

Homework 6

Due October 24, 2013

CMSC 203

1. Section 5.1, Exercise 4

Let $P(n)$ be the statement that $1^3 + 2^3 + \dots + n^3 = (n(n+1)/2)^2$ for the positive integer n .

- What is the statement $P(1)$?
- Show that $P(1)$ is true, completing the basis step of the proof.
- What is the inductive hypothesis?
- What do you need to prove in the inductive step?
- Complete the inductive step, identifying where you use the inductive hypothesis.
- Explain why these steps show that this formula is true whenever n is a positive integer.

2. Section 5.1, Exercise 20

Prove that $3^n < n!$ if n is an integer greater than 6.

3. Section 5.1, Exercise 50

What is wrong with this “proof”?

“*Theorem*” For every positive integer n , $\sum_{i=1}^n i = (n + \frac{1}{2})^2/2$

Basis Step: The formula is true for $n = 1$.

Inductive Step: Suppose that $\sum_{i=1}^n i = (n + \frac{1}{2})^2/2$. Then $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} i = (\sum_{i=1}^n i) + (n+1)$. By the inductive hypothesis, $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} i = (n + \frac{1}{2})^2/2 + n + 1 = (n^2 + n + \frac{1}{4})/2 + n + 1 = (n^2 + 3n + \frac{9}{4})/2 = (n + \frac{3}{2})^2/2 = [(n+1) + \frac{1}{2}]^2/2$, completing the inductive step.

4. Section 5.2, Exercise 12

Use strong induction to show that every positive integer n can be written as a sum of distinct powers of two, that is, as a sum of a subset of integers $2^0 = 1, 2^1 = 2, 2^2 = 4$, and so on. [*Hint:* For the inductive step, separately consider the case where $k+1$ is even and where it is odd. When it is even, note that $(k+1)/2$ is an integer]

5. Section 5.2, Exercise 32

Find the flaw with the following “proof” that every postage of three cents or more can be formed using just three-cent and four-cent stamps.

Basis Step: We can form postage of three cents with a single three-cent stamp and we can form postage of four cents using a single four-cent stamp.

Inductive Step: Assume that we can form postage of j cents for all nonnegative integers j with $j \leq k$ using just three-cent and four-cent stamps. We can then form postage of $k+1$ cents by replacing one three-cent stamp with a four-cent stamp or by replacing two four-cent stamps by three three-cent stamps.

6. Section 5.4, Exercise 10

Give a recursive algorithm for finding the maximum of a finite set of integers, making use of the fact that the maximum of n integers is the larger of the last integer in the list and the maximum of the first $n-1$ integers in the list.

7. Section 5.4, Exercise 22
Prove that the recursive algorithm you found above is correct.
8. Section 5.4, Exercise 44
Use a merge sort to sort 4, 3, 2, 5, 1, 8, 7, 6 into increasing order. Show all steps used by the algorithm.
9. Section 5.4, Exercise 50
Sort 3, 5, 7, 8, 1, 9, 2, 4, 6 using the quick sort.