

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 $2^{2^n}-1$ is divisible by 3.

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^{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 $n \geq 1$