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1. [10 pts] Prove by induction that for all positive integers  $n$ , we have:

$$1 + 3 + 5 + \cdots + (2n - 1) = n^2$$

**Solution.**

(BC) ( $n=1$ ) Since  $2n - 1 = 2 * 1 - 1 = 1$  so  $1 = n^2 = 1$ . Check.

(IS) Let  $n \geq 1$ .

Assume (IH)  $1 + 3 + 5 + \cdots + (2n - 1) = n^2$ . And WTS  $1 + 3 + 5 + \cdots + (2(n + 1) - 1) = (n + 1)^2$ .

Then

$$1 + 3 + 5 + \cdots + (2(n + 1) - 1) = n^2 + 2(n + 1) - 1 = n^2 + 2n + 1 = (n + 1)^2$$

The proof is finished.

2. [10 pts] Use the recursion tree method or the telescopic method to solve the recurrence relation  $f(0) = 7$  and, for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$   $f(n) = f(n-1) - 2n$ .

**Solution.**

$$f(n) = f(n-1) - 2n$$

$$f(n-1) = f(n-2) - 2(n-1)$$

$$f(n-2) = f(n-3) - 2(n-2)$$

$$f(n-3) = f(n-4) - 2(n-3)$$

...

$$f(2) = f(1) - 2 * 2$$

$$f(1) = f(0) - 2 * 1$$

Add all the LHSs and RHSs and cancel terms that appear on both sides:

$$f(n) = f(0) - 2n - 2(n-1) - 2(n-2) - 2(n-3) - \dots - 2 - 1$$

$$= f(0) - 2 * [n + (n-1) + (n-2) + (n-3) + \dots + 2 + 1]$$

$$= f(0) - 2 * n(n+1)/2$$

$$= f(0) - n(n+1)$$

Done.

3. [10 pts] Use strong induction to prove that  $C(n) = 2^n + 3$  is a solution to the recurrence  $C(0) = 4$ ,  $C(1) = 5$ , and, for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $n > 1$
- $$C(n) = 3 \cdot C(n-1) - 2 \cdot C(n-2) .$$

**Solution.**

(BC) (n=2) Since  $C(2) = 2^2 + 3 = 3 \cdot C(1) - 2 \cdot C(0) = 3 \cdot 5 - 2 \cdot 4 = 7$ . Check.

(IS) Let  $n \geq 2$  arbitrary. Assume (IH) that all for integers  $2, 3, \dots, k$ ,  $C(k) = 2^k + 3$  is a solution to  $C(k) = 3 \cdot C(k-1) - 2 \cdot C(k-2)$ .

And WTS  $C(k+1) = 2^{k+1} + 3$  is a solution to  $C(k+1) = 3 \cdot C(k) - 2 \cdot C(k-1)$ .

From IH we know  $C(k) = 2^k + 3$  and  $C(k-1) = 2^{k-1} + 3$ . Then:

$$C(k+1) = 3 \cdot C(k) - 2 \cdot C(k-1)$$

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

$$= 3 \cdot 2^k + 9 - 2^k - 6$$

$$= (3 - 1) \cdot 2^k + 3$$

$$= 2^{k+1} + 3$$

Therefore we can conclude  $C(k) = 2^k + 3$  is a solution to  $C(k-1) = 2^{k-1} + 3$ .

The proof is finished.

4. [10 pts] Recall the Fibonacci sequence, where every number in the sequence is the sum of the previous two numbers (except for the first and second positions, which are 0 and 1 respectively). Let  $F_n$  represent the  $n$ th number in the Fibonacci sequence. Use strong induction to prove that for Fibonacci numbers  $F_{n+1} - F_{n-1} < 2^n$  for all positive integers  $n$ .

**Solution.**

(BC) ( $n=2$ ) Since  $F_{n+1} = F_3 = 2$ ,  $F_{n-1} = F_1 = 1$ , so  $F_{n+1} - F_{n-1} = 1$ , and  $2^n = 4$ ,  $F_{n+1} - F_{n-1} < 2^n$ . Check.

(IS) Let  $n \geq 2$  arbitrary. Assume (IH) that all for integers  $2, 3, \dots, k$ ,  $F_{k+1} - F_{k-1} < 2^k$ .

And WTS  $F_{k+2} - F_k < 2^{k+1}$ . Then:

$$F_{k+2} - F_k = (F_{k+1} + F_k) - (F_{k-1} + F_{k-2}) = (F_{k+1} - F_{k-1}) + (F_k - F_{k-2})$$

From IH we know  $F_{k+1} - F_{k-1} < 2^k$  and  $F_k - F_{k-2} < 2^{k-1}$

$$\text{Then } (F_{k+1} - F_{k-1}) + (F_k - F_{k-2}) < 2^k + 2^{k-1} < 2^K + 2^k = 2^{k+1}$$

So we got  $F_{k+2} - F_k < 2^{k+1}$ .

The proof is finished.

5. [10 pts] Use ordinary induction to prove that for every positive integer  $n$ ,  $n^3 - n$  is a multiple of 6. Only proofs by induction are accepted.

**Solution.**

(BC) ( $n=1$ )  $n^3 - n = 1 - 1 = 0$ . Check.

(IS) Let  $n \geq 1$ .

Assume (IH)  $n^3 - n$  is a multiple of 6. And WTS  $(n+1)^3 - (n+1)$  is a multiple of 6. Then

$$(n+1)^3 - (n+1)$$

$$= n^3 + 3n^2 + 3n + 1 - n - 1$$

$$= n^3 + 3n^2 + 2n$$

$$= n^3 - n + 3n^2 + 3n$$

$$= (n^3 - n) + 3n(n+1)$$

From IH we know  $(n^3 - n)$  is a multiple of 6.

Since  $n \geq 1$ , we know  $(n+1) \geq 2$  therefore  $3(n+1)$  is a multiple of 6 which means  $3n(n+1)$  is also a multiple of 6. In summary,  $(n+1)^3 - (n+1) = (n^3 - n) + 3n(n+1)$  is also a multiple of 6.

The proof is finished.