

#72b Using 2nd principle, prove that the sum of interior angles of an n-sided simple polygon is $(n-2)180^\circ$ for all $n \geq 3$.

* $n=3$ (base case)
(triangle).

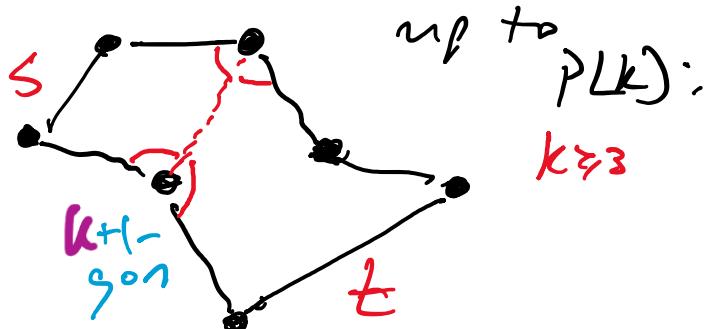


Sum of interior angles is 180°

$$= (3-2) \cdot 180^\circ \quad \checkmark$$

$P(3)$ is true.

* Assume true for $P(k)$



Sum of interior angles of the s- & t-gons is the sum for the $k+1$ -gon.

$$s+t = k+1 + 2 \\ (\text{the number of sides of the "gons"})$$

The sum of the interior angles for the s- & t-gons follows the rule:

$$(s-2)180^\circ + (t-2)180^\circ =$$

$$\underbrace{[s+t-2 - 2]}_{[(k+1)-2]} 180^\circ =$$

$$[(k+1)-2]180^\circ \quad \checkmark$$

The sum of the interior angles of the $k+1$ -gon follows the rule: $\therefore P(k+1)$

$\therefore P(n) \quad \forall n \geq 3 \quad \checkmark$ QED

by the 2nd principle of induction.

Show that 2nd principle \rightarrow well-ordering

Well-ordering: every non-empty collection of natural numbers has a smallest member.

Assume not: Let S be a set of natural numbers that has no smallest.

$$P(n): n \notin S$$

* Show $P(1)$. Well if $1 \in S$, then it would be the smallest member! $\therefore P(1) \checkmark$

* Assume $P(r)$ for all $1 \leq r \leq k$.

Consider $P(k+1)$, which says $k+1 \notin S$. That's true, because if $k+1 \in S$, then it would be the smallest member - since $1, 2, \dots, k$ are not in S by assumption.

$\therefore P(k+1)$. \checkmark

$\therefore P(n) \nexists_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, by the 2nd principle of induction.

But this is a contradiction: S was declared non-empty; i.e. $(\exists x)$ $x \in S$. But that's false! \therefore the principle of well-ordering is established.