

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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You have 30 minutes. Show your work. Notes not allowed! Problems are on both sides of this sheet.

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**Problem 1.** (5 pts) Prove, by induction, that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

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

*Solution:*

*First step:* for  $n = 1$ , left-hand side is  $1^2$ , right-hand side is  $\frac{1(1+1)(2 \cdot 1+1)}{6} = 1$ , so they are equal.

*Second step:* suppose that  $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \cdots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$  and shown that  $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \cdots + n^2 + (n+1)^2 = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(2(n+1)+1)}{6}$ . Using the supposition, we get that

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \cdots + n^2 + (n+1)^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + (n+1)^2$$

Now, do algebra:

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

Done!

**Problem 2.** (5 pts) Prove, by induction, that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  greater than 1,

$$\frac{1}{0!} + \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n!} < 3 - \frac{2}{(n+1)!}.$$

*Solution:*

*First step:* for  $n = 2$ , left-hand side is  $\frac{1}{0!} + \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} = 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2} = 2\frac{1}{2}$ , right-hand side is  $3 - \frac{2}{3!} = 3 - \frac{1}{3} = 2\frac{2}{3}$ . We have  $2\frac{1}{2} < 2\frac{2}{3}$ .

*Second step:* suppose that  $\frac{1}{0!} + \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n!} < 3 - \frac{2}{(n+1)!}$  and show that  $\frac{1}{0!} + \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n!} + \frac{1}{(n+1)!} < 3 - \frac{2}{(n+2)!}$ . Using the supposition, we get that

$$\frac{1}{0!} + \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n!} + \frac{1}{(n+1)!} < 3 - \frac{2}{(n+1)!} + \frac{1}{(n+1)!}.$$

It is left to show that

$$3 - \frac{2}{(n+1)!} + \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \leq 3 - \frac{2}{(n+2)!},$$

which simplifies to

$$\frac{1}{(n+1)!} + \frac{2}{(n+2)!} \leq \frac{2}{(n+1)!}.$$

Multiply both sides by  $(n+2)!$ , get  $n+2+2 \leq 2(n+2)$ , which is true. Done!

**Problem 3.** (6 pts) Let  $a_0 = 0$ ,  $a_1 = 1$ , and for  $n \geq 2$ , let  $a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} + 2$ .

- (a) Calculate  $a_2$ ,  $a_3$ ,  $a_4$ , and  $a_5$ .
- (b) Predict a formula for  $a_n$  based on your calculations.
- (c) Prove your prediction from (b).

*Solution:*  $a_0 = 0$ ,  $a_1 = 1$ ,  $a_2 = 2a_1 - a_0 + 2 = 4$ ,  $a_3 = 2a_2 - a_1 + 2 = 9$ ,  $a_4 = 2a_3 - a_2 + 2 = 16$ ,  $a_5 = 2a_4 - a_3 + 2 = 25$ . Guess that  $a_n = n^2$ . Now prove it, using strong induction. Check  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  directly, and yes,  $a_0 = 0^2$ ,  $a_1 = 1^2$ . Now, suppose that for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ , we have  $a_k = k^2$ . Need to prove that  $a_{n+1} = (n+1)^2$ .

$$a_{n+1} = 2a_n - a_{n-1} + 2 = 2n^2 - (n-1)^2 + 2 = 2n^2 - n^2 + 2n - 1 + 2 = n^2 + 2n + 1 = (n+1)^2.$$

Done!

**Problem 4.** (4 pts) State the Binomial Theorem and use it to prove that, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1}2 + \binom{n}{2}2^2 + \binom{n}{3}2^3 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n-1}2^{n-1} + \binom{n}{n}2^n = 3^n.$$

*Solution:* The Binomial Theorem is in the textbook. Apply it to  $a = 1$  and  $b = 2$ .