

## Examples on Mathematical Induction: divisibility 30

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1. Prove by mathematical induction that  $16 \cdot 3^{2n-1} + 21 \cdot 2^{2n-1}$  is divisible by 30 for all positive integers  $n$ .

Let  $P(n)$  be the statement:  $16 \cdot 3^{2n-1} + 21 \cdot 2^{2n-1}$  is divisible by 30 for all positive integers  $n$ .

$n = 1$ ,  $16 \cdot 3^1 + 21 \cdot 2^1 = 90$  which is divisible by 30.

Suppose  $16 \cdot 3^{2k-1} + 21 \cdot 2^{2k-1} = 30m$  where  $m$  is an integer and  $k$  is a positive integer.

$$\begin{aligned} 16 \cdot 3^{2k+1} + 21 \cdot 2^{2k+1} &= 9 \cdot 16 \cdot 3^{2k-1} + 4 \cdot 21 \cdot 2^{2k-1} = 9 \cdot (30m - 21 \cdot 2^{2k-1}) + 4 \cdot 21 \cdot 2^{2k-1} \\ &= 270m - 5 \cdot 21 \cdot 2^{2k-1} = 30 \cdot (9m - 7 \cdot 2^{2k-2}) \text{ which is divisible by 30.} \end{aligned}$$

If  $P(k)$  is true then  $P(k+1)$  is also true.

By the principle of mathematical induction,  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers  $n$ .

2. Prove by mathematical induction  $5^{2n-1} - 3^{2n-1} - 2^{2n-1}$  is divisible by 30 for all positive integers  $n$ .

Let  $P(n) \equiv$  “ $5^{2n-1} - 3^{2n-1} - 2^{2n-1}$  is divisible by 30 for all positive integers  $n$ .”

$n = 1$ ,  $5 - 3 - 2 = 0$ , which is divisible by 30.

Suppose  $5^{2k-1} - 3^{2k-1} - 2^{2k-1} = 30m$ , where  $m$  is an integer.

$$\begin{aligned} 5^{2k+1} - 3^{2k+1} - 2^{2k+1} &= 25 \cdot 5^{2k-1} - 9 \cdot 3^{2k-1} - 4 \cdot 2^{2k-1} = 25 \cdot (30m + 3^{2k-1} + 2^{2k-1}) - 9 \cdot 3^{2k-1} - 4 \cdot 2^{2k-1} \\ &= 750m + 16 \cdot 3^{2k-1} + 21 \cdot 2^{2k-1} \\ &= 750m + 30q, \text{ by Q1, where } m \text{ and } q \text{ are integers.} \end{aligned}$$

If  $P(k)$  is true then  $P(k+1)$  is also true.

By the principle of mathematical induction,  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers  $n$ .

3. Prove that  $\frac{n^5}{5} + \frac{n^4}{2} + \frac{n^3}{3} - \frac{n}{30}$  is an integer.