

Mathematics I Midterm Exam (A)

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(1) By Mathematical Induction prove that $\sum_{r=1}^n \frac{1}{3^r} = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^n} \right)$ is true for $n \geq 1$

Answer The sum is true for $n=1$. Let the sum is true for $n=k$ i.e. $\sum_{r=1}^k \frac{1}{3^r} = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^k} \right)$

When $n=k+1$
$$\sum_{r=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{3^r} = \sum_{r=1}^k \frac{1}{3^r} + \frac{1}{3^{k+1}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^k} \right) + \frac{1}{3^{k+1}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^{k+1}} \right)$$

The sum is true for $n=k+1$ then the statement is true for any positive number n .

(2) Find the sum $\sum_{r=1}^n (4r^2 - 1)$

Answer.
$$\sum_{r=1}^n (4r^2 - 1) = \sum_{r=1}^n (2r - 1)(2r + 1)$$

$$u_r = (2r - 1)(2r + 1) = \frac{(2r - 1)(2r + 1)(2r + 3)}{6} - \frac{(2r - 3)(2r - 1)(2r + 1)}{6} = f(r + 1) - f(r)$$

$$S_n = \frac{(2n - 1)(2n + 1)(2n + 3)}{6} + \frac{1}{2} \text{ then } \boxed{\sum_{r=1}^n (4r - 1)^2 = \frac{(2n - 1)(2n + 1)(2n + 3)}{6} + \frac{1}{2}}$$

(3) Find coefficient x^{20} in the expansion $(1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4)(1 - x)^{-4}$.

Answer

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4) &= \left(\frac{1 - x^5}{1 - x} \right) (1 - x)^{-4} = (1 - x^5)(1 - x)^{-5} \\ &= (1 - x^5) \left(\sum_{r=0}^{\infty} C_r^{5+r-1} x^r \right) = (1 - x^5) \left(\sum_{r=0}^{\infty} C_r^{r+4} x^r \right) \text{ Coefficient is } C_{20}^{24} - C_{15}^{19} \end{aligned}$$

(4) Write the first four terms in the expansion $\sqrt{4 + 2x}$

Answer

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{4 + 2x} &= 2 \left(1 + \frac{x}{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 2 \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right) + \frac{1}{2!} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} - 1 \right) \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} - 1 \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} - 2 \right) \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^3 + \dots \right] \\ &= 2 \left[1 + \frac{x}{4} - \frac{x^2}{32} + \frac{x^3}{128} + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$