

Principle of Mathematical Induction

Question 1.

For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n$ is divisible by

- (a) 5
- (b) 15
- (c) 10
- (d) 3

Answer: (b) 15

Given number = $3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n$

Let $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$

$$3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n = 3 \times 1^5 + 5 \times 1^3 + 7 \times 1 = 3 + 5 + 7 = 15$$

$$3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n = 3 \times 2^5 + 5 \times 2^3 + 7 \times 2 = 3 \times 32 + 5 \times 8 + 7 \times 2 = 96 + 40 + 14 = 150 = 15 \times 10$$

$$3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n = 3 \times 3^5 + 5 \times 3^3 + 7 \times 3 = 3 \times 243 + 5 \times 27 + 7 \times 3 = 729 + 135 + 21 = 885 = 15 \times 59$$

Since, all these numbers are divisible by 15 for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

So, the given number is divisible by 15

Question 2.

$$\{1 - (1/2)\} \{1 - (1/3)\} \{1 - (1/4)\} \dots \{1 - 1/(n+1)\} =$$

- (a) $1/(n+1)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- (b) $1/(n+1)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{R}$
- (c) $n/(n+1)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- (d) $n/(n+1)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{R}$

Answer: (a) $1/(n+1)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Let the given statement be $P(n)$. Then,

$$P(n): \{1 - (1/2)\} \{1 - (1/3)\} \{1 - (1/4)\} \dots \{1 - 1/(n+1)\} = 1/(n+1).$$

When $n = 1$, LHS = $\{1 - (1/2)\} = 1/2$ and RHS = $1/(1+1) = 1/2$.

Therefore LHS = RHS.

Thus, $P(1)$ is true.

Let $P(k)$ be true. Then,

$$P(k): \{1 - (1/2)\} \{1 - (1/3)\} \{1 - (1/4)\} \dots [1 - \{1/(k+1)\}] = 1/(k+1)$$

$$\text{Now, } [\{1 - (1/2)\} \{1 - (1/3)\} \{1 - (1/4)\} \dots [1 - \{1/(k+1)\}]] \cdot [1 - \{1/(k+2)\}]$$

$$= [1/(k+1)] \cdot [\{(k+2) - 1\}/(k+2)]$$

$$= [1/(k+1)] \cdot [(k+1)/(k+2)]$$

$$= 1/(k+2)$$

$$\text{Therefore } p(k+1): [\{1 - (1/2)\} \{1 - (1/3)\} \{1 - (1/4)\} \dots [1 - \{1/(k+1)\}]] = 1/(k+2)$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Thus, $P(1)$ is true and $P(k+1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Hence, by the principle of mathematical induction, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Question 3.

For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $3^{2n} + 7$ is divisible by

(a) non of these

(b) 3

(c) 11

(d) 8

Answer: (d) 8

Given number = $3^{2n} + 7$

Let $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$

$$3^{2n} + 7 = 3^2 + 7 = 9 + 7 = 16$$

$$3^{2n} + 7 = 3^4 + 7 = 81 + 7 = 88$$

$$3^{2n} + 7 = 3^6 + 7 = 729 + 7 = 736$$

Since, all these numbers are divisible by 8 for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

So, the given number is divisible by 8

Question 4.

The sum of the series $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + \dots n$ is

(a) $n(n+1)$

(b) $(n+1)/2$

(c) $n/2$

(d) $n(n+1)/2$

Answer: (d) $n(n+1)/2$

Given, series is series $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + \dots n$

$$\text{Sum} = n(n+1)/2$$

Question 5.

The sum of the series $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots n^2$ is

- (a) $n(n + 1)(2n + 1)$
- (b) $n(n + 1)(2n + 1)/2$
- (c) $n(n + 1)(2n + 1)/3$
- (d) $n(n + 1)(2n + 1)/6$

Answer: (d) $n(n + 1)(2n + 1)/6$

Given, series is $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2$

Sum = $n(n + 1)(2n + 1)/6$

Question 6.

For all positive integers n , the number $n(n^2 - 1)$ is divisible by:

- (a) 36
- (b) 24
- (c) 6
- (d) 16

Answer: (c) 6

Given,

number = $n(n^2 - 1)$

Let $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$

$n(n^2 - 1) = 1(1 - 1) = 0$

$n(n^2 - 1) = 2(4 - 1) = 2 \times 3 = 6$

$n(n^2 - 1) = 3(9 - 1) = 3 \times 8 = 24$

$n(n^2 - 1) = 4(16 - 1) = 4 \times 15 = 60$

Since all these numbers are divisible by 6 for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

So, the given number is divisible 6

Question 7.

If n is an odd positive integer, then $a^n + b^n$ is divisible by :

- (a) $a^2 + b^2$
- (b) $a + b$
- (c) $a - b$
- (d) none of these

Answer: (b) $a + b$

Given number = $a^n + b^n$

Let $n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$

$a^n + b^n = a + b$

$a^n + b^n = a^3 + b^3 = (a + b) \times (a^2 + b^2 + ab)$ and so on.

Since, all these numbers are divisible by $(a + b)$ for $n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$

So, the given number is divisible by $(a + b)$

Question 8.

$n(n + 1)(n + 5)$ is a multiple of _____ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$

- (a) 2
- (b) 3
- (c) 5
- (d) 7

Answer: (b) 3

Let $P(n)$: $n(n + 1)(n + 5)$ is a multiple of 3.

For $n = 1$, the given expression becomes $(1 \times 2 \times 6) = 12$, which is a multiple of 3.

So, the given statement is true for $n = 1$, i.e. $P(1)$ is true.

Let $P(k)$ be true. Then,

$P(k)$: $k(k + 1)(k + 5)$ is a multiple of 3

$\Rightarrow K(k + 1)(k + 5) = 3m$ for some natural number m , (i)

Now, $(k + 1)(k + 2)(k + 6) = (k + 1)(k + 2)k + 6(k + 1)(k + 2)$

$= k(k + 1)(k + 2) + 6(k + 1)(k + 2)$

$= k(k + 1)(k + 5 - 3) + 6(k + 1)(k + 2)$

$= k(k + 1)(k + 5) - 3k(k + 1) + 6(k + 1)(k + 2)$

$= k(k + 1)(k + 5) + 3(k + 1)(k + 4)$ [on simplification]

$= 3m + 3(k + 1)(k + 4)$ [using (i)]

$= 3[m + (k + 1)(k + 4)]$, which is a multiple of 3

$\Rightarrow P(k + 1)(k + 1)(k + 2)(k + 6)$ is a multiple of 3

$\Rightarrow P(k + 1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Thus, $P(1)$ is true and $P(k + 1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Hence, by the principle of mathematical induction, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Question 9.

For any natural number n , $7^n - 2^n$ is divisible by

- (a) 3
- (b) 4
- (c) 5
- (d) 7

Answer: (c) 5

Given, $7^n - 2^n$

Let $n = 1$

$$7^n - 2^n = 7^1 - 2^1 = 7 - 2 = 5$$

which is divisible by 5

Let $n = 2$

$$7^n - 2^n = 7^2 - 2^2 = 49 - 4 = 45$$

which is divisible by 5

Let $n = 3$

$$7^n - 2^n = 7^3 - 2^3 = 343 - 8 = 335$$

which is divisible by 5

Hence, for any natural number n , $7^n - 2^n$ is divisible by 5

Question 10.

The sum of the series $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3$ is

- (a) $\{(n+1)/2\}^2$
- (b) $\{n/2\}^2$
- (c) $n(n+1)/2$
- (d) $\{n(n+1)/2\}^2$

Answer: (d) $\{n(n+1)/2\}^2$

Given, series is $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3$

$$\text{Sum} = \{n(n+1)/2\}^2$$

Question 11.

$(1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2)$ _____ for all values of $n \in \mathbb{N}$

- (a) $= n^3/3$
- (b) $< n^3/3$
- (c) $> n^3/3$
- (d) None of these

Answer: (c) $> n^3/3$

Let $P(n)$: $(1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2) > n^3/3$.

When $n = 1$, LHS = $1^2 = 1$ and RHS = $1^3/3 = 1/3$.

Since $1 > 1/3$, it follows that $P(1)$ is true.

Let $P(k)$ be true. Then,

$$P(k): (1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + k^2) > k^3/3 \dots (i)$$

Now,

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + k^2$$

$$+ (k+1)^2$$

$$= \{1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + k^2 + (k+1)^2\}$$

$$> k^3/3 + (k+1)^3 \text{ [using (i)]}$$

$$= 1/3 \cdot (k^3 + 3 + (k+1)^2) = 1/3 \cdot \{k^3 + 3k^2 + 6k + 3\}$$

$$= 1/3[k^3 + 1 + 3k(k+1) + (3k+2)]$$

$$= 1/3 \cdot [(k+1)^3 + (3k+2)]$$

$$> 1/3(k+1)^3$$

$P(k+1)$:

$$1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + k^2 + (k+1)^2$$

$$> 1/3 \cdot (k+1)^3$$

$P(k+1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Thus $P(1)$ is true and $P(k + 1)$ is true whenever $p(k)$ is true.

Hence, by the principle of mathematical induction, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Question 12.

$$\{1/(3 \cdot 5)\} + \{1/(5 \cdot 7)\} + \{1/(7 \cdot 9)\} + \dots + 1/\{(2n + 1)(2n + 3)\} =$$

(a) $n/(2n + 3)$

(b) $n/\{2(2n + 3)\}$

(c) $n/\{3(2n + 3)\}$

(d) $n/\{4(2n + 3)\}$

Answer: (c) $n/\{3(2n + 3)\}$

Let the given statement be $P(n)$. Then,

$$P(n): \{1/(3 \cdot 5) + 1/(5 \cdot 7) + 1/(7 \cdot 9) + \dots + 1/\{(2n + 1)(2n + 3)\} = n/\{3(2n + 3)\}.$$

Putting $n = 1$ in the given statement, we get

$$\text{and LHS} = 1/(3 \cdot 5) = 1/15 \text{ and RHS} = 1/\{3(2 \times 1 + 3)\} = 1/15.$$

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

Thus, $P(1)$ is true.

Let $P(k)$ be true. Then,

$$P(k): \{1/(3 \cdot 5) + 1/(5 \cdot 7) + 1/(7 \cdot 9) + \dots + 1/\{(2k + 1)(2k + 3)\} = k/\{3(2k + 3)\} \dots (i)$$

$$\text{Now, } 1/(3 \cdot 5) + 1/(5 \cdot 7) + \dots + 1/[(2k + 1)(2k + 3)] + 1/[\{2(k + 1) + 1\}2(k + 1) + 3]$$

$$= \{1/(3 \cdot 5) + 1/(5 \cdot 7) + \dots + [1/(2k + 1)(2k + 3)]\} + 1/\{(2k + 3)(2k + 5)\}$$

$$= k/[3(2k + 3)] + 1/[2k + 3)(2k + 5)] \text{ [using (i)]}$$

$$= \{k(2k + 5) + 3\}/\{3(2k + 3)(2k + 5)\}$$

$$= (2k^2 + 5k + 3)/[3(2k + 3)(2k + 5)]$$

$$= \{(k + 1)(2k + 3)\}/\{3(2k + 3)(2k + 5)\}$$

$$= (k + 1)/\{3(2k + 5)\}$$

$$= (k + 1)/[3\{2(k + 1) + 3\}]$$

$$= P(k + 1): 1/(3 \cdot 5) + 1/(5 \cdot 7) + \dots + 1/[2k + 1)(2k + 3)] + 1/[\{2(k + 1) + 1\}\{2(k + 1) + 3\}]$$

$$= (k + 1)/\{3\{2(k + 1) + 3\}\}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k + 1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Thus, $P(1)$ is true and $P(k + 1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Hence, by the principle of mathematical induction, $P(n)$ is true for $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Question 13.

If n is an odd positive integer, then $a^n + b^n$ is divisible by :

(a) $a^2 + b^2$

(b) $a + b$

(c) $a - b$

(d) none of these

Answer: (b) $a + b$

Given number = $a^n + b^n$

Let $n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$

$$a^n + b^n = a + b$$

$$a^n + b^n = a^3 + b^3 = (a + b) \times (a^2 + b^2 + ab) \text{ and so on.}$$

Since, all these numbers are divisible by $(a + b)$ for $n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$

So, the given number is divisible by $(a + b)$

Question 14.

$(2 \cdot 7^N + 3 \cdot 5^N - 5)$ is divisible by for all $N \in \mathbb{N}$

(a) 6

(b) 12

(c) 18

(d) 24

Answer: (d) 24

Let $P(n)$: $(2 \cdot 7^n + 3 \cdot 5^n - 5)$ is divisible by 24.

For $n = 1$, the given expression becomes $(2 \cdot 7^1 + 3 \cdot 5^1 - 5) = 24$, which is clearly divisible by 24.

So, the given statement is true for $n = 1$, i.e., $P(1)$ is true.

Let $P(k)$ be true. Then,

$P(k)$: $(2 \cdot 7^k + 3 \cdot 5^k - 5)$ is divisible by 24.

$$\Rightarrow (2 \cdot 7^k + 3 \cdot 5^k - 5) = 24m, \text{ for } m \in \mathbb{N}$$

Now, $(2 \cdot 7^{k+1} + 3 \cdot 5^{k+1} - 5)$

$$= (2 \cdot 7^k \cdot 7 + 3 \cdot 5^k \cdot 5 - 5)$$

$$= 7(2 \cdot 7^k + 3 \cdot 5^k - 5) = 6 \cdot 5^k + 30$$

$$= (7 \times 24m) - 6(5^k - 5)$$

$$= (24 \times 7m) - 6 \times 4p, \text{ where } (5^k - 5) = 5(5^{k-1} - 1) = 4p$$

[Since $(5^{k-1} - 1)$ is divisible by $(5 - 1)$]

$$= 24 \times (7m - p)$$

$$= 24r, \text{ where } r = (7m - p) \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(k+1): (2 \cdot 7^{k+1} + 3 \cdot 5^{k+1} - 5) \text{ is divisible by 24.}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(k+1) \text{ is true, whenever } P(k) \text{ is true.}$$

Thus, $P(1)$ is true and $P(k+1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Hence, by the principle of mathematical induction, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Question 15.

For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $5^{2n} - 1$ is divisible by

(a) 26

(b) 24

- (c) 11
(d) 25

Answer: (b) 24

Given number = $5^{2n} - 1$

Let $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$

$$5^{2n} - 1 = 5^2 - 1 = 25 - 1 = 24$$

$$5^{2n} - 1 = 5^4 - 1 = 625 - 1 = 624 = 24 \times 26$$

$$5^{2n} - 1 = 5^6 - 1 = 15625 - 1 = 15624 = 651 \times 24$$

Since, all these numbers are divisible by 24 for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

So, the given number is divisible by 24

Question 16.

$$1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + n(n+1) =$$

- (a) $n(n+1)(n+2)$
(b) $\{n(n+1)(n+2)\}/2$
(c) $\{n(n+1)(n+2)\}/3$
(d) $\{n(n+1)(n+2)\}/4$

Answer: (c) $\{n(n+1)(n+2)\}/3$

Let the given statement be $P(n)$. Then,

$$P(n): 1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + n(n+1) = (1/3)\{n(n+1)(n+2)\}$$

Thus, the given statement is true for $n = 1$, i.e., $P(1)$ is true.

Let $P(k)$ be true. Then,

$$P(k): 1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + k(k+1) = (1/3)\{k(k+1)(k+2)\}.$$

$$\text{Now, } 1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + k(k+1) + (k+1)(k+2)$$

$$= (1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + k(k+1)) + (k+1)(k+2)$$

$$= (1/3)k(k+1)(k+2) + (k+1)(k+2) \text{ [using (i)]}$$

$$= (1/3)[k(k+1)(k+2) + 3(k+1)(k+2)]$$

$$= (1/3)\{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)\}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(k+1): 1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 4 + \dots + (k+1)(k+2)$$

$$= (1/3)\{k+1)(k+2)(k+3)\}$$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Thus, $P(1)$ is true and $P(k+1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Hence, by the principle of mathematical induction, $P(n)$ is true for all values of $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Question 17.

$$1/(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3) + 1/(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4) + \dots + 1/\{n(n+1)(n+2)\} =$$

- (a) $\{n(n+3)\}/\{4(n+1)(n+2)\}$
(b) $(n+3)/\{4(n+1)(n+2)\}$

- (c) $n/\{4(n+1)(n+2)\}$
 (d) None of these

Answer: (a) $\{n(n+3)\}/\{4(n+1)(n+2)\}$

Let $P(n)$: $1/(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3) + 1/(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4) + \dots + 1/\{n(n+1)(n+2)\} = \{n(n+3)\}/\{4(n+1)(n+2)\}$

Putting $n = 1$ in the given statement, we get

LHS = $1/(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3) = 1/6$ and RHS = $\{1 \times (1+3)\}/[4 \times (1+1)(1+2)] = (1 \times 4)/(4 \times 2 \times 3) = 1/6$.

Therefore LHS = RHS.

Thus, the given statement is true for $n = 1$, i.e., $P(1)$ is true.

Let $P(k)$ be true. Then,

$P(k)$: $1/(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3) + 1/(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4) + \dots + 1/\{k(k+1)(k+2)\} = \{k(k+3)\}/\{4(k+1)(k+2)\}$.
(i)

Now, $1/(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3) + 1/(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4) + \dots + 1/\{k(k+1)(k+2)\} + 1/\{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)\}$

$= [1/(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3) + 1/(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4) + \dots + 1/\{k(k+1)(k+2)\}] + 1/\{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)\}$

$= [\{k(k+3)\}/\{4(k+1)(k+2)\} + 1/\{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)\}]$ [using (i)]

$= \{k(k+3)^2 + 4\}/\{4(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)\}$

$= (k^3 + 6k^2 + 9k + 4)/\{4(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)\}$

$= \{(k+1)(k+1)(k+4)\}/\{4(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)\}$

$= \{(k+1)(k+4)\}/\{4(k+2)(k+3)\}$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$: $1/(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3) + 1/(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4) + \dots + 1/\{(k+1)(k+2)(k+3)\}$

$= \{(k+1)(k+2)\}/\{4(k+2)(k+3)\}$

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Thus, $P(1)$ is true and $P(k+1)$ is true, whenever $P(k)$ is true.

Hence, by the principle of mathematical induction, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Question 18.

For any natural number n , $7^n - 2^n$ is divisible by

- (a) 3
 (b) 4
 (c) 5
 (d) 7

Answer: (c) 5

Given, $7^n - 2^n$

Let $n = 1$

$$7^n - 2^n = 7^1 - 2^1 = 7 - 2 = 5$$

which is divisible by 5

Let $n = 2$

$$7^n - 2^n = 7^2 - 2^2 = 49 - 4 = 45$$

which is divisible by 5

Let $n = 3$

$$7^n - 2^n = 7^3 - 2^3 = 343 - 8 = 335$$

which is divisible by 5

Hence, for any natural number n , $7^n - 2^n$ is divisible by 5

Question 19.

The sum of n terms of the series $1^2 + 3^2 + 5^2 + \dots$ is

- (a) $n(4n^2 - 1)/3$
- (b) $n^2(2n^2 + 1)/6$
- (c) none of these.
- (d) $n^2(n^2 + 1)/3$

Answer: (a) $n(4n^2 - 1)/3$

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

$$\Rightarrow S = \{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 + \dots + (2n - 1)^2 + (2n)^2\} - \{2^2 + 4^2 + 6^2 + \dots + (2n)^2\}$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \{2n \times (2n + 1) \times (4n + 1)\}/6 - \{4n \times (n + 1) \times (2n + 1)\}/6$$

$$\Rightarrow S = n(4n^2 - 1)/3$$

Question 20.

For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n$ is divisible by:

- (a) 5
- (b) 15
- (c) 10
- (d) 3

Answer: (b) 15

Given number = $3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n$

Let $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$

$$3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n = 3 \times 1^2 + 5 \times 1^3 + 7 \times 1 = 3 + 5 + 7 = 15$$

$$3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n = 3 \times 2^5 + 5 \times 2^3 + 7 \times 2 = 3 \times 32 + 5 \times 8 + 7 \times 2 = 96 + 40 + 14 = 150 = 15 \times 10$$

$$3n^5 + 5n^3 + 7n = 3 \times 3^5 + 5 \times 3^3 + 7 \times 3 = 3 \times 243 + 5 \times 27 + 7 \times 3 = 729 + 135 + 21 = 885 = 15 \times 59$$

Since, all these numbers are divisible by 15 for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

So, the given number is divisible by 15
