

Problem 38.

Use mathematical induction to verify the correctness of the formula obtained.

$$t_k = t_{k-1} + 3k + 1, \text{ for each integer } k \geq 1$$

$$t_0 = 0$$

Proof. (by induction)

$$\text{Let } P(n): t_n = n + \frac{3n(n+1)}{2} \text{ for } n \geq 0$$

$$P(n) \longrightarrow t_n = n + \frac{3n(n+1)}{2}$$

$$\textbf{Basis step: } P(0) = 0 + \frac{3(0)(0+1)}{2}. \text{ True since } t_0 = 0$$

$$\textbf{Inductive step: } \text{Let } k \in \mathbb{Z} \ni k \geq 0. \text{ Assume } P(k), \text{ that is } t_k = k + \frac{3k(k+1)}{2}$$

$$[\textbf{NTS: } P(k+1): t_{k+1} = (k+1) + \frac{3(k+1)(k+1+1)}{2}]$$

$$t_{k+1} = t_k + 3(k+1) + 1$$

$$= k + \frac{3k(k+1)}{2} + 3(k+1) + 1 \quad \text{by substitution}$$

$$= (k+1) + \frac{3k(k+1)}{2} + \frac{6(k+1)}{2} \quad \text{by algebra}$$

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

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

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