

Tandon CS Bridge: HW #11

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Ratan Dey Extended 24-week

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Problem 5

1. Use mathematical induction to prove that for any positive integer n , 3 divide $n^3 + 2n$.

Solution

1. **Base case:** When $n = 1$, $n^3 + 2n = 3$, which can be divided by 3.

2. **Inductive step:** Assume that when $n = k$, where k is some integer, 3 divides $n^3 + 2n = k^3 + 2k$. When $n = k + 1$, $n^3 + 2n = (k + 1)^3 + 2(k + 1) = k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k + 1 + 2k + 2 = k^3 + 2k + 3(k^2 + k + 3)$. Because 3 divides $3(k^2 + k + 3)$ and $k^3 + 2k$ by the induction hypothesis. So, 3 divides $n^3 + 2n$ when $n = k + 1$.

Therefore, for any positive integer n , 3 divides $n^3 + 2n$.

2. Use strong induction to prove that any positive integer $n (n \geq 2)$ can be written as a product of primes.

Solution

1. **Base case:** When $n = 2$, it is a product of the prime number 2 of itself.

2. **Inductive step:** Assume that for $k \geq 2$, any integer $j \in [2, k]$ can be expressed as a product of prime numbers. If $k + 1$ is prime, then it is already a product of the prime number of itself.

If $k + 1$ is not prime, it can be expressed as the product of two integer a and b , which are both greater than 2.

$k + 1 = a \times b \leftrightarrow a = (k + 1)/b$. Because b is greater than 2, $a = (k + 1)/b < k + 1$. Then $a \leq k$.

Symmetrically we get $b \leq k$. Thus, a and b can be expressed as $a = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_m$ and $b = q_1 \cdot q_2 \cdots q_n$, respectively.

Therefore, $k + 1$ can be expressed as a product of primes $k + 1 = a \cdot b = (p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_m) \cdot (q_1 \cdot q_2 \cdots q_n)$

Problem 6

Solve the following questions from the Discrete Math ZyBook:

1. Define $P(n)$ to be the assertion that: $\sum_{j=1}^n j^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$. **Solution**

(a) $P(3) = \sum_{j=1}^3 j^2 = 14 = \frac{3(3+1)(2 \cdot 3+1)}{6}$

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

(c) $\sum_{j=1}^{k+1} j^2 = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6}$

(d) In the base case, we need to prove that when $n = 1$, $\sum_{j=1}^n j^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

(e) In the inductive step, we need to prove that when $n = k + 1$, $\sum_{j=1}^n j^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

(f) Inductive hypothesis: when $n = k$, $\sum_{j=1}^n j^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$.

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

$$= \frac{(k+1)[k(2k+1)+(k+1)]}{6} = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)}{6} \text{ Therefore, } \sum_{j=1}^n j^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

2. Prove that for $n \geq 1$, $\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{j^2} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{n}$ **Solution**

Proof. 1. **Base case:** When $n = 1$, $\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{j^2} = 1 = 2 - \frac{1}{n}$

2. **Inductive step:** Assume that for $n = k$, $\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{j^2} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{n} = 2 - \frac{1}{k}$

When $n = k + 1$, $\sum_{j=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{j^2} = \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{1}{j^2} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2}$

$$\therefore \frac{(\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2})}{(\frac{1}{k+1})} = 1 + \frac{k+1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} = 1 + \frac{k^2+k+1}{k^2+k} > 1$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} > \frac{1}{k+1}$$

$$\therefore 2 - \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} < 2 - \frac{1}{k+1}$$

$$\therefore \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{j^2} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{k+1}$$

Therefore, for $n \geq 1$, $\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{j^2} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{n}$ □

3. Prove that for any positive integer n , 4 evenly divides $3^{2n} - 1$.

Proof. 1. **Base case:** When $n = 1$, 4 evenly divides $3^{2 \cdot 1} - 1 = 8$.

2. **Inductive step:** Assume that for $n = k$, 4 divides $3^{2 \cdot k} - 1$

When $n = k + 1$, $3^{2 \cdot (k+1)} - 1 = 3^{2k+2} - 1 = 3^2 \cdot 3^{2k} - 3^2 + 3^2 - 1 = 3^2(3^{2k} - 1) + 8$

\therefore 4 evenly divides $3^{2 \cdot k} - 1$ and 8

\therefore 4 evenly divides $3^{2 \cdot (k+1)} - 1$

Therefore, for any positive integer n , 4 evenly divides $3^{2n} - 1$. □