

MATH 300
WORKSHEET 6 (4.1-3)

NAME:

Prove the following using either the first or second principle of mathematical induction.

1. For every natural number n , it follows that $\sum_{i=1}^n (8i - 5) = 4n^2 - n$.

Proof: We will prove that for all natural numbers n , $\sum_{i=1}^n (8i - 5) = 4n^2 - n$ using the First Principle of Mathematical Induction. We will let $P(n)$ be the statement “ $\sum_{i=1}^n (8i - 5) = 4n^2 - n$ ”.

For the base case, we will show that $P(1)$ is true. The left side of the equation evaluates out to:

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 (8i - 5) = 8(1) - 5 = 8 - 5 = 3$$

and the right side of the equation evaluates out to:

$$4(1)^2 - 1 = 4(1) - 1 = 4 - 1 = 3$$

and since both are equal, $P(n)$ holds in the base case of $n = 1$.

For the inductive step, we will show that for all natural numbers n , if $P(n)$ is true, then $P(n + 1)$ must be true by implication. We assume n is a natural number, and that $P(n)$ holds: $\sum_{i=1}^n (8i - 5) = 4n^2 - n$. To show that $P(n + 1)$ is true, we must show that both sides of the equal sign with input $n + 1$ are equivalent.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} (8i - 5) &= \sum_{i=1}^n (8i - 5) + (8(n + 1) - 5) \\ &= (4n^2 - n) + (8(n + 1) - 5) && \text{(by inductive hypothesis)} \\ &= 4n^2 - n + 8n + 8 - 5 \\ &= 4n^2 + 7n + 3 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 4(n + 1)^2 - (n + 1) &= 4(n^2 + 2n + 1) - n - 1 \\ &= 4n^2 + 8n + 4 - n - 1 \\ &= 4n^2 + 7n + 3 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Since expressions (1) and (2) are equivalent, the statement holds for $n + 1$. Thus by the First Principle of Mathematical Induction, the statement $\sum_{i=1}^n (8i - 5) = 4n^2 - n$ is true for all natural numbers n .

2. For any integer $n \geq 0$, it follows that $3 \mid (5^{2n} - 1)$.

Proof: We will prove that for all integers $n \geq 0$, $3 \mid (5^{2n} - 1)$ using the First Principle of Mathematical Induction. We will let $P(n)$ be the statement “ $3 \mid (5^{2n} - 1)$ ”.

For the base case, we will show that $P(0)$ is true. The expression evaluates out to

$$5^{2(0)} - 1 = 5^0 - 1 = 1 - 1 = 0$$

which is divisible by 3 ($n|0; \forall n > 0 \in \mathbb{N}$). Thus $P(n)$ holds in the base case of $n = 0$.

For the inductive step, we will show that for all integers $n \geq 0$, if $P(n)$ is true, $P(n+1)$ must be true by implication. We assume that n is an integer and that $P(n)$ holds: $3|(5^{2n} - 1)$. To show that $P(n+1)$ is true, we must show that $3|(5^{2(n+1)} - 1)$. Since we are assuming $P(n)$ is true, it follows that there exists an integer m such that $5^{2n} - 1 = 3m$.

$$\begin{aligned}
5^{2(n+1)} - 1 &= 5^{2n+2} - 1 \\
&= 5^2(5^{2n}) \\
&= 25(5^{2n}) \\
&= 24(5^{2n}) + 5^{2n} - 1 \\
&= 24(5^{2n}) + 3m && \text{(by inductive hypothesis)} \\
&= 3(8(5^{2n}) + m)
\end{aligned}$$

This is clearly divisible by 3, meaning $P(n+1)$ holds. Thus, by the First Principle of Mathematical Induction, the statement $3|(5^{2n} - 1)$ is true for all integers n .

3. For each natural number n ,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \geq \sqrt{n}.$$

Proof: We will prove using the First Principle of Mathematical Induction that for every natural number n , the above equation holds. We will let equation (1) be the proposed equivalence, for simplicity sake. We will also let $P(n)$ be the statement “ $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \geq \sqrt{n}$.”

For the base case, we will show that $P(1)$ is true. The equation simplifies to

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} = \frac{1}{1} = 1 \geq \sqrt{1} = 1$$

and since this is true, $P(n)$ holds in the base case of $n = 1$.

For the inductive step, we will show that for all natural numbers $n \geq 1$, if $P(n)$ is true, $P(n+1)$ must be true by implication. We assume that n is a natural number and that $P(n)$ holds: $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \geq \sqrt{n}$. To show that $P(n+1)$ is true, we must show that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} \geq \sqrt{n+1}$$

We can do this by rewriting the equation with a \sqrt{n} :

$$\begin{aligned}
\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} &\geq \sqrt{n} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} && \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\
\sqrt{n} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} &\geq \sqrt{n+1}
\end{aligned}$$

so that now we just need to prove that $\sqrt{n} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} \geq \sqrt{n+1}$. We can do this by rearranging the equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sqrt{n} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} &\geq \sqrt{n+1} \\
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} &\geq \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n} \\
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} &\geq \frac{(\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n})(\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} \\
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} &\geq \frac{(k+1) + (\sqrt{k}\sqrt{k+1}) - (\sqrt{k}\sqrt{k+1}) - (k)}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} \\
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} &\geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} \\
\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n} &\geq \sqrt{n+1} \\
\sqrt{n} &\geq 0
\end{aligned}$$

and since this is clearly true since $n \geq 1$, $P(n+1)$ holds for all natural numbers n . Thus, by the First Principle of Mathematical Induction, the statement $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \geq \sqrt{n}$ is true for all natural numbers n .

4. Let $a_1 = 5$ and $a_2 = 13$. For each natural number n , let $a_{n+2} = 5a_{n+1} - 6a_n$, and prove that $a_n = 2^n + 3^n$.

Proof: We will prove using the First Principle of Mathematical Induction that for all natural numbers n , if $a_1 = 5$, $a_2 = 13$, and $a_{n+2} = 5a_{n+1} - 6a_n$, then $a_n = 2^n + 3^n$. We will let $P(n)$ be the statement " $a_n = 2^n + 3^n$ ".

For the base case, we will show that $P(1)$ is true. If $a_1 = 5$, $a_1 = 2^1 + 3^1 = 5$ proves the statement correct for the base case of $n = 1$.

For the inductive step, we will show that for all natural numbers n , the proposed sequence is equivalent to $a_n = 2^n + 3^n$. We assume that n is a natural number and that $P(n)$ holds: $a_n = 2^n + 3^n$. To show that $P(n+1)$ is true, we must show that $a_{n+1} = 2^{n+1} + 3^{n+1}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
a_{n+1} &= 5a_n - 6a_{n-1} \\
&= 5(2^n + 3^n) - 6(2^{n-1} + 3^{n-1}) && \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\
&= 5(2^n + 3^n) - 6\left(\frac{1}{2} * 2^n + \frac{1}{3} * 3^n\right) \\
&= 5 * 2^n + 5 * 3^n - 3 * 2^n - 2 * 3^n \\
&= 2 * 2^n + 3 * 3^n \\
&= 2^{n+1} + 3^{n+1}
\end{aligned}$$

Since we have proven that for all natural numbers $P(n+1)$ holds, we have proven via the First Principle of Mathematical Induction that for all natural numbers n , if $a_1 = 5$, $a_2 = 13$, and $a_{n+2} = 5a_{n+1} - 6a_n$, then $a_n = 2^n + 3^n$.