

Section 8.4

8.4.1

Define $P(n)$ to be the assertion that: $\sum_{j=1}^n j^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

a. Verify that $P(3)$ is true.

$$\begin{aligned} P(3) : 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 &= \frac{3(3+1)(2 \cdot 3 + 1)}{6} \\ 1 + 4 + 9 &= \frac{84}{6} \\ 14 &= 14 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

b. Express $P(k)$. $P(k) : \sum_{j=1}^k j^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6}$

c. Express $P(k+1)$. $P(k) : \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} j^2 = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2(k+1)+1)}{6}$

d. In an inductive proof that for every positive integer n , $\sum_{j=1}^n j^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$, what must be proven in the base case? $P(1)$ is true.

e. In an inductive proof that for every positive integer n , $\sum_{j=1}^n j^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$, what must be proven in the inductive step? If $P(k)$ is true, then $P(k+1)$ is true.

f. What would be the inductive hypothesis in the inductive step from your previous answer? Assume that $\sum_{j=1}^k j^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6}$ is true, for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

g. Prove by induction that for any positive integer n , $\sum_{j=1}^n j^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$.

Proof. Base Case: $n = 1$

$$P(1) : 1^2 = \frac{1(2)(3)}{6} \Rightarrow 1 = 1 \checkmark$$

Inductive Hypothesis: Assume that $P(k)$ is true for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Inductive Case: $n = k + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} j^2 &= \sum_{j=1}^k j^2 + (k+1)^2 && \text{separating out last term} \\ &= \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} + (k+1)^2 && \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\ &= \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1) + 6(k+1)^2}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)[k(2k+1) + 6(k+1)]}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)[2k^2 + 7k + 6]}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)[(k+2)(2k+3)]}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)((k+1)+1)(2(k+1)+1)}{6} && \text{by algebra} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $P(k+1)$ is true. Since $P(1)$ is true, and $P(k+1)$ is true, therefore $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. \square

8.4.2

Prove each of the following statements using mathematical induction.

- a. Prove that for any positive integer n , $\sum_{j=1}^n j^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2$

Proof. Base Case: $n = 1$

$$P(1) : 1^3 = \left(\frac{1(1+1)}{2}\right)^2 \Rightarrow 1 = 1 \checkmark$$

Inductive Hypothesis: Assume that $P(k)$ is true for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Inductive Case: $n = k + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} j^3 &= \sum_{j=1}^k j^3 + (k+1)^3 && \text{separating out last term} \\ &= \left(\frac{k(k+1)}{2}\right)^2 + (k+1)^3 && \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\ &= \frac{k^2(k+1)^2 + 4(k+1)^3}{4} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)^2[k^2 + 4k + 4]}{4} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)^2(k+2)^2}{4} \\ &= \left(\frac{(k+1)((k+1)+1)}{2}\right)^2 && \text{by algebra} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $P(k+1)$ is true. Since $P(1)$ is true, and $P(k+1)$ is true, therefore $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. \square

8.4.3

Prove each of the following statements using mathematical induction.

- a. Prove that for $n \geq 2$, $3^n > 2^n + n^2$.

Proof. Base Case: $n = 2$

$$P(2) : 3^2 > 2^2 + 2^2 \Rightarrow 9 > 8 \checkmark$$

Inductive Hypothesis: Assume that $P(k)$ is true for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Inductive Case: $n = k + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{k+1} &= 3^k 3 > 3 \cdot 2^k + 3 \cdot k^2 && \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\ &> 2 \cdot 2^k + k^2 + 2k + 1 && \text{since } k > 1 \\ &> 2^{k+1} + (k+1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $P(k+1)$ is true. Since $P(1)$ is true, and $P(k+1)$ is true, therefore $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. \square