

Section 2: Proof by induction

Section test

1. Prove by induction that $3+5+7+\dots+(2n+1) = n(n+2)$.

2. Prove by induction that $5^n - 2^n$ is a multiple of 3 for all positive integers n .

3. $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 9 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

Prove by induction that $\mathbf{A}^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1+3n & -n \\ 9n & 1-3n \end{pmatrix}$ for all integer $n \geq 1$.

4. A sequence is defined by $u_1 = 3$ and $u_{n+1} = 2u_n - 1$.

Prove by induction that $u_n = 2^n + 1$.

5. Prove by induction that $1 \times 3 + 2 \times 4 + 3 \times 5 + \dots + n(n+2) = \frac{1}{6}n(n+1)(2n+7)$.

6. Prove by induction that $7^n - 3^n$ is a multiple of 4 for all positive integers n .

7. $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 9 \\ -4 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$

Prove by induction that $\mathbf{A}^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1+6n & 9n \\ -4n & 1-6n \end{pmatrix}$ for all integer $n \geq 1$.

8. A sequence is defined by $u_1 = 1$ and $u_{n+1} = 3u_n - 4$.

Prove by induction that $u_n = 2 - 3^{n-1}$.

9. Prove by induction that $1 \times 3 + 2 \times 5 + 3 \times 6 + \dots + n(2n+1) = \frac{1}{6}n(n+1)(4n+5)$.

10. Prove by induction that $7^n + 4^n + 1$ is a multiple of 6 for all positive integers n .

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Solutions to section test

1. Prove by induction that $3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2n + 1) = n(n + 2)$.

For $n = 1$, LHS = 3, RHS = $1 \times 3 = 3$

So true for $n = 1$.

Assume true for $n = k$, so $\sum_{r=1}^k (2r + 1) = k(k + 2)$

For $n = k + 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{r=1}^{k+1} (2r + 1) &= k(k + 2) + [2(k + 1) + 1] \\ &= k^2 + 4k + 3 \\ &= (k + 1)(k + 3) \\ &= (k + 1)((k + 1) + 2)\end{aligned}$$

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.

2. Prove by induction that $5^n - 2^n$ is a multiple of 3 for all positive integers n .

For $n = 1$, $5^n - 2^n = 5 - 2 = 3$ which is a multiple of 3

So true for $n = 1$.

Assume true for $n = k$, so $5^k - 2^k = 3p$ for some positive integer p .

For $n = k + 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}5^{k+1} - 2^{k+1} &= 5 \times 5^k - 2 \times 2^k \\ &= 5(2^k + 3p) - 2 \times 2^k \\ &= 3 \times 2^k + 15p\end{aligned}$$

Both terms are multiples of 3, so $5^{k+1} - 2^{k+1}$ is a multiple of 3.

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.

3. $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 9 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

Prove by induction that $A^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 3n & -n \\ 9n & 1 - 3n \end{pmatrix}$ for all integer $n \geq 1$.

$$\text{For } n = 1, A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 3 & -1 \\ 9 & 1 - 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 9 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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So true for $n = 1$.

$$\text{Assume true for } n = k, \text{ so } A^k = \begin{pmatrix} 1+3k & -k \\ 9k & 1-3k \end{pmatrix}$$

For $n = k+1$,

$$\begin{aligned} A^{k+1} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1+3k & -k \\ 9k & 1-3k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 9 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 4(1+3k) - 9k & -1(1+3k) + 2k \\ 36k + 9(1-3k) & -9k - 2(1-3k) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 3k+4 & -k-1 \\ 9k+9 & -3k-2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1+3(k+1) & -(k+1) \\ 9(k+1) & 1-3(k+1) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k+1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.

4. A sequence is defined by $u_1 = 3$ and $u_{n+1} = 2u_n - 1$.

Prove by induction that $u_n = 2^n + 1$.

$$\text{For } n = 1, u_1 = 2^1 + 1 = 2 + 1 = 3.$$

So true for $n = 1$.

$$\text{Assume true for } n = k, \text{ so } u_k = 2^k + 1$$

For $n = k+1$,

$$\begin{aligned} u_{k+1} &= 2u_k - 1 \\ &= 2(2^k + 1) - 1 \\ &= 2^{k+1} + 2 - 1 \\ &= 2^{k+1} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k+1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.

5. Prove by induction that

$$1 \times 3 + 2 \times 4 + 3 \times 5 + \dots + n(n+2) = \frac{1}{6}n(n+1)(2n+7)$$

$$\text{For } n = 1, \text{ LHS} = 1 \times 3 = 3, \text{ RHS} = \frac{1}{6} \times 1 \times 2 \times 9 = 3$$

So true for $n = 1$.

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Assume true for $n = k$, so $\sum_{r=1}^k r(r+2) = \frac{1}{6}k(k+1)(2k+7)$

For $n = k+1$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r=1}^{k+1} r(r+2) &= \frac{1}{6}k(k+1)(2k+7) + (k+1)((k+1)+2) \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(k+1)[k(2k+7) + 6(k+3)] \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(k+1)(2k^2 + 13k + 18) \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(k+1)(k+2)(2k+9) \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(k+1)((k+1)+1)(2(k+1)+7) \end{aligned}$$

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k+1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.

6. Prove by induction that $7^n - 3^n$ is a multiple of 4 for all positive integers n .

For $n = 1$, $7^n - 3^n = 7 - 3 = 4$ which is a multiple of 4
So true for $n = 1$.

Assume true for $n = k$, so $7^k - 3^k = 4p$ for some positive integer p .

For $n = k+1$,

$$\begin{aligned} 7^{k+1} - 3^{k+1} &= 7 \times 7^k - 3 \times 3^k \\ &= 7(3^k + 4p) - 3 \times 3^k \\ &= 4 \times 3^k + 28p \end{aligned}$$

Both terms are multiples of 4, so $7^{k+1} - 3^{k+1}$ is a multiple of 4.

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k+1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.

7. $A = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 9 \\ -4 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$

Prove by induction that $A^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1+6n & 9n \\ -4n & 1-6n \end{pmatrix}$ for all integer $n \geq 1$.

For $n = 1$, $A^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1+6 & 9 \\ -4 & 1-6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 9 \\ -4 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$.

So true for $n = 1$.

Assume true for $n = k$, so $A^k = \begin{pmatrix} 1+6k & 9k \\ -4k & 1-6k \end{pmatrix}$

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For $n = k + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} A^{k+1} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1+6k & 9k \\ -4k & 1-6k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 9 \\ -4 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 7(1+6k) - 36k & 9(1+6k) - 45k \\ -28k - 4(1-6k) & -36k - 5(1-6k) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 6k+7 & 9k+9 \\ -4k-4 & -6k-5 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1+6(k+1) & 9(k+1) \\ -4(k+1) & 1-6(k+1) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.

8. A sequence is defined by $u_1 = 1$ and $u_{n+1} = 3u_n - 4$.
Prove by induction that $u_n = 2 - 3^{n-1}$.

For $n = 1$, $u_1 = 2 - 3^0 = 2 - 1 = 1$.

So true for $n = 1$.

Assume true for $n = k$, so $u_k = 2 - 3^{k-1}$

For $n = k + 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} u_{k+1} &= 3(2 - 3^{k-1}) - 4 \\ &= 6 - 3^k - 4 \\ &= 2 - 3^{k+1-1} \end{aligned}$$

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.

9. Prove by induction that

$$1 \times 3 + 2 \times 5 + 3 \times 6 + \dots + n(2n + 1) = \frac{1}{6}n(n + 1)(4n + 5).$$

For $n = 1$, LHS = $1 \times 3 = 3$, RHS = $\frac{1}{6} \times 1 \times 2 \times 9 = 3$

So true for $n = 1$.

Assume true for $n = k$, so $\sum_{r=1}^k r(2r + 1) = \frac{1}{6}k(k + 1)(4k + 5)$

For $n = k + 1$,

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$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{r=1}^{k+1} r(2r+1) &= \frac{1}{6}k(k+1)(4k+5) + (k+1)(2(k+1)+1) \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(k+1)[k(4k+5) + 6(k+1)(2k+3)] \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(k+1)(4k^2 + 17k + 18) \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(k+1)(k+2)(4k+9) \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(k+1)(k+2)(4(k+1)+5)\end{aligned}$$

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.

10. Prove by induction that $7^n + 4^n + 1$ is a multiple of 6 for all positive integers n .

For $n = 1$, $7^n + 4^n + 1 = 7 + 4 + 1 = 12$ which is a multiple of 6
So true for $n = 1$.

Assume true for $n = k$, so $7^k + 4^k + 1 = 6p$ for some positive integer p .

For $n = k + 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}7^{k+1} + 4^{k+1} + 1 &= 7 \times 7^k + 4 \times 4^k + 1 \\ &= 7(6p - 1 - 4^k) + 4 \times 4^k + 1 \\ &= 42p - 6 - 3 \times 4^k\end{aligned}$$

Since 4^k is even, all three terms are multiples of 6, so $7^{k+1} + 4^{k+1} + 1$ is a multiple of 6.

So if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$, and as it is true for $n = 1$ it is true for all integer values of $n \geq 1$ by induction.