

Exercises 4.4

1. Prove, for every integer $n \geq 1$, that $1 + 3 + 5 + \cdots + (2n - 1) = n^2$.
2. Prove, for every integer $n \geq 0$, that $1 + 2 + 2^2 + \cdots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$.
3. Prove that $2 + 6 + 18 + \cdots + 2 \cdot 3^{n-1} = 3^n - 1$, for every integer $n \geq 1$.
4. Prove that $(1 - \frac{1}{4})(1 - \frac{1}{9}) \cdots (1 - \frac{1}{n^2}) = \frac{n+1}{2n}$, for all integers $n \geq 2$.
5. Prove that $\sum_{k=1}^n (2^k - 2^{k-1}) = 2^n - 1$ for all integers $n \geq 1$, by mathematical induction.
6. Prove that $\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$ holds, for every integer $n \geq 1$.
7. Let c be a real number and let a_m, a_{m+1}, \dots be a sequence where m is an integer. Prove that $\sum_{k=m}^n ca_k = c \sum_{k=m}^n a_k$, for all $n \geq m$.
8. Prove, for every integer $n \geq 1$, that $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{4k^2-1} = \frac{n}{2n+1}$.
9. Prove that $\sum_{k=1}^n k \cdot k! = (n+1)! - 1$, for all integers $n \geq 1$.
10. Prove that $\sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^k k^2 = (-1)^n \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$, for all integers $n \geq 1$.
11. Prove, for every integer $n \geq 1$, that $\sum_{k=1}^n k^3 = \left[\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2$.
12. Prove for all integers $n \geq 1$ that $\binom{n}{k}$ is a natural number whenever k is an integer satisfying $0 \leq k \leq n$.
13. Find a closed-form solution for the sum $\sum_{k=0}^n (2^k - 1)(3^k + 1)$.
14. Prove that $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{(2k-1)(2k+1)} = \frac{n}{2n+1}$, for all integers $n \geq 1$.
15. Let $r \neq 1$ be nonzero. Find a closed-form solution for the sum $\sum_{k=-9}^n r^k$.
16. (The Binomial Theorem) Let x and y be variables, representing real numbers. Prove for every integer $n \geq 1$ that $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^{n-k} y^k = (x+y)^n$.

Exercise Notes: For Exercise 8, note that $4(n+1)^2 - 1 = (2n+1)(2n+3)$. For Exercise 12, use induction on n and Exercise 19 on page 116. For Exercise 16, in the inductive step use Exercise 20 on page 116.
