

THM.  $\exists x, y$  irrational such that  $x^y$  is rational

PROOF.  $\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}$  this is either rat'l or irrat'l  
 rational done  
 irrational know  $\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}$  is irrat'l  $\rightarrow (\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}})^{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}^2 = 2$  rat'l!  $\square$

this is a nonconstructive existence proof.

## INDUCTION

THM.  $n^3 - n$  is divisible by 3.

PROOF. Try a few.  $0 \rightarrow 0$ ,  $1 \rightarrow 0$ ,  $2 \rightarrow 6$ ,  $3 \rightarrow 24$ ,  $4 \rightarrow 60$ . Looks true.

Why?  $n^3 - n = n(n^2 - 1) = n(n+1)(n-1) = (n-1)n(n+1)$

Three consecutive numbers? One has to be a multiple of 3!

BASE 0

HYPOTH. Assume true for some  $k$ ;  $k^3 - k = 3q$  for some  $q$ .

CONSIDER  $k+1 \rightarrow (k+1)^3 - (k+1) = (k^3 - k) + 3k^2 + 3k = 3q + 3k^2 + 3k = 3(q + k^2 + k)$   $\square$

## STRONG INDUCTION

Instead of assuming true for  $k$ , assume true for everything through  $k$

THM. All nat. numbers  $\geq 2$  can be written as a product of 1+ primes

BASE. 2

HYPOTH. All  $2 \leq k \leq k$  can be written as a product of 1+ primes

CONSIDER  $k+1 \rightarrow$  cases: if  $k+1$  is prime,  $\square$ , else  $\exists ab$   $a \neq 1$   $b \neq 1$  such that  $ab = k+1$ . Notice  $2 \leq a \leq k$  &  $2 \leq b \leq k$ . Invoke  
 HYPOTH:  $a = \prod_{i=1}^{n_a} p_a(i)$   $b = \prod_{j=1}^{n_b} p_b(j) \implies k+1 = \prod_{i=1}^{n_a} p_a(i) \prod_{j=1}^{n_b} p_b(j)$

NOTICE. Why is  $a < k+1$ ?  $b < k+1$ ?  $a \neq b$  are counting numbers  $\neq 1$   $a > 1$ ,  $b > 1$ .  $k+1 = ab > a$ ,  $> b$ , so  $a, b < k+1$   $\square$

**THM** Sum of first  $n$  odd numbers is a perfect square

**HYP0**  $\forall n \exists q, \sum_{i=1}^n (2i-1) = q^2 \rightarrow$  assume  $\sum_{i=1}^k (2i-1) = q^2$

**CONSIDER**  $k+1 \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2i-1) = [2(k+1)-1] + \sum_{i=1}^k (2i-1) = 2k+1 + q^2$

**WISH**  $q^2 = k^2 \rightarrow 2k+1 + q^2 + 2k+1 + k^2 = (k+1)^2$  