

Show by induction that for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ it holds that

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1) = \frac{1}{3}n(n+1)(n+2).$$

Solution:

Show: $\sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1) = \frac{1}{3}n(n+1)(n+2)$

Proof:

Induction Basis ($n = 1$)

$$1(1+1) = 2 = \frac{1}{3}1(1+1)(1+2) \quad \checkmark \quad (2P)$$

Induction Step ($n \mapsto n+1$)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} k(k+1) &= (n+1)(n+1+1) + \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1)}_{\stackrel{[\text{I.A.}](2P)}{=} \frac{1}{3}n(n+1)(n+2)} \\ &= (n+1)(n+2) \underbrace{\left(1 + \frac{1}{3}n\right)}_{= \frac{1}{3}(3+n)} \\ &= \frac{1}{3}(n+1)((n+1)+1)((n+1)+2) \quad \checkmark \quad (4P) \end{aligned}$$