

Mathematical Induction

Solutions

1.

Test Case:

For $n = 1$, the left hand side and right hand side both equal 1

Then, suppose that $1 + 2 + \dots + k = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$ is true.

Induction Step:

$$1 + 2 + \dots + k + (k + 1)$$

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

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

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

$$= \frac{[(k+1)+1](k+1)}{2}$$

If the statement is true for $n = k$, it must be true for $n = k+1$, thus the statement is true for all integers.

2.

Test Case:

For $n = 1$, the left hand side and right hand sides both equal 1.

Now, suppose that

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + k^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6}$$

is true

Induction Step:

$$\begin{aligned}
& 1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + k^2 + (k + 1)^2 \\
&= \frac{k(k + 1)(2k + 1)}{6} + (k + 1)^2 \\
&= \frac{k(k + 1)(2k + 1)}{6} + \frac{6(k + 1)^2}{6} \\
&= \frac{(k + 1)[k(2k + 1) + 6(k + 1)]}{6} \\
&= \frac{(k + 1)(2k^2 + k + 6k + 6)}{6} \\
&= \frac{(k + 1)(2k^2 + 7k + 6)}{6} \\
&= \frac{(k + 1)(k + 2)(2k + 3)}{6} \\
&= \frac{(k + 1)[(k + 1) + 1][2(k + 1) + 1]}{6}
\end{aligned}$$

If the statement is true for $n = k$, it must be true for $n = k + 1$, thus the statement is true for all integers.

3.

Test Case:

For $n = 1$, $n(n + 1)(n + 2) = 6 = 3(2)$

Now, assume that $k(k + 1)(k + 2)$ is a multiple of 3

Induction Step:

$$(n + 1)(n + 2)(n + 3)$$
$$= n(n + 1)(n + 2) + 3(n + 1)(n + 2)$$

The first term is a multiple of 3 by our assumption and the second is a multiple of 3 because of the 3 in front of it.

If the statement is true for $n = k$, it must be true for $n = k + 1$, thus the statement is true for all integers.

4.

Test Case:

For $n = 1$, both the left hand side and right hand side equal 2.

Now, assume

$$2 + 4 + \dots + 2(k - 1) + 2k = k^2 + k$$

Induction Step:

$$2 + 4 + 6 + \dots + 2(k - 1) + 2k + 2(k + 1)$$
$$= k^2 + k + 2(k + 1)$$
$$= k^2 + 3k + 2$$
$$= (k + 1)^2 + (k + 1)$$

If the statement is true for $n = k$, it must be true for $n = k + 1$, thus the statement is true for all integers.

5.

Test Case:

For $n = 1$, both the left hand side and right hand side equal 1

Now, assume

$$1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2k - 1) = k^2$$

Induction Step:

$$1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2k - 1) + (2k + 1)$$

$$= k^2 + 2k + 1$$

$$= (k + 1)^2$$

If the statement is true for $n = k$, it must be true for $n = k+1$, thus the statement is true for all integers.

6.

Test Case:

For $n = 1$, both the left hand side and right hand side equal 1

Now, assume

$$1 + 4 + 7 + 10 + \dots + (3k - 2) = \frac{k}{2}(3k - 1)$$

Induction Step:

$$1 + 4 + \dots + (3k - 2) + [3(k + 1) - 2]$$

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

$$= \frac{3k^2}{2} - \frac{k}{2} + 3k + 1$$

$$= \frac{3k^2}{2} + \frac{5k}{2} + 1$$

$$= \frac{3k^2 + 5k + 2}{2}$$

$$= \frac{3k^2 + 3k + 2k + 2}{2}$$

$$= \frac{3k(k + 1) + 2(k + 1)}{2}$$

$$= \frac{(k + 1)}{2}(3k + 2)$$

$$= \frac{(k + 1)}{2}[3(k + 1) - 1]$$

If the statement is true for $n = k$, it must be true for $n = k+1$, thus the statement is true for all integers.

7.

Test Case:

For $n = 1$, both sides equal 2, so the inequality is true.

Assume $2^k \geq 2k$ is true.

Induction Step:

$$2^k \geq 2k$$

$$2^{k+1} = 2 \times 2^k \geq 2 \times 2k = 4k \geq 2(k+1)$$

Why is $4k \geq 2(k+1)$?

Because, we're only looking at $k \geq 1$. And if we solve the inequality, we find it works for the interval we're looking at:

$$4k \geq 2(k+1)$$

$$4k \geq 2k + 2$$

$$2k \geq 2$$

$$k \geq 1$$

If the statement is true for $n = k$, it must be true for $n = k+1$, thus the statement is true for all integers.

8.

Test Case:

For $n = 1$, the left side and right side both equal 1

Assume $1 + 3 + 9 + 27 + \dots + 3^{k-1} = \frac{3^k - 1}{2}$

Induction Step:

$$1 + 3 + 9 + 27 + \dots + 3^{k-1} + 3^k$$

$$= \frac{3^k - 1}{2} + 3^k$$

$$= \frac{3^k - 1}{2} + \frac{2 \times 3^k}{2}$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 3^k - 1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{3^{k+1} - 1}{2}$$

If the statement is true for $n = k$, it must be true for $n = k+1$, thus the statement is true for all integers.

9.

Test Case:

Since the statement requires $n \geq 10$, our test case will be for $n = 10$. In this case on the left, we have 1024 and on the right we have 1000. So the statement is true.

Now assume $2^k \geq 100k$ is true.

Induction Step:

$$2^{k+1} = 2 \times 2^k \geq 2 \times 100k = 200k \geq 100(k + 1)$$

If the statement is true for $n = k$, it must be true for $n = k+1$, thus the statement is true for all integers.

In the last step, we used the fact that $200k \geq 100(k + 1)$ when $k \geq 1$.

<http://math.about.com>