reasoning: Drawing a specific conclusion through logical reasoning by starting with general assumptions that are known to be valid.

Proof: An argument that shows a statement to be true in all cases. (No counterexamples exists)

Generalization: A principle, statement, or idea that has general application.

Using Deductive Reasoning

In order to use deductive reasoning to prove a conjecture, we must first generalize all the evidence. Then we prove that ~~that~~ generalization is true for all cases.

In other words: we prove our conjecture works for all examples by proving it true for the generalization.

Mathematical Examples

Ex1:

Jon discovered a pattern when adding integers

$$\begin{array}{l} 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 = 15 \\ (-15) + (-14) + (-13) + (-12) + (-11) = -65 \\ (-3) + (-2) + (-1) + 0 + 1 = -5 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} 3 \times 5 = 15 \\ -13 \times 5 = -65 \\ -1 \times 5 = -5 \end{array}$$

His conjecture is that whenever you add five consecutive integers, the sum is always 5 times the middle number.

generalize the problem

Let the middle number = X

$$(x-2) + (x-1) + x + (x+1) + (x+2) = \text{Sum}$$

$$x + x + x + x + x = \text{Sum}$$

$$5x = \text{Sum}$$

\therefore The sum of 5 consecutive numbers is just 5 times the middle number

Ex2:

Prove that an odd number + another odd number is always even.

Let x be any integer

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} 2x: \text{Even \#} \\ \dots \end{array} \right|$$

Prove that an odd number + another odd number is always even.

Let x be any integer

then $(2x+1)$ will be odd

Let y be any integer

then $(2y+1)$ will be odd

$$(2x+1) + (2y+1) = \underbrace{2x}_{\text{Even}} + \underbrace{2y}_{\text{Even}} + \underbrace{2}_{\text{Even}}$$

\therefore An odd + another odd will be even

$$\begin{array}{|l} 2x: \text{Even \#} \\ 2x+1: \text{odd \#} \end{array}$$

Ex3:

Prove that the difference between consecutive squares is always an odd number.

Let x be any integer

then consecutive squares are x^2 and $(x+1)^2$

$$\begin{aligned} D &= (x+1)^2 - x^2 \\ &= (x+1)(x+1) - x^2 \\ &= \cancel{x^2} + x + x + 1 - \cancel{x^2} \\ &= \underline{\underline{2x+1}} \end{aligned}$$

First
Outer
Inner
Last

\therefore we will always get an odd number from the difference of consecutive squares

Using Deductive Reasoning outside of math

To use Deductive Reasoning outside of math equations, we need to introduce the term Premise.

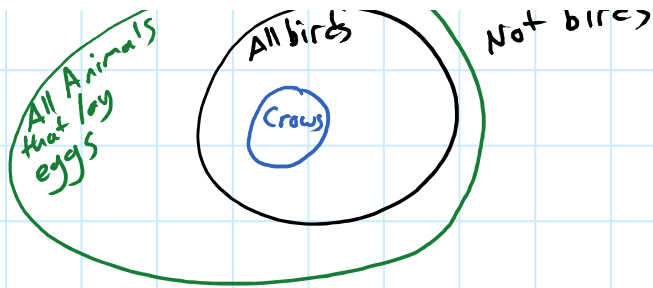
Premise: A statement that is assumed to be true for all cases. (i.e. All crows are birds or all birds lay eggs etc.)

We can use premises to link information and prove a specific fact about something.

Ex: If all crows are birds and all birds lay eggs then what can we conclude about crows?

\therefore All Crows lay eggs





Advance Ex: If the sum of the digits of a number is divisible by three then so too is the original number.

Prove this for the two digit case

$$93 = 9 \times 10 + 3$$

Let x, y be the digits of the number
ie. xy

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The number} &= 10x + y \\ &= (9x + x) + y \\ &= 9x + x + y \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{The number} = 9x + (x + y)$$

$9x$ is divisible by 3

So when $x + y$ is divisible by 3 our original number xy will also be divisible by 3.

Pg. 31: odd