

Practice sheet of Induction & Recursion

1. Using the principle of mathematical induction, prove that

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = (1/6)\{n(n+1)(2n+1)\} \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

2. Using the principle of mathematical induction, prove that

$$1 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 5 + 5 \cdot 7 + \dots + (2n-1)(2n+1) = (1/3)\{n(4n^2 + 6n - 1)\}.$$

3. By induction prove that $3^n - 1$ is divisible by 2 and is valid for all positive integers.

4. By induction prove that $n^2 - 3n + 4$ is even and valid for all positive integers.

5. Show that $n! > 3^n$ for $n \geq 7$.

6. Use the Principle of Mathematical Induction to verify that, for n any positive integer, $6^n - 1$ is divisible by 5.

7. Check that $a_n = 2^n + 1$ is a solution to the recurrence relation $a_n = 2a_{n-1} - 1$ with $a_1 = 3$.

8. Determine the recursive formula for the sequence 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, ...?

9. Use iteration to solve the recurrence relation $a_n = a_{n-1} + n$ with $a_1 = 4$.

10. Solve the recurrence relation $a_n = 7a_{n-1} - 10a_{n-2}$ With $a_0 = 2$ and $a_1 = 3$.

11. Solve the recurrence relation $a_n = 6a_{n-1} - 9a_{n-2}$ with initial conditions $a_0 = 1$ and $a_1 = 4$.

12. Solve the recurrence relation $F_n = 10F_{n-1} - 25F_{n-2}$ where $F_0 = 3$ and $F_1 = 17$

13. Provide a recursive definition for $f(n) = n!$

14. Determine $T(2)$, $T(3)$, $T(4)$, and $T(5)$, if $T(n)$ is recursively defined by $T(0) = 2$, $T(1) = 2$, and $T(n) = T(n-1) + 3T(n-2) + 4$.

15. One of the most famous recursive definitions is for the Fibonacci sequence f_0, f_1, f_2, \dots

Base Case $f_0 = 0, f_1 = 1$.

Recursive Case ($n \geq 2$) $f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$.

Compute the f_2, f_3, \dots, f_{10} .