

# Discussion Note

## Induction

Ex. 1 Prove that we have  $1+2+\dots+n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$   
for all positive integers  $n$ .

Proof: we will prove by induction.

Base step: For  $n=1$ , we have

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

$$1 = 1$$

Induction step: For  $n=k$ , we assume

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

We will prove the statement for  $n=k+1$ , we have

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

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

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

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

Ex. 2 Prove that we have  $1^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$  for all positive integers  $n$ .

Proof: For  $n=1$ , we have

Base step  $\rightarrow 1^2 = \frac{(1)(1+1)(1+2)}{6}$

$$1 = 1$$

Induction step: For  $n=k$ , we assume

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

For  $n=k+1$ , we have

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

Ex. 3 Prove that we have

$1+3+5+7+\dots+(2n-1) = n^2$  for all positive integers  $n$ .

Proof:

Base step: For  $n=1$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}2 \cdot 1 - 1 &= 1^2 \\1 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Induction step: For  $n=k$ , we assume

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

For  $n=k+1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}1+3+\dots+(2(k+1)-1) &= 1+\dots+(2k+1) \\&= k^2 + (2k+1) \\&= (k+1)^2\end{aligned}$$

Induction:

1. Prove for  $n=1$

2. Assume the statement for  $n=k$

3. Prove for  $n=k+1$

$$\begin{aligned} & k^2(4k^2 - 4k + 1) + (2k+1)^3 \\ &= 4k^4 - 4k^3 + k^2 \qquad = (2k+1)(4k^2 + 4k + 1) \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad = 8k^3 + 8k^2 + 2k \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad + 4k^2 + 4k + 1 \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad = 8k^3 + 12k^2 + 6k + 1 \\ &= 4k^4 + 4k^3 + 12k^2 + 6k + 1 \\ &= 2k^2 + k + 1 \end{aligned}$$