

1. Prove that  $1^2 + 3^2 + 5^2 + \cdots + (2n+1)^2 = (n+1)(2n+1)(2n+3)/3$  whenever  $n$  is a nonnegative integer.
2. Prove that  $2 - 2 \cdot 7 + 2 \cdot 7^2 - \cdots + 2(-7)^n = (1 - (-7)^{n+1})/4$  whenever  $n$  is a nonnegative integer.
3. Prove that  $3^n < n!$  if  $n$  is an integer greater than 6.
4. Prove that  $2^n > n^2$  if  $n$  is an integer greater than 4.
5. For which nonnegative integers  $n$  is  $n^2 \leq n!$ ? Prove your answer.
6. For which nonnegative integers  $n$  is  $2n+3 \leq 2^n$ ? Prove your answer.
7. Prove that 6 divides  $n^3 - n$  whenever  $n$  is a nonnegative integer.
8. \* Prove that  $n^2 - 1$  is divisible by 8 whenever  $n$  is an odd positive integer.
9. \* What is wrong with this "proof"?

"Theorem" For every positive integer  $n$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^n i = (n + \frac{1}{2})^2 / 2$

Basis Step: The formula is true for  $n = 1$

Inductive Step: Suppose that  $\sum_{i=1}^n i = (n + \frac{1}{2})^2 / 2$ . Then  $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} i = (\sum_{i=1}^n i) + (n+1)$ . By the inductive hypothesis,  $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} i = (n + \frac{1}{2})^2 / 2 + n + 1 = (n^2 + n + \frac{1}{4}) / 2 + n + 1 = (n^2 + 3n + \frac{9}{4}) / 2 = (n + \frac{3}{2})^2 / 2 = [(n+1) + \frac{1}{2}]^2 / 2$ , completing the inductive step.

10. What is wrong with this "proof"?

"Theorem" For every positive integer  $n$ , if  $x$  and  $y$  are positive integers with  $\max(x, y) = n$ , then  $x = y$ .

Basis Step: Suppose that  $n = 1$ . If  $\max(x, y) = 1$  and  $x$  and  $y$  are positive integers, we have  $x = 1$  and  $y = 1$ .

Inductive Step: Let  $k$  be a positive integer. Assume that whenever  $\max(x, y) = k$  and  $x$  and  $y$  are positive integers, then  $x = y$ . Now let  $\max(x, y) = k + 1$ , where  $x$  and  $y$  are positive integers. Then  $\max(x-1, y-1) = k$ , so by the inductive hypothesis,  $x-1 = y-1$ . It follows that  $x = y$ , completing the inductive step.

11. Suppose that  $m$  is a positive integer. Use mathematical induction to prove that if  $a$  and  $b$  are integers with  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ , then  $a^k \equiv b^k \pmod{m}$  whenever  $k$  is a nonnegative integer.
12. \* Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  be positive real numbers. The arithmetic mean of these numbers is defined by

$$A = (a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_n) / n$$

and the geometric mean of these numbers is defined by

$$G = (a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n)^{1/n}$$

Use mathematical induction to prove that  $A \geq G$ .