

Principle of Mathematical Induction

Important Points

If statement $P(n)$ of natural variable $n \in N$ is given, the Principle of Mathematical Induction is useful to verify the validity of the given statement, $\forall n \in N$

The Principle of Mathematical Induction:

Let $P(n)$ be a statement involving natural number n .

The statement $P(n)$ is true $\forall n \in N$, if

(1) $P(1)$ is true,

(2) $P(k), k \in N$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1), k \in N$ is true, then $P(n), \forall n \in N$ is true.

Note:- 1. Principle of Mathematical Induction verifies the validity of statements involving natural number variable only.

2. Formula involving natural number variable cannot be derived, but only its validity can be verified.

Use of Principle of Mathematical Induction in some special types of variable:-

(1) Variable type 1:

The statement $P(n), n \in N$ is given. If for positive integer $k_0, P(k_0)$ is true and for $k \geq k_0, k \in N, P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true, then $P(n)$ is true for all $n \geq k_0, k \in N$

(2) Variable type 2:

The statement $P(n), n \in N$ is given.

If (1) $P(1)$ and $P(2)$ are true and

(2) for positive integer $k, P(k)$ and $P(k+1)$ are true $\Rightarrow P(k+2)$ is true, then $\forall n \in N, P(n)$ is true.

Question Bank

(1) For all $n \in N - \{1\}$, $7^{2n} - 48n - 1$ is divisible by

- (a) 25 (b) 26 (c) 1234 (d) **2304**

(2) $\forall n \in N$, $P(n): 2 \cdot 7^n + 3 \cdot 5^n - 5$ is divisible by

- (a) 64 (b) 676 (c) 17 (d) **24**

(3) $\forall n \geq 2$, $n^2(n^4 - 1)$ is divisible by

- (a) **60** (b) 50 (c) 40 (d) 70

(4) For $n \in N$, $10^{n-2} > 81n$, if....

- (a) $n > 5$ (b) **$n \geq 5$** (c) $n < 5$ (d) $n > 6$

(5) For each $n \in N$, the correct statement is

- (a) $2^n < n$ (b) $n^2 > 2^n$ (c) **$n^4 < 10^n$** (d) $2^{3n} > 7n + 1$

(6) If $a_n = 2^{2^n} + 1$, then for $n > 1$, $n \in N$, last digit of a_n is.....

- (a) **3** (b) 5 (c) 8 (d) 7

(7) If $P(n): 4^n / (n + 1) < (2n)! / (n!)^2$, then $P(n)$ is true for

- (a) $n \geq 1$ (b) $n > 0$ (c) $n < 0$ (d) **$n \geq 2$, $n \in N$**

(8) By principle of mathematical induction,

$$\forall n \in N \cos \theta \cos 2\theta \cos 4\theta \cdots \cos[(2^{n-1})\theta] = \dots$$

- (a) **$\sin 2^n \theta / 2^n \sin \theta$** (b) $\cos 2^n \theta / 2^n \sin \theta$
(c) $\sin 2^n \theta / 2^{n-1} \sin \theta$ (d) None of these

(9) By principle of mathematical induction, $\forall n \in N$, $1/(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3) + 1/(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4) + \cdots + 1 / \{n(n + 1)(n + 2)\} = \dots$

- (a) $n(n+1) / 4(n+2)(n+3)$ (b) **$n(n+3) / 4(n+1)(n+2)$**
(c) $n\{n+2\} / 4(n+1)\{n+3\}$ (d) None of these

(10) By principle of mathematical induction, $\forall n \in N$, $5^{2n+1} + 3^{n+2} \cdot 2^{n-1}$ is divisible by.....

- (a) **19** (b) 18 (c) 17 (d) 14

(11) The product of three consecutive natural numbers is divisible by

- (a) **6** (b) 5 (c) 7 (d) 4

(12) $\forall n \in N, a^n - b^n$ is always divisible by..... (a and b are distinct rational nos) (a) **2a-b** (b) a+b (c) a-b (d) a-2b

(13) If $x^{2n-1} + y^{2n-1}$ is divisible by x+y, then n is...

- (a) **Positive integer** (b) only for an even positive integer
(c) an odd positive integer (d) $\forall n \in N, n \geq 2$

(14) The inequality $n! > 2^{n-1}$ is true for.....

- (a) **$n > 2, n \in N$** (b) $n < 2$ (c) $n \in N$ (d) None of these

(15) The smallest positive integer n for which $n! < \left\{\frac{n+1}{2}\right\}^n$ holds, is

- (a) 1 (b) **2** (c) 3 (d) 4

(16) The greatest positive integer, which divides $(n+2)(n+3)(n+4)(n+5)(n+6) \forall n \in N$ is....

- (a) **120** (b) 4 (c) 240 (d) 24

(17) $x(x^{n-1} - n\alpha^{n-1}) + \alpha^n(n-1)$ is divisible by $(x-\alpha)^2$ for.....

- (a) $n > 1$ (b) $n > 2$ (c) **$\forall n \in N$** (d) None of these

(18) For each $n \in N, 3^{2n} - 1$ is divisible by

- (a) **8** (b) 16 (c) 32 (d) None of these

(19) For each $n \in N, 2^{3n} - 7n - 1$ is divisible by

- (a) 64 (b) 36 (c) **49** (d) 25

(20) For each $n \in N, 10^{2n-1} + 1$ is divisible by

- (a) **11** (b) 13 (c) 9 (d) None of these

(21) For each $n \in N, 2.4^{2n+1} + 3^{n+1}$ is divisible by

- (a) 2 (b) 9 (c) 3 (d) 11

(22) Let $P(n): n^2 + n + 1$ is an odd integer. If it is assumed that $P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true. Therefore, $P(n)$ is true...

- (a) for $n > 1$ (b) $\forall n \in N$
 (c) for $n > 2$ (d) **None of these**
- (23) Let $P(n): 3^n < n!, n \in N$, then $P(n)$ is true...
 (a) for $n \geq 6$ (b) **for $n \geq 7, n \in N$**
 (c) for $n \geq 3$ (d) $\forall n$
- (24) Let $P(n): 1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2n - 1) = n^2$, is...
 (a) true for $n > 1$ (b) **true $\forall n \in N$**
 (c) true for no n (d) None of these
- (25) If $\forall n \in N$, $P(n)$ is a statement such that, if $P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true for $k \in N$, then $P(n)$ is true...
 (a) $\forall n > 1$ (b) $\forall n \in N$
 (c) $\forall n > 2$ (d) **Nothing can be said**
- (26) Let $P(n): 1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2^n - 1) = 3 + n^2$, then which of the following is true?
 (a) $P(1)$ is true (b) **$P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true**
 (c) $P(k)$ is true, $P(k+1)$ is not true (d) both (a) and (b) are true
- (27) If matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, then which one of the following holds $\forall n \in N$, (use PMI)
 (a) $A^n = n.A - (n - 1)I$ (b) $A^n = 2^{n-1}.A + (n - 1)I$
 (c) $A^n = n.A + (n - 1)I$ (d) $A^n = 2^{n-1}.A - (n - 1)I$
- (28) $S_n = 2.7^n + 3.5^n - 5$, $n \in N$ is divisible by the multiple of.....
 (a) 5 (b) 7 (c) **24** (d) None of these
- (29) $10^n + 3(4^{n+2}) + 5$, $n \in N$ is divisible by.....
 (a) 7 (b) 5 (c) **9** (d) 17
- (30) $\forall n \in N, \left(3 + 5^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^n + \left(3 - 5^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^n$ is...
 (a) **Even natural number** (b) Odd natural number
 (c) Any natural number (d) Rational number
- (31) The remainder, when 5^{99} is divided by 13, is
 (a) 6 (b) **8** (c) 9 (d) 10

(32) For all positive integral values of n , $n^{3n} - 2n + 1$ is divisible by

- (a) **2** (b) 4 (c) 8 (d) 12

(33) If $n \in N$, then $11^{n+2} + 12^{2n+1}$ is divisible by

- (a) 113 (b) 123 (c) **133** (d) None of these

(34) If $n \in N$, $P(n): 2^n(n-1)! < n^n$ is true, if

- (a) $n < 2$ (b) **$n > 2$** (c) $n \geq 2$ (d) Never

Hints

(1)

$P(1): 0 = 0 \times 2304$ $P(2): 2304 = 1 \times 2304 \therefore P(1)$ and $P(2)$ are true --(1)

Let $P(k): 7^{2k} - 48k - 1 = m \times 2304$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and

$P(k+1): 7^{2k+2} - 48(k+1) - 1 = m' (2304)$, $m' \in \mathbb{N}$ be true . ----- (2)

Now, $P(k+2): 7^{2k+4} - 48(k+2) - 1 = 49 \times 7^{2k+2} - 48(k+1) - 49$

$$= 49 \times 7^{2k+2} - 48(k+1) - 49 = 49(7^{2k+2} - 1) - 48(k+1)$$

$$= 49(2304m' + 48k + 48) - 48k - 48 \quad (\dots (2))$$

$$= 49 \times 2304m' + 49 \times 48k + 49 \times 48 - 48k - 48$$

$$= 49 \times 2304m' + 48 \times 48k + 48 \times 48 = 2304(49m' + k + 1)$$

$$= 2304 \times m'', \text{ where } m'' = 49m' + k + 1 \text{ is positive integer.}$$

\therefore Ans. (d) 2304

(2)

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ u.t. } P(n): 2.7^n + 3.5^n - 5$$

$$P(1): 24, P(2): 98 + 75 - 5 = 168 = 7 \times 24$$

Ans. (a) 24

(3)

For every positive integers $n \geq 2$, $P(n): n^2(n^4 - 1)$

$$P(2): 4 \times 15 = 60, P(3): 9 \times 80 = 60 \times 12$$

\therefore From option Ans. (a) 60

(4) For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $P(n): 10^{n-2} > 81n$

$P(1): 0.1 > 81$ isn't true, $P(2): 1 > 162$ isn't true, $P(3): 10 > 243$

isn't true, as the same way $P(4)$ isn't true, but $P(5): 1000 > 405$ is

true and $P(6): 10000 > 486$ is true \therefore Ans. (b) $n \geq 5$

(5)

Here for $n = 1$, $2^n < n$ isn't true,

$n^2 > 2^n$ isn't true,

$n^4 < 10^n$ is true,

$n^{3n} > 7n + 1$ isn't true,

Ans. (c) $n^4 < 10^n$

(6)

For $n = 2$, $a_2 = 2^{2^2} + 1 = 17 = 10 + 7$

Let $a_k = 2^{2^k} + 1 = 10m + 7$ be true where $k > 1, m \in \mathbb{N} \dots (1)$

Now, $a_{k+1} = 2^{2^{k+1}} + 1 = (2^{2^k})^2 + 1 = (10m + 7)^2 + 1$ (by (1))
 $= 10(10m^2 + 12m + 3) + 7$

\therefore Digit of one's place of a_n is 7.

\therefore Ans. (c) 7

(7)

$P(n): 4^n / (n+1) < (2n)! / (n!)^2, n \in \mathbb{N}$

$P(1)$ isn't true and $n < 0$ isn't possible.

\therefore (a), (b), (c) options are not possible.

\therefore Ans. (d) $n \geq 2, n \in \mathbb{N}$

(8) For $n=1$, by $P(n): \cos\theta \cos 2\theta \cos 4\theta \dots \cos[(2^{n-1})\theta] \therefore P(1): \cos\theta$

in option (a) $n = 1$ we get $\cos\theta$. \therefore Ans. (a) $\sin 2^n \theta / 2^n \sin \theta$

(9)

For $n = 1$,

$$1/(1.2.3) = 1/6$$

Now, for $n = 1$, value of only option (b) $n(n+3)/4(n+1)(n+2)$ is $1/6$ \therefore Ans. (b) $n(n+3)/4(n+1)(n+2)$

(10)

$$\text{For } n = 1, P(1): 5^{2+1} + 3^{1+2} \cdot 2^{1-1}$$

$$= 125 + 27 = 152 = 19 \times 8$$

$$\text{Let } P(k) = 5^{2k+1} + 3^{k+2} \cdot 2^{k-1} = 19m, m \in \mathbb{N} \text{ ---- (1)}$$

$$P(k+1) = 5^{2k+3} + 3^{k+3} \cdot 2^k = 5^2 \cdot 5^{2k+1} + 3 \cdot 3^{k+2} \cdot 2 \cdot 2^{k-1}$$

$$= 25(19m - 3^{k+2} \cdot 2^{k-1}) + 6 \cdot 3^{k+2} \cdot 2^{k-1} \quad (\text{by (1)})$$

$$= 25 \cdot 19m - 19 \cdot 3^{k+2} \cdot 2^{k-1}$$

$$= 19(25m - 3^{k+2} \cdot 2^{k-1})$$

$$= 19m'$$

 \therefore Ans. (a) 19

(11)

Product of three consecutive natural numbers $P(n) : n(n+1)(n+2)$ $P(1) = 6$ which is divisible by 6. $P(2) = 24$ which is divisible by 6. \therefore Ans. (a) 6

(12)

For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $P(n) : a^n - b^n$

$$P(1) = a - b \text{ and } P(2) = a^2 - b^2 = (a - b)(a + b)$$

\therefore Ans. (c) $a - b$

(13)

$P(n) : x^{2n-1} + y^{2n-1} = \lambda(x+y)$ where λ is a polynomial.

$P(1) : x + y$ is divisible by $x + y$

$$P(2) : x^3 + y^3 = (x + y)(x^2 - xy + y^2)$$

\therefore Ans. (a) Positive integer

(14)

$$P(n) : n! > 2^{n-1}$$

Now $P(1)$ and $P(2)$ are not true, but $P(3)$ is true.

Let $P(k) : k! > 2^{k-1}$, $k > 2$ be true.

$$P(k+1) : (k+1)! > 2^k$$

$$\text{L.H.S of } P(k+1) = (k+1)! = k!(k+1)$$

$$> 2^{k-1} (k+1) = 2^k \cdot (k+1)/2$$

$$> 2^k$$

\therefore Ans. (a) $n > 2$

(15) For smallest positive integer n , $P(n) : n! < \{(n+1)/2\}^n$,

$P(1) : 1 < 1$ isn't true, $P(2) : 2 < 9/4$ is true. $P(3) : 6 < 8$ is true $P(4)$ is true. \therefore Ans. (b) 2

(16)

For $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, for which greatest positive integer, does

$(n+2)(n+3)(n+4)(n+5)(n+6)$ divide ?

$P(n): (n+2)(n+3)(n+4)(n+5)(n+6), n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$P(1) = 3.4.5.6.7 = 120.21$$

$$P(2) = 4.5.6.7.8 = 120.56$$

$$P(3) = 5.6.7.8.9 = 120.126$$

$$P(4) = 6.7.8.9.10 = 120.252$$

$$P(5) = 7.8.9.10 = 120.42$$

$$P(6) = 8.9.10.11.12 = 120.99.13$$

\therefore Ans. (a) 120

(17)

$$P(n) : x(x^{n-1} - n\alpha^{n-1}) + \alpha^n (n-1) = g(x).(x - \alpha)^2$$

$$P(1) = 0$$

$$P(k) : x(x^{k-1} - k\alpha^{k-1}) + \alpha^k (k-1) = g(x).(x - \alpha)^2$$

$$P(k+1) : x(x^k - (k+1)\alpha^k) + \alpha^{k+1} (k) = g'(x).(x - \alpha)^2$$

$$\text{L.H.S.} = x[kx\alpha^{k-1} - (k-1)\alpha^k + g(x).(x - \alpha)^2 - (k+1)\alpha^k] + \alpha^{k+1}k$$

$$= kx^2\alpha^{k-1} - 2kx\alpha^k + g(x).x.(x - \alpha)^2 + k\alpha^{k+1}$$

$$= g(x).x.(x - \alpha)^2 + (x^2 - 2x\alpha + \alpha^2)k\alpha^{k-1}$$

$$= (x - \alpha)^2 [g(x).x + k\alpha^{k-1}]$$

$$= g'(x).(x - \alpha)^2$$

$$= \text{R.H.S.}$$

\therefore Ans. (c) all $n \in \mathbb{N}$

(18) For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $P(n) : 3^{2n} - 1$

$$P(1) = 8, \quad P(2) = 80 = 10.8 \quad \therefore \text{Ans. (a) 8}$$

(19)

For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $P(n) : 2^{3n} - 7n - 1$

$$P(1) = 0 \quad P(2) = 49 \quad P(3) = 512 - 21 - 1 = 490 = 49 \cdot 10$$

\therefore Ans. (c) 49

(20)

For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $P(n) : 10^{2n-1} + 1$

$$P(1) = 11,$$

$$P(2) = 1001 = 11 \cdot 91$$

\therefore Ans. (a) 11

(21)

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, $P(n) : 2 \cdot 4^{2n+1} + 3^{3n+1}$

$$P(1) = 209 = 11 \cdot 19$$

$$P(2) = 11 \cdot 385$$

\therefore Ans. (d) 11

(22) $P(n) : n^2 + n + 1 = n(n+1) + 1$

$P(1) : 3$ which is true.

$P(n) : n^2 + n + 1 = n(n+1) + 1$ which is always odd number

\therefore Ans. (b) $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

(23) $P(n) : 3^n < n!$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$P(1) : 3^1 < 1$ is not true. $P(3) : 3^3 < 3!$ is not true.

$P(6) : 3^6 < 6!$ is not true.

$P(7) : 3^7 < 7!$ is true. \therefore Ans. (b) $n \geq 7$

(24)

$$P(1): 1 = 1$$

$$P(k): 1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1) = k^2.$$

$$P(k+1): 1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1) + (2k+1) = (k+1)^2.$$

$$\text{L.H.S.} = 1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1) + (2k+1)$$

$$= k^2 + 2k + 1 = (k+1)^2 = \text{R.H.S.}$$

\therefore Ans. **(b) true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$**

(25)

$P(1)$ validity cannot be checked because statement $P(n)$ is given

\therefore Ans. **(d) nothing can be said**

(26)

$P(1) : 1 = 4$ is not true.

Let $P(k) : 1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1) = 3+k^2$ be true.

$$P(k+1) = 1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1)+(2k+1)$$

$$= 3+k^2+2k+1 = (k+1)^2+3 = \text{R.H.S.}$$

\therefore Ans. **(b) $P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true.**

(27)

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$P(1): A = A - (1-1)I = A$ $\therefore P(1)$ is true.

$P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true, $k \in \mathbb{N}$

\therefore Ans. **(a) $A^n = n \cdot A - (n-1)I$**

(32)

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n): 3^{3n} - 2n + 1$$

$$P(1): 26 = 2 \times 13$$

$$P(2): 726 = 2 \times 343$$

$$P(3): 19683 - 6 + 1 = 19678 = 2 \times 9839$$

\therefore Ans.(a) 2

(33)

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n) = 11^{n+2} + 12^{2n+1}$$

$$P(1): 11^{1+2} + 12^{2+1} = 133 \times 23,$$

$$P(2): 11^{2+2} + 12^{4+1} = 14641 + 248832 = 263473 = 133 \times 1981$$

\therefore Ans. (c) 133

(34)

$$\text{For } n \in \mathbb{N}, P(n) = 2^n (n-1)! < n^n$$

$$P(1): 2 < 1 \text{ is not true.}$$

$$P(2): 4 < 4 \text{ is not true.}$$

$$P(3): 16 < 27 \text{ is true.}$$

$$\text{Same as } P(4) \text{ is true.}$$

\therefore Ans. (b) $n > 2$