

2. Prove by induction that  $\sum_{r=1}^n r^2 = \frac{1}{6}n(n+1)(2n+1)$ .  
Deduce formulae for

$$1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 5 + 4 \cdot 7 + \cdots + n(2n-1) \quad \text{and} \quad 1^2 + 3^2 + 5^2 + \cdots + (2n-1)^2.$$

3. (a) Work out  $1, 1+8, 1+8+27$  and  $1+8+27+64$ . Guess a formula for  $\sum_{r=1}^n r^3$  and prove it.

(b) Check that  $1 = 0+1, 2 = 3+4 = 1+8$  and  $5+6+\cdots+9 = 8+27$ . Find a general formula for which these are the first three cases. Prove your formula is correct.

4. Here is another way to work out  $\sum_{r=1}^n r^2$ . Observe that  $(r+1)^3 - r^3 = 3r^2 + 3r + 1$ . Hence

$$\sum_{r=1}^n (r+1)^3 - r^3 = 3 \sum_{r=1}^n r^2 + 3 \sum_{r=1}^n r + n.$$

The left-hand side is equal to

$$(2^3 - 1^3) + (3^3 - 2^3) + (4^3 - 3^3) + \cdots + ((n+1)^3 - n^3) = (n+1)^3 - 1.$$

Hence we can work out  $\sum_{r=1}^n r^2$ .

Carry out this calculation, and check that your formula agrees with that in Question 2.

Use the same method to work out formulae for  $\sum_{r=1}^n r^3$  and  $\sum_{r=1}^n r^4$ .

5. Prove the following statements by induction:

- For all integers  $n \geq 0$ , the number  $5^{2n} - 3^n$  is a multiple of 11.
  - For any integer  $n \geq 1$ , the integer  $2^{4n-1}$  ends with an 8.
  - The sum of the cubes of three consecutive positive integers is always a multiple of 9.
  - If  $x \geq 2$  is a real number and  $n \geq 1$  is an integer, then  $x^n \geq nx$ .
  - If  $n \geq 3$  is an integer, then  $5^n > 4^n + 3^n + 2^n$ .
6. The *Fibonacci sequence* is a sequence of integers  $l_1, l_2, \dots, l_n, \dots$  such that  $l_1 = 1, l_2 = 3$  and

$$l_{n+1} = l_n + l_{n-1}$$

for all  $n \geq 1$ . So the sequence starts  $1, 3, 4, 7, 11, 18, \dots$

Find the pattern for the remainders when  $l_n$  is divided by 3. (*Hint:* Consider the first 8 remainders, then the next 8, and so on; formulate a conjecture for the pattern, and prove it by induction.)

Is  $l_{2000}$  divisible by 3?

7. The *Fibonacci sequence* is a sequence of integers  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n, \dots$ , such that  $f_1 = 1, f_2 = 1$  and

$$f_{n+1} = f_n + f_{n-1}$$

for all  $n \geq 1$ . Prove by strong induction that for all  $n$ ,

$$f_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\alpha^n - \beta^n),$$

where  $\alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$  and  $\beta = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$ .

8. I just worked out  $(2 + \sqrt{3})^{50}$  on my computer and got the answer

$$39571031999226139563162735373.99999999999999999999974728\dots$$

Why is this so close to an integer?

(*Hint:* Try to use the idea of the previous question by constructing a suitable sequence.)

9. Prove that if  $0 < q < \frac{1}{2}$ , then for all  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$(1+q)^n \leq 1 + 2^n q.$$

10. (a) Prove that for every integer  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$\frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{2n} \geq \frac{7}{12}.$$

- (b) Prove that for every integer  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} < 2\sqrt{n}.$$

11. Just for this question, count 1 as a prime number. A well-known result in number theory says that for every integer  $x \geq 3$ , there is a prime number  $p$  such that  $\frac{1}{2}x < p < x$ . Using this result and strong induction, prove that every positive integer is equal to a sum of primes, all of which are different.

12. Here is a "proof" by induction that any two positive integers are equal (e.g.,  $5 = 10$ ):

First, a definition: if  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers, define  $\max(a, b)$  to be the larger of  $a$  and  $b$  if  $a \neq b$ , and to be  $a$  if  $a = b$ . (For instance,  $\max(3, 5) = 5$ ,  $\max(3, 3) = 3$ .) Let  $P(n)$  be the statement: "if  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers such that  $\max(a, b) = n$ , then  $a = b$ ". We prove  $P(n)$