

1 Proof via Induction

Please prove the following assertions by induction.

1. $\sum_{k=0}^n (2k+1) = (n+1)^2$
2. $2^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}$
3. Let $q \neq 1$ then

$$\sum_{k=0}^n q^k = \frac{q^{n+1} - 1}{q - 1}.$$

Hint: Use Exercise 12 for (ii).

Solution:

1. **Induction Basis** ($n = 0$)

$$\sum_{k=0}^0 (2k+1) = 1 = (0+1)^2.$$

Hence, *induction hypothesis* can be used.

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

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} (2k+1) &= (2(n+1)+1) + \sum_{k=0}^n (2k+1) = (2(n+1)+1) + (n+1)^2 = \\ &= 2n+2+1+n^2+2n+1 = n^2+4n+4 = (n+2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

□

2. **Induction Basis** ($n = 0$)

$$\sum_{k=0}^0 \binom{n}{k} = \binom{0}{0} = 1 = 2^0.$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} &= \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \left[\binom{n}{k+1} + \binom{n}{k} \right] = \\ &= \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} + \frac{n!}{(k+1)!(n-(k+1))!} = \frac{n!(k+1) + n!(n-k)}{(k+1)!(n-k)!} \\ &= \frac{n! + n!n}{(k+1)!(n-k)!} = \frac{(n+1)!}{(k+1)!(n+1-(k+1))!} = \binom{n+1}{k+1}. \end{aligned}$$

3. **Induction Basis** ($n = 0$)

$$\sum_{k=0}^0 q^k = 1 = \frac{q^1-1}{q-1}.$$

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

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n+1} q^k = \frac{q^{n+2} - 1}{q - 1} + \sum_{k=0}^n q^k = q^{n+1} + \frac{q^{n+1} - 1}{q - 1} = \frac{q^{n+2} - 1}{q - 1}.$$