

# Natural Numbers and Proofs by Induction

References:

F. van der Blij, J. van Tiel, Infinitesimaalrekening,  
Prisma-Technica, 2e druk, 1975

# Natural Numbers

## **Axiom**

A set of Natural numbers that contains 1 and with every number  $n$  also its successor  $n+1$  consists of all the Natural numbers.

Let  $P(n)$  a logical expression that contains the natural number  $n$ .

## **Theorem (Induction)**

Assume  $P(1)$  is true and that for all Natural numbers  $n$ , if  $P(n)$  is true, then  $P(n+1)$  is true. Then  $P(n)$  is true for every Natural number  $n$ .

# Proofs by Induction

Let  $P(n)$  an expression that contains the natural number  $n$ .

## **Theorem (Induction I)**

Assume  $P(1)$  is true and that, for all Natural numbers  $n$ , if  $P(n)$  is true, then  $P(n+1)$  is true. Then  $P(n)$  is true for every Natural number  $n$ .

## **Theorem (Induction II)**

Assume for a certain  $n_0$   $P(n_0)$  is true and that, for all Natural numbers  $n \geq n_0$ , if  $P(n)$  is true, then  $P(n+1)$  is true. Then  $P(n)$  is true for every Natural number  $n \geq n_0$ .