

Mathematical induction

Mathematical induction is a method of mathematical proof typically used to establish that a given statement is true for all natural numbers.

The simplest and most common form of mathematical induction proves that a statement involving a natural number n holds for all values of n .

The principle of mathematical induction is as follows:

For the statement $T(n)$, $n \in N$ is:

- 1) $T(1)$ is true [or in some cases $T(0)$ is true]
- 2) $T(n) \Rightarrow T(n+1)$ is true for $\forall n = 1, 2, \dots$ then, the statement $T(n)$ is true for $\forall n \in N$

Practically, we will do:

- 1) Check whether the formula is correct for $n = 1$
- 2) Suppose that the formula is correct for $n = k$ [**induction hypothesis**]
- 3) Argues that the formula is correct for $n = k + 1$

EXAMPLES:

- 1) **Prove that the statement:** $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ **holds for all natural numbers n .**

Proof:

- i) Check whether the formula is correct for $n = 1$ (instead n , we put 1)

$$1 = \frac{1(1+1)}{2} \Rightarrow 1 = 1 \quad \text{correct}$$

- ii) **Induction hypothesis:** suppose that the formula is correct for $n = k$ (instead n , we put k)

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

iii) Argues that the formula is correct for $n = k + 1$

First, see what you need to prove, in the initial formula replace n with $k + 1$, but **always on the left side write before- last member.**

$$1 + 2 + \dots + \overset{\uparrow}{k} + (k + 1) = \frac{(k + 1)(k + 1 + 1)}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad 1 + 2 + \dots + k + (k + 1) = \frac{(k + 1)(k + 2)}{2}$$

before- last member **So, this should prove!**

Always **begin by hypothesis** that we have presumed that is always correct!

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

Stop a little, and compare the left side of the hypothesis and what should prove

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

↑

We see that in the hypothesis is missing member $(k + 1)$. It is a **trick**, that on both sides of the hypothesis add expression $(k + 1)$.

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

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

When you calculate, the right side must be $\frac{(k + 1)(k + 2)}{2}$

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

This is a complete proof.

2) Prove that the statement: $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$ holds for all natural numbers n .

Proof:

i) Check whether the formula is correct for $n = 1$

$$1^2 = \frac{1(1+1)(2 \cdot 1+1)}{6} \Rightarrow 1 = 1 \quad \text{correct}$$

ii) **Induction hypothesis:** suppose that the formula is correct for $n = k$

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

iii) Argues that the formula is correct for $n = k + 1$

Always first we see what we have to prove:

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

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

Head from hypothesis, and on both sides add $(k+1)^2$

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

$$\underbrace{1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + k^2 + (k+1)^2}_{\text{left side is same}} = \underbrace{\frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} + (k+1)^2}_{\text{This must give : } \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6}}$$

left side is same This must give : $\frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6}$

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

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

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

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

Term $2k^2 + 7k + 6$, we'll separate on facts with $ak^2 + bk + c = 0 \dots \dots \dots a(k - k_1)(k - k_2) = 0$

$$2k^2 + 7k + 6 = 0$$

$$k_{1,2} = \frac{-7 \pm 1}{4} \quad \text{So: } 2k^2 + 7k + 6 = 2\left(k + \frac{3}{2}\right)(k + 2) = (2k + 3)(k + 2)$$

$$k_1 = -\frac{3}{2}$$

$$k_2 = -2$$

Let's go back to the task:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} + \frac{(k+1)^2}{1} &= \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1) + 6(k+1)^2}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)[k(2k+1) + 6(k+1)]}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)[2k^2 + k + 6k + 6]}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)[2k^2 + 7k + 6]}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(2k+3)(k+2)}{6} \end{aligned}$$

And this we should prove!

3) **Prove that the statement:** $\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \dots + \frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n+1)} = \frac{n}{2n+1}$ **holds for all natural numbers n .**

Proof:

i) $\frac{1}{(2 \cdot 1 - 1)(2 \cdot 1 + 1)} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 1 + 1} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$ correct

ii) **Induction hypothesis:** $\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \dots + \frac{1}{(2k-1)(2k+1)} = \frac{k}{2k+1}$

iii) Argues that the formula is correct for $n = k + 1$

Prvo da vidimo šta treba da First to see what should be prove!

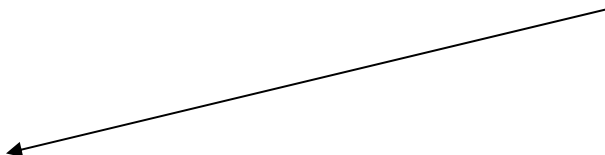
$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \dots + \frac{1}{(2k-1)(2k+1)} + \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)} = \frac{k+1}{2k+3}$$

Proof will as usual start from the hypothesis:

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \dots + \frac{1}{(2k-1)(2k+1)} = \frac{k}{2k+1}$$

on both sides will add $\frac{1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)}$

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \dots + \frac{1}{(2k-1)(2k+1)} + \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)} = \frac{k}{2k+1} + \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)}$$

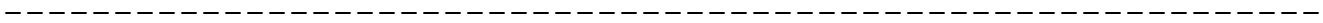


$$\frac{k}{2k+1} + \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)} = \frac{k(2k+3)+1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)} = \frac{2k^2+3k+1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2k^2+3k+1 &= 0 & 2k^2+3k+1 &= a(k-k_1)(k-k_2) \\ k_{1,2} &= \frac{-3 \pm 1}{4} & &= 2\left(k + \frac{1}{2}\right)(k+1) \\ k_1 &= -\frac{1}{2} & &= (2k+1)(k+1) \\ k_2 &= -1 & & \end{aligned}$$

Let's go back to the task:

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



4) Prove that $5^{n-1} + 2^n$ is divisible by 3 for all natural numbers n .

Proof:

i) for $n = 1$ $5^{n-1} + 2^n = 5^{1-1} + 2^1 = 5^0 + 2 = 1 + 2 = 3$ correct, because $3:3 = 1$

ii) Induction hypothesis : $5^{k-1} + 2^k$ can be divided by 3

iii) To prove that $5^{n-1} + 2^n$ can be divided with 3 for $n = k + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} 5^{n-1} + 2^n &= 5^{k-1} + 2^{k+1} \\ &= 5^{k-1+1} + 2^k \cdot 2^1 \\ &= 5^{k-1} 5^1 + 2^k \cdot 2 \\ &= 5 \cdot 5^{k-1} + 2 \cdot 2^k \end{aligned}$$

We use formula: $a^{m+n} = a^m \cdot a^n$



Write as "trick" : $5 \cdot 5^{k-1} = 3 \cdot 5^{k-1} + 2 \cdot 5^{k-1}$

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

It is certainly divisible with 3 . Why?

$$3 \cdot 5^{k-1} + 2(5^{k-1} + 2^k)$$



obviously, because of 3



is divisible by 3 because of our assumption that $5^{k-1} + 2^k$ is divisible by 3

5) Prove that $6^{2n} + 3^{n+2} + 3^n$ is divisible by 11 for all natural numbers n .

Proof:

i) for $n=1$ is $6^{2n} + 3^{n+2} + 3^n = 6^2 + 3^3 + 3^1$
 $= 36 + 27 + 3$
 $= 66 = 6 \cdot 11$
 correct

ii) Induction hypothesis $6^{2n} + 3^{n+2} + 3^n$ can be divided by 11

iii) Proof for $n=k+1$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &6^{2(k+1)} + 3^{k+1+2} + 3^{k+1} = \\
 &6^{2k+1} + 3^{k+2+1} + 3^{k+1} = \\
 &6^{2k} \cdot 6^2 + 3^{k+2} \cdot 3^1 + 3^k \cdot 3^1 = \quad (a^{m+n} = a^m \cdot a^n) \\
 &36 \cdot 6^{2k} + 3 \cdot 3^{k+2} + 3 \cdot 3^k =
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, we need some ideas!

As with 6^{2k} we have 36, triples with 3^{k+2} and 3^k we will write as $3 = 36 - 33$

$36 \cdot 6^{2k} + \boxed{3} \cdot 3^{k+2} + \boxed{3} \cdot 3^k$ is idea!
 $36-33$ $36-33$

So:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &36 \cdot 6^{2k} + 36 \cdot 3^{k+2} - 33 \cdot 3^{k+2} + 36 \cdot 3^k - 33 \cdot 3^k = \\
 &= 36(6^{2k} + 3^{k+2} + 3^k) - 33(3^{k+2} + 3^k)
 \end{aligned}$$

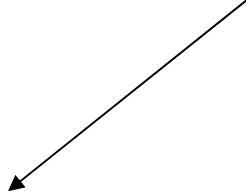
Term $36(6^{2k} + 3^{k+2} + 3^k)$ is divisible by 11 because of assumptions and expression $33(3^{k+2} + 3^k)$ because of number $33 = 3 \cdot 11$

This is a complete proof.

6) Prove that for any natural number $n > 1$ is $\frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n} > \frac{13}{24}$

Solution:

i) For $n=2$ is $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{7}{12} = \frac{14}{24}$
 $\frac{14}{24} > \frac{13}{24}$ correct



ii) Induction hypothesis: for $n=k$ $\frac{1}{k+1} + \frac{1}{k+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2k} > \frac{13}{24}$

iii) For $n=k+1$, we need to prove: $\frac{1}{k+2} + \frac{1}{k+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2k} + \frac{1}{2(k+1)} > \frac{13}{24}$

We must use a new “trick”!

Mark with:

$$S_k = \frac{1}{k+1} + \frac{1}{k+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2k} \quad (S_k > \frac{13}{24}, \text{By assumption})$$

and $S_{k+1} = \frac{1}{k+2} + \frac{1}{k+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2k} + \frac{1}{2k+1} + \frac{1}{2(k+1)}$

Determine the difference $S_{k+1} - S_k = ?$

$$\begin{aligned} S_{k+1} - S_k &= \left(\frac{1}{k+2} + \frac{1}{k+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2k+1} + \frac{1}{2(k+1)} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{k+1} + \frac{1}{k+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2k} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{k+2} + \frac{1}{k+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2k} + \frac{1}{2k+1} + \frac{1}{2(k+1)} - \frac{1}{k+1} - \frac{1}{k+2} - \dots - \frac{1}{2k} \\ &= \frac{1}{2k+1} + \frac{1}{2(k+1)} - \frac{1}{k+1} \\ &= \frac{1 \cdot 2(k+1) + 1 \cdot (2k+1) - 2(k+1)}{(2k+1) \cdot 2 \cdot (k+1)} \\ &= \frac{2k+2+2k+1-4k-2}{2(2k+1)(k+1)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2(2k+1)(k+1)} > 0 \end{aligned}$$

This is certainly positive, because $k > 0$ $2k + 1 > 0$ and $k + 1 > 0$

So: $S_{k+1} - S_k > 0$

$$S_{k+1} > \underbrace{S_k}_{> \frac{13}{24}}$$

induction hypothesis

Then is: $S_{k+1} > \frac{13}{24}$

This is a complete proof !

7) Prove that: $2^n > n^2$ for everyone $n \geq 5$

Proof:

Proof begin with $n = 5$, because $n \geq 5$

i)

$$n = 5 \Rightarrow 2^5 > 5^2 \\ 36 > 25 \text{ correct}$$

ii) Induction hypothesis: for $n=k$ is $2^k > k^2$

iii) For $n=k+1$, we need to prove: $2^{k+1} > (k+1)^2$

Here we need new ideas!

Watch the term : $\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2$

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 = 1^2 + 2 \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{1}{n} + \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^2 = 1 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}$$

since $n \geq 5 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{1}{n^2} \leq \frac{1}{25}$

then $\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 = 1 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2} \leq 1 + \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{25}$

$$1 + \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{25} = 1 + \frac{11}{25} < 2$$

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^2 < 2$$

$$\frac{(n+1)^2}{n^2} < 2$$

and then is $\frac{(k+1)^2}{k^2} < 2$, and hypothesis is $2^k > k^2$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 2^k > k^2 \\ 2 > \frac{(k+1)^2}{k^2} \end{array} \right\} \text{multiply them! (left with left and right with right)}$$

$$2^k \cdot 2 > \frac{(k+1)^2}{k^2} \cdot k^2$$

$2^{k+1} > (k+1)^2 \rightarrow$ **and this is what we want to prove!**