

7. By Mathematical induction.

For $n=1$, $2^1 = 2^2 - 2$, which is true as both sides are equal to 2.

Assume the identity holds for n , i.e. $2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 2$. (*)

Then add the $n+1$ term, i.e. 2^{n+1} , to both sides of (*).

$$2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^n + 2^{n+1} = (2^{n+1} - 2) + 2^{n+1} \quad (\text{by } \text{induction} \text{ hypothesis})$$

$$= 2^{n+1} + 2^{n+1} - 2 \quad (\text{rearranging the equation})$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2^{n+1} - 2$$

$$= 2^{n+2} - 2$$

Hence, by the ~~principle~~ principle of mathematical induction, the identity holds for all natural number n .