

1. Prove that the sum of first  $n$  odd numbers is equal to  $n^2$ .

**Proof:** *by Induction*

Let  $P(n)$  be the proposition

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = k^2$$

- (a) Base Case: When  $k = 1$ ,

$$1 = 1^2$$

which is true

- (b) Inductive Step: Assume that  $P(n)$  is true  $\forall n \in N$ . We have to prove that  $P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$  is true as well. Therefore,  $P(n+1)$  is,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} k = (k+1)^2$$

Taking the LHS

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n k + (n+1) \\ n^2 + (n+1) = (n+1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

which is the RHS