

# MTH 3318 Test #1 - Solutions

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**Instructions.** Fully document your work.

For problems 1 - 2 prove one using Mathematical Induction.

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

i.e.  $\sum_{i=1}^n (2i - 1) = n^2$  (This is  $P(n)$ )

**Proof.**

**Step #1:** Show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1$

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 (2i - 1) = (2(1) - 1) = 1 = (1)^2 \quad \text{True.}$$

**Step #2:** Assume that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k$ , and show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k+1$

i.e., Assume that  $\sum_{i=1}^k (2i - 1) = k^2$  for some natural number  $k$ , and show

that  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2i - 1) = (k + 1)^2$

**Observe:**

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2i - 1) &= \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^k (2i - 1) + (2(k + 1) - 1)}_{\text{by Induction Hypothesis}} = k^2 + (2(k + 1) - 1) \\ &= k^2 + 2k + 1 = (k + 1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (2i - 1) = (k + 1)^2$

Hence,  $\sum_{i=1}^n (2i - 1) = n^2$  for all natural numbers,  $n$ . ■

$$2. \frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 7} + \dots + \frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n+1)} = \frac{n}{2n+1}$$

i.e.  $\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{(2j-1)(2j+1)} = \frac{n}{2n+1}$  (This is  $P(n)$ )

**Proof.**

**Step #1:** Show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1$

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 \frac{1}{(2i-1)(2i+1)} = \frac{1}{(2(1)-1)(2(1)+1)} = \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{2(1)+1} \quad \text{True.}$$

**Step #2:** Assume that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k$ , and show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k+1$

i.e., Assume that  $\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{(2i-1)(2i+1)} = \frac{k}{2k+1}$  for some natural number  $k$ , and show that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{(2i-1)(2i+1)} = \frac{k+1}{2(k+1)+1}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{(2i-1)(2i+1)} = \frac{k+1}{2k+3}$$

**Observe:**

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{(2i-1)(2i+1)} &= \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{(2i-1)(2i+1)} + \frac{1}{(2(k+1)-1)(2(k+1)+1)} \\ &= \frac{k}{2k+1} + \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)} \quad (\text{by Induction Hypothesis}) \\ &= \frac{k}{2k+1} \cdot \frac{2k+3}{2k+3} + \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)} = \frac{2k^2+3k+1}{(2k+1)(2k+3)} \\ &= \frac{(2k+1)(k+1)}{(2k+1)(2k+3)} = \frac{(k+1)}{(2k+3)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{(2i-1)(2i+1)} = \frac{k+1}{2k+3}$$

Hence,  $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(2i-1)(2i+1)} = \frac{n}{2n+1}$  for all natural numbers,  $n$ . ■

For problems 3 - 5 prove one using Mathematical Induction.

3.  $1 + 5 + 9 + \dots + (4n - 3) = 2n^2 - n$

i.e.,  $\sum_{i=1}^n (4i - 3) = 2n^2 - n$  (This is  $P(n)$ )

**Proof.**

**Step #1:** Show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1$

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 (4i - 3) = 4(1) - 3 = 1 = 2(1)^2 - (1) \quad \text{True.}$$

**Step #2:** Assume that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k$ , and show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k+1$

i.e., Assume that  $\sum_{i=1}^k (4i - 3) = 2k^2 - k$  for some natural number  $k$ , and show that

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

Equivalently, show that  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (4i - 3) = 2k^2 + 3k + 1$

**Observe:**

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (4i - 3) &= \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^k (4i - 3) + 4[(k + 1) - 3]}_{\text{by Induction Hypothesis}} = (2k^2 - k) + 4[(k + 1) - 3] \\ &= (2k^2 - k) + 4k + 4 - 3 \\ &= 2k^2 + 3k + 1 \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (4i - 3) = 2k^2 + 3k + 1$

Hence,  $\sum_{i=1}^n (4i - 3) = 2n^2 - n$  for all natural numbers,  $n$ . ■

$$4. 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} \quad (\text{This is } P(n))$$

**Proof.**

**Step #1:** Show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1$ .

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 i^2 = 1^2 = 1 = \frac{(1)[(1)+1][2(1)+1]}{6}. \quad \text{True.}$$

**Step #2:** Assume that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k$ , and show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k + 1$ .

$$\text{i.e., Assume that } \sum_{i=1}^k i^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} \text{ and show that } \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i^2 = \frac{(k+1)[(k+1)+1][2(k+1)+1]}{6}.$$

$$\text{i.e., show that } \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i^2 = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6}$$

**Observe:**

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i^2 &= \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^k i^2 + (k+1)^2}_{\text{by Induction Hypothesis}} = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} + (k+1)^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} + \frac{6(k+1)^2}{6} \\ &= \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1) + 6(k+1)^2}{6} = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1) + 6(k+1)^2}{6} = \frac{(k+1)[k(2k+1) + 6(k+1)]}{6} \\ &= \frac{(k+1)[2k^2 + 7k + 6]}{6} = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i^2 = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}; \forall n \in \mathbf{N} \blacksquare$$

5.  $\frac{n^4}{4} < 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3$  all natural numbers,  $n$ . (This is  $P(n)$ )

**Proof.**

**Step #1:** Show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1$ .

$$\frac{(1)^4}{4} = \frac{1}{4} < 1^3$$

i.e.,  $\frac{(1)^4}{4} < 1^3$ . True.

**Step #2:** Assume that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k$ , and show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k + 1$ .

i.e., Assume that  $\frac{k^4}{4} < 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + k^3$

and show that  $\frac{(k+1)^4}{4} < 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + (k+1)^3$

**Remark:** Our argument may be easier to follow if we “swap the sides” of the inequality. (i.e., if we show that:  $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + (k+1)^3 > \frac{(k+1)^4}{4}$ )

**Observe:** 
$$\underbrace{1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + k^3 + (k+1)^3}_{\text{By our induction hypothesis}} > \frac{k^4}{4} + (k+1)^3 = \frac{k^4}{4} + (k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k + 1)$$

$$= \frac{k^4}{4} + \frac{4(k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k + 1)}{4} = \frac{k^4 + 4k^3 + 12k^2 + 12k + 4}{4} \geq \frac{k^4 + 4k^3 + 6k^2 + 4k + 1}{4} = \frac{(k+1)^4}{4}$$

i.e.,  $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + (k+1)^3 > \frac{(k+1)^4}{4}$

For problems 6 - 7, prove one using Mathematical Induction:

6.  $n(n+1)$  is divisible by 2 for all natural numbers,  $n$ . (This is  $P(n)$ )

**Proof.**

First, note that a natural number  $n$  is divisible by 2 if there exists a natural number  $m$  such that  $n = 2m$

**Step #1:** Show that  $P(n)$  true for  $n = 1$ .

$$1((1) + 1) = 2 = 2 \cdot 1$$

Thus,  $n(n+1)$  is divisible by 2, for  $n = 1$ .

$$\text{i.e., } 1((1) + 1) = 2 = 2 \cdot 1 \quad \text{True.}$$

**Step #2:** Assume that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k$ , and show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k+1$

i.e., Assume that  $k(k+1)$  is divisible by 2, and show that

$$(k+1)[(k+1) + 1] \text{ is divisible by 2.}$$

i.e., Assume that  $k(k+1) = 2m$ , and show that

$$(k+1)(k+2) \text{ is divisible by 2.}$$

$$\text{Observe: } (k+1)(k+2) = (k+1)k + (k+1)2 = \underbrace{k(k+1) + 2(k+1)}_{\text{by Ind. Hyp.}} = 2m + 2 = 2(m+1).$$

$$\text{i.e., } (k+1)(k+2) = 2(m+1).$$

i.e.,  $(k+1)(k+2)$  is divisible by 2.

Hence,  $n(n+1)$  is divisible by 2 for all natural numbers,  $n$ . ■

7. Given that  $\frac{d}{dx} [x^0] = 0$  and  $\frac{d}{dx} [x^1] = 1$ , show that  $\frac{d}{dx} [x^n] = nx^{n-1}$ . (This is  $P(n)$ ).

You may use the product rule:  $\frac{d}{dx} [f(x)g(x)] = f'(x)g(x) + g'(x)f(x)$ .

**Proof.**

**Step #1:** Show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1$ .

$$\frac{d}{dx} [x^1] = 1 = x^0 = x^{1-1} \quad \text{True.}$$

**Step #2:** Assume that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k$ , and show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k+1$

i.e., Assume that  $\frac{d}{dx} [x^k] = kx^{k-1}$  and show that  $\frac{d}{dx} [x^{k+1}] = (k+1)x^{(k+1)-1}$

i.e., show that  $\frac{d}{dx} [x^{k+1}] = (k+1)x^k$

**Observe:**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} [x^{k+1}] &= \frac{d}{dx} [x^k \cdot x] = \underbrace{\frac{d}{dx} [x^k] \cdot x + \frac{d}{dx} [x] \cdot x^k}_{\text{product rule}} = \underbrace{kx^{k-1}}_{\text{Ind Hyp}} \cdot x + \underbrace{1}_{\text{given}} \cdot x^k \\ &= kx^k + x^k = (k+1)x^k \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $\frac{d}{dx} [x^{k+1}] = (k+1)x^k$

Hence,  $\frac{d}{dx} [x^n] = nx^{n-1}$  for all natural numbers  $n$ . ■

For problems 8 - 9, prove one using Mathematical Induction:

8.  $(1+x)^n \geq 1+nx$  for any natural number  $n$  and any real number  $x \geq -1$ .  
(This is  $P(n)$ )

**Proof.**

**Step #1:** Show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1$

$$(1+x)^1 = 1+x \geq 1+(1)x \quad \text{True.}$$

**Step #2:** Assume  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k$ , and show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k + 1$

i.e., Assume that  $(1+x)^k \geq 1+kx$  for some natural number  $k$ , and show that

$$(1+x)^{k+1} \geq 1+(k+1)x$$

**Observe:**

$$\begin{aligned} (1+x)^{k+1} &= \underbrace{(1+x)^k (1+x)}_{\text{by Induction Hypothesis}} \geq \underbrace{(1+kx)(1+x)}_{\text{by Induction Hypothesis}} = 1+kx+x+kx^2 \\ &= 1+(k+1)x + \underbrace{kx^2}_{kx^2 \geq 0} \geq 1+(k+1)x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e., } (1+x)^{k+1} \geq 1+(k+1)x$$

Hence,  $(1+x)^n \geq 1+nx$  for all natural numbers  $n$  and any real number  $x \geq -1$  ■

**Remark:** Our proof hinged on two subtle points:

First, since  $k$  is a natural number (hence greater than zero) and  $x^2 \geq 0$  for ALL real numbers  $x$ , it follows that  $kx^2 \geq 0$ .

Second, since it is given that  $x \geq -1$  (or equivalently,  $(1+x) \geq 0$ ), the direction of the inequality,  $(1+x)^k \geq 1+kx$ , is preserved when both sides are multiplied by  $(1+x)$  during the application of the induction hypothesis.



9. Given that  $|x_1 + x_2| \leq |x_1| + |x_2|$  (the Triangle Inequality); Prove by induction that:  
 $|x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_n| \leq |x_1| + |x_2| + |x_3| + \dots + |x_n|$  (the General Triangle Inequality).  
 (This is  $P(n)$ )

**Proof.**

**Step #1:** Show that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1$ .

$$|x_1| \leq |x_1|. \quad \text{True.}$$

**Step #2:** Assume that  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = k$ , and show that  $P(n)$  is true for  
 $n = k + 1$ .

i.e., Assume that  $|x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_k| \leq |x_1| + |x_2| + |x_3| + \dots + |x_k|$  and show that  
 $|x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_k + x_{k+1}| \leq |x_1| + |x_2| + |x_3| + \dots + |x_k| + |x_{k+1}|$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Observe: } & \underbrace{|(x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_k) + x_{k+1}|}_{\text{from Triangle Inequality}} \leq |x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_k| + |x_{k+1}| \\ & \leq \underbrace{|x_1| + |x_2| + |x_3| + \dots + |x_k| + |x_{k+1}|}_{\text{by Ind. Hyp.}} \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,  $|x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_k + x_{k+1}| \leq |x_1| + |x_2| + |x_3| + \dots + |x_k| + |x_{k+1}|$ .

Hence,  $|x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_n| \leq |x_1| + |x_2| + |x_3| + \dots + |x_n|$  for all natural

numbers,  $n$ . ■