

5.1.13 Prove that  $1^2 - 2^2 + 3^2 - \dots + (-1)^{n-1} n^2 = (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$  whenever  $n$  is a positive integer.

**Basis step:**  $n=1$   $1^2 = (-1)^{1-1} \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{(1+1)}{2}$   
 $1 = 1 \Rightarrow \text{true}$

**Inductive step:** The inductive hypothesis is the statement that  $P(k)$  is true, that is,  $1^2 - 2^2 + 3^2 - \dots + (-1)^{k-1} k^2 = (-1)^{k-1} \cdot k \cdot \frac{k+1}{2}$ , where  $k$  is an arbitrary nonnegative integer.

We must show that if  $P(k)$  is true, then  $P(k+1)$  is also true. So assuming the inductive hypothesis, it follows that

$$P(k+1) = \underbrace{1^2 - 2^2 + 3^2 - \dots + (-1)^{k-1} k^2}_{(-1)^{k-1} \cdot k \cdot \frac{k+1}{2}} + (-1)^k (k+1)^2 = (-1)^k \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (-1)^{k-1} \cdot k \cdot \frac{k+1}{2} + (-1)^k (k+1)^2 = (-1)^k \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot k \cdot \frac{k+1}{2} + (-1)^k (k+1)^2 = \\ & = (-1)^k (k+1) \left(-\frac{k}{2} + k+1\right) = (-1)^k (k+1) \left(\frac{k}{2} + 1\right) = \\ & = \underbrace{(-1)^k \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}}_{\text{the right side of } P(k+1)} \end{aligned}$$



19. Let  $P(n)$  be the statement that  $1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{n^2} < 2 - \frac{1}{n}$ , where  $n$  is an int. greater than 1.

a) What is the statement  $P(2)$ ?

$$P(2) = 1 + \frac{1}{4} < 2 - \frac{1}{2}$$

b) Show that  $P(2)$  is true, completing the basis step of the proof.

$$\frac{5}{4} < \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{5}{4} < \frac{6}{4} \Rightarrow \text{true}$$

c) What is the inductive hypothesis?

The inductive hypothesis is the statement  $P(k)$  is true, that is,

$$1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{k^2} < 2 - \frac{1}{k}.$$

d) What do you need to prove in the inductive step?

We need to prove that if  $P(k)$  is true, then  $P(k+1)$  is also true for each  $k \geq 2$ .

So assuming the inductive hypothesis, it follows that

$$1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{k^2} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} < 2 - \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2}$$

e) Complete the inductive step.

$$1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{k^2} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} < 2 - \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2}$$

$$\text{The right side of } P(k+1): 2 - \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} = 2 - \frac{(k+1)^2 + k}{k(k+1)^2} =$$



$$= 2 - \left( \frac{k^2 + 2k + 1 - k}{k(k+1)^2} \right) = 2 - \left( \frac{k^2 + k + 1}{k(k+1)^2} \right) =$$

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

23. For which nonnegative integers  $n$  is  $2n+3 \leq 2^n$ ?  
Prove your answer.

$$n=1: 5 \neq 2$$

$$n=2: 7 \neq 4$$

$$n=3: 9 \neq 8$$

$$n=4: 11 \leq 16 \rightarrow \text{The basis step}$$

Next assuming the inductive hypothesis that  $2n+3 \leq 2^n$ ,  $2(n+1)+3 = 2n+2+3 = \underbrace{2n+3}_{\leq 2n+2} + 2$ ,  
which by the inductive hypothesis  $\leq 2n+2 \stackrel{P(n)}{=} 2^n$ .  
But since  $n \geq 1 \Rightarrow 2^n + 2^n = 2^{n+1}$ .

35. Prove that  $n^2-1$  is divisible by 8 whenever  $n$  is an odd positive integer.

Proof:

The odd positive int can be written as  $2n-1$ .

$$P(n) = (2n-1)^2 - 1$$

Basis step:  $P(1) = (2 \cdot 1 - 1)^2 - 1 = 0$  is divisible by 8.

Inductive step: The inductive hypothesis is the statement  $P(n)$  is true. Then we want to prove  $P(n+1)$ .



$$8 \mid ((2(n+1)-1)^2 - 1) = (2n+1)^2 - 1$$

Lets look at the difference of these two expressions:

$$(2n+1)^2 - 1 - ((2n-1)^2 - 1) = 4n^2 + 4n + 1 - 1 - 4n^2 + 4n - 1 + 1 = 8n$$

$= 8n$  is divisible <sup>true by inductive step.</sup> by 8.  $\Rightarrow P(kn+1)$  is true.

45. Prove that a set with  $n$  elements has  $n(n-1)/2$  subsets containing exactly two elements whenever  $n$  is an integer greater than or equal to 2.  
Proof:

$$\text{Basis step: } n=2 : 2 \frac{(2-1)}{2} = 1.$$

Inductive step: Assuming the inductive hypothesis, that a set with  $n$  elements has  $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  subsets with exactly two elements. We want to prove that a set  $S$  with  $n+1$  elements has  $\frac{(n+1)n}{2}$  subsets with exactly two elements. Fix an element  $a$  in  $S$ , and let  $T$  be the set of elements of  $S$  other than  $a$ . Two varieties of subsets of  $S$ :

1. do not contain  $a$ :  $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$

2. contain  $a$  together with one element of  $T$ . Since  $T$  has  $n$  elements, there are exactly  $n$  subsets of this type. The total number of subsets:

$$\left( \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \right) + n = \frac{n(n-1) + 2n}{2} = \frac{n^2 - n + 2n}{2} = \frac{n^2 + n}{2} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}, \text{ as desired.}$$



69. Find  $G(1), G(2), G(3), G(4)$ :

$$G(1) = 0$$

$$G(2) = 1$$

$$G(3) = 3 \quad (1 \rightarrow 2; 1 \rightarrow 3; 3 \rightarrow 2)$$

$$G(4) = 4 \quad (1 \xrightarrow{ss} 2; 3 \xrightarrow{ss} 4; 1 \rightarrow 3, 2 \rightarrow 4)$$