

CH 8 - Induction

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1 Principle of Mathematical Induction

Suppose that for each positive integer n we have a statement $P(n)$. If we prove the following two things:

(a) $P(1)$ is true;

(b) for all n , if $P(n)$ is true then $P(n + 1)$ is also true;

then $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers n

2 Principle of Mathematical Induction 2

Let k be an integer. Suppose that for each integer $n \geq k$ we have a statement $P(n)$.

If we prove that following two things:

(a) $P(k)$ is true;

(b) for all $n \geq k$, if $P(n)$ is true then $P(n + 1)$ is also true;

then $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq k$.

3 Factorial

n factorial is defined as:

$$n! = n(n - 1)(n - 2) \dots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

$$0! = 1$$

4 Guesswork

Some problems have to use guesswork to identify a pattern first.

5 Summation Notation

If f_1, \dots, f_n are numbers we abbreviate the sum of all of them by

$$f_1 + \dots + f_n = \sum_{r=1}^n f_r$$

Some summation algebra:

$$\sum_{r=1}^n (af_r + bg_r + c) = a \sum_{r=1}^n f_r + b \sum_{r=1}^n g_r + cn$$

6 Geometric Examples

see later

7 Prime Factorization

Definition: a prime number is a positive integer p such that $p \geq 2$ and the only positive integers dividing p are 1 and p .

Proposition 8.1 (Prime factorization):

Every positive integer greater than 1 is equal to a product of prime numbers.

8 Principle of Strong Mathematical Induction

Suppose that for each integer $n \geq k$ we have a statement $P(n)$. If we prove the following two things:

(a) $P(k)$ is true;

(b) for all n , if $P(k), P(k+1), \dots, P(n)$ are all true, then $P(n+1)$ is also true
then $P(n)$ is true for all $n \geq k$.

9 Cauchy's Inequality: Proposition 8.2

Let n be a positive integer. Then for any real numbers a_1, \dots, a_n and b_1, \dots, b_n :

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \leq \sqrt{a_1^2 + \dots + a_n^2} \sqrt{b_1^2 + \dots + b_n^2}$$