

1. Let  $P(n)$  be the statement that  $n! < n^n$ , where  $n \geq 2$  is an integer.

**Basis step:**  $2! = 2 \cdot 1 = 2 < 4 = 2^2$

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume  $k! < k^k$  for some  $k \geq 2$ .

(We need to show that  $P(k+1)$  is true, given the inductive hypothesis.)

**Inductive step:**

$$\begin{aligned} (k+1)! &= (k+1)k! \\ &< (k+1)k^k \\ &< (k+1)(k+1)^k \\ &= (k+1)^{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

Now, since we have completed the base and inductive steps, by the principle of mathematical induction, the inequality is true for any  $n \geq 2$ . If we had shown  $P(3)$  as our basis step, then the inequality would only be proven for  $n \geq 3$ .

2. For any positive integer  $n$

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

*Proof by induction on  $n$ .*

**Basis step:** Let  $n = 1$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{1}{1 \cdot 2} = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{1+1}.$$

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume that for some positive integer  $k$

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \frac{k}{k+1}$$

**Inductive step:**

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

□

3. For any positive integer  $n$

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

*Proof by induction on  $n$ .*

**Basis step:** Let  $n = 1$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 i \cdot i! = 1 \cdot 1! = 1$$

and

$$(1+1)! - 1 = 2! - 1 = 2 - 1 = 1.$$

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume that for some positive integer  $k$

$$\sum_{i=1}^k i \cdot i! = 1 \cdot 1! + 2 \cdot 2! + \dots + k \cdot k! = (k+1)! - 1$$

**Inductive step:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i \cdot i! &= 1 \cdot 1! + 2 \cdot 2! + \dots + k \cdot k! + (k+1)(k+1)! \\
 &= (k+1)! - 1 + (k+1)(k+1)! \\
 &= (k+1)!(1 + (k+1)) - 1 \\
 &= (k+2)(k+1)! - 1 \\
 &= (k+2)! - 1
 \end{aligned}$$

□

4. For any positive integer  $n$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i(i+1)(i+2) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + n(n+1)(n+2) = n(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)/4$$

*Proof by induction on  $n$ .*

**Basis step:** Let  $n = 1$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 i(i+1)(i+2) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 = 6$$

and

$$1(1+1)(1+2)(1+3)/4 = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4/4 = 6$$

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume that for some positive integer  $k$

$$\sum_{i=1}^k i(i+1)(i+2) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + k(k+1)(k+2) = k(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)/4$$

**Inductive step:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i(i+1)(i+2) &= 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + k(k+1)(k+2) + (k+1)(k+2)(k+3) \\
 &= k(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)/4 + (k+1)(k+2)(k+3) \\
 &= (k+1)(k+2)(k+3)(k/4 + 1) \\
 &= (k+1)(k+2)(k+3)(k/4 + 4/4) \\
 &= (k+1)(k+2)(k+3)(k+4)/4
 \end{aligned}$$

□

5. For any nonnegative integer  $n$ , 6 divides  $n^3 - n$ .

*Proof by induction on  $n$ .*

**Basis step:** Let  $n = 0$ . Then  $n^3 - n = 0^3 - 0 = 0$ , which is divisible by every integer, including 6.

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume for some nonnegative integer  $k$  that  $k^3 - k$  is divisible by 6.

**Inductive step:**

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

By the inductive hypothesis,  $(k^3 - k)$  is divisible by 6. Clearly,  $3(k^2 + k)$  is divisible by 3. To show that it is divisible by 6, it suffices to show that  $k^2 + k$  is even. We do this by cases.

**Case 1:**  $k$  is even, which means there exists some integer  $m$  such that  $k = 2m$ , so  $k^2 + k = 4m^2 + 2m = 2(2m^2 + m)$  is even.

**Case 2:**  $k$  is odd, which means there exists some integer  $m$  such that  $k = 2m - 1$ , so

$$k^2 + k = (2m - 1)^2 + 2m - 1 = 4m^2 - 4m + 1 + 2m - 1 = 4m^2 - 2m = 2(2m^2 - m)$$

is even.

□

6. If  $n$  is an integer where  $n \geq 3$ , then  $n^2 - 7n + 12$  is nonnegative.

*Proof by induction on  $n$ .*

**Basis step:** Let  $n = 3$ . Then

$$n^2 - 7n + 12 = 3^2 - 7 \cdot 3 + 12 = 9 - 21 + 12 = 0.$$

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume for some integer  $k \geq 3$  that  $k^2 - 7k + 12$  is nonnegative.

**Inductive step:**

$$\begin{aligned}(k+1)^2 - 7(k+1) + 12 &= k^2 + 2k + 1 - 7k - 7 + 12 \\ &= (k^2 - 7k + 12) + (2k + 1 - 7) \\ &\geq 0 + 2k + 1 - 7 \\ &= 2k - 6 \\ &\geq 2 \cdot 3 - 6 \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

□

7. For any nonnegative integer  $n$  where  $n \neq 2$  and  $n \neq 3$ , the inequality  $n^2 \leq n!$  is true.

*Proof.* Note first that:

- if  $n = 0$ , then  $0^2 = 0$  and  $0! = 1$ .
- if  $n = 1$ , then  $1^2 = 1$  and  $1! = 1$ .
- if  $n = 2$ , then  $2^2 = 4$  and  $2! = 2$ .
- if  $n = 3$ , then  $3^2 = 9$  and  $3! = 6$ .

We prove by induction on  $n$  that  $n^2 \leq n!$  for all  $n \geq 4$ .

**Basis step:**  $4^2 = 16$  and  $4! = 24$

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume for some integer  $k \geq 4$  that  $k^2 \leq k!$ .

**Inductive step:**

$$\begin{aligned}(k+1)! &= (k+1)k! \\ &\geq (k+1)k^2 \\ &= k^2 \cdot k + k^2 \\ &\geq 4^2 \cdot k + k^2 \\ &= 15k + k + k^2 \\ &\geq 15k + 1 + k^2 \\ &\geq 2k + 1 + k^2 \\ &= (k+1)^2\end{aligned}$$

□