

Friday, Mar. 23

1. Use mathematical induction to prove the following. Prove that $2 - 2 \cdot 7 + 2 \cdot 7^2 - \dots + 2 \cdot (-7)^n = (1 - (-7)^{n+1})/4$ whenever n is a nonnegative integer.

2. (a) Find a formula for $1/2 + 1/4 + 1/8 + \dots + 1/2^n$ by examining the values of this expression for small values of n .
(b) Prove the formula you conjectured.

3. Prove that for every positive integer n , $\sum_{k=1}^n k2^k = (n-1)2^{n+1} + 2$

4. For which nonnegative integers n is $n^2 \leq n!$? Prove your answer.

5. Prove that 21 divides $4^{n+1} + 5^{2n-1}$ whenever n is a positive integer.
6. Prove that if A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n and B are sets, then $(A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n) \cup B = (A_1 \cup B) \cap (A_2 \cup B) \cap \dots \cap (A_n \cup B)$
7. Prove or disprove that a checkerboard with shape 6×2^n can be completely covered using right triominoes whenever n is a positive integer.

8. (a) Determine which amounts of postage can be formed using just 3-cent and 10-cent stamps.
- (b) Prove your answer to a) using the principle of mathematical induction. Be sure to state explicitly your inductive hypothesis in the inductive step.
- (c) Prove your answer to a) using strong induction. How does the inductive hypothesis in this proof differ from that in the inductive hypothesis for a proof using mathematical induction?

9. Prove that $f_1^2 + f_2^2 + \dots + f_n^2 = f_n f_{n+1}$ where f_n is the n th Fibonacci number.

10. Give a recursive definition of the set of odd positive integers.

11. Let S be the subset of the set of ordered pairs of integers defined recursively by

Basis step: $(0,0) \in S$

Recursive step: If $(a,b) \in S$, then $(a+2, b+3) \in S$ and $(a+3, b+2) \in S$

(a) List the elements of S produced by the first five applications of the recursive definition.

(b) Use strong induction on the number of applications of the recursive step of the definition to show that $5 \mid a+b$ when $(a,b) \in S$.

(c) Use structural induction to show that $5 \mid a+b$ when $(a,b) \in S$.

12. Give a recursive definition of the set of bit strings that are palindromes.

13. Play the game Chomp at this website.

<http://www.math.ucla.edu/~tom/Games/chomp.html>

Is there a winning strategy for the player who goes first?

14. Prove that the first player has a winning strategy for the game of Chomp if the initial board is two squares wide, that is a $2 \times n$ board. [Hint: Use strong induction.]