

MATH 271: Chapter 9 homework

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4. If $n \in \mathbb{N}$ Then $1 * 2 + 2 * 3 + 3 * 4 + 4 * 5 + \dots + n(n + 1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$

Proof. We will prove this with Induction.

Base Case: Consider the base case $n = 1$,

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 (i)(i + 1) = 1 * 2 = 2$$

and

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

Therefore the base case holds.

Induction Hypothesis: Now Assume that $1 * 2 + 2 * 3 + 3 * 4 + 4 * 5 + \dots + k(k + 1) = \frac{k(k+1)(k+2)}{3}$ is true for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Inductive step: Now consider the case when $n = k + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (i)(i + 1) &= \sum_{i=1}^k (i)(i + 1) + (k + 1)(k + 2) \\ &= \frac{k(k + 1)(k + 2)}{3} + (k + 1)(k + 2) && \text{(By the Induction Hypothesis)} \\ &= \left(\frac{k}{3} + 1\right)(k + 1)(k + 2) && \text{(By factoring)} \\ &= \frac{(k + 1)(k + 2)(k + 3)}{3} && \text{(By factoring and rearranging)} \end{aligned}$$

Since the base case holds and $S_k \implies S_{k+1}$ by the principle of mathematical induction the statement is true $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

□

8. If $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then $\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{n}{(n+1)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(n+1)!}$

Proof. We will prove this with Induction.

Base Case:

Induction Hypothesis:

Inductive step: Now consider the case when $n = k + 1$.

□