

MATHEMATICAL INDUCTION

Let $P(n)$ be a statement for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that
 (i) $P(1)$ is true.
 (ii) $P(k+1)$ is true whenever $P(k)$ is true.
 Then $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ (natural no's)

Ques 1 Prove that $1+2+3+\dots+n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Sol Let $P(n) : 1+2+3+\dots+n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Basis of Induction $P(1) : 1 = \frac{1(1+1)}{2} \Rightarrow 1 = 1$ holds

Induction Hypothesis Let $P(k)$ be true i.e.

$$1+2+3+\dots+k = \frac{k(k+1)}{2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

To prove: $P(k+1)$ is true i.e.

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

Induction Step

$$\text{LHS} = 1+2+3+\dots+k+(k+1) \leftarrow \text{NOTE THIS}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + (k+1) \quad [\text{using (1)}] \\ &= (k+1) \left[\frac{k}{2} + 1 \right] \\ &= (k+1) \frac{(k+2)}{2} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} \\ &= \text{RHS} \end{aligned}$$

Ques 2 Prove: $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$

Sol Let $P(n) : 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

Basis of Induction $P(1) : 1^2 = \frac{1(1+1)(2+1)}{6} \Rightarrow 1 = \frac{1 \times 2 \times 3}{6}$ or $1 = 1$ holds

Induction Hypothesis

Let $P(k)$ be true i.e.

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + k^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

To prove

$P(k+1)$ is true i.e.

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

Induction Step

$$\text{LHS} = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + k^2 + (k+1)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} + (k+1)^2 \\ &= (k+1) \left[\frac{k(2k+1)}{6} + (k+1) \right] \\ &= (k+1) \left[\frac{2k^2+1k+6k+6}{6} \right] \\ &= (k+1) \left[\frac{2k^2+7k+6}{6} \right] \\ &= (k+1) \left[\frac{2k^2+4k+3k+6}{6} \right] \\ &= (k+1) \left[\frac{(2k+3)(k+2)}{6} \right] \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6} \\ &= \text{RHS} \end{aligned}$$

Ques 3
SOL

Prove $1+3+5+\dots+(2n-1) = n^2$; $n \in \mathbb{N}$

Let $P(n)$: $1+3+5+\dots+(2n-1) = n^2$

Basis of Induction Put $n=1$, $P(1): 1 = 1^2$ or $1 = 1$ true

Induction Hypothesis

Let $P(k)$ be true i.e.

$$1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1) = k^2 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

To prove

$P(k+1)$ is true i.e.

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

Induction Step

LHS =

$$\underbrace{1+3+5+\dots}_{-(2k-1)} + (2k+1) \leftarrow \text{NOTE THIS}$$

$$= k^2 + (2k+1) \quad [\text{Using (1)}]$$

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

$$= \text{RHS}$$

Ques 4

Prove $a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^{n-1} = \frac{a(r^n - 1)}{r-1}$, $r > 1$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$

SOL

Let $P(n)$: $a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^{n-1} = \frac{a(r^n - 1)}{r-1}$,

Basis of Induction

$P(1)$: $a r^0 = \frac{a(r-1)}{(r-1)}$ or $a = a$ true

Induction Hypothesis

Let $P(k)$ be true i.e.

$$a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^{k-1} = \frac{a(r^k - 1)}{r-1} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

To prove

$P(k+1)$ is true:

$$a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^k = \frac{a(r^{k+1} - 1)}{r-1}$$

Induction Step

$$\text{LHS} = \underbrace{a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^{k-1}}_{r-1} + ar^k + ar^k$$

$$= \frac{a(r^k - 1)}{r-1} + ar^k \quad [\text{Using (1)}]$$

$$= a \left[\frac{r^k - 1}{r-1} + r^k \right]$$

$$= a \left[\frac{r^k - 1 + (r-1)r^k}{r-1} \right]$$

$$= a \left[\frac{r^{k+1} - 1}{r-1} \right]$$

$$= \frac{a(r^{k+1} - 1)}{r-1} = \text{RHS}$$

Ques 5

SOL

Prove (i) $\sin(n\pi) = 0$; $n \in \mathbb{N}$ (ii) $\cos(n\pi) = (-1)^n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$

(i) Basis of Induction Put $n=1$, $\sin \pi = 0$ (true)

Induction hypothesis

$$\sin k\pi = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

To prove $\sin(k+1)\pi = 0$

Induction Step

$$\text{LHS} = \sin(k\pi + \pi)$$

$$= \sin(\pi + k\pi)$$

$$= -\sin k\pi$$

$$= 0 = \text{RHS} \quad [\text{Using (1)}]$$

$$\therefore \sin(\pi + \theta) = -\sin \theta$$

(ii) Basis of Induction Put $n=1$, $\cos \pi = (-1)^1 = -1$ (true)

Induction hypothesis

$$\cos k\pi = (-1)^k \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

To prove $\cos(k+1)\pi = (-1)^{k+1}$

Induction Step

$$\text{LHS} = \cos(k\pi + \pi)$$

$$= \cos(\pi + k\pi)$$

$$= -\cos k\pi$$

$$= -(-1)^k = (-1)^{k+1} = \text{RHS}$$

$$\therefore \cos(\pi + \theta) = -\cos \theta$$

Ques 6 Prove: $1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^{n-1} = 2^n - 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$

Sol Basis of Induction : Put $n=1$; $2^0 = 2^1 - 1 \Rightarrow 1 = 1$ (true)

Put $n=2$;

$$1+2^1 = 2^2 - 1 \Rightarrow 3 = 3 \text{ (true)}$$

Put $n=3$,

$$1+2+2^2 = 2^3 - 1 \Rightarrow 7 = 7 \text{ (true)}$$

Note this

Induction Hypothesis: $1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^{k-1} = 2^k - 1$ ————— (1)

To prove: $1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^k = 2^{k+1} - 1$

Induction Step : LHS = $1 + 2 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^{k-1} + 2^k$

$$= 2^k - 1 + 2^k$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2^k - 1$$

$$= 2^{k+1} - 1 = \text{RHS}$$

Ques 7 Prove that $5^n - 1$ is divisible by 4, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Sol Let $P(n)$: $5^n - 1$ is divisible by 4.

Basis of Induction : Put $n=1$;

$$5^1 - 1 = 4 \text{ (divisible by 4)}$$

$\therefore P(1)$ is true.

Induction Hypothesis: $5^k - 1$ is divisible by 4 i.e. $5^k - 1 = 4m$ for some integer m

$$\Rightarrow 5^k = 4m + 1$$
 ————— (1)

To prove: $5^{k+1} - 1$ is divisible by 4.

Induction Step We have $5^{k+1} - 1 = 5^k \cdot 5 - 1$

$$= (4m+1)5 - 1$$

$$= 20m + 5 - 1$$

$$= 20m + 4$$

$$= 4(5m+1) \text{ [divisible by 4]}$$

Ques 8 Prove that $n(n+1)(n+2)$ is divisible by 3 for all natural numbers $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Sol Let $P(n)$: $n(n+1)(n+2)$ is divisible by 3

Basis of Induction : Put $n=1$,

$$1(1+1)(1+2) = 6 \text{ is divisible by 3.}$$

$\therefore P(1)$ is true.

Induction Hypothesis : Let $P(k)$ be true i.e. $k(k+1)(k+2)$ is div. by 3

or $k(k+1)(k+2) = 3m$ for some integer m . ————— (1)

To prove: $P(k+1)$ is true i.e. $(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)$ is div. by 3.

Induction Step We have $(k+1)(k+2)(k+3) = (k+3)[(k+1)(k+2)]$

$$= k[(k+1)(k+2)] + 3[(k+1)(k+2)]$$

$$= 3m + 3(k+1)(k+2) \text{ Using (1)}$$

$$= 3[m + (k+1)(k+2)]$$

$$= 3q \text{ (divisible by 3)}$$

Ques 9 Prove: $2n \leq 2^n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

Sol Basis of Induction : Put $n=1$; $2 \leq 2$ (true)

Induction Hypothesis : Let $2k \leq 2^k$ ————— (1)

To prove: $2(k+1) \leq 2^{k+1}$

Induction Step : From (1); $2k \leq 2^k$

$$\Rightarrow 2k+2 \leq 2^k+2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(k+1) \leq 2^{k+1}$$
 ————— (2)

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} 2^K &= 2^K \\ \Rightarrow 2^K + 2 &\leq 2^K \cdot 2 \quad \text{NOTE THIS STEP} \\ \Rightarrow 2^K + 2 &\leq 2^{K+1} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

From (2) & (3),

$$\begin{aligned} 2(K+1) &\leq 2^K + 2 \leq 2^{K+1} \\ \Rightarrow 2(K+1) &\leq 2^{K+1} \end{aligned}$$

(Ques 10) Prove $1+2^n < 3^n$ for $n \geq 2$.

Basis of Induction: Put $n=2$; $1+2^2 < 3^2 \Rightarrow 5 < 9$ (true)

Induction hypothesis: Let $1+2^K < 3^K$ ————— (1)

To prove: $1+2^{K+1} < 3^{K+1}$

Induction Step: From (1), $1+2^K < 3^K$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 2(1+2^K) &< 2 \cdot 3^K \\ \Rightarrow 2 + 2^{K+1} &< 2 \cdot 3^K \\ \Rightarrow 1 + 2^{K+1} &< 2 \cdot 3^K - 1 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Also, $3^K = 3^K$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 2 \cdot 3^K &< 3 \cdot 3^K \quad \text{NOTE THIS STEP} \\ \Rightarrow 2 \cdot 3^K &< 3^{K+1} \\ \Rightarrow 2 \cdot 3^K - 1 &< 3^{K+1} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

From (2) & (3); $1+2^{K+1} < 2 \cdot 3^K - 1 < 3^{K+1}$

$$\Rightarrow 1+2^{K+1} < 3^{K+1}$$

(Ques 11) Prove $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3 = \left[\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2$; $n \in \mathbb{N}$

Sol Let $P(n): 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3 = \left[\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2$

Basis of Induction: Put $n=1$; $1^3 = \left[\frac{1(1+1)}{2} \right]^2 \Rightarrow 1 = 1$ (true)
 $\therefore P(1)$ is true.

Induction hypothesis: Let $P(K)$ be true i.e.
 $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + K^3 = \left[\frac{K(K+1)}{2} \right]^2$ ————— (1)

To prove: $P(K+1)$ is true i.e.
 $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + (K+1)^3 = \left[\frac{(K+1)(K+2)}{2} \right]^2$

Induction Step: LHS = $\underbrace{1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + K^3}_{\text{using (1)}} + (K+1)^3$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left[\frac{K(K+1)}{2} \right]^2 + (K+1)^3 \quad [\text{using (1)}] \\ &= (K+1)^2 \left[\frac{K^2}{4} + (K+1) \right] \\ &= (K+1)^2 \left[\frac{K^2 + 4K + 4}{4} \right] \\ &= (K+1)^2 \frac{(K+2)^2}{4} \\ &= \left[\frac{(K+1)(K+2)}{2} \right]^2 = RHS. \end{aligned}$$

(Ques 12) Prove: $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^n}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$

Sol Let $P(n): \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^n}$

Basis of Induction: Put $n=1$, $\frac{1}{2} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$ (true)

Put $n=2$, $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^2}$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$ (+true)

$\therefore P(1)$ is true

NOTE THIS

Induction Hypothesis : Let $P(K)$ be true : $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^K} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^K}$ ————— (1)

To prove : $P(K+1)$ is true i.e. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^K} + \frac{1}{2^{K+1}} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^{K+1}}$

Induction Step : $LHS = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^K}}_{(1 - \frac{1}{2^K})} + \frac{1}{2^{K+1}}$

$$= \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^K}\right) + \frac{1}{2^{K+1}} \quad [\text{using (1)}]$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{2^K} + \frac{1}{2^{K+1}}$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{2^K} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{2^K} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{2^{K+1}} = RHS.$$

(Ques 13) Prove $\frac{1}{2 \cdot 5} + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 8} + \frac{1}{8 \cdot 11} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3n-1)(3n+2)} = \frac{n}{6n+4}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

(Sol) Basis of Induction : Put $n=1$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2 \cdot 5} &= \frac{1}{6+4} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{10} &= \frac{1}{10} \quad (\text{true}) \end{aligned}$$

Induction Hypothesis : $\frac{1}{2 \cdot 5} + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 8} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3K-1)(3K+2)} = \frac{K}{6K+4}$ ————— (1)

To prove : $\frac{1}{2 \cdot 5} + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 8} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3K-1)(3K+2)} + \frac{1}{(3K+2)(3K+5)} = \frac{K+1}{6K+10}$

Induction Step : $LHS = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2 \cdot 5} + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 8} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3K-1)(3K+2)}}_{\frac{K}{6K+4}} + \frac{1}{(3K+2)(3K+5)}$

$$= \frac{K}{6K+4} + \frac{1}{(3K+2)(3K+5)} \quad [\text{using (1)}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{(3K+2)} \left[\frac{K}{2} + \frac{1}{(3K+5)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{(3K+2)} \left[\frac{3K^2+5K+2}{2(3K+5)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{(3K+2)} \left[\frac{3K^2+3K+2K+2}{2(3K+5)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{(3K+2)} \left[\frac{(3K+2)(K+1)}{2(3K+5)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{K+1}{6K+10} = RHS$$

(Ques 14) Prove that $3^{2n+2} - 8n - 9$ is divisible by 8, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

(Sol) Let $P(n)$: $3^{2n+2} - 8n - 9$ is divisible by 8

Basis of Induction : Put $n=1$; $3^4 - 8 - 9 = 64$ (div. by 8)
 $\therefore P(1)$ is true.

Induction Hypothesis : Let $P(K)$ be true i.e. $3^{2K+2} - 8K - 9$ is div. by 8 or, $3^{2K+2} - 8K - 9 = 8m$ for some integer 'm'
 $\Rightarrow 3^{2K+2} = 8m + 8K + 9$ ————— (1)

To prove : $P(K+1)$ is true i.e. $3^{2K+4} - 8(K+1) - 9$ is div. by 8.

Induction Step : $3^{2k+4} - 8(k+1) - 9 = 3^{2k+2} \cdot 3^2 - 8(k+1) - 9$
 $= (8m + 8k + 9)3^2 - 8(k+1) - 9$
 $= 72m + 72k + 81 - 8(k+1) - 9$
 $= 72m + 72k - 8(k+1) + 72$
 $= 8[9m + 9k - (k+1) + 9]$ an integer q (say)
 $= 8q$ (divisible by 8)

Ques 15 Prove: $n < 2^n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Basis of Induction : Put $n=1$, $1 < 2^1$ (true)

Induction Hypothesis : Let $k < 2^k$ ————— (1)

To prove: $(k+1) < 2^{k+1}$

Induction Step : From (1); $k < 2^k$
Add 1 to both sides; $k+1 < 2^k + 1$ ————— (2)

Since, $2^k = 2^k$

$$\Rightarrow 2^k + 1 < 2^k \cdot 2 \quad \leftarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^k + 1 < 2^{k+1} \quad \textcircled{3}$$

NOTE THIS STEP

From (2) & (3);

$$(k+1) < 2^k + 1 < 2^{k+1}$$
 $\Rightarrow (k+1) < 2^{k+1}$