

Algebra 2: Math Induction

Notes, Examples, and Practice Exercises (with Solutions)

Topics include factoring, sigma notation, exponents, factorials, sequences and series, and more.

Example: Use induction to prove $\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

Step 1: Verify it works for $n = 1$ (and, perhaps, a few others)

$$\text{If } n = 1 \quad 1 = \frac{1(1+1)}{2} = 1$$

$$\text{If } n = 2 \quad 1 + 2 = \frac{2(2+1)}{2} = 3$$

$$\text{If } n = 3 \quad 1 + 2 + 3 = \frac{3(3+1)}{2} = 6$$

So, the equation works for these numbers... How do we know if it works for any integer???

Step 2: Assume the formula is correct. Then, evaluate for the next term...

$$\text{If the formula is correct, then } 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$$\text{Then, if we evaluate the next term, } 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n + (n+1) = \frac{(n+1)((n+1)+1)}{2} \text{ or } \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$$

So, how do we confirm this assumption???

Step 3: Using our confirmed equations, add the next term..

When we tested $n = 1, 2$ and 3 , we had the correct solution...

$$1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

Let's add the next term to both sides...

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n + (n+1) &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + (n+1) \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + \frac{2(n+1)}{2} \\ &= \frac{n(n+1) + 2(n+1)}{2} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n k &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \\ (n+1) + \sum_{k=1}^n k &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + (n+1) \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + \frac{2(n+1)}{2} \\ &= \frac{n(n+1) + 2(n+1)}{2} \\ \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} k &= \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Step 4: Compare and conclusion

Notice, in step 2, when we directly input $(n+1)$ into the formula, we get $\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$

Then, in step 3, when we added the next term to previous known terms, we get $\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$

Since both approaches lead to the same answer, the general formula works for every successive integer!

Example: Use induction to prove $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k(k+1)}{2} = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{6}$ or, $1 + 3 + 6 + \dots + \frac{k(k+1)}{2} = \frac{k(k+1)(k+2)}{6}$

Step 1: Verify it works for $n = 1$ (and, perhaps, a few others)

If $n = 1$ 1 $= \frac{1(1+1)(1+2)}{6} = 1$

If $n = 2$ $1 + 3$ $= \frac{2(2+1)(2+2)}{6} = 4$

If $n = 3$ $1 + 3 + 6$ $= \frac{3(3+1)(3+2)}{6} = 10$

So, the equation works for these numbers... How do we know if it works for any integer?!?

Step 2: Assume the formula is correct. Then, evaluate for the next term...

If the formula is correct, then $1 + 3 + 6 + \dots + \frac{k(k+1)}{2} = \frac{k(k+1)(k+2)}{6}$

Then, if we evaluate the next term, $1 + 3 + 6 + \dots + \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)}{6}$

So, how do we confirm this assumption?!?!?

Step 3: Using the confirmed equations in step 1, add the next term to the confirmed basis..

When we tested $n = 1, 2$ and 3 , we had the correct solution...

$$1 + 3 + 6 + \dots + \frac{k(k+1)}{2} = \frac{k(k+1)(k+2)}{6}$$

Let's add the next term to both sides...

$$1 + 3 + 6 + \dots + \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} = \frac{k(k+1)(k+2)}{6} + \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}$$

common denominator

$$\frac{k(k+1)(k+2) + 3(k+1)(k+2)}{6}$$

GCF: $(k+1)(k+2)$

$$\frac{(k+1)(k+2) \cdot (k+3)}{6}$$

Using Summation notation:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k(k+1)}{2} = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{6}$$

$$\frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k(k+1)}{2} = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{6} + \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$$

$$= \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{6} + \frac{3(n+1)(n+2)}{6}$$

$$= \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{6}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{k(k+1)}{2} = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{6}$$

Step 4: Compare and conclusion

Notice, in step 2, when we directly input $(k+1)$ into the formula, we get $\frac{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)}{6}$

Then, in step 3, when we added the next term to previous known terms, we get $\frac{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)}{6}$

Since both approaches lead to the same answer, the general formula works for every successive integer!

Example: Use induction to prove $n^3 - 4n + 6$ is a multiple of 3

Step 1: Verify the base case(s):

if $n = 1$, then $(1)^3 - 4(1) + 6 = 3$

if $n = 2$, then $(2)^3 - 4(2) + 6 = 6$ They are all multiples of 3...

if $n = 3$, then $(3)^3 - 4(3) + 6 = 21$

Step 2: Assume for k :

$k^3 - 4k + 6 = 3Z$ where Z is any integer... so, $3Z$ is a multiple of 3...

Step 3: Prove for next term, $(k + 1)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (k + 1)^3 - 4(k + 1) + 6 &= (k + 1)(k + 1)(k + 1) - 4k - 4 + 6 && \text{expand} \\
 &= (k^2 + 2k + 1)(k + 1) - 4k + 2 && \text{collect like terms} \\
 &= k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k + 1 - 4k + 2 && \text{rearrange} \\
 &= k^3 - 4k + 3k^2 + 3k + 1 + 2 && \text{regroup} \\
 &= k^3 - 4k + 3k^2 + 3k + 3 && \text{***add multiples of 3...} \\
 &= k^3 - 4k + 6 + 3k^2 + 3k + 3 + 3k && \text{6 and 3k are each divisible by 3...} \\
 &= 3Z + 3(k^2 + 2k + 1) && \text{Both terms are divisible by 3 (i.e. multiples of 3)...}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note: We know $3k$ is divisible by 3. So, if x is divisible by 3, then $x + 3k$ must also be divisible by 3!

Example: $F_1 = 1$ $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$
 $F_2 = 1$

Prove $F_n \leq 2^n$ by induction...

Step 1: Look at the base cases and verify (It's apparent that F is a Fibonacci sequence..)

$F_1 = 1 \leq 2^1$ $F_3 = 2 \leq 2^3$
 $F_2 = 1 \leq 2^2$ $F_4 = 3 \leq 2^4$
 $F_5 = 5 \leq 2^5$

Step 2: Assume for k

$F_k \leq 2^k$

Step 3: Prove for $k + 1$

$F_{k+1} \leq 2^{k+1}$
 $\leq 2^k \cdot 2^1$
 $\leq 2 \cdot 2^k$

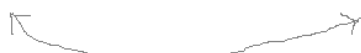
We know (by definition) that $F_{k+1} = F_k + F_{k-1}$

$F_k \leq 2^k$ and, $F_{k-1} \leq 2^k$

Therefore,

$F_{k+1} \leq 2^k + 2^k$

$F_k + F_{k-1} \leq 2^k + 2^k$



Example: Prove: $8^n - 3^n$ is a multiple of 5

Step 1: Verify a few cases

If $n = 1$, then 5 ✓
 If $n = 2$, then $64 - 9 = 55$ ✓

Step 2: Set up Assumption:

$$8^k - 3^k = 5P$$

Since it works for $k = 1$ and $k = 2$, prove using induction that it works for the following terms...

$$\begin{aligned}
 &8^{k+1} - 3^{k+1} = \\
 &8^k \cdot 8^1 - 3^k \cdot 3^1 = \\
 &\text{using substitution} \\
 &(5P + 3^k) \cdot 8 - 3 \cdot 3^k = \\
 &40P + 8 \cdot 3^k - 3 \cdot 3^k = \\
 &40P + (8 - 3) \cdot 3^k = \\
 &40P + 5 \cdot 3^k = \\
 &5(8P + 3^k) =
 \end{aligned}$$

must be multiple of 5!!! ✓

$$8^k - 3^k = 5P$$

$$8^k = 5P + 3^k$$

Example: Prove $\prod_{i=2}^n \frac{i-1}{i} = \frac{1}{n}$

Verify a few cases:

If $n = 3$,

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{3} \quad \checkmark$$

If $n = 4$,

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{4} \quad \checkmark$$

We must show that Next term:

$$\prod_{i=2}^{n+1} \frac{i-1}{i} = \frac{1}{n+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \prod_{i=2}^{n+1} \frac{i-1}{i} &= \frac{\overbrace{1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot n}^{\text{first } n \text{ terms}} \cdot \overbrace{(n+1)-1}^{\text{last term}}}{n+1} \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} \\
 &= \frac{1}{n+1} \quad \checkmark
 \end{aligned}$$

Example: If $a_0 = 1$ $a_1 = 3$ and, $a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}$

show that $a_n = 2n + 1$

So, we want to show $2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} = 2n + 1$

Basis: $a_0 = 1$ $a_1 = 3$

$2n + 1$

Test: $a_2 = 2a_1 - a_0 \Rightarrow 2(3) - 1 = 5$

$2(2) + 1 = 5$ ✓

Test: $a_3 = 2a_2 - a_1 \Rightarrow 2(5) - 3 = 7$

$2(3) + 1 = 7$ ✓

Assume: $a_k = 2a_{k-1} - a_{k-2}$ for $k > 1$

$a_k = 2k + 1$

for $(k + 1)$: $a_{k+1} = 2a_k - a_{k-1}$

substitution

$= 2(2k + 1) - a_{k-1}$

substitution

$= 2(2k + 1) - [2(k - 1) + 1]$

$= 4k + 2 - [2k - 1]$

$= 2k + 3$ ✓

$a_{k+1} = 2(k + 1) + 1 \Rightarrow 2k + 3$ ✓

Example: Prove by induction that $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{4i^2 - 1} = \frac{n}{2n + 1}$ for natural numbers n

Basis: let $n = 1$ $\sum_{i=1}^1 \frac{1}{4i^2 - 1} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4(1)^2 - 1} = \frac{1}{3}$

$\frac{n}{2n + 1} = \frac{1}{3}$ ✓

let $n = 2$ $\sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{1}{4i^2 - 1} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4(1)^2 - 1} + \frac{1}{4(2)^2 - 1} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{15} = \frac{2}{5}$

$\frac{n}{2n + 1} = \frac{2}{5}$ ✓

Assume: $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{4i^2 - 1} = \frac{n}{2n + 1}$

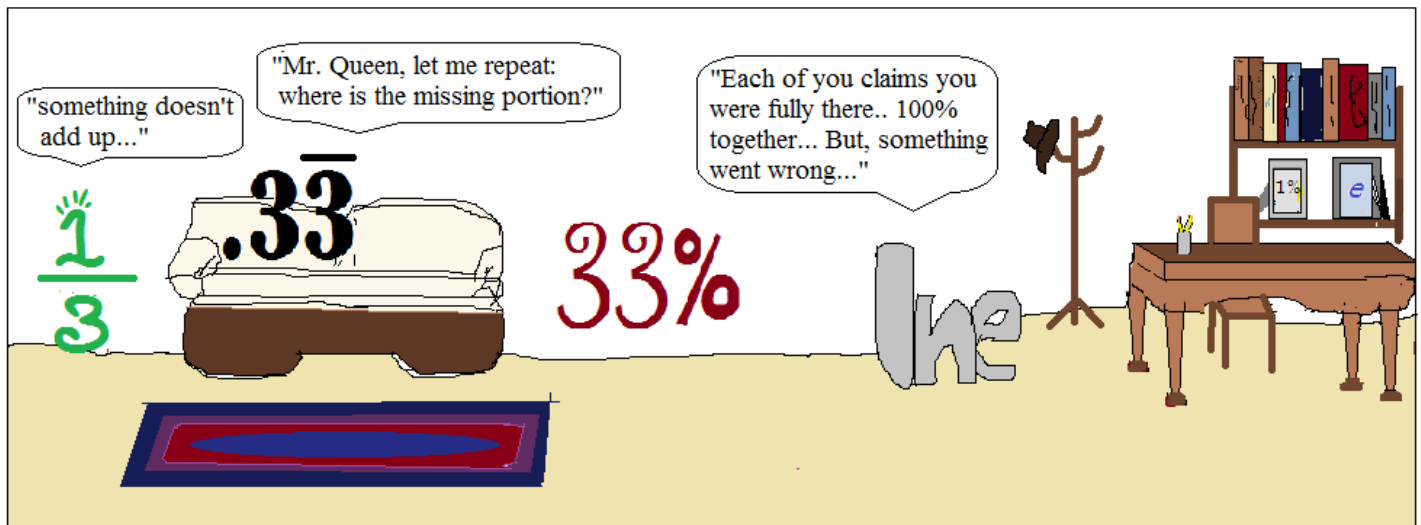
$\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \frac{1}{4t^2 - 1} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{4t^2 - 1} + \frac{1}{4(n+1)^2 - 1}$
first n terms (n + 1)th term

$= \frac{n}{2n + 1} + \frac{1}{4n^2 + 8n + 3} = \frac{n}{2n + 1} + \frac{1}{(2n + 3)(2n + 1)} = \frac{n(2n + 3)}{(2n + 3)(2n + 1)} + \frac{1}{(2n + 3)(2n + 1)}$

$= \frac{2n^2 + 3n + 1}{(2n + 3)(2n + 1)}$

$= \frac{(2n + 1)(n + 1)}{(2n + 3)(2n + 1)} = \frac{n + 1}{2n + 3}$

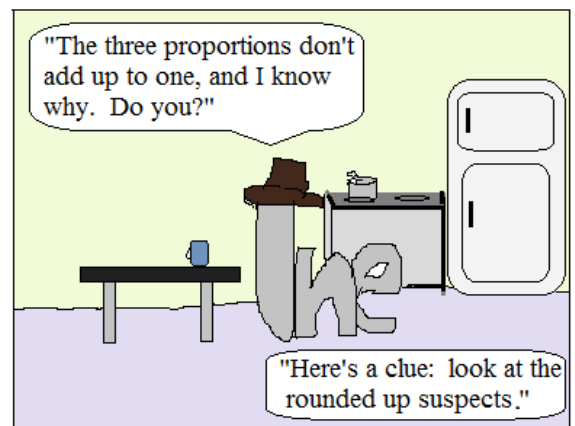
$\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \frac{1}{4t^2 - 1} = \frac{n + 1}{2(n + 1) + 1}$



Ine Queen is the *one* detective for any math mystery (naturally)...

$$.3\bar{3} + 33\% + \frac{1}{3} \neq 1$$

What is the missing piece?



Use induction to prove the following:

1)
$$\sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$$

2)
$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^3 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$$

Use induction to prove the following:

3) $(n - 1)n(n + 1)$ is divisible by 6 for all integers n

4) Show that the geometric series $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots$ converges to 2.

5) Prove: $\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{n}{(n+1)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(n+1)!}$

6) Prove: $3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2n + 1) = n^2 + 2n$

7) Prove $3^{2n} - 1$ is divisible by 8 for $n \geq 0$

8) Prove: $3n^2 + 3n$ is divisible by 6

9) Prove: $1 + 8 + 27 + 64 + \dots + n^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)^2$

10) Use induction to prove that $n^5 - n$ is a multiple of 5

Mathematical Induction Practice

11) Prove $2^{n+2} + 3^{2n+1}$ is a multiple of 7.

12) Prove $\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

13) Prove $4^n - 2^n > 3^n$ for $n > 1$

14) Prove $3^n > 2^{n+1}$ for $n > 1$

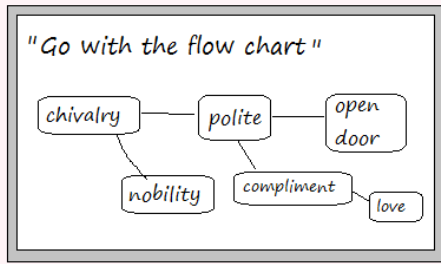
Mathematical Induction Practice

15) Prove $n^{n/2} \geq 2^n$ for $n > 3$

Cyrano
de Bergerac
School of Math
est. 1897

Seductive
Reasoning

"If I flatter and compliment
you, then you'll fall in love
with me..."



'Oh, so **that's** why they call
them complementary angles!!!'

"Roxanne, this is way better
than inductive reasoning!"

'I'm not sure if he is
the best teacher
for this class...'



LanceAF #337 (11-11-18)
mathplane.com

Using (un)conditional (love) statements,
Casanova teaches logic and reasoning to geometry students!

Solutions-→

Use induction to prove the following:

SOLUTIONS

$$1) \sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$$

Step 1: Verify If $n = 1$, then $1(1+1) = \frac{1(1+1)(1+2)}{3}$

$$2 = 2$$

If $n = 4$, then $2 + 6 + 12 + 20 = \frac{4(5)(6)}{3}$

$$40 = 40$$

So, we'll assume the formula is correct...

Step 2: Find $n + 1$, using the formula...

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} k(k+1) = \frac{(n+1)(n+1+1)(n+1+2)}{3} = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{3}$$

Step 3: Use confirmed formula (from step 1) and add the next term..

$$\begin{aligned} 2 + 6 + 12 + 40 \dots + n(n+1) + (n+1)(n+2) &= \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3} + (n+1)(n+2) \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3} + \frac{3(n+1)(n+2)}{3} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{3} \end{aligned}$$

GCF and regroup factors..

Using successive term OR using the direct formula get same result. ✓

$$2) \sum_{k=1}^n k^3 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$$

Step 1: Verify for $n = 1$

$$(1)^3 = \frac{(1)^2(1+1)^2}{4} = 1$$

also, if $n = 2$ $(1)^3 + (2)^3 = \frac{(2)^2(2+1)^2}{4} = 9$

if $n = 3$ $(1)^3 + (2)^3 + (3)^3 = \frac{(3)^2(3+1)^2}{4} = 36$

Step 2: Evaluate (using the formula) for $n + 1$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} k^3 = \frac{(n+1)^2((n+1)+1)^2}{4} = \frac{(n+1)^2(n+2)^2}{4}$$

Step 3: Since we know the formula worked for $n = 1$ (and $n = 2$ and 3), we'll assume it's correct. Now, let's add the next term....

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + 9 + 36 + \dots + n^3 + (n+1)^3 &= \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4} + (n+1)^3 \\ &= \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4} + (n+1)^2(n+1) \\ &= \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4} + \frac{4(n+1)^2(n+1)}{4} \\ &= \frac{n^2(n+1)^2 + (4n+4)(n+1)^2}{4} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)^2(n^2 + 4n + 4)}{4} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)^2(n+2)^2}{4} \end{aligned}$$

"split the term"

common denominator

condense

regroup and

factor

The result of step 3 matches the formula result in step 2! ✓

Use induction to prove the following:

SOLUTIONS

3) $(n-1)n(n+1)$ is divisible by 6 for all integers n

Step 1: Verify it works

$$\text{if } n = 1 \quad (1-1)(1)(1+1) = 0$$

$$\text{if } n = 2 \quad (2-1)(2)(2+1) = 6 \quad \text{each is divisible by 6}$$

$$\text{if } n = 3 \quad (3-1)(3)(3+1) = 24$$

Step 2: Assume the statement is true for k

$$(k-1)k(k+1) = 6Z \quad \text{where } Z \text{ is any integer (} 6Z \text{ must be divisible by 6)}$$

$$k^3 - k = 6Z$$

Step 3: Prove for the next term $(k+1)$

$$((k-1)+1)(k+1)((k+1)+1) =$$

$$(k)(k+1)(k+2) =$$

$$(k^2+k)(k+2) =$$

$$k^3 + 3k^2 + 2k =$$

$$k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k - k =$$

$$k^3 - k + 3k^2 + 3k =$$

$$6Z$$

Then, is $3k^2 + 3k$ a multiple of 6?

$$\text{if } 3k^2 + 3k = 6Z$$

$$\text{then, } k^2 + k = 2Z$$

So, is $k^2 + k$ always even?

$k(k+1)$ is always even!!

an even x odd number is even..

4) Show that the geometric series $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots$ converges to 2.

$$\text{Let } S = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n} \right)$$

$$\text{Then, } \frac{1}{2} S = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} \right)$$

$$\text{Subtract: } S - \frac{1}{2} S = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} S = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} S = 1 - 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2} S = 1$$

$$S = 2$$

5) Prove: $\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{n}{(n+1)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(n+1)!}$

Step 1: Try a few numbers to see if possible...

If $n = 1$, $\frac{1}{2!} = \frac{1}{2}$ $1 - \frac{1}{(1+1)!} = \frac{1}{2}$ ✓

If $n = 2$, $\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} = \frac{5}{6}$ $1 - \frac{1}{(2+1)!} = \frac{5}{6}$ ✓

Step 2: Assume for all integers k

$$\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{k}{(k+1)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(k+1)!}$$

Step 3: Confirm, if works for next term...

Prove: $\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{k}{(k+1)!} + \frac{k+1}{(k+2)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(k+2)!}$

$$\underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{k}{(k+1)!} \right)}_{1 - \frac{1}{(k+1)!}} + \frac{k+1}{(k+2)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(k+2)!}$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{(k+1)!} \cdot \frac{(k+2)}{(k+2)} + \frac{k+1}{(k+2)!}$$

$$1 - \frac{(k+2)}{(k+2)!} + \frac{k+1}{(k+2)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(k+2)!}$$
 ✓

6) Prove: $3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2n + 1) = n^2 + 2n$

Step 1: Test assumption $n = 1$ $2(1) + 1 = 3 = (1)^2 + 2(1)$ ✓

$n = 2$ $3 + 5 = 8 = (2)^2 + 2(2)$ ✓

$n = 3$ $3 + 5 + 7 = 15 = (3)^2 + 2(3)$ ✓

Step 2: Assume for all integers k

$$3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2k + 1) = k^2 + 2k$$

Step 3: Prove for the next term....

$$\underbrace{3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2k + 1)}_{k^2 + 2k} + (2(k+1) + 1) = (k+1)^2 + 2(k+1)$$

$$k^2 + 2k + 2k + 3$$

(split the 3)

$$k^2 + 2k + 1 + 2k + 2$$

$$(k+1)^2 + 2(k+1) = (k+1)^2 + 2(k+1)$$
 ✓

7) Prove $3^{2n} - 1$ is divisible by 8 for $n \geq 0$

SOLUTIONS

If $n = 0$, $3^0 - 1 = 0$

If $n = 1$, $3^2 - 1 = 8$

If $n = 2$, $3^4 - 1 = 80$

$$3^{2n} - 1 = 8Z \quad \Rightarrow \quad 3^{2n} = 8Z + 1$$

$$3^{2(n+1)} - 1 = 3^{2n+2} - 1$$

$$= 3^{2n} \cdot 3^2 - 1$$

$$9 \cdot 3^{2n} - 1 \quad \xrightarrow{\text{substitute}} \quad 9 \cdot (8Z + 1) - 1 = 72Z + 9 - 1 = 72Z + 8 \quad 8(9Z + 1) \text{ is divisible by 8!!!} \quad \checkmark$$

8) Prove: $3n^2 + 3n$ is divisible by 6

Let $n = 1 \rightarrow 6 \quad \checkmark$

Let $n = 2 \rightarrow 18 \quad \checkmark$

Let $n = 3 \rightarrow 36 \quad \checkmark$

General assumption: $3k^2 + 3k = 6P$

Prove using induction: next term....

$$3(k+1)^2 + 3(k+1) =$$

$$3k^2 + 6k + 3 + 3k + 3 =$$

rearrange

$$\underbrace{3k^2 + 3k + 6k + 3 + 3} =$$

$$6P + 6k + 6$$

$$6P + 6(k+1)$$

6P is divisible by 6 (by assumption)
and
6(k+1) must be divisible by 6! \checkmark

9) Prove: $1 + 8 + 27 + 64 + \dots + n^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2$

Test: If $n = 2$, $1 + 8 = 9 = \left(\frac{2(2+1)}{2}\right)^2 = 9 \quad \checkmark$

If $n = 3$, $1 + 8 + 27 = 36 = \left(\frac{3(3+1)}{2}\right)^2 = 36 \quad \checkmark$

General: $1 + 8 + 27 + 64 + \dots + k^3 = \left(\frac{k(k+1)}{2}\right)^2$

Induction by adding next term: $1 + 8 + 27 + 64 + \dots + k^3 + (k+1)^3 = \left(\frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}\right)^2$

$$\left(\frac{k(k+1)}{2}\right)^2 + (k+1)^3$$

$$\frac{k^2(k+1)^2}{2^2} + (k+1)^2(k+1)$$

$$\frac{k^2(k+1)^2}{2^2} + \frac{4(k+1)^2(k+1)}{2^2}$$

$$(k+1)^2 \cdot \left[\frac{k^2 + 4k + 4}{2^2}\right] = (k+1)^2 \left[\frac{(k+2)(k+2)}{2^2}\right] = \left(\frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}\right)^2 \quad \checkmark$$

10) Use induction to prove that $n^5 - n$ is a multiple of 5

SOLUTIONS

Basis: $n = 1 \quad 1^5 - 1 = 0 \quad \checkmark$
 $n = 2 \quad 2^5 - 2 = 30 \quad \checkmark$
 $n = 3 \quad 3^5 - 3 = 240 \quad \checkmark$

hypothesis is $k^5 - k = 5P$

then, $(k+1)^5 - (k+1)$ must be multiple of 5

$$k^5 + 5k^4 + 10k^3 + 10k^2 + 5k + 1 - (k+1)$$

$$\underbrace{k^5 + 5k^4 + 10k^3 + 10k^2 + 5k + 1 - (k+1)}_{\text{rearrange}}$$

$$k^5 - k + 5k^4 + 10k^3 + 10k^2 + 5k$$

$$5P + 5(k^4 + 2k^3 + 2k^2 + k)$$

multiple of 5 multiple of 5 \checkmark

11) Prove $2^{n+2} + 3^{2n+1}$ is a multiple of 7.

If $n = 0$, then $2^2 + 3^1 = 7 \quad \checkmark$

If $n = 1$, then $2^3 + 3^3 = 35 \quad \checkmark$

Assume $2^{k+2} + 3^{2k+1} = 7Z$ where Z is any integer.

Now, show that it is true for the next term $k+1$

$$2^{(k+1)+2} + 3^{2(k+1)+1}$$

$$2^{k+3} + 3^{2k+3}$$

we're trying to utilize the initial assumption in our proof...

exponent laws

$$2 \cdot 2^{k+2} + 3 \cdot 3^{2k+1}$$

"split" the terms

$$\underbrace{2^{\frac{k+2}{2}} + 2^{\frac{k+2}{2}} + 8 \cdot 3^{\frac{2k+1}{2}} + 3^{\frac{2k+1}{2}}}_{7Z}$$

$$\underbrace{2^{\frac{k+2}{2}} + 3^{\frac{2k+1}{2}}}_{7Z} + \underbrace{2^{\frac{k+2}{2}} + 8 \cdot 3^{\frac{2k+1}{2}}}_{\text{"split" terms again..}}$$

$$\underbrace{2^{\frac{k+2}{2}} + 3^{\frac{2k+1}{2}}}_{7Z} + \underbrace{2^{\frac{k+2}{2}} + 3^{\frac{2k+1}{2}}}_{7Z} + 7 \cdot 3^{\frac{2k+1}{2}}$$

must be a multiple of 7!! \checkmark

12) Prove $\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

SOLUTIONS

To prove by induction, let's show for all integers k...

Basis:

n = 1 $\sum_{i=1}^1 i^2 = 1 = \frac{1(1+1)(2(1)+1)}{6} = \frac{6}{6} = 1$ ✓

n = 2 $\sum_{i=1}^2 i^2 = 1 + 4 = 5 = \frac{2(2+1)(2(2)+1)}{6} = \frac{30}{6} = 5$ ✓

n = 3 $\sum_{i=1}^3 i^2 = 1 + 4 + 9 = 14 = \frac{3(3+1)(2(3)+1)}{6} = \frac{84}{6} = 14$ ✓

$\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i^2 = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2(k+1)+1)}{6}$ \leftarrow $\frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6}$

Rewrite by splitting up the left side into basis + (k+1) term

$\sum_{i=1}^k i^2 + (k+1)^2 = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6}$

$\frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} + (k+1)^2 = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6}$

$\frac{(k+1)}{6} \cdot \frac{k(2k+1)}{1} + \frac{6(k+1)(k+1)}{6}$

$\frac{(k+1)}{6} \left(\frac{k(2k+1)}{1} + 6(k+1) \right)$

$\frac{(k+1)}{6} (2k^2 + k + 6k + 6)$

$\frac{(k+1)}{6} (2k^2 + 7k + 6) = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6}$

$\frac{(k+1)(2k+3)(k+2)}{6}$ ✓

13) Prove $4^n - 2^n > 3^n$ for n > 1

Basis: If n = 2, $16 - 4 > 9$ ✓
If n = 3, $64 - 8 > 27$ ✓

Let's verify that all subsequent integers n will satisfy the inequality of the basis...

$4^{n+1} - 2^{n+1} > 3^{n+1}$

$4 \cdot 4^n - 2 \cdot 2^n > 3^{n+1}$ exponent law

$4(4^n - \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2^n) > 3^{n+1}$ factor out the 4

$4(4^n - 2^{n-1}) > 3^{n+1}$ apply exponential law

$(4^n - 2^{n-1}) > \frac{1}{4} \cdot 3^{n+1}$ divide each side by 4

$(4^n - 2^{n-1}) > 4^n - 2^n > 3^n > \frac{1}{4} \cdot 3^{n+1}$ ✓

Insert basic and compare values
Applying transitive property of inequality

14) Prove $3^n > 2^{n+1}$ for $n > 1$

SOLUTIONS

Mathematical Induction Practice

When $n=2$, $3^2 > 2^{2+1} \Rightarrow 9 > 8$ ✓

$n=3$, $3^3 > 2^{3+1} \Rightarrow 27 > 16$ ✓

To prove that all natural numbers that follow....

$$3^{k+1} > 2^{k+1+1}$$

$$3^1 \cdot 3^k > 2^1 \cdot 2^{k+1}$$

$$3^k > \frac{2}{3} \cdot 2^{k+1}$$

$$3^k > 2^{k+1} > \frac{2}{3} \cdot 2^{k+1}$$

from basis inequality for any positive numbers

using the basis inequality, we verify the inequality from induction

$$3^1 \cdot 3^k > 3^k > 2^1 \cdot 2^{k+1} > 2^{k+1}$$

✓

15) Prove $n^{n/2} \geq 2^n$ for $n > 3$

If $n=4$, $4^{4/2} \geq 2^4 \Rightarrow 16 \geq 16$ ✓

If $n=5$, $5^{5/2} \geq 2^5 \Rightarrow 56 \geq 32$ ✓

To prove, for subsequent integers,

$$(n+1)^{\frac{n+1}{2}} \geq 2^{n+1}$$

square both sides

$$(n+1)^{n+1} \geq 2^{2(n+1)}$$

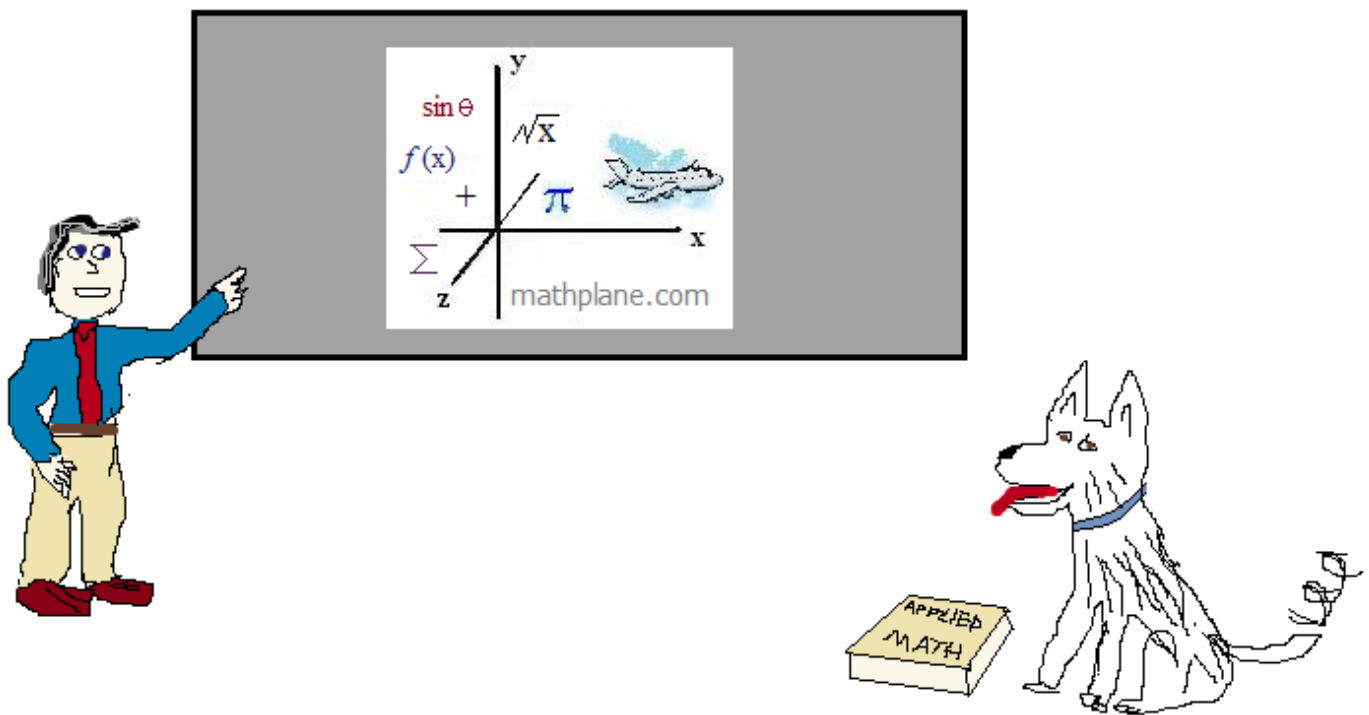
$$(n+1)^{n+1} \geq 4^{(n+1)}$$

since $n \geq 4$, this inequality is always true! ✓

Thanks for visiting. (Hope it helped!)

If you have questions, suggestions, or requests, let us know.

Thanks.



Also, mathplane *express* for mobile and tablets at mathplane.ORG

And, our stores at TeachersPayTeachers and TES.