

Exercise 1(g)

1. Show that for all natural numbers, n :

$$2 + 4 + 6 + \cdots + 2n = n(n+1)$$

2. Prove that for all natural numbers, n :

$$(1 \times 2) + (2 \times 3) + (3 \times 4) + \cdots + n(n+1) = \frac{1}{3}n(n+1)(n+2)$$

3. Prove that for all natural numbers, n :

$$(1 \times 2 \times 3) + (2 \times 3 \times 4) + (3 \times 4 \times 5) + \cdots + n(n+1)(n+2) = \frac{1}{4}n(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)$$

4. Show that for all natural numbers, n :

$$1 + 2 + 2^2 + \cdots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$$

5. Show that for all natural numbers, n :

$$2 + 2^2 + \cdots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 2$$

6. Prove that for all natural numbers, n :

$$2 + 5 + 8 + \cdots + (3n-1) = \frac{1}{2}n(3n+1)$$

7. Prove that for all natural numbers, n :

$$1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \cdots + n^3 = \frac{1}{4}n^2(n+1)^2$$

8. Prove that for all natural numbers, n :

$$1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \cdots + n^3 = (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \cdots + n)^2$$

[Hint: Use the result of Question 3].

9. Show that for every natural number, n :

$$1 + r + r^2 + \cdots + r^n = \frac{1 - r^{n+1}}{1 - r} \quad (r \neq 1)$$

[This is the geometric progression with the first term equal to 1.]

10. Consider the following proposition $P(n)$ for the natural number n :

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

Find the first error in the following proof.

“Proof”

Clearly the result is true for $n = 1$.

Assume that $P(k)$ is true, that is $k + (k + 1) = 2k$

Then $P(k + 1)$ is true because

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

11. Let $P(n)$ be the false proposition

$P(n)$: $n^2 - n + 41$ is prime for all natural numbers n

Determine the first error in the following derivation:

$P(1)$ is true. Assume the proposition is true for $n = k$, that is

$$p = k^2 - k + 41 \text{ is prime} \quad (*)$$

Examining $P(k + 1)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} (k + 1)^2 - (k + 1) + 41 &= k^2 + 2k + 1 - k - 1 + 41 \\ &= k^2 + k + 41 \\ &= \underbrace{k^2 - k + 41}_{p \text{ by } (*)} + 2k \\ &= p + 2k = \text{prime} \end{aligned}$$

12. * Prove that for all natural numbers, n

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

13. * Prove that for all natural numbers, n

$$1^4 + 2^4 + 3^4 + \dots + n^4 = \frac{n(n + 1)(2n + 1)(3n^2 + 3n - 1)}{30}$$

14. * Prove that for all natural numbers, n

$$1^5 + 2^5 + 3^5 + \dots + n^5 = \frac{n^2(n + 1)^2(2n^2 + 2n - 1)}{12}$$