

Directions: You may work to solve these problems in groups, but all written work must be your own. Unless the problem indicates otherwise, all problems require some justification; a correct answer without supporting reasoning is not sufficient. Submissions must be stapled. See “Guidelines and advice” on the course webpage for more information.

1. Prove the following using induction or a “no smallest counterexample” argument.

(a) For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$.

(b) For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{(k+1)!} = 1 - \frac{1}{(n+1)!}$.

2. Use induction to prove the following.

(a) For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have $\sum_{i=1}^n (8i - 5) = 4n^2 - n$.

(b) For each non-negative integer n , we have $9 \mid 4^{3n} + 8$.

(c) If $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $2^n + 3^n \leq 5^n$.

(d) If $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $(\sum_{k=1}^n k)^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n j^3$.

(e) If $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $\sum_{k=1}^n k \binom{n}{k} = n2^{n-1}$. (Hint: you may need one to use one of our identities involving binomial coefficients.)

3. Using any method, prove the following.

(a) If x_1, \dots, x_n are non-negative real numbers, then

$$(1 + x_1)(1 + x_2) \cdots (1 + x_n) \geq 1 + x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n.$$

(b) If $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $\gcd(3n + 5, 5n + 8) = 1$.

(c) If n is a non-negative integer, then $(1 + \sqrt{2})^n + (1 - \sqrt{2})^n$ is an even integer.

4. Recall the Fibonacci numbers, defined by $F_1 = 1$, $F_2 = 1$, and $F_k = F_{k-1} + F_{k-2}$ for $k \geq 2$. Prove that each integer n can be represented as the sum of Fibonacci numbers, no two of which are consecutive. (For example, $2 = F_3$, $10 = F_6 + F_3 = 8 + 2$, and $20 = F_7 + F_5 + F_3 = 13 + 5 + 2$. However, even though $20 = F_7 + F_5 + F_2 + F_1$, this is not a desired representation for 20 since it uses the consecutive Fibonacci numbers F_1 and F_2 .)