#### Recall our recursive multiply algorithm:

```
PRECONDITION:
 x and y are both binary bit arrays of length n,
n a power of 2.
Postcondition:
 Returns a binary bit array equal to
 the product of x and y.
 REC_MULTIPLY_2 ( x, y):
 if (len(x) == 1):
    return (x[0]*y[0])
 x1 = x[n/2:n]
 xh = x[0:n/2]
 yl = x[n/2:n]
 yh = x[0:n/2]
  p1 = Rec_Multiply_2(xh, yh)
  p2 = Rec_Multiply_2(xh+xl, yh+yl)
  p3 = Rec_Multiply_2(x1, y1)
 p2 = binary_add(p2, -p1, -p3)
 p2 = shift(p2, n/2)
 p1 = shift(p1, n)
 return BINARY_ADD (p1, p2, p3)
```

Let's prove that REC\_MULTIPLY\_2 (x, y) does indeed return the *product* of x and y.

Proof by complete induction.

1. Define P(n):

**RTP**: P(n) is true for all even  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and n = 1.

- 2. Base Case:
- 3. Inductive Hypothesis:
- 4. Inductive Step:

### **Another Recursive Algorithm–Quicksort**

```
PRECONDITION:
 A is an array/list of integers.
POSTCONDITION:
 Returns the integers of A sorted in increasing
order.
def QUICKSORT (A):
 if (len(A) == 1 \text{ or } len(A) == 0):
   return (A)
 else:
   # make A[0] the pivot
   L, M, U = [], [], []
   for value in A:
    if (A[0] < value):
      L.append(value)
    elif (A[0] == value):
      M.append(value)
    else:
      U.append(value)
   final = QUICKSORT(L)
   final.append(M)
   final.append(Quicksort(U))
   return(final)
end Quicksort
```

**Q:** Which type of *induction* should we use to prove that **Quicksort** is correct?

## **Correctness of Quicksort**

*Proof.* By complete induction on n = len(A).

1. Define P(n):

- 2. **IH**:
- 3. Case 1. n = 0 or n = 1

4. Case 2.  $n \ge 2$ 

### **Correctness of Iterative Algorithms**

**Q:** What is an *iterative algorithm*?

### **Typical Iterative Algorithm Structure**

```
Precondition: Requirements about the input.

Postcondition: Requirements about the output.

variable declarations

various statements

begin loop

more statements

:
   exit statement
   more statements

end loop

more statements
```

**Q:** Which part of the algorithm is the hardest to prove *correct*?

To prove an algorithm is correct, we need to

- prove that the *looping* portion has a *well defined behavior*
- and that this *behavior* ensures that the *postcondition* is *met*.

The well defined behavior is called a loop invariant.

**Q:** How do we express a *loop invariant*?

**Q:** How does the *postcondition* relate to P(n)?

Q: Does this remind you of something else we have seen?

# **Keys to Proving an Iterative Algorithm Correct**

We will use a 3-step process.

- 1. Partial Correctness
- 2. Proof of Termination
- 3. Total Correctness

## **A Toy Example**

```
PRECONDITION: Input is a natural number x.
Postcondition: Output is 2x.

def Power( x ):
  current = 1
  count = 0
  while ( count < x ):
    current = current*2
    count = count+1
  return(current)</pre>
```

**Q:** What is the *exit condition*?

**Q:** What is the *invariant*? ie., what is true *each iteration* of the *loop*?

Let's look at a few iterations of the loop to find a pattern:

n	P(n)	
0	current =	count =
1	current =	count =
2	current =	count =
3	current =	count =
4	current =	count =
ŧ		
i	current =	count =

#### **Notation:**

We will represent the *value* of a variable x during the  $k^{th}$  *iteration* of the loop by  $x_k$ .

What is the *loop invariant* P(k)?

$$P(k)$$
:

**Q:** How is this related to the *postcondition*?

**Partial Correctness:** *Prove* P(k) *true*.

Proof.

**Base Case:** 

#### **Inductive Hypothesis**

#### **Inductive Step**

If there is not an  $(i+1)^{st}$  iteration then P(i+1) is trivially true. why??.

Otherwise, there exists an  $(i + 1)^{st}$  iteration:

$$current_{i+1} = count_{i+1} =$$

$$= = =$$

Therefore P(i) holds for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

### **Showing Termination**

**Theorem 2.5** (in the notes) *Every decreasing sequence of natu*ral numbers is finite.

**Q:** How does Theorem 2.5 follow from the *Well Ordering Principle*?

- Consider defining  $d_i = x$  count<sub>i</sub>.
- What do we know about  $d_i$  versus  $d_{i+1}$ :
- How does the *exit condition* relate to  $d_i$ ?
- How do we kow that the loop must terminate?

**Q:** Given that the *loop invariant* holds and that the *loop terminates*, is the *post condition* met when the *exit condition* is *true*?

To show *termination* define a *decreasing sequence* of *natural* numbers and use the *W.O.P*.

## **Multiplication – Take 2**

PRECONDITION:  $m \in \mathbb{N}, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

POSTCONDITION: Returns the value  $m \cdot n$ .

MULTIPLY( m, n )

1. int x = m;

2. int y = n;

3. int z = 0;

4. while (x  $\neq$  0)

5. if (x mod 2 = 1)

6. z = z+y;

7. x = x div 2;

8. y = y \cdot 2;

9. return z;

Q: Why does MULTIPLY (n, m) work?

#### Consider:

- $x \cdot y = y + y + y + \cdots + y$  (x times)
- If x is even then  $x \cdot y = 2(y + y + y + \cdots + y)$  (x/2 times)
- If x is odd then  $x \cdot y = \dots$
- Once x = 0, xy =

Q: Why might we want to use such an algorithm to multiply?

For *correctness*, we need to prove *three* things:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### **Partial Correctness**

**Q:** Which variables would we *expect* to partake in the *loop invariant*?

**Loop Invariant:** P(i): "If the  $i^{th}$  iteration exists then

$$mn = z_i + x_i y_i$$

Q: Why do we *believe* this loop invariant?

**Claim**: P(i) is true for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Proof.

- 1. Base Case:
- 2. **Induction Hypothesis:** Assume that P(i) is true for *arbitrary*  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

3 Induction Step: RTP: P(i+1) is true.

Assume that the  $(i+1)^{st}$  iteration exists:

- Since P(i) is true:
- If  $x_i \mod 2 \neq 1$  then:

$$z_{i+1} =$$

$$x_{i+1} =$$

$$y_{i+1} =$$

Therefore,  $z_{i+1} =$ 

• If  $x_i \mod 2 = 1$  then:

$$z_{i+1} =$$

$$x_{i+1} =$$

$$y_{i+1} =$$

Therefore,

$$z_{i+1} =$$

\_

=

Therefore, P(i) holds for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

### **Termination**

**Q:** How can we show that the loop *terminates*?

Q: What is such a *sequence*?

**Claim:** The loop will terminate.

Proof.