

CHAPTER 4

PRINCIPLES OF MATHEMATICAL
INDUCTION

IMPROVEMENT 2018

1. Consider the statement:

$$P(n): 1 + 3 + 3^2 + \dots + 3^{n-1} = \frac{3^n - 1}{2}.$$

- a) Show that $P(1)$ is true. (1)
 b) Prove by principle of Mathematical induction that $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in N$. (3)

[same as March 2018]

MARCH 2018

2. a) If $3^{2n+2} - 8n - 9$ is divisible by k for all $n \in N$ is true, then which one of the following is a value of k ? (1)
 i) 8 ii) 6 iii) 3 iv) 12
 b) Prove by using the Principle of Mathematical

$$\text{Induction } P(n): 1 + 3 + 3^2 + \dots + 3^{n-1} = \frac{3^n - 1}{2}$$

is true for all $n \in N$.

IMPROVEMENT 2017

3. Consider the statement: $P(n): "7^n - 3^n$ is divisible by 4".
 a) Verify the statement for $n = 1$ (1)
 b) Prove the statement by using the principle of mathematical induction. (3)

MARCH 2017

4. Consider the statement " $10^{2n-1} + 1$ is divisible by 11". Verify that $P(1)$ is true and then prove

that the statement by using mathematical induction. (4)

IMPROVEMENT 2016

5. Consider the statement:
 $"P(n): x^n - y^n$ is divisible by $x - y"$.
 a) Show that is $P(1)$ true. (1)
 b) Using the principle of mathematical inductions verify that $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers. (3)

MARCH 2016

6. Consider the following statement:

$$P(n): a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^{n-1} = \frac{a(r^n - 1)}{r - 1}$$

- a) Prove that $P(1)$ is true. (1)
 b) Hence by using the principle of Mathematical induction, prove that $P(n)$ is true for all natural numbers n . (3)

IMPROVEMENT 2015

7. Consider the statement: $P(n) = 7^n - 3^n$ is divisible by 4.
 a) Show that $P(1)$ is true. (1)
 b) Verify, by the method of Mathematical induction that $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in N$. (3)

MARCH 2015

8. A statement $p(n)$ for a natural number n is given by $p(n) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^n}$
 a) Verify that $p(1)$ is true. (1)
 b) By assuming that $P(k)$ is true for a natural number k , show that $P(k+1)$ is true. (3)

IMPROVEMENT 2014

9. Using the principal of mathematical induction,

prove that $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^n}$. (4)

MARCH 2014

10. Consider the statement " $3^{2n+2} - 8n - 9$ is divisible by 8".

- Verify the statement is true for $n = 1$ (1)
- Prove the statement using the principle of mathematical induction for all natural numbers. (3)

IMPROVEMENT 2013

11. Consider the statement

$$P(n): 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3 = \left[\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2$$

- Verify that $P(n)$ is true. (1)
- By mathematical induction show that $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in N$ (3)

MARCH 2013

12. Consider the statement

$$P(n): 1 + 3 + 3^2 + \dots + 3^{n-1} = \frac{3^n - 1}{2}$$

- Check whether $P(1)$ is true. (1)
- If $P(k)$ is true, prove that $P(k+1)$ is also true. (2)
- Is $P(n)$ true for all natural numbers n ? Justify your answer. (1)

IMPROVEMENT 2012

13. Prove that

$$1.2 + 2.3 + 3.4 + \dots + n(n+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$$

by using the principle of mathematical induction for all $n \in N$ (4)

2012 MARCH

14. Consider the statement, " $n(n+1)(2n+1)$ is divisible by 6".

- Verify the statement for $n = 2$. (1)
- By assuming that $P(k)$ is true for a natural number k , verify that $P(k+1)$ is true. (3)

IMPROVEMENT 2011

No question from this chapter.

MARCH 2011

15. Consider the statement $P(n): "9^n - 1$ is a multiple of 8", where 'n' is a natural number.

- Is $P(1)$ true? (1)
- Assuming $P(k)$ is true, show that $P(k+1)$ is true. (3)

IMPROVEMENT 2010

16. a) Which among the following is the least number that will divide $7^{2n} - 4^{2n}$ for every positive integer n ?

[4,7,11,33] (1)

- Prove by mathematical induction, $(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = (\cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta)$, where $i = \sqrt{-1}$ (3)

MARCH 2010

17. Consider the statement " $7^n - 3^n$ is divisible by 4"

- Verify the result for $n = 2$. (1)
- Prove the statement using mathematical induction. (3)

IMPROVEMENT 2009**[same as March 2010]**18. Let $P(n)$ be the statement : $"7^n - 3^n$ is divisible by 4".

- a) Verify whether the statement is true
for $n=2$. (1)
- b) Prove the result by using mathematical
induction. (3)

MARCH 2009

- 19. a) For every positive integer n , $7^n - 3^n$ should
be divisible by (2, 3, 4, 8). (1)
- c) Prove by principle of mathematical induction
that: $2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + 2^4 + \dots + 2^n = 2(2^n - 1)$ (3)

MARCH 2008

20. Consider the statement

$$P(n) : 1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + (2n - 1) = n^2$$

- a) Verify $P(1)$ is true. (1)
 - b) Prove $P(n)$ by induction. (2)
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