


Mathematical Induction:

$P(n)$

$$a_n \geq 3$$

①

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

i) $P(1)$ is true

$$a_1 \geq 3$$

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

ii) : Assume $P(n)$ is true!

①: $a_n \geq 3$

②: $1+2+\dots+n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

want

prove:

$P(n+1)$ is true

Conclude: $P(n)$ is true for any
positive integer n .

$P(\infty)$

$P(n)$ true, $\forall n$ \Leftrightarrow $P(\infty)$ is true

$$\frac{1}{n} > 0$$

$$0 > 0$$

Exercise 1. (Level 1)

Prove that $1 \times 2 + 2 \times 3 + 3 \times 4 + \dots + n \times (n+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$ for all natural numbers n .

Proof by induction: $P(n)$ is

$$\underline{1 \times 2 + 2 \times 3 + \dots + n \times (n+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}}$$

$$i) P(1) : 1 \times 2 \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} \frac{1 \times (1+1) \times (1+2)}{3}$$

(ii) Assume $P(n)$ is true

$P(n+1)$:

$$1 \times 2 + \dots + n \times (n+1) + (n+1) \times (n+2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{3}$$

Apply the hypothesis:

$$\left(1 \times 2 + \dots + n \times (n+1) \right) + (n+1) \times (n+2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3} + (n+1) \times (n+2) \quad \begin{matrix} (n+3) \\ // \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} (n+1) \\ // \end{matrix} \quad (n+2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \left(n(n+1)(n+2) + 3(n+1)(n+2) \right)$$

Exercise 2. (Level 1)

Prove that $8^n - 3^n$ is divisible by 5 for all natural numbers n .

$$8^n - 3^n = 5 \times \square \rightarrow \text{integer}$$

Proof by induction: Let $P(n) =$

" $8^n - 3^n$ is divisible by 5 "

i) - $P(1)$: $8^1 - 3^1 = 5 \times 1$

ii) : Assume $P(n)$ is true :

There is an integer M such that :

$$8^n - 3^n = 5 \cdot M$$

$P(n+1)$:

$$8^{n+1} - 3^{n+1} = 8 \cdot 8^n - 3 \cdot 3^n$$

$$= 8 \cdot 8^n - 8 \cdot 3^n + 8 \cdot 3^n - 3 \cdot 3^n$$

$$= 8 \cdot (8^n - 3^n) + 5 \cdot 3^n$$

$$= 8 \cdot 5 \cdot M + 5 \cdot 3^n$$

$$= 5 (8M + 3^n)$$

□

Exercise 3. (Level 1)

A sequence $\{a_n\}$ is defined by

$$a_1 = 3 \text{ and } a_{n+1} = \sqrt{a_n + 5} \text{ for } n \geq 1.$$

Show that $a_n \geq a_{n+1}$ for all natural numbers n .

Proof by induction: $P(n)$: " $a_n \geq a_{n+1}$ "

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i) } P(1) \quad a_1 &\geq a_2 & a_2 &= \sqrt{a_1 + 5} \\ & & &= \sqrt{3 + 5} = \sqrt{8} < 3 \end{aligned}$$

ii) Assume $P(n)$ is true:

$$a_n \geq a_{n+1}$$

$P(n+1)$: $a_{n+1} \geq a_{(n+1)+1} = a_{n+2}$

$$a_{n+2} = \sqrt{a_{n+1} + 5} \leq \sqrt{a_n + 5} = a_{n+1} \quad \square$$

$$a_{n+5} \geq a_{n+1+5}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{a_{n+5}} \geq \sqrt{a_{n+1+5}}$$

Exercise 4. (Level 1)

A sequence $\{a_n\}$ is defined by

$$a_1 = 4 \text{ and } a_{n+1} = \frac{6(a_n^2 + 1)}{a_n^2 + 11} \text{ for } n \geq 1.$$

(a) Show that $a_n > 3$ for all natural numbers n .

(b) Show that $a_n \geq a_{n+1}$ for all natural numbers n .

(a) : Proof by induction: $P(n) : "a_n > 3"$

i) $P(1) : a_1 > 3 \quad \checkmark$

ii) Assume $P(n)$ is true: $a_n > 3$

Want to prove: $P(n+1)$ is true $a_{n+1} > 3$

$$\underline{a_{n+1} - 3} = \frac{6(a_n^2 + 1)}{a_n^2 + 1} - 3$$

$$= \frac{6(a_n^2 + 1) - 3(a_n^2 + 1)}{a_n^2 + 1}$$

$$= \frac{3a_n^2 - 2}{a_n^2 + 1} > 0$$

$$a_n > 3 \Rightarrow a_n^2 > 9 \Rightarrow 3a_n^2 > 27$$

(b) : Proof by induction =

$$P(n) : a_n \geq a_{n+1}$$

i) : $P(1)$ is true: $a_1 \geq a_2$

$$a_2 = \frac{6 \times (a_1^2 + 1)}{a_1^2 + 11} = \frac{6 \times (16 + 1)}{16 + 11} = \frac{6 \times 17}{27}$$



i) Assume: $P(n)$ is true:

$$a_n \geq a_{n+1}$$

Want to prove: $a_{n+1} \geq a_{n+2}$

$$a_{n+1} - a_{n+2} = \frac{6(a_n^2 + 1)}{a_n^2 + 11} - \frac{6(a_{n+1}^2 + 1)}{a_{n+1}^2 + 11} \geq 0$$

$$\frac{6(a_n^2 + 1) - 60}{a_n^2 + 11} = 6 - \frac{60}{a_n^2 + 11}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+1} - a_{n+2} &= \left(6 - \frac{60}{a_n^2 + 11} \right) - \left(6 - \frac{60}{a_{n+1}^2 + 11} \right) \\ &= 60 \left(\frac{1}{a_n^2 + 11} - \frac{1}{a_{n+1}^2 + 11} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{a_{n+1}^2 + 11} - \frac{1}{a_n^2 + 11} = \frac{1}{\boxed{\quad}} (a_n^2 + 11 - (a_{n+1}^2 + 11))$$

$$= \frac{1}{\boxed{\quad}} (a_n^2 - a_{n+1}^2) \geq 0$$

$$\uparrow$$
$$(a_n^2 + 11) - (a_{n+1}^2 + 11)$$

≥ 0

$$P(1) \Rightarrow P(2) \Rightarrow P(3) \dots \Rightarrow P(n)$$

$$i) P(1) \quad ii) P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$$

$$i) P(2) \quad ii) P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$$

$$P(2) \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow P(n)$$

$$i) P(k) \quad ii) P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$$

$$P(k) \Rightarrow P(k+1) \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow P(n)$$

$$2) \cdot \quad \underline{P(1) \Rightarrow P(2) \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow P(n)}$$

i) $P(1)$ is true

ii) $P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$

$P(2)$ is true

$P(n-1), P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)$

$P(3)$

$P(3) \Leftarrow P(1), P(2)$

$P(n-2)$

\vdots

$P(4) \Leftarrow P(2), P(3)$

$P(k)$ is true

for any $1 \leq k \leq n$

i) $P(1) \checkmark$

ii) $P(k) \xrightarrow{k \leq n} P(n+1)$

$$\begin{array}{l} p(1) \\ p(2) \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} p(3) \\ p(2) \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} p(4) \\ p(3) \end{array} \Rightarrow p(5) \dots$$