

PROVING DIVISIBILITY BY INDUCTION

1 If k and M are integers, which of the following expressions does *not* always generate an integer?

A $9M+4 \times 7k$

B $9M-4 \times 7k$

C $9M+4 \times 7k$

D $9M \times 4 \times 7k$

Prove by induction

4 $3^n + 2^n$ is divisible by 5 for all odd integers $n \geq 1$. 5 $5^n + 2(11^n)$ is a multiple of 3 for all positive integers n .

4) For $n=1$ $3^1 + 2^1 = 5$ which is divisible by 5. So it's true for $n=1$

We assume it's true for $n=k$, i.e. $\exists q \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $3^k + 2^k = 5q$.

In that case $3^{k+2} + 2^{k+2} = 3^k \times 3^2 + 2^k \times 2^2$

$$= [5q - 2^k] \times 9 + 2^k \times 4$$

$$= 45q - 2^k \times 9 + 2^k \times 4$$

$$= 15q + 2^k [-9 + 4] = 15q - 5 \times 2^k$$

$$= 5 [3q - 2^k]$$

So it's also true for $k+2$. \therefore it's true for all odd integers $n \geq 1$

5) $n=1$ $5^1 + 2 \times 11^1 = 5 + 22 = 27$ which is divisible by 3

So it's true for $n=1$

Assume it's true for $n=k$, i.e. $\exists q \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$5^k + 2(11^k) = 3q.$$

$$\text{or } 5^k = 3q - 2 \times 11^k$$

In that case:

$$5^{k+1} + 2 \times 11^{k+1} = 5^k \times 5 + 2 \times 11^{k+1}$$

$$= [3q - 2 \times 11^k] \times 5 + 2 \times 11^{k+1}$$

$$= 15q - 10 \times 11^k + 2 \times 11^{k+1}$$

$$= 15q + 11^k [-10 + 2 \times 11]$$

$$= 15q + 12 \times 11^k$$

$$= 3 [5q + 4 \times 11^k]$$

So it's also true for $k+1$.

As it's true for $n=1$, it's true for any $n \geq 0$ integers.

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6 (a) Factorise $k(k+1)(k+2) + 3(k+1)(k+2) = E$

(b) Hence prove that $n(n+1)(n+2)$ is divisible by 3 for all positive integers n .

a) $E = (k+1)(k+2)(k+3) = k(k+1)(k+2) + 3(k+1)(k+2)$

b) $n(n+1)(n+2) = (n+1)(n+2)(n+3) - 3(n+1)(n+2)$.

Step 1 For $n=1$ $1 \times 2 \times 3$ is divisible by 3.

Step 2 we assume it's true for k .

i.e. $\exists q \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $k(k+1)(k+2) = 3q$.

In that case $(k+1)(k+2)(k+3) = k(k+1)(k+2) + 3(k+1)(k+2)$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = 3q + 3(k+1)(k+2)$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = 3 \left[q + (k+1)(k+2) \right]$$

$\left[q + (k+1)(k+2) \right]$ is an integer.

So $(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)$ is divisible by 3 indeed

So it's also true for $n=k+1$.

Step 3: we demonstrated it's true for $n=1$

we showed it's true for $(k+1)$ if it's true for k .

Therefore it's true for any positive integer n .

PROVING DIVISIBILITY BY INDUCTION

7 $3^{2n} + 2^{n+2}$ is divisible by 5 for all positive integers n .

8 $7^n - 2^n$ is divisible by 9 for all even integers greater or equal to 2

Q7 Step 1 for $n=1$ $3^{3 \times 1} + 2^{1+2} = 3^3 + 2^3 = 27 + 8 = 35$
which is indeed divisible by 5.

Step 2 - let assume it's true for k , i.e. there exists an integer p such that $3^{3k} + 2^{k+2} = 5p$. (i.e. $3^{3k} = 5p - 2^{k+2}$)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For } k+1, \quad 3^{3(k+1)} + 2^{(k+1)+2} &= 27 \times 3^{3k} + 2^{k+3} \\ &= 27 [5p - 2^{k+2}] + 2^{k+3} \quad (\text{using the assumption}) \\ &= 5 \times 27 p - 27 \times 2^{k+2} + 2 \times 2^{k+2} \\ &= 5 \times 27 p - 2^{k+2} \times 25 \\ &= 5 [27p - 5 \times 2^{k+2}] \end{aligned}$$

$27p - 5 \times 2^{k+2}$ is an integer, $\therefore 3^{3(k+1)} + 2^{(k+1)+2}$ is divisible by 5

Step 3: * true for $n=1$. * it's true for $(k+1)$ if it's true for k .

\therefore by induction, it's true $\forall n \geq 1$

Q8 Step 1 $n=2$ $7^2 - 2^2 = 49 - 4 = 45$ which is divisible by 9

Step 2 We assume it's true for k , i.e. there exists p integer s.t. $7^k - 2^k = 9p$.

in that case $7^{k+2} - 2^{k+2} = 7^2 \times [9p + 2^k] - 2^{k+2}$

$$= 7^2 \times 9p + 2^k [49 - 4]$$

$$= 9 [49p + 5 \times 2^k]$$

$49p + 5 \times 2^k$ is an integer, so indeed $7^{k+2} - 2^{k+2}$ is divisible by 9.

Step 3. True for $n=2$

true for $k+2$ if true for k . \therefore by induction, it's true for all even integers.

PROVING DIVISIBILITY BY INDUCTION

14 (a) Show that $(k+3)^3 = k^3 + 9k^2 + 27k + 27$.

(b) Hence prove that the sum of the cubes of three consecutive positive integers is divisible by 3.

a) $(k+3)^3 = k^3 + 3 \times k^2 \times 3 + 3k \times 3^2 + 3^3 = k^3 + 9k^2 + 27k + 27$

b) We want to show that $n^3 + (n+1)^3 + (n+2)^3$ is divisible by 3

For $n=1$ $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 = 1 + 8 + 27 = 36$ which is divisible by 3

Assume it's true for $n=k$, i.e. $\exists q \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that:

$$k^3 + (k+1)^3 + (k+2)^3 = 3q.$$

Now for $n=k+1$:

$$(k+1)^3 + (k+2)^3 + (k+3)^3 = [3q - k^3] + (k+3)^3$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = [3q - k^3] + [k^3 + 9k^2 + 27k + 27]$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = 3q + 9k^2 + 27k + 27$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = 3[q + 3k^2 + 9k + 9]$$

$(q + 3k^2 + 9k + 9)$ is an integer, being a sum and a product of integers.

So $(k+1)^3 + (k+2)^3 + (k+3)^3$ is divisible by 3.

Step 3: we've shown it's true for $n=1$

we've shown it's true for $(k+1)$ if it's true for k .

\therefore it's true for any n positive integer.

PROVING DIVISIBILITY BY INDUCTION

15 Prove that the polynomial $(x-1)^{n+2} + x^{2n+1}$ is divisible by $x^2 - x + 1$ for all positive integers n .

(Note: In step 2, you can't say $(x-1)^{k+2} + x^{2k+1} = (x^2 - x + 1)M$ where M is an integer. You must say $(x-1)^{k+2} + x^{2k+1} = (x^2 - x + 1)M(x)$, where $M(x)$ is a polynomial, and continue this through the rest of the proof.)

Step 1: for $n=1$ $(x-1)^{1+2} + x^{2 \times 1 + 1} = (x-1)^3 + x^3$

$$= [(x-1) + x] [(x-1)^2 - (x-1)x + x^2]$$

as $a^3 + b^3 = (a+b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$

So $(x-1)^3 + x^3 = (2x-1)[x^2 - x + 1]$ so it's true for $n=1$

Step 2: we assume it's true for $n=k$, i.e. $\exists M(x)$ polynomial.

$$(x-1)^{k+2} + x^{2k+1} = M(x)[x^2 - x + 1]$$

In that case $(x-1)^{(k+1)+2} + x^{2(k+1)+1} = (x-1)^{k+3} + x^{2k+3}$

$$= (x-1)^{k+2} (x-1) + x^{2k+3}$$

$$= [M(x)[x^2 - x + 1] - x^{2k+1}] (x-1) + x^{2k+3}$$

$$= [x^2 - x + 1] M(x) (x-1) - (x-1) x^{2k+1} + x^{2k+3}$$

$$= [x^2 - x + 1] M(x) (x-1) + x^{2k+1} [x^2 - x + 1]$$

$$= [x^2 - x + 1] [M(x) (x-1) + x^{2k+1}]$$

\therefore it's also true for $(k+1)$ if it's true for k .

Step 3: we've shown it's true for $n=1$

we've demonstrated it's true for $(k+1)$ if it's true for k .

Therefore, by induction, it's true for all positive integers.

PROVING DIVISIBILITY BY INDUCTION

16 Prove that $x^n - 1$ is divisible by $x - 1$ for all positive integers n . (Use $x^{k+1} - 1 = x^{k+1} - x^k + x^k - 1$.)

Step 1. for $n=1$ $x^1 - 1 = x - 1$ is indeed divisible by $(x-1)$.

Step 2: We assume it's true for $n=k$, i.e.,
 $\exists P(x)$ polynomial such that $x^k - 1 = P(x)(x-1)$
In that case $x^{k+1} - 1 = x^{k+1} - x^k + x^k - 1$

$$\text{---} = x^k(x-1) + (x-1)P(x)$$

$$\text{---} = (x-1)[P(x) + x^k]$$

\therefore it's also true for $k+1$

Step 3 we've demonstrated $(x^n - 1)$ is divisible by $(x-1)$

for $n=1$

We've proved that if $(x^k - 1)$ is divisible by $(x-1)$ then

$(x^{k+1} - 1)$ is also divisible by $(x-1)$

Therefore it's true for all positive integers, by induction.