

## Math 135, Fall 2019, Sample Answers for Homework 8

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**Exercise 10.1.** Prove that  $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* We use proof by induction. For the base case,  $n = 1$ , the formula becomes  $1^2 = \frac{1(2)(3)}{6}$ , which is true.

For the inductive case, let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and suppose that we already know that  $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + k^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6}$ . We must show that the formula also holds for  $k+1$ :  $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + (k+1)^2 = \frac{(k+1)((k+1)+1)(2(k+1)+1)}{6}$ . The left hand side of this formula can be written

$$\begin{aligned} 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + (k+1)^2 &= (1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + k^2) + (k+1)^2 \\ &= \left( \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} \right) + (k+1)^2 \\ &= \left( \frac{2k^3 + 3k^2 + k}{6} \right) + (k^2 + 2k + 1) \\ &= \frac{2k^3 + 3k^2 + k + 6k^2 + 12k + 6}{6} \\ &= \frac{2k^3 + 9k^2 + 13k + 6}{6} \end{aligned}$$

while the right hand side can be written

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(k+1)((k+1)+1)(2(k+1)+1)}{6} &= \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k^2 + 3k + 2)(2k+3)}{6} \\ &= \frac{2k^3 + 6k^2 + 4k + 3k^2 + 9k + 6}{6} \\ &= \frac{2k^3 + 9k^2 + 13k + 6}{6} \end{aligned}$$

Since the two sides of the formula are equal, we have proved that it holds for  $k+1$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 10.8.** Prove  $\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{n}{(n+1)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(n+1)!}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* We use proof by induction. For the base case,  $n = 1$ , the formula becomes  $\frac{1}{2!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(1+1)!}$ . This is equivalent to  $\frac{1}{2} = 1 - \frac{1}{2}$ , which is true.

For the inductive case, let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and suppose that we already know that  $\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{k}{(k+1)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(k+1)!}$ . We must show that the same formula holds for  $k+1$ . But

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{k+1}{((k+1)+1)!} &= \left( \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{2}{3!} + \frac{3}{4!} + \dots + \frac{k}{(k+1)!} \right) + \frac{k+1}{(k+2)!} \\ &= \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(k+1)!} \right) + \frac{k+1}{(k+2)!} \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{(k+1)!} + \frac{k+1}{(k+2) \cdot (k+1)!} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 1 - \frac{k+2}{(k+2) \cdot (k+1)!} + \frac{k+1}{(k+2) \cdot (k+1)!} \\
&= 1 + \frac{-(k+2) + (k+1)}{(k+2) \cdot (k+1)!} \\
&= 1 + \frac{-1}{(k+2) \cdot (k+1)!} \\
&= 1 - \frac{1}{(k+2)!} \\
&= 1 - \frac{1}{((k+1)+1)!}
\end{aligned}$$

so the formula holds for  $k+1$ . □

**Exercise 10.10.** Prove that  $3 \mid (5^{2n} - 1)$  for every integer  $n > 0$ .

*Proof.* We use proof by induction. For the base case,  $n = 0$ , we must show that  $3 \mid (5^0 - 1)$ . Since  $5^0 = 1$ , this is equivalent to  $3 \mid (1 - 1)$ , which is true because every non-zero integer divides 0.

For the inductive case, let  $k = 0$ , and suppose that  $3 \mid (5^{2k} - 1)$ . We must show that  $3 \mid (5^{2(k+1)} - 1)$ . But

$$\begin{aligned}
5^{2(k+1)} - 1 &= 5^{2k+2} - 1 \\
&= (5^{2k} \cdot 5^2) - 1 \\
&= (25 \cdot 5^{2k}) - 1 \\
&= (25 \cdot 5^{2k} - 25) + 25 - 1 \\
&= 25(5^{2k} - 1) + 24.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $3 \mid (5^{2k} - 1)$  by the induction hypothesis and  $3 \mid 24$ , it follows that  $3 \mid (25(5^{2k} - 1) + 24)$ . That is,  $3 \mid (5^{2(k+1)} - 1)$ . So the theorem holds for  $k+1$ . □

**Exercise 10.18.** We consider subsets of some universal set  $U$ . Prove that  $\overline{A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n} = \overline{A_1} \cap \overline{A_2} \cap \dots \cap \overline{A_n}$  for all  $n \geq 2$  and all subsets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  of  $U$ .

*Proof.* We use proof by induction.

Base Case,  $n = 2$ : We want to show  $\overline{A_1 \cup A_2} = \overline{A_1} \cap \overline{A_2}$  for all subsets  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  of  $U$ . But this is just DeMorgan's law for sets, which we have already proved.

Inductive Case. Let  $k \geq 2$  and suppose we already know that  $\overline{A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_k} = \overline{A_1} \cap \overline{A_2} \cap \dots \cap \overline{A_k}$  for any  $k$  subsets of  $U$ . Consider any  $k+1$  subsets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{k+1}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\overline{A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_{k+1}} &= \overline{(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_k) \cup A_{k+1}} \\
&= \overline{A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_k} \cap \overline{A_{k+1}} && \text{by the } n = 2 \text{ case} \\
&= \overline{A_1} \cap \overline{A_2} \cap \dots \cap \overline{A_k} \cap \overline{A_{k+1}} && \text{by the inductive hypothesis}
\end{aligned}$$

so the theorem is true for any  $k+1$  subsets of  $U$ . □

**Exercise 10.34.** Prove that  $3^1 + 3^2 + 3^3 + \dots + 3^n = \frac{3^{n+1}-3}{2}$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* We use proof by induction.

Base Case,  $n = 1$ : For  $n = 1$ , the statement becomes  $3^1 = \frac{3^2-3}{2}$ . Since  $\frac{3^2-3}{2} = \frac{9-3}{2} = \frac{6}{2} = 3$ , the statement is true for  $n = 1$ .

Inductive case. Let  $k \geq 1$ , and suppose that  $3^1 + 3^2 + 3^3 + \dots + 3^k = \frac{3^{k+1}-3}{2}$ . We must show that  $3^1 + 3^2 + 3^3 + \dots + 3^{k+1} = \frac{3^{k+2}-3}{2}$ . But

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

so the statement is true for  $n = k + 1$ . □

**Extra Exercise 1.** Prove that  $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{n}{n+1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(a) **Proof by induction.** Base Case: When  $n = 1$ , the statement becomes  $\frac{1}{1(1+1)} = \frac{1}{1+1}$ , so the statement is true for  $n = 1$ .

Inductive case: Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and suppose that  $\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{k}{k+1}$ . we must show  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{k+1}{k+2}$ . But

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{i(i+1)} &= \left( \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i(i+1)} \right) + \frac{1}{(k+1)(k+1+1)} \\ &= \left( \frac{k}{k+1} \right) + \frac{1}{(k+1)(k+2)} \\ &= \frac{k(k+2)+1}{(k+1)(k+2)} \\ &= \frac{k^2+2k+1}{(k+1)(k+2)} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)^2}{(k+1)(k+2)} \\ &= \frac{k+1}{k+2} \end{aligned}$$

so the statement is true for  $n = k + 1$ .

(a) **Direct proof.** Note that  $\frac{1}{i} - \frac{1}{i+1} = \frac{(i+1)-i}{i(i+1)} = \frac{1}{i(i+1)}$ , so we can write

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{1}{1 \cdot 2} + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n \cdot (n+1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left(\frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}\right) + \cdots + \left(\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1}\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{n+1} \\
&= \frac{(n+1) - 1}{n+1} \\
&= \frac{n}{n+1}
\end{aligned}$$

**Extra Exercise 1.** Prove that  $\sum_{i=0}^n r^i = \frac{1-r^{n+1}}{1-r}$  for all integers  $n \geq 0$ .

**(a) Proof by induction.** Base Case: When  $n = 0$ , the statement becomes  $r^0 = \frac{1-r^1}{1-r}$ , which reduces to  $1 = 1$ . So the statement is true for  $n = 0$ .

Inductive Case: Let  $k \geq 0$ , and suppose that  $\sum_{i=0}^k r^i = \frac{1-r^{k+1}}{1-r}$ . We must show  $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} r^i = \frac{1-r^{k+2}}{1-r}$ .  
But

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} r^i &= \left(\sum_{i=0}^k r^i\right) + r^{k+1} \\
&= \frac{1-r^{k+1}}{1-r} + r^{k+1} \\
&= \frac{1-r^{k+1} + (1-r)r^{k+1}}{1-r} \\
&= \frac{1-r^{k+1} + r^{k+1} - r^{k+2}}{1-r} \\
&= \frac{1-r^{k+2}}{1-r}
\end{aligned}$$

so the statement holds for  $n = k + 1$ .

**(a) Direct proof.** Let  $S = \sum_{i=0}^n r^i = 1+r+r^2+r^3+\cdots+r^n$ . Then  $rS = r+r^2+r^3+r^4+\cdots+r^{n+1}$ , and  $S - rS = 1 - r^{n+1}$ . Factoring  $S - rS = S(1 - r)$  and dividing by  $1 - r$  gives  $S = \frac{1-r^{n+1}}{1-r}$ , as we wanted to show.