

Math 574 1992 Exam 1 Solutions

① $n=1$ I must prove

$$1 = \frac{1(1+1)(2(1)+1)}{6}$$

The right side is $\frac{2 \cdot 3}{6} = 1$. ✓

By induction I assume that $\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$. (*)

I must show that $\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} k^2 = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(2n+3)}{6}$ (**)

The left side of (**) = $\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 + (n+1)^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + (n+1)^2$

↑
by (*)

$$= (n+1) \left[\frac{2n^2+1n}{6} + \frac{6n+6}{6} \right] = \frac{(n+1)(2n^2+7n+6)}{6} = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(2n+3)}{6} \checkmark$$

② $n=1$: I must prove $2 = (1+\sqrt{5})^1 + (1-\sqrt{5})^1$. This is obvious.

$n=2$: I must prove that $12 = (1+\sqrt{5})^2 + (1-\sqrt{5})^2$.

The right side is $1+2\sqrt{5}+5 + 1-2\sqrt{5}+5 = 12$ ✓

Let n be a fixed integer with $3 \leq n$. By induction we assume that

$$a_k = (1+\sqrt{5})^k + (1-\sqrt{5})^k$$

For all k with $1 \leq k \leq n-1$.

We must prove that

$$a_n = (1+\sqrt{5})^n + (1-\sqrt{5})^n$$