

Problem Set 4: Discrete Mathematics

1. Use the Principle of Mathematical Induction to prove that

$$1 - 2 + 2^2 - 2^3 + \dots + (-1)^n 2^n = \frac{2^{n+1}(-1)^n + 1}{3} \quad \text{for all positive integers } n.$$

2. Use the Principle of Mathematical Induction to prove that  $1 + 2^n \leq 3^n$  for all  $n \geq 1$ .

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3. Use the Principle of Mathematical Induction to prove that  $1+3+9+27+\dots+3^n = \frac{3^{n+1}-1}{2}$  for all  $n \geq 0$ .

4. Prove that  $\sum_{j=n}^{2n-1} (2j+1) = 3n^2$  for all positive integers  $n$ .

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5. Prove that for any positive integer  $n$ , the number  $2^{2n}-1$  is divisible by 3.

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6. Prove that  $x^0 + x^1 + \dots + x^n = (x^{n+1} - 1)/(x - 1)$  for all integers  $n \geq 0$ , using induction.

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7. For each natural number  $n \geq 1$ , the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Fibonacci number,  $F_n$ , is defined inductively by

$F_1 = 1$ ,  $F_2 = 1$ , and  $F_{n+2} = F_{n+1} + F_n$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

Prove that  $F_{n+6} = 4F_{n+3} + F_n$  for  $n > 0$ .

8. Prove that for any  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^n (i^2) = n(n+1)(2n+1)/6$

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9. Prove that  $n! > 2^n$  for all  $n \geq 4$

10. Show that  $\sum_{i=1}^n (i^3) = (\sum_{i=1}^n i)^2$  for all  $n \geq 1$