

7/24/2019

Discussion Week 5Induction

Example ①: Prove that we have
 $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ for all positive integers n .

proof: We will prove by induction.

① Base Step: For $n=1$, we have

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

② Induction step: For $n=k$, we assume (we assume for $n=k$)
 $1 + 2 + \dots + k = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$

We will prove the statement for $n=k+1$.

We have $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + (k+1) = (1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + k) + (k+1)$

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

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

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



Example ②: Prove that we have

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

for all positive integers n .

proof: For $n=1$, we have

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

$$1 = 1$$

② Induction Step For $n=k$, we assume

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + k^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6}$$

For $n=k+1$, we have

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

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

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

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

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

$$= \frac{(k+1)(2k^2 + 7k + 6)}{6}$$

$$(2k+3)(k+2) = 2k^2 + 4k + 3k + 6$$

$$= 2k^2 + 7k + 6$$

$$= \frac{(k+1)(2k+3)(k+2)}{6}$$

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



Example ③: Prove that we have

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

for all positive integers n .

① Base Step: For $n=1$, we have

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

$$1 = 1$$

② Induction Step For $n=k$, we assume

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

For $n=k+1$,

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2(k+1)-1) &= 1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2k+1) \\
 &= (1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2k-1)) + (2k+1) \\
 &= k^2 + (2k+1) \\
 &= k^2 + 2k + 1 \\
 &= (k+1)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Induction (in a nut shell)

1. PROVE the statement for $n=1$.
2. ASSUME the statement for $n=k$.
3. PROVE the statement for $n=k+1$.