

# *Mathematical Induction*

e.g.(iii) Prove  $n(n+1)(n+2)$  is divisible by 3

Prove the result is true for  $n = 1$

$$(1)(2)(3)$$

$$= 6 \quad \text{which is divisible by 3}$$

Hence the result is true for  $n = 1$

Assume the result is true for  $n = k$ , where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

$$\text{i.e. } k(k+1)(k+2) = 3P, \text{ where } P \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Prove the result is true for  $n = k + 1$

$$\text{i.e. Prove } (k+1)(k+2)(k+3) = 3Q, \text{ where } Q \in \mathbb{Z}$$

***Proof:***

$$\begin{aligned} & (k+1)(k+2)(k+3) \\ &= k(k+1)(k+2) + 3(k+1)(k+2) \\ &= 3P + 3(k+1)(k+2) && \text{(by assumption)} \\ &= 3[P + (k+1)(k+2)] \\ &= 3Q, \text{ where } Q = P + (k+1)(k+2) \in \mathbb{Z} \end{aligned}$$

Hence the result is true for  $n = k + 1$  if it is also true for  $n = k$

Since the result is true for  $n = 1$ , then it is true  $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  by induction

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(iv) Prove  $3^{3n} + 2^{n+2}$  is divisible by 5

Prove the result is true for  $n = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} & 3^3 + 2^3 \\ &= 27 + 8 \\ &= 35 \quad \text{which is divisible by 5} \end{aligned}$$

Hence the result is true for  $n = 1$

Assume the result is true for  $n = k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

$$\text{i.e. } 3^{3k} + 2^{k+2} = 5P, \text{ where } P \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Prove the result is true for  $n = k + 1$

$$\text{i.e. Prove } 3^{3k+3} + 2^{k+3} = 5Q, \text{ where } Q \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\textbf{Proof: } & 3^{3k+3} + 2^{k+3} \\
&= 27 \cdot 3^{3k} + 2^{k+3} \\
&= 27(5P - 2^{k+2}) + 2^{k+3} && (3^{3k} = 5P - 2^{k+2} \text{ by assumption}) \\
&= 135P - 27 \cdot 2^{k+2} + 2^{k+3} \\
&= 135P - 27 \cdot 2^{k+2} + 2 \cdot 2^{k+2} \\
&= 135P - 25 \cdot 2^{k+2} \\
&= 5(27P - 5 \cdot 2^{k+2}) \\
&= 5Q, \text{ where } Q = 27P - 5 \cdot 2^{k+2} \in \mathbb{Z}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the result is true for  $n = k + 1$  if it is also true for  $n = k$

Since the result is true for  $n = 1$ , then it is true  $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  by induction

(v) Prove  $x^{2n+1} + a^{2n+1}$  is divisible by  $(x + a)$  for all positive integers

Prove the result is true for  $n = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} & x^3 + a^3 \\ &= (x + a)(x^2 - ax + a^2) \end{aligned}$$

which is divisible by  $(x + a)$

Hence the result is true for  $n = 1$

Assume the result is true for  $n = k$ , where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

i.e  $x^{2k+1} + a^{2k+1} = (x + a)Q(x)$ , where  $Q(x)$  is a polynomial

Prove the result is true for  $n = k + 1$

i.e Prove  $x^{2k+3} + a^{2k+3} = (x + a)T(x)$ , where  $T(x)$  is a polynomial

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned}x^{2k+3} + a^{2k+3} &= x^2 \times x^{2k+1} + a^{2k+3} \\&= x^2 \left\{ (x+a)Q(x) - a^{2k+1} \right\} + a^{2k+3} \text{ (by assumption rearranged)} \\&= (x+a)x^2Q(x) - a^{2k+1}x^2 + a^{2k+1}a^2 \\&= (x+a)x^2Q(x) - a^{2k+1}(x^2 - a^2) \\&= (x+a)x^2Q(x) - a^{2k+1}(x-a)(x+a) \\&= (x+a) \left\{ x^2Q(x) - a^{2k+1}(x-a) \right\} \\&= (x+a)T(x), \text{ where } T(x) = x^2Q(x) - a^{2k+1}(x-a) \\&\quad \text{which is a polynomial}\end{aligned}$$

Hence the result is true for  $n = k + 1$  if it is also true for  $n = k$   
Since the result is true for  $n = 1$ , then it is true  $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  by induction

**Exercise 2B; 2bd, 3, 4a, 5ac, 6, 7, 8a, 9, 10, 13a**

**in set notation:** for all integers  $n \geq 0 \Rightarrow \forall n \in \mathbb{Z} : n \geq 0$

for all even integers  $n \geq 0 \Rightarrow \forall n \in \mathbb{Z} : n \geq 0 : \exists a \in \mathbb{Z} : n = 2a$