

Problem 7 lemma: Let $p(t) = \prod_{k=1}^n (t+k)$ where $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \geq 2$. Prove that $p'(t) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (t+k) \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{t+k} \right)$.

Proof. Let $p_m(t) = \prod_{k=1}^m (t+k)$ be a sequence of polynomials starting at $m = 2$.

Suppose that $(p_n)'(t) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (t+k) \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{t+k} \right)$ for some natural number $n \geq 2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 (p_{n+1})'(t) &= (p_n(t) \cdot (t+n+1))' \\
 &= (p_n)'(t) \cdot (t+n+1) + p_n(t) \\
 &= \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (t+k) \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{t+k} \right) \cdot (t+n+1) + \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (t+k) \right) \\
 &= \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (t+k) \right) \left((t+n+1) \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{t+k} \right) + 1 \right) \\
 &= \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (t+k) \right) \left((t+n+1) \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{t+k} \right) + \frac{t+n+1}{t+n+1} \right) \\
 &= \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (t+k) \right) (t+n+1) \left(\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{1}{t+k} \right) \\
 &= \left(\prod_{k=1}^{n+1} (t+k) \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{1}{t+k} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

This proves the inductive step. If the lemma is true for some natural number $n \geq 2$, then it is true for $n+1$.

Now let's prove the base case for $n = 2$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_2(t) &= (t+1)(t+2) \\
 &= t^2 + 3t + 2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(p_2)'(t) = 2t + 3$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left(\prod_{k=1}^2 (t+k) \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^2 \frac{1}{t+k} \right) &= (t+1)(t+2) \left(\frac{1}{t+1} + \frac{1}{t+2} \right) \\
 &= (t+2) + (t+1) \\
 &= (2t+3)
 \end{aligned}$$

This shows that $(p_2)'(t) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^2 (t+k) \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^2 \frac{1}{t+k} \right) = 2t + 3$.

Now that we have proven the inductive step, and the base case where $n = 2$, we have completed our proof by induction. We have shown by induction that $p'(t) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^n (t+k) \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{t+k} \right)$.

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