

(Q1)

**Theorem 1.** *Using induction, prove that for all even natural numbers  $n$ , the integer  $n^3 + 2n^2 - 32$  is divisible by 8.*

*Proof.* Let the theorem be  $P(n) = n^3 + 2n^2 - 32$ . We first consider the base case  $P(2)$  and then the induction hypothesis where for a given even natural number  $k$ :

$$P(k) \implies P(k+2)$$

*Base Case.* Considering  $P(2)$ :

$$P(2) = 2^3 + 2(2)^2 - 32 = 8 + 8 - 32 = -16$$

Which is divisible by 8, so the base case holds.

*Induction Step.* We consider the induction hypothesis:

$$P(k) \implies P(k+2) \text{ where } k \text{ is an even natural number}$$

It follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (k+2)^3 + 2(k+2)^2 - 32 &= (k^3 + 3k^2 + 6k + 8) + (2k^2 + 8k + 8) - 32 \\ &= (k^3 + 2k^2 - 32) + 6k^2 + 20k + 16 \end{aligned}$$

Assuming that  $(k^3 + 2k^2 - 32)$  is divisible by 8, it suffices to prove that  $6k^2 + 20k + 16$  is divisible by 8.

Since  $k$  is even, we can express  $k$  as  $2m$ , where  $m$  is a natural number. We can thus express  $6k^2$  and  $20k$  as  $6(2m)^2$  and  $20(2m)$  respectively.

Then

$$6k^2 + 20k + 16 = 6(2m)^2 + 20(2m) + 16 = 24m^2 + 40m + 16 = 8(3m^2 + 5m + 2)$$

Since  $\mathbb{N}$  is closed under multiplication,  $3m^2 + 5m + 2$  is a natural, thus  $8(3m^2 + 5m + 2)$  is divisible by 8, proving the induction hypothesis.

By PMI, since the base case and induction hypothesis hold, we have proved the theorem, as required. ■