

1. Prove or disprove the claim that there are integers  $m, n$  such that  $m^2 + mn + n^2$  is a perfect square.  
Zero is an integer. So if  $m = 0$ , then  $m^2 + mn + n^2 = n^2$  which is a perfect square.

2. Prove or disprove the claim that for any positive integer  $m$  there is a positive integer  $n$  such that  $mn + 1$  is a perfect square.

For a positive integer  $p$ , given  $m$ , take  $n = p + 1$ . Then  $mn + 1 = m(m + 2 + 1) = (m + 1)^2$ .

3. Prove that there is a quadratic  $f(n) = n^2 + bn + c$  with positive integer coefficients  $b, c$ , such that  $f(n)$  is composite (i.e. not prime) for all positive integers  $n$ , or else prove that the statement is false.  
 $f(n) = (n + 1)(m + 2) = n^2 + 3n + 2$

4. Prove that if every even natural number greater than 2 is a sum of two primes (the Goldbach Conjecture), then every odd natural number greater than 5 is a sum of three primes.

Assume  $2n = p + q$  where  $p$  and  $q$  are primes and  $n$  is any integer such that  $n > 1$ . If  $m = 2n$ , then every odd natural number greater than 5 is given by  $m + 3$ . So  $m + 3 = p + q + 3$ . But 3 is a prime number, so  $m + 3$  is the sum of three primes.

5. Use the method of induction to prove that the sum of the first  $n$  odd numbers is equal to  $n^2$ .

$P(1)$  is true since  $1 = 1^2$

Assuming  $P(k)$  is true, we show that  $P(k + 1)$  is true.

$$P(k) = 1 + 3 + 5 \dots + (2k - 1) = k^2$$

$$P(k + 1) = 1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2k - 1) + (2k + 1)$$

$$P(k + 1) = P(k) + (2k + 1) = k^2 + (2k + 1) = (k + 1)^2$$

So  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$  and the result follows by induction.

6. Prove by induction that  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} : \sum_{r=1}^n r^2 = \frac{1}{6}n(n + 1)(2n + 1)$ .

$P(1)$  is true since  $\frac{1}{6}n(n + 1)(2n + 1) = 1$

Assuming  $P(k)$  is true, we show that  $P(k + 1)$  is true.

$$\sum_{r=1}^{k+1} r^2 = \frac{1}{6}(k + 1)(k + 2)(2(k + 1) + 1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6}(k + 1)(k + 2)(2k + 3)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6}(k + 1)(k + 2)(2k + 3)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6}(k + 1)(k + 2)(2k + 3)$$

$$= \frac{2k^3 + 9k^2 + 13k + 6}{6}$$

If  $P(k)$  is true, then  $P(k + 1) = P(k) + (k + 1)^2$ .

$$P(k) + (k + 1)^2 = \frac{1}{6}k(k + 1)(2k + 1) + (k + 1)^2$$

$$P(k) + (k + 1)^2 = \frac{1}{6}k(k + 1)(2k + 1) + (k^2 + 2k + 1)$$

Simplifying gives  $P(k) + (k + 1)^2 = \frac{2k^3 + 9k^2 + 13k + 6}{6}$  which is the same as the result above.

So  $P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$  and the result follows by induction.