

2.3 Answers

Further A-Level Pure Mathematics : Core 1 Proof by Induction

Answer 1

Statement

For the sequence with the iterative description, $u_1 = 1$, $u_{n+1} = 2u_n + 1$
for all positive integers n , the n^{th} term is given by $u_n = 2^n - 1$

Proof by Induction

When $n = 1$, $u_1 = 2^1 - 1 = 1$ which is the correct initial term

Assume that when $n = k$, $u_k = 2^k - 1$ in which case...

$$\begin{aligned}u_{k+1} &= 2u_k + 1 \\&= 2(2^k - 1) + 1 \\&= 2^{k+1} - 2 + 1 \\&= 2^{k+1} - 1\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$

As the result has been shown to be true for $n = 1$, the conclusion is that
it is true for all positive integers by mathematical induction $\square$

[5 marks]

Answer 2

Statement

For the sequence with the iterative description, $u_1 = 7$, $u_{n+1} = 2u_n - 1$
for all positive integers n , the n^{th} term is given by $u_n = 3 \times 2^n + 1$

Proof by Induction

When $n = 1$, $u_1 = 3 \times 2^1 + 1 = 7$ which is the correct initial term

Assume that when $n = k$, $u_k = 3 \times 2^k + 1$ in which case...

$$\begin{aligned}u_{k+1} &= 2u_k - 1 \\&= 2(3 \times 2^k + 1) - 1 \\&= 3 \times 2^{k+1} + 2 - 1 \\&= 3 \times 2^{k+1} + 1\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$

As the result has been shown to be true for $n = 1$, the conclusion is that
it is true for all positive integers by mathematical induction $\square$

[5 marks]

Answer 3

Statement

For the sequence with the iterative description, $u_1 = 6$, $u_{n+1} = u_n + 2^n + 4$
for all positive integers n , the n^{th} term is given by $u_n = 2^n + 4n$

Proof by Induction

When $n = 1$, $u_1 = 2^1 + 4 \times 1 = 6$ which is the correct initial term

Assume that when $n = k$, $u_k = 2^k + 4k$ in which case...

$$\begin{aligned}u_{k+1} &= u_k + 2^k + 4 \\&= 2^k + 4k + 2^k + 4 \\&= 2 \times 2^k + 4k + 4 \\&= 2^{k+1} + 4(k + 1)\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$

As the result has been shown to be true for $n = 1$, the conclusion is that
it is true for all positive integers by mathematical induction $\square$

[5 marks]

Answer 4

Statement

For the sequence with the iterative description, $u_1 = 8$, $u_{n+1} = 4u_n - 9n$
for all positive integers n , the n^{th} term is given by $u_n = 4^n + 3n + 1$

Proof by Induction

When $n = 1$, $u_1 = 4^1 + 3 \times 1 + 1 = 8$ which is the correct initial term

Assume that when $n = k$, $u_k = 4^k + 3k + 1$ in which case...

$$\begin{aligned}u_{k+1} &= 4u_k - 9n \\&= 4(4^k + 3k + 1) - 9k \\&= 4 \times 4^k + 4 \times 3k + 4 - 9k \\&= 4^{k+1} + 12k - 9k + 4 \\&= 4^{k+1} + 3k + 4 \\&= 4^{k+1} + 3(k + 1) + 1\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$

As the result has been shown to be true for $n = 1$, the conclusion is that
it is true for all positive integers by mathematical induction $\square$

[5 marks]

Answer 5

Statement

For the sequence with the iterative description, $u_1 = 3$, $u_{n+1} = u_n + 3n - 2$

for all positive integers n , the n^{th} term is given by $u_n = \frac{3}{2}n^2 - \frac{7}{2}n + 5$

Proof by Induction

$$\text{When } n = 1, u_1 = \frac{3}{2} \times 1^2 - \frac{7}{2} \times 1 + 5$$

$$= 3 \quad \text{which is the correct initial term}$$

$$\text{Assume that when } n = k, u_k = \frac{3}{2}k^2 - \frac{7}{2}k + 5$$

in which case...

$$u_{k+1} = u_k + 3k - 2$$

$$= \frac{3}{2}k^2 - \frac{7}{2}k + 5 + 3k - 2$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \left[(k+1)^2 - 2k - 1 \right] - \frac{7}{2} \left[(k+1) - 1 \right] + 5 + 3k - 2$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} (k+1)^2 - 3k - \frac{3}{2} - \frac{7}{2} (k+1) + \frac{7}{2} + 5 + 3k - 2$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} (k+1)^2 - \frac{7}{2} (k+1) - 3k + 3k + 5 - \frac{3}{2} + \frac{7}{2} - 2$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} (k+1)^2 - \frac{7}{2} (k+1) + 5$$

Therefore, if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$

As the result has been shown to be true for $n = 1$, the conclusion is that

it is true for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ by mathematical induction

□

[5 marks]

Answer 6

Statement

For the sequence with the iterative description, $u_1 = 1$, $u_{n+1} = u_n + n(3n + 1)$
for all positive integers n , the n^{th} term is given by $u_n = n^2(n - 1) + 1$

Proof by Induction

When $n = 1$, $u_1 = 1^2 \times (1 - 1) + 1 = 1$ which is the correct initial term

Assume that when $n = k$, $u_k = k^2(k - 1) + 1$ in which case...

$$\begin{aligned}u_{k+1} &= u_k + n(3n + 1) \\&= k^2(k - 1) + 1 + k(3k + 1) \\&= k^3 - k^2 + 3k^2 + k + 1 \\&= k^3 + 2k^2 + k + 1 \\&= k(k^2 + 2k + 1) + 1 \\&= k(k + 1)^2 + 1 \\&= (k + 1)^2(k + 1 - 1) + 1 \\&= (k + 1)^2((k + 1) - 1) + 1\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if the result is true for $n = k$, then it is true for $n = k + 1$

As the result has been shown to be true for $n = 1$, the conclusion is that
it is true for all positive integers by mathematical induction $\square$

[5 marks]