Proof: We have:

Base Case: When n = 1 we check  $1(2) = \frac{1(1+1)(1+2)}{3}$  which is true. Inductive Step: We assume  $1(2) + 2(3) + 3(4) + \dots + n(n+1) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$  and we wish to show  $1(2) + 2(3) + 3(4) + \dots + n(n+1) + (n+1)(n+2) = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{3}$ . Observe:

$$1(2) + 2(3) + 3(4) + \dots + n(n+1) + (n+1)(n+2) = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3} + (n+1)(n+2)$$
 By IH  
$$= \frac{n(n+1)(n+2) + 3(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$$
$$= \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{3}$$

as desired.

QED

QED

Wednesday 7/25/2012

2. Use induction to prove that  $4|(5^n - 1)$  for every nonnegative integer n.

Proof: We have:

Base Case: When n = 0 we check  $4|(5^0 - 1)$  which is true.

Inductive Step: We assume  $4|(5^n - 1)$  and we wish to show  $4|(5^{n+1} - 1)$ . Observe that our assumption can be rewritten as  $4x = 5^n - 1$  for  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  and then

$$5^{n+1} - 1 = 5 \cdot 5^n - 1 = 5(4x+1) - 1 = 20x + 4 = 4(5x+1)$$

and so  $4|(5^{n+1}-1)|$  as desired.

3. Prove that  $2^n > n^3$  for every integer  $n \ge 10$ .

Proof: We have:

Base Case: When n = 10 we check  $2^{10} > 10^3$  which is true. Inductive Step: We assume  $2^n > n^3$  and we wish to show  $2^{n+1} > (n+1)^3$ . Observe that

$$2^{n+1} - (n+1)^3 > 2 \cdot 2^n - (n+1)^3 > 2n^3 - (n+1)^3 = n^3 - 3n^2 - 3n - 1 = n(n(n-3) - 3) - 1$$

and then since  $n \ge 10$  we know  $n-3 \ge 7$  and so  $n(n-3)-3 \ge 67$  and so  $n(n(n-3)-3)-1 \ge 669$ so that  $2^{n+1} - (n+1)^3 \ge 669 > 0$  and we have  $2^{n+1} > (n+1)^3$ . QED